

Providence Journal-Bulletin

January 5, 2003

ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

URI center earns \$150,000 grant

The Coastal Resources Center at the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography has been awarded \$150,000 to carry out resources-management work in Balikpapan Bay, Indonesia.

The CRC has been working in Indonesia since 1995, representing the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Its new grant comes from the UNOCAL Foundation, which is sponsored by UNOCAL, one of the world's largest natural gas and crude oil exploration and production companies.

Stephen Olsen, CRC director, said support from the oil company will be a big help in a country that has some of the richest and most diverse coastal resources in the world.

"The pressure to exploit those resources for immediate benefit without considering the future is great," said Olsen. "This support from UNOCAL will assist us in our ongoing work to use these sources wisely without bankrupting future generations."

CRC's two goals are to strengthen local environmental advocacy and to develop a strategic plan for community development and resources management.

CRC also provides coastal management advice in Southeast Asia, East Africa and Latin America.