The legacy of stress: behavioral and ecological impacts of transgenerational and carryover effects in marine systems

Organisms' ability to cope with environmental stressors is often attributed to differences in genetic variation and/or within-generational phenotypic plasticity. However, plasticity can operate through multiple generations via parental effects, which occur when the environment experienced by parents influences the phenotypic development of offspring, or through carryover effects, when an individual's previous experiences impact their subsequent phenotype. My research explores how these parental and carryover effects can impact organisms' responses to two key environmental stressors -- predation risk and climate change -- using two coastal systems. My work suggests that transgenerational and early life effects can strongly impact organisms and the communities in which they reside, and should be incorporated into our assessments of how organisms will respond to environmental change.

Host: Catherine Matassa
Time & Date: 11:00 am, Friday, February 28, 2020
Place: Marine Sciences Building, Seminar Room 103

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