Mission: The MATE Center uses marine technology to inspire and challenge students to learn and creatively apply science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) to solving real-world problems in a way that strengthens critical thinking, collaboration, entrepreneurship, and innovation.

Underwater Robotics (ROV) Competitions
Developed in partnership with the Marine Technology Society, has served close to 20,000 students. The Competition challenges students to think like entrepreneurs and transform their teams into “companies” that respond to an RFP that is based on real-world scenarios. The competition encourages multi-year participation via 4 competition classes spanning grades 4-16.

At-Sea Technical Internships for Students
MATE places 12-15 students/year in at-sea internships working with technicians on UNOLS and U.S. Coast Guard vessels. Since 1999, MATE has placed 355 students in internships that last from two weeks to six months.

Student-Run Store
SeaMATE.org is a social enterprise that provides community college students with income and workplace experience. SeaMATE was created to help ROV teams and teachers find underwater robotics supplies. Since inception, SeaMATE has employed 50 students, sold over 4500 ROV kits, and brought in $2.4 million in sales.

After 23 years, the MATE Center will sunset in 2020. MATE will continue through MATE II - a 501(c)3, the National Center for Autonomous Technologies, and 2 ATE projects involving the MATE ROV Competition.

Deidre Sullivan  dsullivan@mpc.edu  MATE Center Director & PI
Jill Zande  jzande@marinetech.org  Associate Director & Co-PI, MATE II Ex. Director
Scott Fraser  sfraser@lbcc.edu  Co-PI, Electrical Technology Long Beach CC