



Students visiting Oceanology International 2016 in London for Careers Day

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OINA 2017: Education & Career Development Day Set to Inspire the Next Generation of Marine Science Professionals

A highlight of OINA 2017 will be a dedicated Education & Career Development Day and OceanSTEM Panel addressing the education and career development needs of the Blue Economy.

San Diego/London, February 10 2017 – A diverse conference program during

next week's inaugural Oceanology International North America (OINA 2017) will address the important issues of education and career development within the ocean tech industry. A dedicated ***Education & Career Development Day*** will provide an informative day of advice and inspiration for K12 educators and college students considering a career in ocean science and technology, whilst a breakout panel ***OceanSTEM & Blue Economy Workforce Development***, on *Tuesday the 14th*, will look at the best ways to cultivate industry entrepreneurs and work force.

The Education & Career Development Day will bring together ocean science educators in this field to run a series of presentations to visiting high school students considering a degree in marine science and college students looking to break into the marine industry.

Students

The morning Careers session for college students will offer an insight on the scope and scale of the career paths available within the marine science and technology sectors, a look into some of the exciting and emerging projects taking place in the industry today and guidance on how and where to look for jobs in the marine sector. The afternoon will provide an opportunity for students to network with the OINA 2017 exhibitors and talk about their technologies and potential career opportunities within their organizations before ending in a panel session of young professionals sharing their experiences of securing jobs in the marine sector.

Dr Bev Mackenzie is the Senior Technical Manager at the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology and is currently involved in developing activities for women in marine STEM and for early career professions. Commenting, she said, "We are really looking forward to supporting the careers day. Oceanology International is always a wonderful opportunity for us to meet the next generation of engaged marine professionals and to learn more about what they expect to achieve going forwards and their thoughts on where the sector is going. Unlike other sectors, recruitment in the marine sector is often done much more personally and networking with potential employers is hugely important. Oceanology International provides an opportunity for those actively seeking employment to meet with potential employers and also to network with some young professionals who were in their position just a few years ago to pick up some handy hints and tips.

Educators

The morning Education Worksop for K12 educators, will share with teachers new techniques and classroom activities to engage their student's imagination and interest in the marine sector. Teachers will then have an opportunity to network with exhibitors and talk about their technologies and potential career opportunities within their organizations.

OceanSTEM

OceanSTEM, an initiative of The Maritime Alliance (TMA) that aims to raise awareness of ocean-related STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) careers and opportunities, will be the focus of one of the Tuesday conferences break out panels, ***OceanSTEM & Blue Economy Workforce Development.*** Chairing the panel, **Linda Kurokawa**, Director, Community Services & Business Development, MiraCosta College, Kurokawa said, "The future of the ocean tech industry depends on great science, entrepreneurs, a robust trained workforce and availability of capital. We will look at the challenges facing education to drive more people towards marine technology and science careers."

More exhibitor information and the full conference schedule can be found on the OINA website: www.oceanologyinternationalnorthamerica.com/. OINA conference and exhibition visitors can register here: 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 capitalize 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
- **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 ExCeL London. The OI2016 exhibition was the largest ever in the show's 47-year history with over 8,500m2 occupied by 520 exhibiting companies from 33 countries. 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
- **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

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