

The Oceanography Society (TOS)/Oceanology International Americas (OIA) Exhibition and Ocean Conference

The June 2003 TOS/OIA Exhibition and Ocean Conference in New Orleans provided a terrific venue for the TOS scientific meeting. Not only was there an exceptional collection of keynote talks, major presentations, and scientific and technical posters, but the OIA exhibition provided a terrific look at the latest ocean technology and the industrial experts associated with those products. Ocean scientists, engineers, industry reps, educators, policy makers—all engaged, all listening to talks that elicit further discussions, interactions and potential directions. The combination of capabilities represented by Spearhead, and their ocean industrial exhibition focus, and TOS, and our focus on ocean science and engineering research and its import and use in and for ocean policy, industry and education makes for an excellent alliance of great benefit to our members and all those attending the meeting.

On behalf of the entire Society, I thank Drs. Spinrad and Stanton for co-chairing the Ocean Conference and Jennifer Ramarui, TOS Executive Director, for her dedicated service to the success of this meeting. I also wish to express the Society's appreciation to Spearhead and, in particular, Lesley Ann Sandbach who worked with TOS to jointly create the idea of this meeting and her commitment to make it work; Craig Moyes (Project Director) as the person who managed the overall exhibit and conference from space to reception to hotels; Sheila Ramaiya (Project Manager), who made much of it happen assisting Craig; Stuart Fraser (Sales Manager) and Geoff Bone and Kirsten Piggott (Sales

Executive) for exhibits—so crucial for overall success of the meeting; Cheri Arvonio handling registrations and announcements; Bryan Weavers (Technical Director) and Keri Hassett (Operations Manager) who oversaw the exhibit and poster space, and worked with the Morial Convention Center staff to provide services to the exhibitors and poster presenters. Without the dedicated work of all these people the joint meeting would not have been such a success and I thank all of them on behalf of TOS.

Spearhead and TOS have now done this twice—in 2001 in Miami and 2003 in New Orleans—and are now in planning for the 2005 TOS/OIA Exhibition and Conference in New Orleans for June 2005. The TOS/OIA 2003 meeting was truly a joint meeting, not just a co-sponsored meeting. Both organizations were fully participatory in the development and execution of the meeting. TOS desires this direction for joint meetings and has joined with ASLO to jointly sponsor the ASLO/TOS Ocean Science Conference to be held in Hawaii on February 15-20, 2004. In addition, TOS, ASLO and AGU are in discussions for developing a truly joint Ocean Sciences Meeting in 2006 along the same lines as the ASLO/TOS and TOS/OIA Conference. If this occurs it will be the first time there has been a truly joint Ocean Sciences Meeting (versus simple co-sponsorship) for the entire ocean community including science, engineering, industry, policy, and education.

Legacy of the Editor

As most of you know Dr. Spinrad, the present Editor of *Oceanography* announced he will be stepping down as Editor beginning in January of 2004. Below is a copy of the letter I sent to Rick on behalf of your elect-

ed representatives on the TOS Council. I believe the whole Society owes Rick a debt of gratitude based upon what he accomplished as Editor of our magazine.

Dear Dr. Spinrad,

On behalf of the Council of The Oceanography Society, I would like to thank you for the tremendous work you have done as editor of *Oceanography* over the past five years.

Immediately after taking the helm, you implemented the publication of "special issues" of *Oceanography*. Sponsors such as NOPP, JGOFS and GLOBEC provided support for magazine issues which included well-edited articles on their own programs, while still accommodating the regular features of *Oceanography* such as the education column, unsolicited articles, and book reviews.

This innovation benefited the Society on many levels. The “special issue” approach helped make it possible to publish the entire magazine in full color, and was instrumental in your next crucial improvement to the magazine: publishing four issues of the magazine per year on a consistent schedule. By accomplishing this, TOS members are able to count on receiving their magazine on a regular basis, and authors are able to publish their manuscripts more quickly than in the past.

Dozens of readers have written to remark on the quality of *Oceanography*. While this is the true measure of your success as an editor, I would also like to acknowledge that professionals in the publishing industry have noticed the quality of *Oceanography*. The special issue on the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (Volume 13, Number 2) was selected from hundreds of competitors as one of two Honorable Mentions in the “Professional Journals” category in a national competition sponsored by *Association Trends*—the weekly newspaper for association executives and suppliers.

In the midst of the hectic publication schedule, you were able to implement many other improvements to the magazine: soliciting articles from eminent persons in the field of oceanography, and developing new sections of the magazine such as “Breaking Waves” and the education column. In addition you expanded the distribution of *Oceanography* to recipients in key Capitol Hill and government agency offices to educate key U.S. policy makers on items of impact and importance to our members and the oceanography community, and found an excellent solution to the “e-publishing” problem by providing authors with pdf files (including copyright statements) of their articles and enabling them to link their servers to the TOS website for distribution of those files from the TOS site.

I thank you again for the energy and dedication you have shown in transforming *Oceanography* magazine into a high-quality publication that has become mandatory reading for all members of our field. Your efforts and successes will be of benefit to the community and is an incredible long-term legacy of your tenure as TOS Magazine editor that you can view with pride. I thank you personally but more importantly thank you on behalf of the TOS Council, TOS membership and the oceanography community.



Sincerely,
Eric O. Hartwig
TOS President

Introducing the New TOS Editor

Appreciating the lead-time Rick gave, TOS has been able to select a new Editor. I am pleased to announce that the TOS Council unanimously approved Dr. Ellen Kappel to be named the next Editor of *Oceanography*. She was honored by this nomination and selection and is already working closely with Rick

and the Magazine and TOS staff to make this a seamless transition. Ellen has several ideas she is working on with regard to *Oceanography* and is hitting the ground running. Ellen, on behalf of the TOS Council and all TOS members—welcome aboard. 🎉

(The views expressed in this column are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Naval Research Laboratory.)