



Walter Munk, professor emeritus of geophysics, Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Photo Credit: Jeff Corda

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OINA 2017: Ocean Science Pioneer Walter Munk to be Honored at Special 2017 Catch the Next Wave Conference

One-day future-focused event takes place on the final day of the debut Oceanology International North America exhibition and conference at San Diego Convention Center, California, from February 14th to 16th, 2017

San Diego/London, December 6 2016 – Organizers of the first Oceanology International North America (OINA) exhibition and conference have

announced that ocean science pioneer and 'living legend' Walter H. Munk will feature in a special edition of the Catch the Next Wave (CTNW) Conference which will be integral to next year's three-day program.

During the year of his 100th birthday, the renowned oceanographer Walter Munk, of Scripps Institution of Oceanography, will be honored for his outstanding contribution to ocean science and technology at the future-focused CTNW event, which takes place from 9am to 5pm on Thursday, February 16th at San Diego Convention Center and is delivered in association with Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

Reed Exhibitions has confirmed a distinguished speaker line-up in which Scripps Oceanographer Munk will present on 'Acoustic Monitoring of Climate Change' within the Sensing with Sound session.

Providing a fitting conclusion to CTNW and the extensive OINA conference schedule, the proceedings will culminate with a closing keynote address celebrating Munk's achievements by John Orcutt, Distinguished Professor of Geophysics for the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

Munk is a professor emeritus of geophysics in the Cecil H. and Ida M. Green Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego. His research includes physical oceanography and geophysics leading to the understanding of ocean currents and circulation, tides, wave propagation in solid and fluid bodies, and the rotation of the Earth. He pioneered the use of high-speed computers for analyzing geophysical data.

Historically a standalone event, the fourth edition of the one-day conference has been incorporated into the OINA agenda as an addition to the final day of a strong debut program set to attract leading experts and professionals from the ocean science and marine technology communities.

Entitled 'Celebrating the Past to Awaken the Future', to quote John F Kennedy, CTNW 2017 is designed for industry professionals and researchers with an interest in key disruptive technologies. The conference's aim is to explore some examples of the trajectory of technological innovation outside of the ocean community with the objective of sparking new ideas across disciplines and sectors.

It will continue the theme of past years by taking a longer term view of the capabilities that will shape our future ability to explore, understand, develop and protect the oceans, while also building on topics discussed during the main OINA conference.

The focus will be on the direction of aspects of ocean science that Munk has worked on in his long career, and how diverse technological innovations, including emerging robotic technologies and the latest developments in machine learning and autonomy, might contribute to progress.

Justin Manley, chair of the OINA 2017 Unmanned Vehicles and Vessels technical track, and Founder, Just Innovation, said: “Catch the Next Wave has proven to be a powerful opportunity to learn from innovators both within and without the ocean community. The carefully crafted program and exceptional attendees make for an exceptional learning and networking experience. I am eager to see innovative ideas from diverse speakers alongside subjects honoring one of oceanology’s living legends, Walter Munk.”

The conference will commence with keynote addresses from Don Walsh, Honorary President of the Explorers Club, and Bill Stone, CEO of Stone Aerospace, who will provide perspectives on the exploration of the oceans of the Earth and the technologies that will make possible the exploration of the oceans of other worlds.

Further highlights include talks on: ‘The Future Large Scale Use of Autonomous Vessels’, by Jay McFadyen, Senior Vice President Ship Intelligence, Rolls Royce; ‘Evolving Use of Machine Learning Technology in Ocean Applications’, by Jules Jaffe, Research Oceanographer for the Marine Physical Laboratory, Scripps Institution of Oceanography; ‘Future of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles for Atmospheric Studies’, by Veerabhadran Ramanathan, Director of the Center for Atmospheric Sciences, Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

There will also be award presentations including the OINA Lifetime Achievement Award, Vincent Cardone Memorial Prize and SUT Oceanography Prize.

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: “What am I most looking

forward to about this program? All of it! Catch the Next Wave provides a unique take on the future direction of marine science and technology. Anyone who is fascinated by the potential of emerging technologies to contribute to exploring, using and protecting our oceans should attend this program.”

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 CTNW conference, all aiming to provide a clear understanding of the present and future requirements and opportunities of the Blue Economy.

OINA 2017 is organized by Reed Exhibitions in association with The Maritime Alliance (TMA) and supported by a range of industry partners.

To find out more details about the conference schedule, visit the OINA website: www.oceanologyinternationalnorthamerica.com/ or go to the [Catch the Next Wave website](#).

OINA conference and exhibition visitors can register here: www.oceanologyinternationalnorthamerica.com/register

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For further information, please contact:

Hannah Cox

Senior Marketing Executive, Energy & Marine Group

Reed Exhibitions

Tel: +44 (0)20 8910 7007

hannah.cox@reedexpo.co.uk

Jules Riegal/Karen Bartlett

Saltwater Stone

Tel: +44 (0)1202 669244

j.riegal@saltwater-stone.com

k.bartlett@saltwater-stone.com

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 programme.

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 London's ExCeL centre. 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 programme in London took place at the prestigious Royal Institution, and the North American edition will form part of the OINA conference programme 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.
<http://www.oceanologyinternationalnorthamerica.com>

About Reed Exhibitions

Reed Exhibitions is the world's leading events 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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