



# UNITED STATES COAST GUARD ACADEMY

Science Lecture Series

## **No Data, No Problem: Reconstructing Weather and Fishability for Vezo Fishers in Madagascar**

**LTJG Samantha Farquhar, Ph.D.**

*Department of Marine Science, Center of Arctic Studies and Policy, USCGA*

In this talk, Dr. Samantha Farquhar shares how she tackled a big research question with seemingly no data. While working in Madagascar, Sam collaborated with Vezo fishers—semi-nomadic, traditional fishers who rely on wind-powered outrigger canoes and intimate knowledge of the sea. The fishers expressed that shifting weather patterns were making it harder to fish, and they asked Sam to investigate. But there was a problem: Madagascar lacks long-term weather buoys and consistent fisheries data. So how do you study changing weather and its impact on fishing without data? Join us to learn about Sam's creative research approach—and what she discovered.

***Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025***

***2000 -2100***

***Dimick Auditorium, U.S. Coast Guard Academy***

LTJG Sam Farquhar, Ph.D. is an Instructor in the Department of Marine & Environmental Science and the Center for Arctic Studies and Policy at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. A social-ecological systems researcher, she explores how environmental change shapes and is shaped by human activity. Most of her work has focused on fisheries and food security. Samantha's work has been supported by various awards such as the Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship, two Fulbright awards (Student and Fulbright-Hays), and the DoD SMART Scholarship. In the midst of her doctorate at East Carolina University, she joined the Coast Guard Reserve, serving as a Prevention Officer at Sector North Carolina..

**If you have any questions regarding the event, please contact Dr. Kanani K. M. Lee  
([kanani.km.lee@uscga.edu](mailto:kanani.km.lee@uscga.edu)) for more information.**