



## The Monterey Area Higher Education Community: A History of Collaboration & Innovation

The Monterey Bay area is home to a remarkable range of institutions of higher learning, both public and private, large and small, general and highly specific in their areas of focus. One thing that most of them have in common, though, is that they recognize the value of collaboration, and have at one time or another, in one form or another, collaborated with the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey in an effort to drive innovation and improve the educational experiences of all of our students.

Local education and research organizations include 11 higher education institutions, five wildlife and/or marine-related reserves, and seven government

agencies, including the following:

- California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB)
- Defense Language Institute (DLI)
- Hopkins Marine Research Station (Stanford University)
- Monterey College of Law (MCL)
- Monterey Peninsula College (MPC)
- Naval Postgraduate School (NPS)
- University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC)

In some cases, collaboration between institutions has been formalized in written agreements. In other cases, the relationships have been more informal or focused in one of the several local forums maintained by personnel from

the various higher education institutions, through which we seek to further common goals and forge mutually beneficial bonds. This fact sheet offers a glimpse at the various forms this collaboration has taken, the forums in which they have developed, and the innovations they have sparked.

### Forums for Local Collaboration Higher Education and Research Cluster

The Monterey County Business Council's Higher Education and Research Cluster brings together the chief executives of each of the local higher education institutions on a quarterly basis to exchange ideas and concerns. At the group's annual late fall Higher Education Leadership Summit, it issues a report detailing the economic impact of higher education in the greater Monterey Bay area (more than \$1.9 billion in operating budgets, \$316 million in research and grant dollars, 15,000 faculty, and 83,000 students).

### Monterey Area Research Institutions' Network for Education (COS MARINE)

Through its Center for the Blue Economy ([go.miis.edu/cbe](http://go.miis.edu/cbe)), the Middlebury Institute is a member of the COS MARINE consortium led by the Center for Ocean Solutions. The goal of COS MARINE is to enhance graduate marine education in the Monterey Bay area through collaboration among the seven local academic institutions that focus on marine policy and science: the Middlebury Institute, CSU Monterey Bay, Hopkins Marine Station, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, Naval Postgraduate School, Stanford



The Monterey Bay area is home to 11 higher education institutions and a variety of other education and research entities, which are open to mutually beneficial collaboration.

University, and UC Santa Cruz. COS MARINE facilitates exchange among these institutions and provides an array of high quality inter-institutional activities, such as courses, seminars, and workshops that are free of charge to eligible students. Throughout the academic year (and often during the summer) students from all seven campuses have opportunities to apply their training to pressing ocean issues and engage in real-world problem solving.

### Higher Education Communications Alliance (HECA)

A collective that brings together the chief communications officers of each of the higher education institutions in the region, HECA meets on an as-needed basis to share information and collaborate on projects, including the construction of the Higher Education and Research Cluster's website. Members collaborate informally on a regular basis, sharing information about campus events and activities.

### Individual Collaborations



#### California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB)

The Middlebury Institute and CSUMB have a memorandum of understanding outlining a student exchange program that offers the opportunity for up to 12 qualified CSUMB students per year to take courses at the Institute, and for Institute students to enroll in appropriate and relevant courses at CSUMB. Institute students have taken the opportunity to enroll in several courses at CSUMB related to geographic information systems, while CSUMB students may find a more robust set of international and policy course options at MIIS.



In addition, the Institute and CSUMB signed a unique articulation agreement in 2013 designed to support the transition to college for international students who need to enhance their English language skills. The agreement sets up conditional admissions to CSUMB for international students who want to pursue a bachelor's degree but need additional training in English. These students must attend the Middlebury Institute's intensive English as a Second Language (ESL) program and complete Level 5 of the program before transferring into a degree program at CSUMB.



#### Defense Language Institute (DLI)

Located just up the hill from the Middlebury Institute's downtown campus, the Defense Language Institute shares a focus with MIIS on language and related instruction. An agreement between the two outlines areas of collaboration, including sharing of library and other facilities, special rates for DLI personnel taking courses in the Institute's Master of Arts in Teaching of Foreign Language, and faculty exchanges.



#### Naval Postgraduate School (NPS)

The Institute and NPS are frequent collaborators. Professors at each school frequently guest-lecture at the other, and sometimes teach full courses or seminars. Current faculty collaborations include a design-thinking, problem-solving initiative and analysis work with the Common Operational Research Environment (CORE) Lab at NPS. The schools also share resources and collaborate in the information technology area.



#### University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC)

By formal agreement, Institute students are allowed to enroll in graduate-level courses in participating programs at UCSC, and reciprocal opportunities are offered to UCSC graduate students to take courses in appropriate programs at the Middlebury Institute.