

## **MIT/WHOI Joint Program in Oceanography and Applied Ocean Science and Engineering**

The Joint Program (JP) of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology offers advanced degrees in oceanography and applied ocean science and engineering. Graduate study encompasses virtually all of the basic sciences as they apply to the marine environment: physics, chemistry, geology, geophysics, and biology. Students who choose applied ocean science and engineering may concentrate in the major fields (civil, environmental, mechanical/ocean, and electrical engineering). More than 160 scientists/faculty from the two institutions participate in the Joint Program. There are currently 145 students enrolled in the five areas of study offered: biological, chemical, or physical oceanography; marine geology and geophysics; and oceanographic engineering.

Since all the MIT faculty involved in the JP are members of an academic department, their individual accomplishments and awards are reported through those departments. These include the Departments of Civil and Environmental Engineering; Mechanical Engineering; Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; Biology; and Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences.

### **Gender Climate at Sea Committee: Final Report**

The Gender Climate at Sea Committee was formed at the request of Dr. Robert B. Gagosian, president and director of WHOI, and Professor Robert Brown, provost of MIT, in response to a recommendation made during the 2004 visit of the External Review Committee for the MIT/WHOI Joint Program. The committee's mission was to investigate the extent of gender-related issues on research vessels or WHOI and MIT field programs; review current policies, training, and educational materials for addressing gender issues at sea for students, faculty, staff and crew; and make recommendations to the JP with regard to responding to concerns and issues that may arise from the committee's deliberations.

The final recommendations that were adopted were the following:

- The Joint Program will provide education for JP graduate students to recognize unprofessional behavior at sea and respond appropriately. This education and guidance will begin during orientation of new JP students at WHOI and MIT and will include reminders and discussion during the annual JP meeting.
- WHOI will provide education for the science party at the start of every cruise about acceptable sex- and gender-related behavior.
- A brochure to deal specifically with the seagoing environment and to provide students with options for reporting inappropriate behavior at sea will be widely distributed. This brochure is intended to complement WHOI's current harassment policy.
- WHOI's Gender Equity Committee will take long-term responsibility for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the response to the recommendations. In addition, the Ad hoc Committee will meet again in about one year to review implementation effectiveness.

Any MIT or WHOI employee, postdoc, or JP student who wishes to read the report of the committee upon which this summary was based may view it at WHOI at any one of the vice president's offices, the Office of the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) officer in Human Resources, or the Ombuds Office. It is also available at the vice president of research and associate provost, Human Resources, and Ombuds offices at MIT.

### **New Dean and Associate Dean of Education**

After 15 years as vice president and dean of education at WHOI, Dr. John Farrington has retired. Dr. James Yoder became the new vice president and dean in November 2005. Additionally, Dr. Judy McDowell stepped down as associate dean of education at WHOI. The new associate dean is Dr. James Price, who will also maintain his current position as scientist in the WHOI Department of Physical Oceanography.

**Paola Rizzoli, Director**

**Ronni Schwartz, Administrator**

*More information about the Joint Program in Oceanography and Applied Ocean Science and Engineering can be found at <http://web.mit.edu/mit-who/www/>.*