

# Ocean Worlds 2016

## Woods Hole, MA

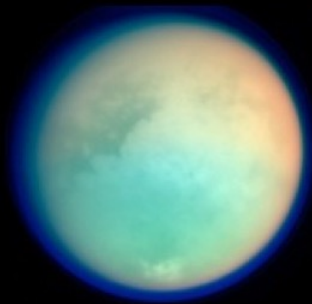
● Enceladus



Europa



Callisto



Titan



Triton



Ganymede

*Shown to scale*



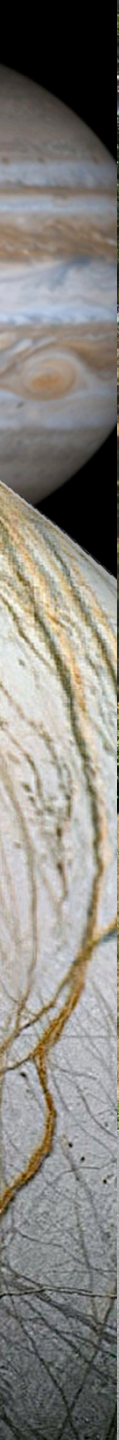
## Ocean Worlds 2015

- ~40 attendees from various disciplines and institutions.
- Held at the National Geographic Society for 1 day.
- Focus was on bridging Earth ocean exploration and the exploration of ocean worlds beyond Earth, with some time spent on strategic considerations for missions and Earth exploration in the next 20 years.

## Ocean Worlds 2016

- ~70 attendees, across science, technology, Earth, and planetary science.
- Held at WHOI for 2 days, with facility tours.
- Presentations focused largely on ocean-seafloor interactions and the technologies to access seafloors and to get through ice shells.
- Website & Agenda:  
<http://www.whoi.edu/marinerobotics/2nd-annual-ocean-worlds-meeting>









# Agenda: Day 1

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10:00 – 10:50

## **Key scientific aspects of Oceans on Earth (1)**

*(Chair: Chris German)*

*3 talks (12 min + 4 min Q&A = 48 min)*

- Paul Falkowski      Biogeochemical Evolution of a Life-Sustaining Planet
- Julie Huber        Life in the Extreme: Seafloor Fluid Flow and Chemosynthesis
- Mark Skidmore     Life in the Extreme: Microbiology at the Ice-Water Interface

10:50 – 11:10

Coffee break

11:10 – 12:00

## **Key scientific aspects of Oceans beyond Earth (1)**

*(Chair: Christophe Sotin)*

*3 talks (12 min + 4 min Q&A = 48 min)*

- Carolyn Porco      The Geysering World of Enceladus
- Bill McKinnon      Geophysics of Ocean Worlds
- Krista Soderlund    Ocean Circulation Beyond Earth



# Agenda: Day 1 (cont.)

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13:15 – 14:20

## **Ocean Worlds Technologies: Core components**

*(Chair: Heidi Perry)*

*4 talks (12 min + 4 min Q&A = 64 min)*

- Pete Girguis      Sensors for Investigating the Oceans *In Situ*
- Henrik Schmidt      Acoustics for Interrogating the Oceans Remotely
- Dana Yoerger      Robotics for Ocean Exploration
- Bob Pappalardo      Mission to Europa

14:20 – 15:10

## **Key Scientific Aspects of Oceans on Earth (2)**

*(Chair: Julie Huber)*

*3 talks (12 min + 4 min Q&A = 48 min)*

- Everett Shock      Energetics to Drive Chemosynthesis
- Beth Orcutt      Life *Beneath* the Seafloor
- John Priscu      Subglacial Lake Investigations

15:10 – 16:00

## **Key Scientific Aspects of Oceans beyond Earth (2)**

*(Chair: Sarah Horst)*

*3 talks (12 min + 4 min Q&A = 48 min)*

- Wes Patterson      Tectonics on Icy Moons
- Jason Goodman      Ocean Circulation Effects on Europa
- Chris Glein      Geochemical Modelling for Enceladus's ocean

16:00 – 17:00

## **Day 1 Discussion**

17:00 – 17:15

## **Break**

17:15 – 18:45

## **Happy Hour & Ocean Worlds “Karaoke”**

1 slide per person, 60 seconds to present.



# Agenda: Day 2

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9:10 – 10:30

## **System-wide Approaches to Ocean Exploration on Earth**

*(Chair: Kevin Hand)*

*4 talks (15 min + 5 min Q&A = 80 min)*

- Chris German
- Jim Bellingham
- Heidi Perry
- John Delaney

Nested Exploration Strategies for Seafloor Fluid-Flow  
Coordinated Use of Multi-Platform Systems  
Latest Updates on Unmanned Underwater Systems  
Ocean Observatories & exploring Ocean Worlds

10:30 – 10:40

## **Break**

10:40 – 12:00

## **Key technologies for Ocean Exploration beyond Earth**

*(Chair: Gregg Vane)*

*4 talks (15 min + 5 min Q&A = 80 min)*

- Tom Cwik
- Ralph Lorenz
- Kevin Hand
- Bill Stone

What Constrains Payload/Power/Accessing Ocean Worlds?  
Sensor Suites for Ocean World Exploration: Huygens  
Planetary Sampling  
Accessing Oceans Beneath Ice



# Goals

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- Goal #1: There are no goals.
- Goal #2: There are no products.
- Goal #3: Mind the caveats.
  - Caveat #1: Find some Findings.
  - Caveat #2: Write some writing.





# Findings: Technology

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- What technologies for what scale
  - Time, space & mass?
- Instrumentation
  - Which tools are serve multiple purposes?
  - What are the science drivers? E.g. GCMS
- How useful has remote sensing been for Ocean Exploration?
  - What if the oceans were transparent?
  - Radio energies: Titan's sea are transparent – seafloor maps can be acquired from orbit
- Clipper payload – earth ocean community thoughts on selected payload. Making the most of the datasets that we will generate
- Experiments that can be done in the lab will be better informed once this community better understands the payload
- Getting people less involved in the PS community into the field
- Lander goals – input from this community would be useful
- Lander: productivity, what's the right trade in autonomy versus GITL so as to optimize sample selection.
- Replace specialized sensors with additional computation – is that a way to optimized limited resources? Event detection
- What are the technology taboos? E.g. nuclear systems. Reintroduce these kinds of ideas/technology.
- EO: Limitations on imaging – data rates; storing and then forwarding
- Analog research has intrinsic 'offsets' whereas vents may well be more 'authentic' than what we used to
- Boots on the ground experience has benefited the Mars community greatly;
- Antarctica is low hanging fruit and moving too slowly – collaborative effort across agencies





# Findings: Science

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- Habitability & Chemical Disequilibrium vs Chemical Equilibrium and Biosignatures: What is the energetic biosignature of an inhabited system?
  - Anomalous equilibrium as a biosignature
  - Abiotic methane is a key link between ocean worlds
  - New vents, new chemistries: Abiotic organics versus biological materials, e.g. Lost City, FT synthesis
  - Mineral evolution and diversity; higher mineral diversity on earth is linked to life; Roughly half of earth's minerals
- Ocean modeling/circulation –
  - How does tidal heating affect ocean circulation?
  - Are these oceans stratified?
  - What experiments are needed to advance the models?
- Humans use the same sensors for navigation/autonomy as we do for 'science'; i.e. exploration payload = science payload.
- Advances in Earth ocean capabilities are making the idea of getting into Europa's ocean seem more feasible than even just 10 years ago.

# My new favorite biosignature

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**WHOI SharkCam**

# Reaching a Broader Audience

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- Washington Post summary article
  - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/speaking-of-science/wp/2016/09/02/looking-for-aliens-on-ocean-worlds-you-d-be-in-denial-to-believe-there-isnt-life-out-there/>

