



Ocean Acidification – a live global online webcast for secondary students!

The World Ocean Observatory (w2o) is a central place of exchange for global information, education and public discourse about the ocean. It serves as an independent forum and focus for ocean affairs and its intent is to communicate the full spectrum of ocean issues – climate, fresh water, food, energy, trade, transportation, public health, finance, governance, recreation and culture – to citizens worldwide as a realisation that the sea connects all things.

<http://www.thew2o.net/>

On November 13-14th, 2006, The World Ocean Observatory presented a unique opportunity for secondary students, marine educators and scientists to participate in the first demonstration of an ongoing series of global online webcasts exploring these ocean issues. Students and educators attending this 45 minute online event participated in an interactive, real time presentation and discussion with leading scientists across the world. 168 sites worldwide participated in the event, with audience numbers much larger, eg at one site the use of a datashow involved over 100 students from this one location.

The Webcast...

Topic	OCEAN ACIDIFICATION The basic chemistry of our oceans is changing because of its uptake of carbon dioxide released by human activities. This decrease in the ocean's pH and resulting increase in acidity is called Ocean Acidification. Present evidence suggests that dramatic changes in the marine environment over the next 100-200 years can be avoided only with early and deep reductions in carbon dioxide emissions.
Date	November 13–14, 2006 (depending upon time-zones)
Length	45 minutes
Time	The webcast was hosted from Adelaide in Australia Monday 13 Nov, 2006 at 22.30.00 UTC or GMT time. UTC-time is Coordinated Universal Time. GMT is Greenwich Mean Time Presenters were in the following locations.
	Adelaide, Australia Tues 14 Nov 9.00am
	Hobart, Australia Tues 14 Nov 9.30am
	Seattle, USA Mon 13 Nov 2.30pm
	New York, USA Mon 13 Nov 5.30pm
	Boston, USA Mon 13 Nov 5.30pm
	London, UK Mon 13 Nov 10.30pm

Presenters Dr Scott Doney
Senior Scientist: Marine Chemistry and Geochemistry
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Boston, USA

Dr Richard A Feely
Oceanographer: Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Seattle, USA

Dr Richard Matear
Senior Research Scientist
CSIRO Division of Marine and Atmospheric Research
Hobart, Australia

Peter Neill
Director: The World Ocean Observatory
New York

Dr Carol Turley
Microbial Ecologist
Plymouth Marine Laboratory
Plymouth, UK

Liz Murphy
Event facilitator
Adelaide, Australia

Ocean Acidification webcast format – 45 minutes (timing in brackets)

- Welcome, introductions, webcast format and tools (2min)
- Peter Neill – The World Ocean Observatory and its 2007 program (3min)
- The issue of Ocean Acidification, what is it?
The chemistry / key ideas which relate to Ocean Acidification (5 min)
- Short time for students to ask guest presenters questions (3min)
- Findings of the major global 2005 report on Ocean Acidification (5min)
Description of present situation (5min).
Current research (5min)
- Student question time (3min)
- Future predictions, implications and actions (5min)
Opportunities for students', eg career pathways (2min)
- Final student question time (5min)
- Keeping informed, thanks and event close (2min)

Website The w2o designed a media rich website on Ocean Acidification as an introduction to this important ocean issue. It provides an excellent overview of ocean acidification, explores its impact and implications on us and our world, and makes the connections to key ideas and concepts students need to know and understand. This 45 minute webcast is archived on the website with each presentation archived separately. Q & A's posed during the webcast and regular updates will be posted on the website
<http://www.thew2o-events.net>