

TOS NEWS — August 10, 2017

1. Andone C. Lavery selected as 2017 recipient of the Walter Munk Award

Dr. Andone C. Lavery has been selected as the 2017 recipient the Walter Munk Award for Distinguished Research in Oceanography Related to Sound and the Sea. Dr. Lavery is an Associate Scientist with Tenure in the Department of Applied Ocean Physics & Engineering at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

The citation that will be included on the certificate signed by the Secretary of the U.S. Navy and the president of The Oceanography Society reads as follows:

Through discrimination between the scattering by zooplankton and physical microstructure using broadband acoustic measurement methods and models, Andone Lavery has quantified important biological and physical parameters leading to new understanding of both ocean physical processes and marine biology.

An excerpt from the nomination letter written by James F. Lynch states that “Andone’s work has been very much in the spirit of acoustical oceanography and the Walter Munk Award’s stated criteria for acoustics, ocean science, and instrumentation development. Her Arctic oil spill work also has a fine scale echo of Walter’s ATOC work, where he was concerned with measuring ocean warming due to anthropogenic activity. Both pieces of research have a deep societal motivation.”

Dr. Lavery will receive the Munk Award during the 174th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in New Orleans, Louisiana (December 4 – 8, 2017), and she will also be recognized during the Ocean Sciences Meeting in Portland, Oregon (February 11-16, 2018). She will also give presentations at both meetings. Read more about the Munk Award [here](#).

2. Message from TOS President Alan Mix: Red Herring / Blue Herring

As usual there is much in the news this month of interest to TOS members. Today as I swelter in a record-setting heat wave in the Pacific Northwest, the US State Department formally notified the United Nations of its [intent to withdraw](#) from the Paris (COP21) Climate Accords. We knew this was coming, but still it shocks. Although this withdrawal signal may do some scientific and economic damage within the US, it will likely have little effect on the rest of the world’s efforts to understand, mitigate, and adapt while developing new economic opportunities in response to climate change. TOS urges its members throughout the world to keep informed on these developments, to share their expertise, and to express their personal opinions appropriately.

Many TOS readers are also aware of a proposal from the US Executive Branch for a so-called “Red Team, Blue Team” exercise to debate the reality of climate change, promoted by EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt and supported by DOE Chief Rick Perry and the US President. Several organizations have posted about this, for example [this useful comment](#) by the American Geophysical Union.

It appears that the proposed red/blue exercise is more red herring than an attempt to refine scientific knowledge. To be sure we will keep learning more about climate change and its relation to various components of the Earth system, including the ocean. We will always need to learn more, but that is no

excuse for delay when the need for action is now clear; as each year of emitted CO₂ accumulates, solutions become more difficult and more expensive. The most effective path forward is not to turn climate change into a political circus, but for politicians to refer to the [latest IPCC reports](#), which provide comprehensive views of the current state of knowledge, subject to the most rigorous open review process in history. Information in the IPCC reports provides a roadmap for development of policies and specific actions.

TOS encourages all governments to facilitate continued research and all climate scientists to continue their efforts toward better understanding, while increasing their efforts to inform policymakers and non-scientists about their processes and findings. TOS will continue to play an important role in facilitating collaboration and communication among scientists in many nations, and in translating the latest findings related to the ocean into accessible and informative products for scientists and non-scientists alike for example in our journal, *Oceanography*.

For further information see The Oceanography Society [web page](#).

3. September 6th deadline for 2018 Ocean Sciences Meeting abstracts and events

The deadline for submitting abstracts, town halls, workshops and other events is less than one month away. Click [here](#) to learn more.

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TOS is making great strides toward fulfilling its [mission](#) as we grow to represent more members of the oceanographic community worldwide. Please invite your colleagues to [join](#) by forwarding them [this link](#) to the membership page. If you would like to support TOS initiatives and programs, please consider [contributing](#) by following [this link](#).

Please contact Jenny Ramarui (jenny@tos.org), TOS Executive Director, with any questions about items in this message or your membership.