# Engaging more than 2000 undergraduate students in ocean research experiences with RUCOOL over the last 15 years!!



**Workforce Development Supporting the Blue Economy:** Undergraduate Research in the Classroom



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**The Opportunity** 0221

# Our Students face a grand challenge:

- To provide food, water, energy, and economic security for a growing population
- They face this challenge while our ocean planet is undergoing rapid change

### Through experiential learning our students will

- Be better prepared to face the challenge
- Enter a new blue economy workforce translating data into knowledge and decision-making



# **Undergraduate Student Research Pathway**



# Oceanography Learning Community (First Year and transfer Students):

- Empower students to get involved in
- Introduction to research opportunities
- Field experience on a research vessel.



# Ocean Methods and Data Analysis(All Students)

- Introduction to ocean sensors 2 Semester options: Chemical/Biological and Physical/Geological sensors
   Research teams conduct research cruises



**Independent Research (All Students)** 

- Semester long research experiences
  Projects customized to student interest
- Culminate in presentation of results



- Topics in Oceanography (All Students)Contribute to team based research projects
- Research activity contributes to ongoing RUCOOL research
  Students embarking on glider mission to circle the globe (Sentinel Mission, scan QR code for more information)



# Master's in Operational Oceanography (4+1 Program)

- Gain hands on experience working with cutting edge ocean technologies
- Work on real world problems connecting ocean society and economy
  Develop strong data analysis and communication skills

# CONCLUSIONS

- Global Challenge: Provide food, water, energy and economic security for a growing population on a changing planet
- The emerging new blue economy responding to this challenge must be enabled by a diverse workforce capable of creating new knowledge and communicating the risk
- Our undergraduate research pathway prepares experienced and inspired students able to translate data into knowledge they can communicate for decision-making



