



Appendix B: Ocean Exploration Careers

OceanAGE (Another Generation of Explorers) Web site

The NOAA Ocean Explorer OceanAGE web presence (<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/edu/oceanage/welcome.html>) is a unique online educational resource that enables users to learn more about a variety of ocean careers available to those interested in work on or in the ocean. The site is populated with a diversity of talented people who explore our ocean planet, and range from explorers, graduate students, submersible pilots, and vessel crew to NOAA Corps Officers. The target audience for this interesting mini-database of scientific and technical careers is students of any age, and any others interested in learning more about the diversity of career options for scientific and technical work that supports ocean exploration and research careers at sea.



A page from the OceanAge Web site featuring Catalina Martinez, one of NOAA's ocean explorers.

<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/edu/oceanage/welcome.html>

Components of the OceanAGE site consist of video profile interviews presenting a multitude of ocean-oriented careers. These are supplemented with imagery, biographies, and other related content and resources. The OceanAGE online video profiles offer a storyline of each featured career, including an introduction about the person being featured, his/her background, education, type of research or job currently involved/employed in, and personal rewards/obstacles encountered along the way. A career timeline is also presented, from youth to adult professional accomplishments. Other career opportunities they might be qualified for, as well as hobbies, are also featured. Through the video web interfaces, visitors to the site can hear from explorers and scientists such as *Titanic* discoverer Dr. Robert Ballard, who details his background and his job as an oceanographer (<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/edu/oceanage/05ballard/welcome.html>), and Dr. Shirley A. Pomponi, who has dedicated her life to researching the ocean for marine natural products (<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/edu/oceanage/03pomponi/pomponi.html>).

OceanAGE videos are filmed at sea during an expedition, or in the workplace or laboratory where the featured presenters continue their exploration work. Appealing imagery highlights the most interesting achievements for each specific career. Depending on the individual background, additional resources are provided, including research papers, articles, and other relevant content.

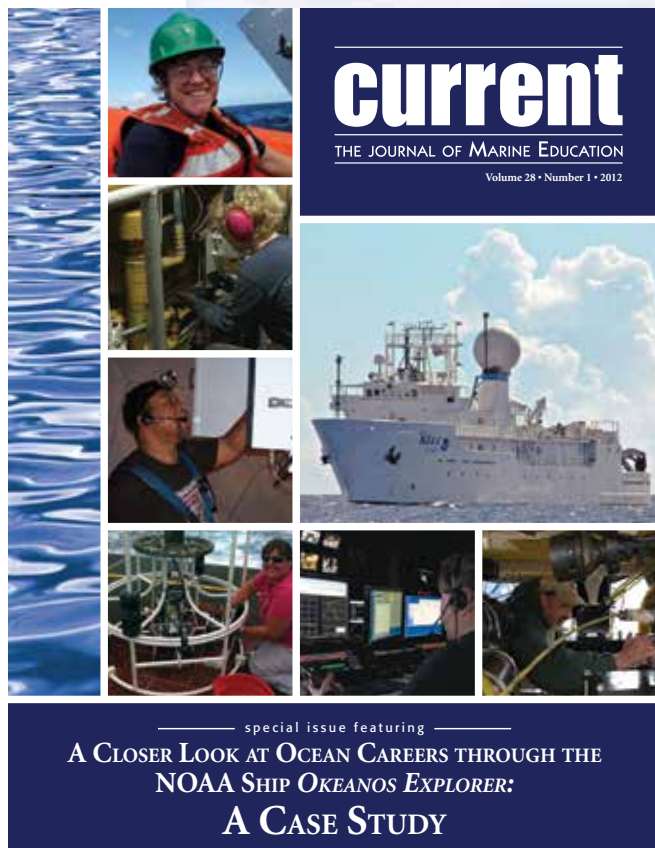
Many of those featured on OceanAGE travel worldwide through their work. Students interested in careers that would enable them to travel while working on or in the ocean hear firsthand about these experiences. OceanAGE can also open many doors for learning about ocean technologies, and personal life experiences. OceanAGE online video profiles have also been used in higher education as material for introducing careers such as that of a submersible pilot, an archaeologist, a fish ecologist and a mammal biologist.

OceanAGE continues to be populated with those involved in exploration efforts in partnership with NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER), so that Web site visitors will be able to more effectively learn from personal stories about the fascinating people who explore our little-known ocean world. OER encourages educators to use the OceanAGE site with their students in an effort to potentially inspire their career choices and build a more robust, competitive science and engineering workforce to help meet the needs of the future ocean sciences community. Visit us at: <http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/edu/oceanage/welcome.html>.

A Closer Look at Ocean Careers through the NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer*: "A Case Study"

In the late summer of 1998, just after the NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* was commissioned in Seattle, Washington, an *Okeanos Explorer* Education Forum was held for two days during which participants made recommendations for developing an education program based on the ship's unique capabilities and assets. The participants discussed at length the importance of making the *Okeanos Explorer* "come alive" by capturing the enthusiasm of the ship's officers, crew and explorers as they live and work onboard the Nation's first dedicated ship for ocean exploration. At the Forum, the participants recommended that a Special Issue of *Current: The Journal of Marine Education* be produced, featuring the lives and work of the men and women on board the *Okeanos Explorer*.

Those on board the *Okeanos Explorer* are, of course, not the only officers, crew and explorers in the world and the instrumentation is not unique to the *Okeanos Explorer*, however, the combination of personnel and instrumentation on a single U.S. vessel dedicated to ocean exploration is unique and is presented in a Special Issue of *Current* entitled *A Closer Look at Ocean Careers through the NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer: A Case Study*, Volume 28, No. 1, 2012 (http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/edu/oceanage/current_careers.pdf). It is written for educators and students wishing to know more about the paths traveled and daily goings-on of those who dedicate their lives to understanding more about our little-known ocean world. Who knows? Perhaps one educator can tell a little different "career" story to one student as a result of reading an interesting article in this issue, and together, they can make a difference. . . just like the differences that are being made by those represented in the "stories" told in this special issue of *Current*.



The cover of the Special Issue of *Current: A Closer Look at Ocean Careers through the NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer: A Case Study*, Volume 28, No. 1, 2012.
http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/edu/oceanage/current_careers.pdf

