



WOODS HOLE
OCEANOGRAPHIC
INSTITUTION

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Dear WHOI Corporation Members,

With summer here, I hope you're finding time to enjoy the ocean that brings our community together and fuels our shared commitment to its health.

WHOI Corporation Executive Committee Update

Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the Corporation Meeting in May. We were thrilled with the strong turnout and received overwhelmingly positive feedback on the marketing materials presented. Building on that success, we're working to make WHOI's impact more accessible, more emotionally compelling, more shareable, and more visible to broader audiences. The results of the exercise include the following actions:

- **Reduce email volume:** Ensure all Corporation Members are subscribed to *Ocean Insider* so they receive WHOI news, events, and updates in one weekly email rather than multiple individual messages.
- **Clarify publications and titles:** Review the names and positioning of *Wavemakers* and *Making Waves for the Greater Good* to ensure each publication clearly communicates its purpose and intended audience.
- **Increase the Corporation's online presence:** Refresh the Corporation Membership webpage with updated recruitment materials and improve the searchability and navigation of the Members-only and application pages. As we continue to strengthen our Corporation, please keep an eye out for prospective candidates. The Development staff and Ham Lord, Nominating Chair, are happy to assist with the identification and nomination process. We are especially seeking individuals with diverse backgrounds and perspectives, as well as networks that can broaden our reach.

We're always looking for Corporation Members who are willing to serve as mentors for our newest members. If you're interested in helping welcome and connect new members to the WHOI community, please let [JeanneMarie](#) know. Finally, Development welcomes members who want to serve as hosts for small dinners to introduce potential supporters to WHOI.

Our weekly ***Ocean Insider*** e-newsletter is delivered every Friday to your preferred email address. If you're not receiving it, please check your spam or junk folder. **If you find it there, move it to your inbox, open it, and click on the links to ensure future issues are delivered.** *Ocean Insider* is our primary source for volunteer news, event information, and RSVP links. As a result, you should be receiving fewer individual emails from WHOI.

- *New York Times* on [June 3](#) and [June 18](#). NSF will continue operating and maintaining the remaining arrays, develop plans to redeploy the Endurance Array, and seek community input on the future of ocean observing, recognizing the broad scientific, educational, and public value of OOI's openly available data.

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, 7/25 @ 6:15pm – **You're invited to a special screening** of the award-winning documentary ***A Life Illuminated***, featuring Dr. Edie Widder and directed by Tasha Van Zandt. It is part of the **2026 WHOI Ocean and Climate Outreach Series**, presented by the Yawkey Foundation being held at Redfield Auditorium, please contact JeanneMarie for free tickets.
- Saturday, 8/8 from 10:00am to 3:00pm – **The Woods Hole Science Stroll** is a free, family-friendly annual event featuring hands-on activities and opportunities to learn about Woods Hole's six major science institutions, the U.S. Coast Guard, and local environment and education-focused non-profits.
- Thursday, 8/13@ 5:00pm - **Explore the George and Wendy David Center for Ocean Innovation** during a special open house on WHOI's Quissett Campus courtesy of the **2026 WHOI Ocean and Climate Outreach Series**, presented by the Yawkey Foundation. Visit the DeepTech Hub to meet WHOI scientists and engineers and explore a variety of cutting-edge ocean technologies, including autonomous underwater vehicles, remotely operated vehicles, sensors, and buoys. Attendees will also have the opportunity to tour **DunkWorks**, WHOI's 3D printing and rapid prototyping lab. Please contact JeanneMarie to RSVP.
- Thursday & Friday, 10/15 & 16 – **Fall 2026 Joint Meeting** of the Board and Corporation, please mark your calendars.

Want to know more about what's coming up? Here's the QR code for more information on [our 2026 events](#):



<https://events.whoi.edu/summer2026>

WHOI Highlights and News

- *National Geographic*: “[How female dolphins know which males to avoid.](#)” (June 15, 2026), highlights a new study showing that female Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphins recognize individual males by their unique "signature whistles" (essentially their names) and use that information to avoid males with a history of aggressive or coercive mating behavior. **Dr. Laela Sayigh**, Senior Research specialist at WHOI, is featured as an independent expert, providing scientific context and emphasizing the significance of the discovery in dolphin communication and behavior.
- *BBC Wildlife*: “[Scientists took water samples from a pier in California – and made a surprising discovery about a ruthless predator](#)” (June 2, 2026) describes how a type of bioluminescent organism in the ocean harpoons its prey and feasts on the toxic algae that can harm ecosystems when they form huge blooms. **WHOI postdoctoral researcher Brittany Sprecher** says understanding how this species produces light, and how its bioluminescence differs from other organisms, “could lead to a better understanding of marine ecosystems, as well as the evolution, chemistry and potential functions of bioluminescence.”
- *Smithsonian magazine*: “[Gray Whales Are Getting Struck by Ships in San Francisco Bay. Could This New A.I.-Powered Tech Save Them?](#)” (June 25, 2026) reports on a new AI-powered whale detection system in San Francisco Bay that uses thermal cameras to spot gray whales up to four miles away and alert nearby vessels, helping reduce deadly ship strikes. Developed in part by **WHOI Associate Scientist Daniel Zitterbart**, the technology aims to protect gray whales—whose populations have declined sharply in recent years—as they increasingly enter the Bay in search of food due to climate-driven changes in the Arctic.
- *Reuters*: “[The race to bolster the ocean’s potential to combat climate change](#)” (June 8, 2026) explores the growing interest in using the ocean to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through both engineered and nature-based approaches to help combat climate change. This article highlights recent research by **WHOI**, where scientists conducted a field trial off the Massachusetts coast demonstrating that **ocean alkalinity enhancement** can be precisely monitored and verified, an important step toward building confidence in this emerging carbon removal technology and advancing its potential for large-scale use.

To view more WHOI highlights, and recent news stories visit:

WHOI Press Room	WHOI in the News
 https://www.whoi.edu/press-room	 https://www.whoi.edu/news-insights

Ships Update

HOV Alvin has returned to service after successfully completing its routine overhaul, post-overhaul sea trials, and U.S. Navy recertification for dives to 6,500 meters. Now aboard the Office of Naval Research's **R/V Atlantis**, Alvin is participating in the **Heroic Age Expedition**, helping map historic Arctic and deep-sea shipwrecks in the Labrador Sea off the coast of Greenland. (See more info [here](#) found in [WHOI News and Insights](#).)

If you'll be in Woods Hole this September, the Office of Naval Research's **R/V Neil Armstrong** will be in port, offering opportunities for viewing and tours for you and your guests.

Thank you for your continued commitment to WHOI and our mission to advance ocean science. I look forward to seeing many of you this summer.

Jon Stavis