

TO THE EDITOR:

I have just seen the inaugural issue of *Oceanography* and want to commend your fine job in putting it together. It has a very attractive layout, and the concept of short readable articles should do much to encourage cross-disciplinary reading. Congratulations on a job well done and the best of luck in this important, if frequently thankless, task.

Don Boesch,
Louisiana Universities' Marine Consortium,
Chauvin, LA

One of the reasons for having a national society is to provide an authoritative voice.... As I read about The Oceanography Society, The Challenger Society, and others, I was left wondering whether it would be fruitful to establish an "International Council of Oceanography Societies." The point would be that oceanography is essentially a trans-border science and many issues that concern us involve many national governments.

Howard J. Freeland,
Institute of Ocean Sciences,
Sidney, British Columbia, Canada

I would like to thank you and your staff for founding this organization. It is about time that we have a publication and society organized specifically around the field of oceanography.

Kevin Kemmerer,
Berkeley, CA

The first issue of *Oceanography* . . . is beautiful! The graphics are spectacular; the typefaces just perfect; the layout stunning. Everything works. The magazine marries elegance and warmth, not a likely couple.

Susan Kubany,
Omnet Inc.,
Boston, MA

Congratulations on the charter issue of *Oceanography*. It is impressive, and your efforts to bring the magazine and the Society into being deserve the recognition and support of the community.

Gary Lagerloef,
NASA, Washington, D.C.

Congratulations on an excellent first issue. It looks like *Oceanography Magazine* will be useful, interesting and indispensable reading.... I believe the "Studentia" section ... should be expanded to also encompass the undergraduate level.

Sherwood Maynard,
University of Hawaii at Manoa

I thought existing societies and journals could probably cover the needs of oceanographers. After receiving your first issue of *Oceanography* I realize I was wrong. For one, the physical quality of the journal is absolutely smashing and the cover most appropriate for the first issue. Second, you were absolutely right in identifying the need to publish controversial topics for better discussion such as done by Peter Williams. Having new research directions and synthesis reports in one easily referable and durable document means they can be kept track of more easily. Congratulations to you and everyone involved in launching The Oceanography Society to such a noteworthy beginning.

Helen M. McCammon,
Washington, D.C.

If the high quality of the articles continues, this magazine will be essential to all oceanographers. Good luck and full speed ahead!

Carol Winn,
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Library,
Woods Hole, MA

Editor's Note: The excerpts shown are from letters received following the publication of the first issue of the magazine in July, 1988. We continue to solicit concise letters dealing with timely topics of interest or concern to the international ocean science community.