



AWSFL008-DS3

NSF Award Abstract
- #0305607

**Collaborative Research: Developing a
Quantitative Understanding of Clinoform
Formation, Gulf of Papa**

NSF Org OCE

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Program Manager Rodey Batiza
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Investigator John D. Milliman
milliman@vims.edu (Principal
Investigator current)

Sponsor William & Mary Marine Inst
P.O. Box 1346
Gloucester Point, VA 230621346
804/642-7000

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Abstract

This is a project to study the processes of sediment transport and accumulation that lead to development of the clinoforms on the Gulf of Papua (GoP) continental shelf. Shelf clinoforms are the dominant components of continental-margin stratigraphy, but little is known about the processes that create them. By combining field research (seismic profiling and piston coring) and numerical modeling, quantitative understanding of mid-shelf clinoform development at geologic time scales can be developed. These studies will test the hypothesis that the predominant mechanism for creating the present-day clinoform morphology is across-shelf gravity flow of fluid muds, whereas underlying strata may have formed in different conditions in response to changing rates of sea-level rise and sediment supply.

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