

Ellen R.M. Druffel  
Department of Earth System Sciences, PSRF-207  
University of California, Irvine, CA 92717  
(714) 725-2116  
Internet: druffel@bro.ps.uci.edu

Donald B. Olson  
RSMAS  
University of Miami  
Miami, FL 33149 USA  
(305) 361-4074; D.OLSON.RSMAS  
Internet: don@loquat.rsmas.miami.edu

Makoto Omori  
Department of Aquatic Biosciences  
Tokyo University of Fisheries  
4-5-7, Konan, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan  
(03)471-1251

Louis M. Prier  
Laboratoire de Physique et Chimie Marines  
Observatoire Oceanologique de Villefranche sur Mer  
BP 08 La Darse  
06230 Villefranche Sur Mer, France  
(33)93763739  
Internet: prieur@ccrv.obs-vlfr.fr

Richard W. Spinrad  
Office of Naval Research, Code 322  
800 N. Quincy St.  
Arlington, VA 22217 USA  
(703) 696-4732; R.SPINRAD  
Internet: spinrar.onrhq.onr.navy.mil

James Syvitski  
Atlantic Geoscience Centre  
Bedford Institute of Oceanography  
Dartmouth, NS B2Y4A2, Canada  
(902) 426-6867

Peter Wadhams  
Scott Polar Research Institute  
University of Cambridge  
Lensfield Road  
Cambridge CB2 1ER England  
223-336542  
Internet: pw11@phx.cam.ac.uk

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## MESSAGE FROM OUTGOING PRESIDENT

**M**Y TERM AS PRESIDENT of The Oceanography Society expired in June 1994, and now I take the position of Past-President. I have the unique distinction of being not only the first President-Elect of our newly formed society, but also the first Past-President of the Society, as Jim Baker resigned from the TOS Council when he was appointed NOAA Administrator. It has been a wonderful and rewarding experience being associated with TOS during these formative years; I thank the membership for giving me the opportunity. I enjoyed working with the TOS Council. Our meetings are always very lively as we all realize that our precedent-setting actions determine how effectively and for how long we will serve our community. As a fledgling organization we could ill afford a mistake.

With a strong belief that the international community of ocean scientists requires and deserves a "home of its own," TOS was born in 1988 under the expert guidance of Jim Baker. We provided a magazine format and a meeting venue new to our field. The community responded positively. In those initial years we were vulnerable to pass into oblivion: if we didn't provide the correct and sufficient services we would fail; if we provided more services than our income would allow, we would fail. We had to keep our balance and we have done so. We are now carefully considering expanding services within the confines of a more secure though not ample financial position. We now have annual meetings, the thematic meetings in the spring of the odd years and topical meetings in the even years, the latter beginning with the Pacific Ocean meeting in Hawaii in July, 1994. Our magazine is produced on a more regular basis under a more efficient budget. Increasing the number of issues per year is a high priority objective.

TOS is searching for ways to better meet the needs of the international community of ocean scientists. We are always open to suggestions of how TOS could do this and in particular we appreciate offers of help in the development of new activities and the improvement of current ones. Margaret Leinen is now the TOS President, and I am confident that she will skillfully guide our continued development; we are in good hands!

Imagine, the ocean sciences now have a Society of their own! We determine its course—become part of the action.

—Arnold L. Gordon

### "IT'S NOT THERE!"

That was Arnold Gordon's response when he examined the framed chart given to him by the Council on behalf of the members. The chart is a southern hemisphere stereographic projection centered on the South Pole that is reasonably correct, save the missing Antarctic continent. Evidently Cook had already discovered the continent, but chart makers had yet to include the new discovery on the charts.

