

VI-EPSCoR INVOLVEMENT IN EARTH DAY ACTIVITIES

VI-EPSCoR Shows Off at the 3rd Annual Pro-Enviro Fair

As a part of the US EPA's Earth Day Pro-Enviro Fair, hosted by UVI and co-sponsored by the Virgin Islands Network of Environmental Educators, VI-EPSCoR hosted a table with a variety of interactive, research related activities. VI-EPSCoR researchers were present to engage the students in science and explore some of the various ways that science is exciting and fun. The activities included a weather station model for the students to work with, as well as an activity demonstrating the mapping abilities available with Geographic Information Systems software (GIS). In order to demonstrate the relationships between the marine environment and people, the VI-EPSCoR table also included a sedimentation simulation. All activity areas were influenced by the research being done through several of the ongoing VI-EPSCoR incubator grants. The event was open to K-12 students in the district and was the third annual Pro-Enviro Fair funded by the US EPA.

VI-EPSCoR Assists in Organization of Climate Change Seminars

Additionally, VI-EPSCoR played a role in organizing the Earth Day Seminars on Global Climate Change. Presentations were made by UVI researchers and specialists on the impacts that climate change is having on natural resources in the Territory. The presentations included: "Global Climate Change – An Overview and Mitigation Strategies" (Professor Roy Watlington), "Coral Bleaching and Seawater Warming" (Dr. Tyler Smith), and "Climate Change and its Impacts on Reef Species Population Dynamics" (Dr. Nasseer Idrisi).