



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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August 17, 2010

Anamarija Frankic
Department of Environmental, Earth and Ocean Sciences
University of Massachusetts - Boston
100 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02135

Subject: Urban Waters/Mystic River University Collaborative

Dear Dr. Frankic:

We are pleased to inform you that the University of Massachusetts – Boston has been selected for EPA New England's Urban Waters/Mystic River University Collaborative. EPA plans to work closely with UMass – Boston to develop a collaborative relationship in support of its urban waters/Mystic River Watershed Initiative, beach and nonpoint source programs. We are also in the process of developing a Memorandum of Understanding to formalize this collaboration and will be sharing it with you within the next month.

As you know, EPA is interested in collaborating with Boston area universities on urban water quality research, monitoring, assessment, and analysis. We would like to work with you to plan an initial meeting with the UMass – Boston and the other local universities in the fall.

Lastly, we are pleased to have Karen Simpson from the Department of Environmental, Earth, and Ocean Sciences as our Mystic Urban Waters/Mystic River co-op student. At EPA, Karen is already working to provide technical, engineering/scientific and administrative support to scientists, engineers, and technical staff involved with implementing and administering agency environmental protection programs in the Surface Water Branch.

We are excited to forge this new relationship with UMass – Boston and we look forward to working with you and your colleagues as we advance our urban waters/Mystic River work over the coming years. If you have any questions, please contact Lynne Hamjian (617) 918-1601 or Caitlyn Whittle at (617) 918-1748.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen S. Perkins".

Stephen S. Perkins, Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection

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