

# Scope Statement for COSEE Collections

## **Organization Description:**

The Centers for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence (COSEE, [www.cosee.net](http://www.cosee.net)) is a network of regional centers that act locally and regionally, as well as dream, think and act nationally. The goals of COSEE are to: promote the development of effective partnerships between research scientists and educators; to disseminate effective ocean sciences programs and the best practices that do not duplicate but rather build on existing resources; and to promote a vision of ocean education as a charismatic, interdisciplinary vehicle for creating a more scientifically literate workforce and citizenry. COSEE is an educational program managed by the Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education (CORE). The COSEE website is managed by the Virginia Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary.

The COSEE network:

- Speaks with a common voice about ocean sciences literacy
- Delivers coherent program to advance ocean sciences literacy
- Increases participation of diverse audiences
- Increases collaborations among scientists and educators that are qualitatively rich and sustained
- Provides mechanisms for rapid translation and dissemination of recent discoveries and events to the public

## **Collection Purpose**

The COSEE collections encompass the COSEE Resource Collection and the COSEE News Collection. COSEE collections provide access to on-line resources for ocean science education excellence, including collaborations between education and research communities, professional development opportunities for teachers, informational materials useful in educational settings, marine career information, announcements and more.

COSEE Objectives:

- Develop and promote an array of strategies, identify effective practices, and partner with professional organizations to engage scientists in education
- Promote the use of the ocean literacy concepts
- Develop coherent delivery system to advance ocean sciences literacy
- Survey COSEE Network with web-based tools to identify and analyze products and services
- Increase recruitment, retention and opportunities for networking for under-served and under-represented audiences
- Influence Federal agencies' policies regarding reporting results

## **Collection policy**

COSEE develops and disseminates materials and strategies that support excellence in ocean science education.

Criteria include those materials and strategies that:

1. Have specific goals, objectives and expectations that align with our overall goal to bridge the gap between ocean science research and education
2. Are based on a common vision for ocean science literacy, and on accurate, timely, and audience-relevant science content
3. Promote excellence through effective, catalytic partnerships that work with institutions (not just individuals) to cause positive change (an "effective" partnership is based on alignment of missions, shared vision, agreed upon goals, mutual trust, and willingness to learn and adapt)
4. Reach diverse audiences in the science and education communities, are based on mutual respect between scientists and educators, incorporate needs of participants (based on needs assessment), and create a supportive learning community with equal access and equity for all audiences
5. Build on an education research-base and relevant "best practices" from peer-reviewed literature (e.g., K-12 professional development, adult learning, free choice learning, etc.), incorporate a research and development process (front-end evaluation, prototyping/formative evaluation, feedback/revision, summative evaluation), and create innovative solutions
6. Utilize specialized expertise where needed (science experts, facilitators, curriculum developers, etc.)
7. Have a measurable impact on target audiences
8. Generate new knowledge that is shared throughout (and beyond) the National COSEE Network
9. Are built to be sustainable, scalable, and adaptable

### **Collection contacts**

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### **Resource terms of use**

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#### **Metadata terms of use**

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#### **Resource quality assurance**

COSEE resources made accessible through DLESE adhere to DLESE guidelines, and are carefully reviewed and monitored by project staff. Review policies are overseen by project directors and are a key component of the contractual obligations described in COSEE grants.

#### **Metadata quality assurance**

Metadata records come from the COSEE database, which has been revised to reflect DLESE best practices. Metadata are overseen by project directors, and the project's contractual relationships with funding agencies specify management of data using DLESE protocols. All COSEE metadata are generated and managed by the COSEE staff.

#### **Persistence plan**

COSEE is funded via a number of sources, including renewable grants and in-kind partnering. Supplemental funding from a variety of partners enhances various components of COSEE. Sustainability is an integral element of the COSEE strategic plan, and its elements are set forth in COSEE's documents describing sustainability planning.