



The Keynote Panel sessions are just one highlight of Oceanology International's multi-track conference format (Oceanology International 2016 at London's ExCeL pictured)

Nov 08, 2016 17:00 GMT

## **OINA: Industry Leaders Set to Tackle Key Issues during Oceanology International North America 2017 Keynote Panels**

*Ocean Resources, Transportation & Security, and Climate & Environment in focus as new Oceanology International debuts in the USA – San Diego Convention Center, California, February 14-16, 2017*

**London, November 8 2016** – Following the launch of registration for the Oceanology International North America 2017 (OINA) exhibition and

conference, organiser Reed Exhibitions has today released further information on the Keynote Panels. The OINA conference program will consist of three main parts; keynote end-user focused panel discussions, technical tracks and a full day dedicated to the Catch the Next Wave conference, all aiming to provide a clear understanding of the present and future requirements and opportunities of the Blue Economy.

The Keynote Panels will take place between February 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and will explore the requirements for ocean science and technology in support of delivering a sustainable Blue Economy with a focus on Ocean Resources, Transportation & Security, and Climate & Environment. Leaders from science, industry and government will define the characteristics that allow the ocean activities for the protection of the marine environment.

The first of the Keynote Panels will examine the exploration of Ocean Resources. The aim of this panel will be to consider the future trends of ocean resources in addition to the science and technology needs these will drive. Due to the growing levels of activity in ocean renewable energy and aquaculture, ocean resources are a fundamental theme of ocean science and technology. The session will include presenters from a variety of organisations including Randall Luthi, President, NOIA; Carolyn Heeps, Development Strategy Manager, RES Offshore; David Kelly, Chief Technology Officer, InnovaSea; and Tiago Pitta e Cunha, Executive Director, Oceano Azul Foundation, Portugal.

The second Keynote Panel will focus on Transportation & Security. It will consider developments in marine transportation and the associated ocean and science technology requirements. The panel will give attention to the emerging environmental regulations affecting ports and shipping and the partial challenges associated with safe and secure maritime operations. The session will consist of a range of panellists including Dr Stephen Russell, Director of Science and Technology, CTO, SPAWAR; Jay McFadyen, Vice President Ship Intelligence, Rolls-Royce; and VADM Charles Ray, Deputy Commandant for Operations, Coast Guard.

The final Keynote Panel will highlight Climate & Environment topics, specifically how maritime regions are vulnerable to the effects of a changing climate. The panel will consider the threats to coastal communities and the ocean environment, exploring the role of ocean science and technology. Panellists will consist of professionals from port environment protection

initiatives, biology, coast and oceanographers. The session will include talks from Russell Callender, Assistant Administrator, NOAA's National Ocean Service; Tim Gallaudet, U.S. Navy Rear Admiral – Oceanographer for the Navy and Climate task force; Jason Giffen, Assistant Vice President, Port of San Diego; and Stephen Weisberg, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project.

Organized by Reed Exhibitions in association with The Maritime Alliance (TMA) and supported by a range of industry partners, OINA 2017 will feature a diverse conference schedule with papers presented by leading specialists in the world of ocean science and marine technology. The Keynote Panels and accompanying conference sessions have all been established by a highly experienced conference committee, consisting 12 industry and academic experts, dedicated to furthering research and discussion within ocean sciences and industry.

Ralph Rayner, chair of the OINA 2017 conference committee and a US IOOS Industry Liaison at NOAA, and Co-Chair of the Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans Industry Liaison Council, said: “Oceanology International is unique in its focus on demonstrating the benefits of ocean science and technology to the many users of the ocean. I am particularly looking forward to the keynote panel sessions as these will set the scene for future ocean science and technology needs associated with working in, on and under the oceans to deliver economic benefits and protect the ocean environment.”

“The keynote focused panel discussions at OINA will be an insight into the emerging topics for ocean science and technology and how this is delivering an environmentally sound Blue Economy,” adds Ellen Burgess, Conference Manager, Reed Exhibitions. “The conference will focus on topical international themes for North America, in addition to highlighting global technology and research projects.”

To find out more details about the conference schedule, visit the OINA website: [www.oceanologyinternationalnorthamerica.com/](http://www.oceanologyinternationalnorthamerica.com/)

OINA conference and exhibition visitors can register here: [www.oceanologyinternationalnorthamerica.com/register](http://www.oceanologyinternationalnorthamerica.com/register)

**Ends**

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**About the Oceanology International Portfolio**

The Oceanology International portfolio of events offer a global forum where industry, academia and government share knowledge and connect with the marine technology and ocean science community, improving their strategies for measuring, exploiting, protecting and operating in the world's oceans. First established in 1969, the flagship event in London features the world's largest exhibition for marine science and technology, multiple agenda-setting technical conferences, and a visiting vessels and waterside demonstration program.

## The Oceanology International portfolio includes

- **Oceanology International China:** Developed with government and industry associations, Oceanology International China provides organizations with the opportunity to capitalise on China's rapidly growing offshore energy and marine industries. With 215 exhibitors from 20 different countries, more than 5000 domestic and overseas professional attendees from 32 different countries and regions were attracted to OI China 2015.  
[www.oichina.com.cn/en](http://www.oichina.com.cn/en)
- **Oceanology International:** Oceanology International is the leading conference and exhibition dedicated to serving all professionals working in the global ocean science and marine technology sector. The first Oceanology International was held in Brighton, in 1970. Today, it's home is at London's ExCeL centre. The OI 2016 exhibition was the largest ever in the show's 47-year history with over 8,500m<sup>2</sup> occupied by 520 exhibiting companies from 33 countries. [www.oceanologyinternational.com](http://www.oceanologyinternational.com)
- **Catch the Next Wave conference:** Now in its fourth edition, Catch the Next Wave is an exclusive conference taking place alongside or as part of Oceanology International events globally. The most recent program in London took place at the prestigious Royal Institution, and the North American edition will form part of the OINA conference program on February 16th 2017. The event takes a longer term view of the capabilities that will shape our future ability to explore, understand, exploit and protect the oceans. [www.ctnwconference.com](http://www.ctnwconference.com)
- **Oceanology International North America** (February 14-16 2017, San Diego Convention Center, USA) The launch event of the biennial series is taking place in 2017.  
[www.oceanologyinternationalnorthamerica.com](http://www.oceanologyinternationalnorthamerica.com)

## About Reed Exhibitions

Reed Exhibitions is the world's leading event organizer, with over 500 events in 30 countries. In 2015, Reed brought together over seven million event participants from around the world generating billions of dollars in business. Today, Reed events are held throughout the Americas, Europe, the Middle

East, Asia Pacific and Africa and organized by 40 fully staffed offices. Reed Exhibitions serves 43 industry sectors with trade and consumer events. It is part of the RELX Group plc, a world-leading provider of information solutions for professional customers across industries.

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