



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release:**

April 27, 2010

**Media Contact:**

Kristin Mellon

202-787-1644

[kmellon@oceanleadership.org](mailto:kmellon@oceanleadership.org)

### **Marshfield High School Wins National Ocean Sciences Competition** *13<sup>th</sup> Annual National Ocean Sciences Bowl Held in St. Petersburg, Florida*

(Washington, DC) – Marshfield High School from Wisconsin won the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB<sup>®</sup>) Final, held April 23-25, 2010 at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg and USF's College of Marine Science in St. Petersburg, Florida. Twenty-five high schools from around the United States competed in this year's NOSB Finals Competition. The NOSB is an ocean science education program of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership based in Washington, DC.

After competing in their respective regional competitions in March and February, these 25 high schools traveled to St. Petersburg for the opportunity to compete over their knowledge of our oceans during the NOSB Finals Competition. Approximately 2,000 students from over 300 high schools participated in NOSB this year, answering buzzer-style, multiple choice questions and longer critical thinking-based team challenge questions on ocean related topics at both the regional and national level.

**The top eight teams at the Finals Competition were:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place – Marshfield High School – Marshfield, WI**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Marine Academy of Science and Technology (MAST) – Highlands, NJ**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Mission San Jose High School – Fremont, CA**

**4<sup>th</sup> Place – La Jolla High School – La Jolla, CA**

**5<sup>th</sup> Place – Punahou School – Honolulu, HI**

**6<sup>th</sup> Place – Neah-Kah-Nie High School – Rockaway Beach, OR**

**7<sup>th</sup> Place – Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology – Alexandria, VA**

**8<sup>th</sup> Place – Arcadia High School – Arcadia, CA**

Other awards were also given at the annual Finals Competition, including the James D. Watkins Sportsmanship Award, which is in honor of James D. Watkins who started the NOSB program in 1997. This year's winner is Langham Creek High School from Houston, Texas who demonstrated the best sportsmanship throughout the NOSB Finals Competition. Also, Will Welch and Gwyn Welch with the

help of Coach Patricia Cloutier from Contoocook Valley Regional High School in Peterborough, New Hampshire won the second annual NOSB “Living on the Ocean Planet” video contest. The title of the winning video is “Ocean Exploration: The Future,” which will be displayed on the Oceans Today Kiosk at the Smithsonian’s Sant Ocean Hall, among other places.

“Year after year I am just amazed at the maturity and knowledge of these students at the National Ocean Sciences Bowl,” said Robert B. Gagosian, President & CEO of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership. “I am proud to say these are the future leaders of wisely managing our ocean and understanding how it works,” continued Gagosian.

The theme for this year’s Finals Competition was “marine technology.” To create a more sustainable program, the NOSB used technology in new ways this year. For the first time in the history of the program, the eOSB (electronic Ocean Sciences Bowl) was used in all competition rooms. Caine Jette, a former NOSB participant and current Center for Ocean Engineering and Sea Grant student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, developed the software to replace the traditional NOSB notebook. By 2013, all competition rooms at all 25 regional competitions will be using the eOSB.

The first, second and third place teams received all expense paid awards trips to experience ocean sciences in person in Massachusetts, North Carolina and California, respectively. The fourth through eighth place teams received an array of prizes from digital cameras to marine science textbooks.

Through this educational forum, the NOSB strives to encourage and support the next generation of marine scientists, policy makers, teachers, explorers, researchers, technicians, environmental advocates and informed citizens.

### **About Consortium for Ocean Leadership**

Ocean Leadership is a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit organization that represents 95 of the leading public and private ocean research education institutions, aquaria and industry with the mission to advance research, education and sound ocean policy. The organization also manages ocean research and education programs in areas of scientific ocean drilling, ocean observing, ocean exploration and ocean partnerships.

### **About National Ocean Sciences Bowl**

The National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB) is a program of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership based in Washington, D.C. NOSB seeks to interest students in pursuing a college degree and future career in the ocean sciences. Through this educational forum, the NOSB strives to encourage and support the next generation of marine scientists, policy makers, teachers, explorers, researchers, technicians, environmental advocates and informed citizens, to consider and appreciate the ocean. Approximately 2,000 students from over 300 high schools participated in 2010.

###