

# Department of Oceanography - University of Hawai'i

*Research and education enhancing our understanding of the ocean*

**Mission:** The Department of Oceanography conducts innovative research and education programs that enhance our understanding of the ocean, and address 21st century challenges and opportunities for Hawaii and the blue planet.

**Faculty:** The Department currently has 53 faculty, 37 of whom have graduate faculty status. An additional 23 faculty from outside the Department also have graduate faculty status in Oceanography.

**Oceanography Graduate Program:** The Graduate Field of Study in Oceanography was established in 1962. The Department currently has 70 graduate students from 16 countries. M.S. and Ph.D. degrees are offered in:

- Biological Oceanography
- Marine Geology & Geochemistry
- Physical Oceanography

**Global Environmental Science Undergraduate Program:** The Department also administers the Global Environmental Science (GES) program, which offers a B.S. degree. GES was established in 1998 and has grown to become the largest undergraduate program within SOEST. It currently has 45 students.

**Research Funding:** The department receives over \$20 million per year in external research funding. Major sources of funding include:

- National Science Foundation
- Office of Naval Research
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin.
- National Aeronautics and Space Admin.
- Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

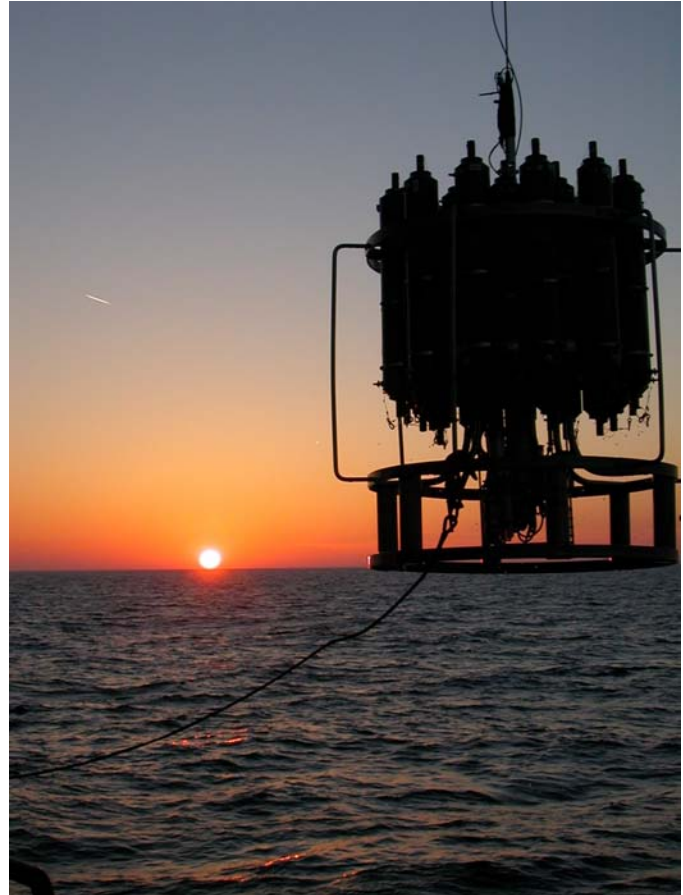
**Facilities:** The department is housed in the 6-story, 72,000 sq. ft. Marine Science Building, along with additional space in other SOEST facilities.

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## Research Activities

Department of Oceanography scientists study the processes that shape and control the modern and past ocean, with an emphasis on interdisciplinary investigations. Research in the department covers almost all areas of Oceanography, and includes studies on the following:

- Shipboard, autonomous vehicle and cabled observation programs
- The biological structure and function of diverse marine habitats and ecosystems around the globe, from tropical to polar oceans, and from the air-sea interface to the deep-ocean crust
- Physical oceanographic processes, from small-scale internal waves to the general circulation of the oceans
- Oceanic trace elements
- Ocean-atmosphere interactions, including gas and aerosol geochemistry
- Marine biogeochemistry
- Ocean-seafloor interactions, including hydrothermal geochemistry/biogeochemistry and sediment-seawater exchange
- Land-ocean interactions, including estuarine biogeochemistry
- Climate variability and prediction
- Paleoceanography/paleoclimatology
- Theoretical modeling and computer simulations