



## MARINE SYNTHESIS CENTER

LUMCON is committed to providing opportunities for scientific teams to explore ideas that are risky, require novel combinations of expertise, or simply require people to be in the same room. LUMCON seeks to provide a center for marine science, conservation, management, or education and outreach

### What is 'synthesis'?

Synthetic research in science takes many forms but includes integrating novel datasets and models to address important problems within a discipline, developing new analytical approaches and tools, and combining methods and perspectives from multiple disciplines to answer and even create new fundamental scientific questions (Sidlauskas et al. 2010). LUMCON facilitates by providing a physical location and supportive environment for fertile interactions among domain experts, serving as a science incubator to tackle big questions and deliver tangible outcomes and products (Rodrigo et al. 2013).

### WORKING GROUPS

Working Groups involve small groups of scientists (~10-12 participants) collaborating intensively on the analysis or synthesis of data, models, or both, in order to address a major question in marine science, conservation, management, or education and outreach. The working groups will typically meet 3-4 times over one to two years, with each meeting lasting 3-7 days. However, the number of participants, number of meetings, and duration of each meeting is flexible, depending on the needs and goals of the group. The Working Group is intended as a mechanism for scientists to collaborate productively. Products could include software, databases, manuscripts, or education materials.

### CATALYSIS MEETINGS

Catalysis Meetings involve large groups of scientists (~ 30 participants) from diverse disciplines focusing on a major question or research topic in marine science, conservation, management, or education and outreach. Catalysis meetings are one-time meetings that occur over 2-4 days. They are intended to increase the scale and ambition of scientific vision, to define avenues for scientific synthesis, to identify classes of primary data that must be collected before grand-scale synthesis is possible, and to facilitate the assembly of networks to realize grand-scale synthesis.

For more information on the application process for both these opportunities visit <https://lumcon.edu/marine-synthesis-center/>



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