



PI-CSC Welcomes Dr. Darren Lerner as new University Host Director



In July, **Dr. Darren T. Lerner** officially took over the reins as lead of the PI-CSC university host at the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa. Dr. Lerner is also Director of the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (Hawai'i Sea Grant), which has given him useful experience running a collaborative federal-university partnership program. Both Hawai'i Sea Grant and PI-CSC integrate active scientific research with communication of the science to local resource managers, as well as education and community outreach. These common goals bode well for some fruitful collaborative possibilities between Hawai'i Sea Grant and PI-CSC.

“Adapting to climate change is critical for our future success toward sustainable and resilient communities, cultures, and environments across the Pacific Islands and the globe,” asserted Dr. Lerner. “We must assist in communicating the very best science to decision-makers, communities, and individuals to produce adaptive behavioral change toward that end.”

Dr. Lerner received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri, Columbia, studying Political Science and Psychology. After shifting to Zoology for his Master's degree at Oregon State University (OSU), he worked for the USGS Fisheries Cooperative at Oregon State University as a program manager, while conducting his own research on fish physiology and migration. Dr. Lerner earned his PhD at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in Organismic and Evolutionary Biology. He has been with Hawai'i Sea Grant for nine years, seven as Associate Director and two as Director. While busy administering Hawai'i Sea Grant and now PI-CSC, he still finds time to continue his research as affiliate research faculty at the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology, examining environmental effects on the physiology of fish.