

WALTER BLOGOSLAWSKI, Ph.D

Fishery Biologist

After graduating from the Gunnery School where he was named to the school's Hall of Fame in Arts and Sciences in 2011, Walter pursued an interest in marine sciences sparked by an enthusiasm for ocean sailing and SCUBA diving, receiving a BS degree from Fairfield University and an MS degree from Long Island University where he studied marine microbiology.

He began working for the future National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) at the National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory in Milford, CT two days after receiving his doctorate in Microbiology from Fordham University in the Bronx, NY. More than forty years later, Walter continues to conduct research concerning bacterial shellfish pathogens at the Milford laboratory which specializes in aquaculture and focuses on issues such as disease, nutrition, and genetics.

In 1975, Walter brought a group of scientists and industry specialists together to share their experiences and discuss a disease affecting local aquaculture. This meeting was the first of what would become the annual Milford Aquaculture Seminar which continues to draw scientists and industry experts from around the world. He has chaired the seminar since its inception and it now addresses many facets of aquaculture, disease and nutrition. While the scope of the seminar has expanded, its purpose remains the same: to bring together industry, government, and academics to discuss the most vexing issues affecting aquaculture and improve the overall state of the industry. The East Coast Shellfish Growers Association and the federal government have formally recognized him for the valuable contributions this seminar has made to the shellfish industry.

Walter's research work has expanded beyond the confines of the lab in Milford as he has spent vacations studying the efficacy of ozone treatment for depuration and detoxification of marine species in Ecuador, Alaska, Turks and Caicos Islands, Hawaii, and Baja California among other locations. As past-president of the International Ozone Association of Zurich, Switzerland, Walter enjoys promoting the work of this non-profit scientific society that studies how ozone can be applied to solve water and wastewater pollution problems. He has also had the privilege of serving as an executive officer of two international marine sciences organizations in addition to being a member of twelve scientific societies.

Serving on the faculties of Fairfield University, Long Island University-Greenvale, Bridgeport University, and the University of Delaware where he taught various courses in marine sciences allowed Walter to share his passion for the ecology of our oceans with his students. While pursuing that work, he has published 55 research papers and two books on the aquatic applications of ozone.

Walter still enjoys swimming a half-mile every day, SCUBA, and sailing his sloop, often with his three children and his two grandchildren. He feels fortunate to spend his career pursuing a subject he loves with such wonderful colleagues.