

The National Geographic Society and NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration will host a 9-part virtual teacher workshop series that uses the excitement of ocean exploration to identify how ocean content can enhance learning in the classroom. Dr. Sylvia Earle, NGS Explorer-in-Residence, will introduce these workshops and inspire teachers on the importance of ocean education.

Scientific experts will "present" keynote lectures and be available for an open dialogue. Teachers will be provided with relevant and useful information for their classrooms. "Teacher Consultants" will provide first-hand experience on introducing ocean content to students, and provide a network of peers to provide advice and answer questions.

Teacher resources will include access to research findings, lesson plans, links to news stories, magazine articles, video clips and Internet links to ensure that their students become ocean literate. The workshop series will introduce a wide array of topics that are linked to the Geographic's Ocean Atlas Teacher's Guide, NOAA's Office of Exploration lesson plans, and the new "Oceans Scope and Sequence Matrix" for K-12 Teachers.

REGISTRATION begins March 3, 2003. This free series will begin late April to coincide with the celebration of EARTH DAY 2003. Graduate credit is available. Come join this international virtual conference on ocean education. See you then!

- April 21 – 25: *"Oceans for Life: The Need for Ocean Literacy"*, Dr. Sylvia Earle, National Geographic Society. Capt. Craig McLean, NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration, will discuss the importance of ocean education in a video interview. Dr. Sarah Bednarz, Texas A&M, Francesca Cava, National Geographic Society, Paula Keener-Chavis, NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Dr. Sharon Walker, John L. Scott Aquarium will present an *"Oceans for Life Introduction and Welcome."*
- **Introduction by Dr. Peter Herring, Southampton Oceanography Centre, *"The Deep Ocean Environment: Much More Than a Waste of Space."*
- **A special Earth Day remarks keynote by Dan Basta, Director, US National Marine Sanctuary Program.
- May 5 – 9: *"Living Light in the Ocean"*, Dr. Edie Widder, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution
- June 23 – 27: Polar seas, Dr. Margo Edwards, University of Hawaii
- July 28 – August 1: *"Ocean Floor Mapping and GIS in Support of Samoan Coral Reef Management,"* Dr. Dawn Wright, Oregon State University
- August 18 – 22: The Monitor, John Broadwater, NOAA, and Hunley, Dr. Robert Neyland, Naval Historical Center
- September 22 – 26: Hydrothermal Vents, Dr. Stephen Hammond, NOAA
- October 27 – 31: *"The Oceans and Human Health: New Drugs from the Sea,"* Dr. Shirley Pomponi, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution & concurrent session on *"Deep-water Coral Reefs off Southeastern USA,"* Dr. John Reed, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution
- November 3 – 7: Water column life and research, Dr. Bruce Robison, Monterey Bay Research Aquarium, *"Cittercam,"* Greg Marshall, National Geographic Television & Film
- December 15 – 19: El Niño, La Niña, Dr. Francisco Chavez, Monterey Bay Research Aquarium

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