

Acoustical Oceanography Annual Report 2012

The Acoustical Oceanography Technical Committee had several significant events during the year and at the 162nd and 163rd meetings of Acoustical Society of America (ASA) in San Diego, CA and Hong Kong, China.

It was a big year for William Kuperman as he was awarded the ASA Gold Metal at the Hong Kong meeting for leadership in underwater acoustics, mentoring generations of acousticians, and for service to the society. Bill was also awarded the 2011 Munk Award. This is awarded jointly by The Oceanography Society, the Office of Naval Research and the Office of the Oceanographer of the Navy. Bill received the award and presented the Munk Award lecture, "Underwater Acoustics and Acoustical Oceanography" at the San Diego Meeting.

John Colosi is the recipient of the 2012 Medwin Prize in Acoustical Oceanography. This prize is given to recognize a person for the effective use of sound in the discovery and understanding of physical and biological parameters and processes in the sea. John was given the award for work on ocean internal waves as they relate to sound fluctuations in the sea. John will give the 2012 Medwin Prize lecture at the Kansas City ASA meeting.

There were some notable special sessions at the San Diego meeting including a memorial session in honor of Van Holliday. Van was one of the pioneers of Acoustical Oceanography and the session highlighted the many contributions Van made to the field. The session attendees included family members and numerous long time colleagues and it was obvious to all that Van had an enormous impact on both Acoustical Oceanography and on the people in the field. In San Diego there was also a special session honoring the work of Steve Schock on acoustic bottom characterization and sub-bottom imaging. This session was also very well attended and had a variety of invited speakers describe the many contributions Steve has been making on this topic as well as the continuing developments in this area based on Steve's work over the years. The Hong Kong meeting had a very interesting special session on new technologies for active and passive monitoring of fish.

There were also numerous impressive student papers presented in Acoustical Oceanography at the San Diego meeting and awards were given to the top two. The first place winner of the student paper contest was Adam Metzler for his paper, "Seismo-acoustic propagation effects at the seafloor with applications to geoacoustic inversion using hybrid parabolic equation solutions". Second place went to James Traer for, "Coherent averaging of the passive fathometer response using short correlation time".

Martin Siderius, Chair Acoustical Oceanography

AO Website: <http://acosoc.org/TechComm/AOTC/>

List of committee members: <http://acosoc.org/TechComm/AOTC/members.html>