

## **URI Plastics Global Forum**

**May 16, 2023**

**11:00 AM**

**Fascitelli Center for Advanced Engineering, University of Rhode Island – Kingston**

**Title:** Integrating Equity and Justice into Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Action

**Chairs:** Yoshitaka Ota, Jessica Vanderberg

**Coordinator:** Nika Hoffman

**Plastic Fellow:** Claudia Weitman

**Participants List:** TBD

### **Workshop Background:**

Equity and justice issues are increasingly recognized as critical dimensions of the marine plastic pollution crisis. However, how to effectively and meaningfully integrate equity principles into our research and practice can be an enormous challenge and has received limited attention. This workshop will facilitate the initial development of concrete steps to promoting equity and justice in marine plastic pollution (MPP) research and practice. In this workshop, we hope to further expand upon our Policy and Action Roadmap and identify effective approaches of incorporating equity-based actions into MPP research and practice. Particular areas of interests include: 1) incorporate equity in funding (research and actions), 2) consider equity in education (science and advocacy), and 3) promote the role of civil society (NGOs and community organizations).

### **Agenda:**

1. Workshop introduction and framework: ocean equity framework and anti-inequity approach (Yoshi Ota) - 15 min
2. Brainstorm to build common goals: What are the equity and justice dimensions of marine plastic (all) - 1 hour
3. Focused discussions (all) - 30 min each
  - *Equity in Funding:* We would like to hear from the participants the resources and opportunities they need to promote equity and justice in approaching marine plastic pollution. Activity: Making wish lists and try to set our priority direction
  - *Equity in Education:* We would like to hear from the participants how education can be part of our fight against marine plastic pollution. Activity: Listing the needs of outreach while not displacing the science with corporate public relations
  - *Role of Civil Society:* We would like to hear from the participants the role of NGOs and civil societies and how we can also support their work. Activity: discussing the current interaction between practitioners and academics and exploring opportunities
4. Note: any remaining time will be spent to plan future works

### **Meeting Manner:**

We respect the time and space for all participants while understanding the rule that participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.