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UMass Boston Coasts and Communities IGERT Program

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Coasts and Communities
Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training



National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

Maria A. Petrova

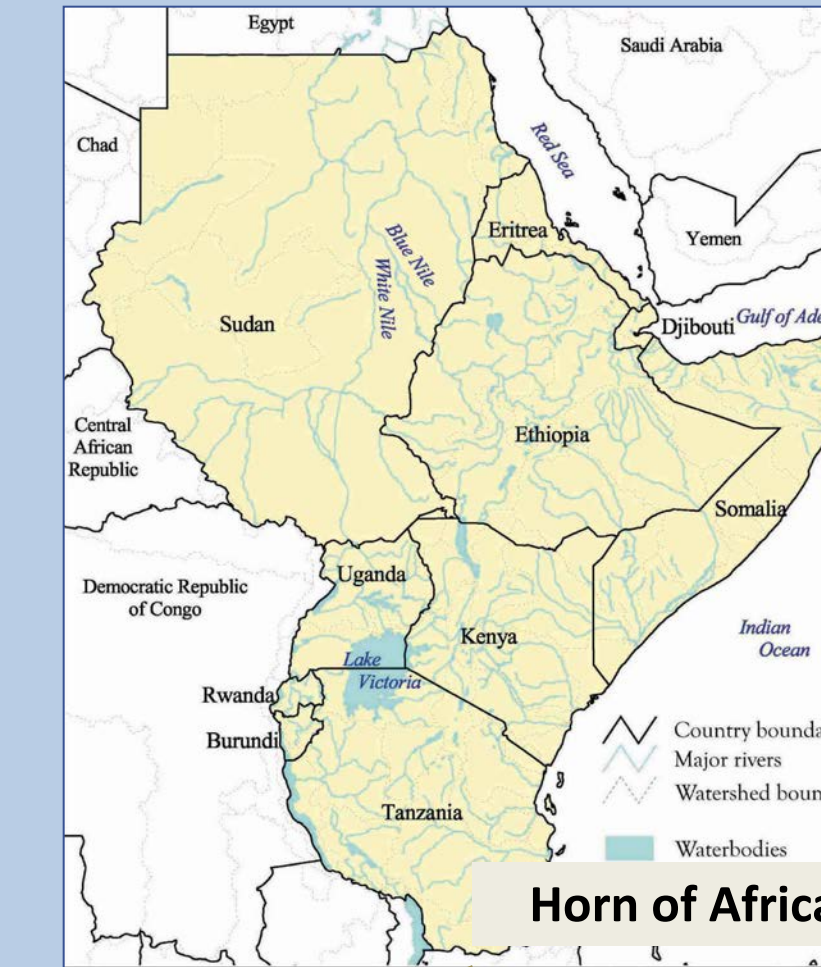
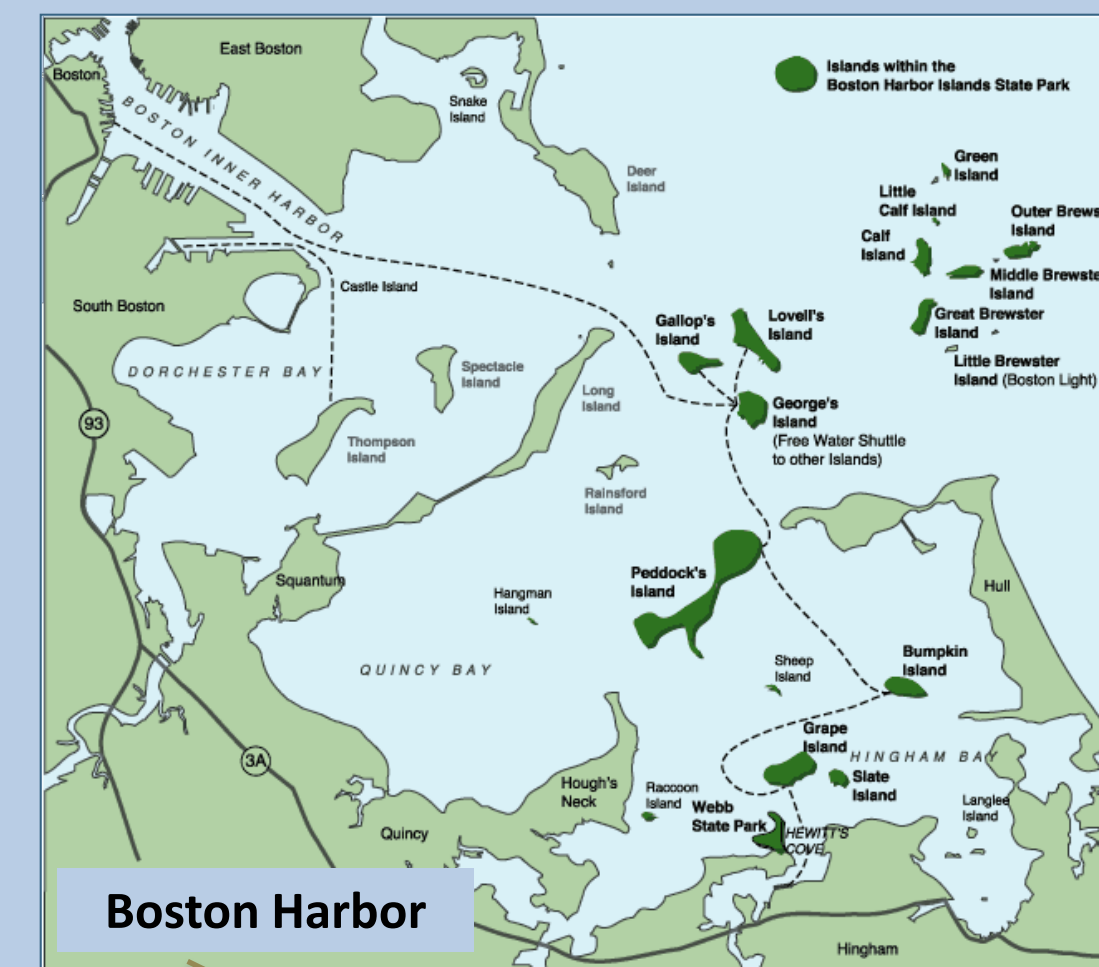
Coasts and Communities IGERT
Program Manager
School for the Environment

UMass Boston Coasts and Communities IGERT Program

ONE IDEA: GLOBAL PROBLEM SOLVING

The Coasts and Communities IGERT (Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship) Program starting in 2014 at the University of Massachusetts Boston provides PhD students with the skills to understand the interactions between natural and human systems and to develop appropriate policy solutions for urban and urbanizing environments. By emphasizing interdisciplinary collaboration and communication, this program aims to enable trainees to apply innovative and sustainable solutions across geographical, political, and economic contexts.

TWO LOCATIONS: NORTH AMERICA MASSACHUSETTS BAY AND THE HORN OF AFRICA



• *Fellows participate in transdisciplinary core courses, an Environmental Innovations Clinic program, and international research in the Horn of Africa.*

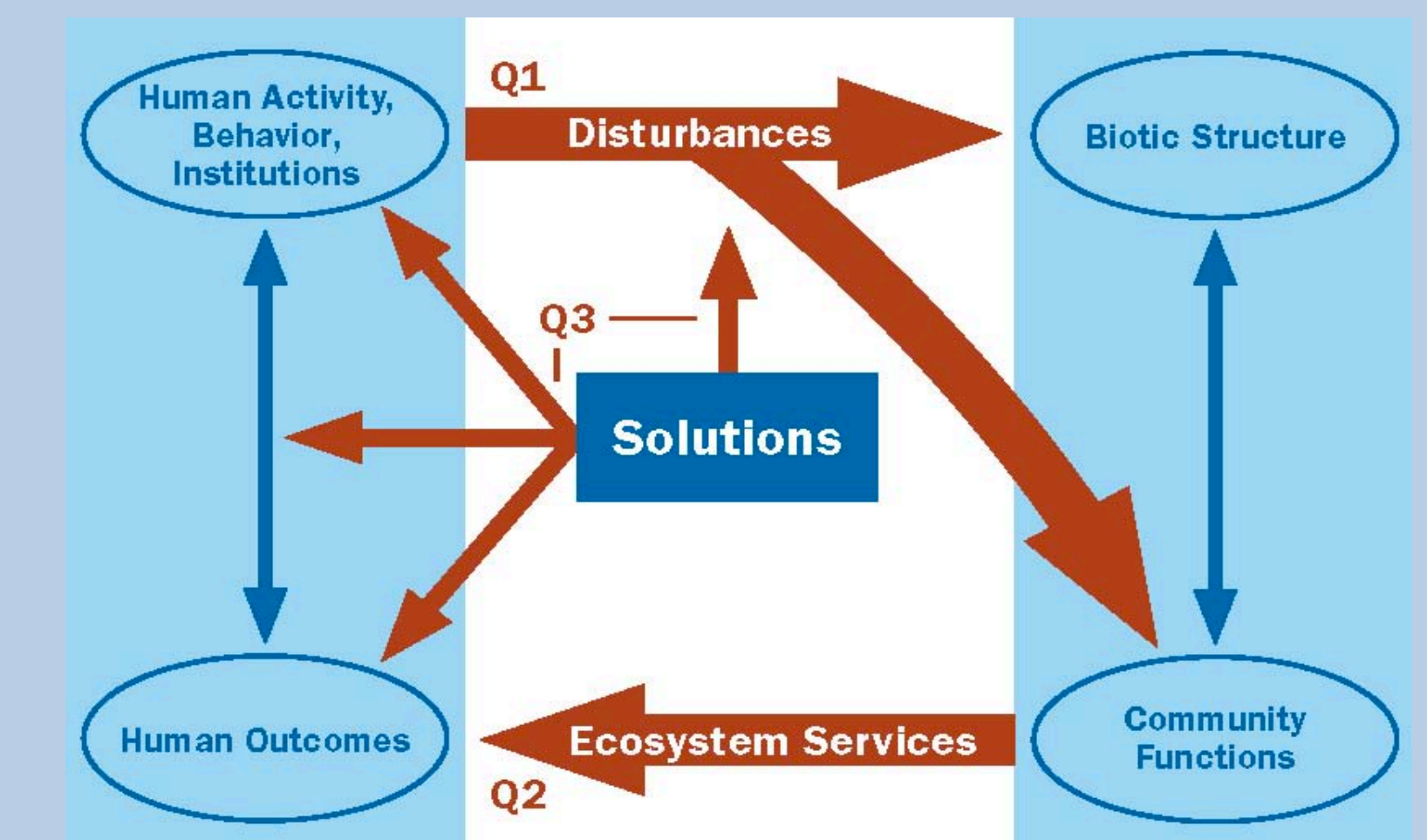
• *The program is built on collaboration and teamwork. Its goal is exploring the causal connection between human and ecosystem vulnerability, resilience, and adaptive capacity.*

THREE RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

Q1. *How do human activities alter ecosystem structure and function in linked coastal systems (ocean, lakes, estuaries and rivers)?*

Q2. *How do altered ecosystem dynamics affect ecosystem goods and services and, through them, human activity?*

Q3. *What are the solutions to emerging environmental and societal problems, how do they vary across geographical, political, and economic contexts, and how can these solutions be implemented?*



• *Ultimately, the program develops analytical and problem-solving skills and connects individuals and institutions across fields and the world, making fellows competent and competitive in today's global marketplace.*

FOUR PHD PROGRAMS: MULTIPLE DISCIPLINES



- Environmental Science
- Environmental Biology
- Global Governance and Human Security
- Business Administration: Organizations and Social Change

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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