

Department of Ocean Sciences (OCE)

Bi-Weekly Newsletter

July 6, 2026

OCE Announcements

- Congratulations to **Milan Curcic** who has received a prestigious National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER) award. This highly competitive award recognizes early-career faculty who have the potential to serve as academic role models in research and education. Milan's project, CAREER: Quantifying Wind-driven Wave Tearing and its Impacts on Hurricane Air-Sea Drag, will advance our understanding of air-sea interactions and their role in hurricane dynamics.
- **Dennis Hansell** announces the birth of his first grandchild, Arthur, in Seattle. Paula and Dennis have been staying with their daughter Allison to provide support since the May 20 birth.

OCE Publications

- Laxenaire, R., Chassignet, E. P., Xu, X., Wallcraft, A. J., Hiron, L., Arbic, B. K., Buijsman, M. C., Solano, M., & **Elipot, S.** (2026). Surface horizontal kinetic energy sensitivity to numerical parameters in tidal-resolving North and Equatorial Atlantic simulations. *Geoscientific Model Development*, 19(12), 5571–5599. <https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-19-5571-2026>.

OCE New Hires / Farewells

- ACES post-docs, Dr. Imad Tibermacine and Dr. Soufyane Bouchelaghem started in the ACES Drone Center and working on the Moore Inventor Fellowship under Ved

Chirayath. Both received PhDs from the University of Sapienza, Rome, Italy and are returning to OCE in these new roles.

Media Presence and Outreach Activities

- A recording of Hilary Close's plenary talk at the 2026 ASLO-SIL meeting is now available [on ASLO's YouTube page](#).
- Ved Chirayath gave an invited talk at the National Academy of Sciences Revolutions in Science Symposium in and opened a new exhibit featuring ACES research at the exclusive unveiling of the National Geographic Museum of Exploration in Washington DC.

Meetings / Conferences / Workshops / Seminars

- The [PIRATA Tropical Atlantic Variability Workshop 2026](#) will take place from November 16-20 at Fort Ganteaume in Marseille (France). Registration and abstract submission has been **extended until July 15th, 2026**. Abstracts may focus on climate variability, ocean dynamics, biogeochemistry, instrumentation, and any activities related to PIRATA campaigns. Both observational and numerical studies are welcome.

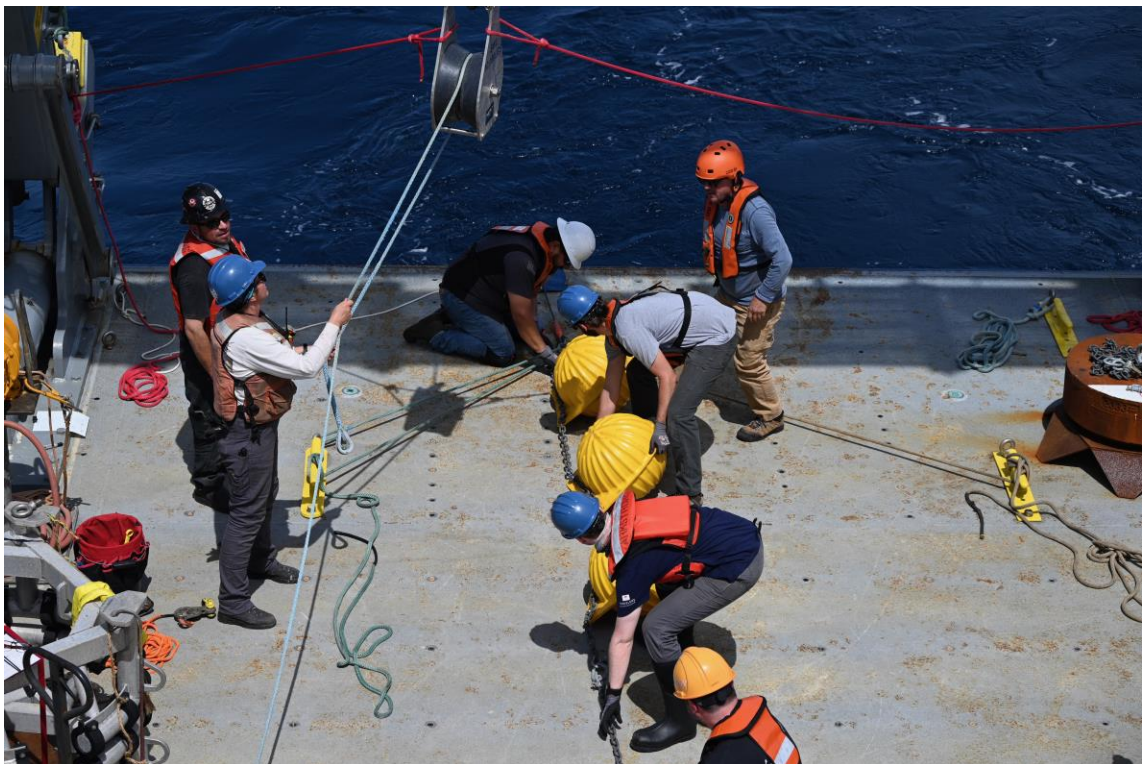
Field work

- **Jim Happell** and **Riley Ames** have completed analyzing the transient tracers, CFC-11, CFC-12 and SF₆, and the important greenhouse gas N₂O along the P04E GO-SHIP line on the R/V Marcus Langseth. We were helped by Timur Cinay, the tracer student from MIT. The last CTD cast came onboard July 1st. We finished up analyzing samples (~3300 individual samples) in the afternoon of July 1st. The most interesting feature of our data looks to be N₂O. Depth profiles of N₂O showed larger concentrations and more depth and station to station variability than most places in the world oceans. This is almost certainly due to the low and oxygen deficient zones found at depths from 100 to 600 meters along the entire line. Surface water temperatures ranged from 28.5°C in the Central Pacific to >30.5°C along 9.5°N as we progressed towards Central America. Water temperatures should be cooler, especially near Central

America, except when there is an El Nino. This data supports that El Nino is happening.

We disassembled the tracer instrument and packed it into the shipping boxes during our three-day transit to Panama City, Panama. This was one day longer than expected because we lost the use of the port engine at the beginning of the transit and had to limp to port at ½ speed. We arrived at 0400 on July 5th and were able to get off the ship at 0800. I had my first beer in two months at 1230. Boy did it taste good! I will see everyone in August. Looking forward to the BBQ.

- **Cedric Guigand, Eduardo Jardim and Joe Brett** are still aboard the R/V Armstrong. On June 11th, they deployed a RAFOS sound-source mooring for the Bower Lab at WHOI. Last week, they aided in the recovery and redeployment of two OOI moorings, as well as the recovery of an OOI seaglider. This week they are recovering and re-deploying four UM moorings as part of the OSNAP international collaboration.



- **Philip Tuchen** completed the research cruise R/V METEOR M219 and arrived at the port of Emden in Germany on June 28th after 31 days at sea. This cruise marked the final voyage of the research vessel METEOR which retires after more than 40 years of service.