

MIT- Woods Hole Joint Program in Oceanography and Applied Ocean Science and Engineering

The Joint Program of the [Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution \(WHOI\)](#) and MIT 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 (aeronautics and astronautics and civil, environmental, mechanical and ocean, and electrical engineering). More than 170 scientists or faculty members from the two institutions participate in the joint program. There are currently 122 students enrolled in the five areas of study offered: biological, chemical, or physical oceanography; marine geology and geophysics; and oceanographic engineering.

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

Margaret K. Tivey

Following 12 years of service to the Woods Hole Oceanography Institution and the MIT-Woods Hole Joint Program (2005–2017), James Yoder retired on November 30, 2017. Margaret K. Tivey, associate dean for seven years and senior scientist in the Department of Marine Chemistry and Geochemistry at WHOI, was named his successor. Delia Oppo, senior scientist in the Geology and Geophysics Department at WHOI, was named associate dean.

Faculty Meeting

On September 25, 2017, the joint program faculty meeting was held on the MIT campus. Professor Edward Boyle and WHOI Dean Margaret Tivey led brief research presentations by junior faculty about their current research. There was also an after-lunch discussion about Arctic research and further possible collaborations between MIT and WHOI.

John Leonard and Philip Gschwend

In spring 2018, Professor Edward Boyle, director of the joint program, announced the appointments of Professor John Leonard, Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Professor Philip Gschwend, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, as associate directors of the joint program at MIT.

Working closely with the director, Leonard and Gschwend will advance and support the mission and activities of the joint program. This includes communicating with WHOI on academic matters relevant to joint program students within their schools and departments, assuming roles in the joint program's admissions and Open House activities, encouraging new faculty participation in the joint program, and helping organize interinstitutional program-building events.

Doctoral Degrees Awarded

The joint program awarded 15 doctoral degrees in academic year 2018. Margaret Tivey, vice president for academic programs and dean of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and Professor Edward Boyle, director of the joint program, conferred the hoods on June 7, 2018, at MIT. A celebration for the graduates was hosted at WHOI on June 6, 2018, and a private luncheon was hosted at MIT following the hooding ceremony.

Plans for 50th Joint Program Anniversary Celebration

The joint program has completed plans for a 50th anniversary celebration. It is scheduled for September 27, 2018, at MIT and September 28, 2018, at WHOI.

Edward Boyle

Director

Professor, Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences