2013 Fellow, The Oceanography Society

Jack Barth

Professor and Associate Dean

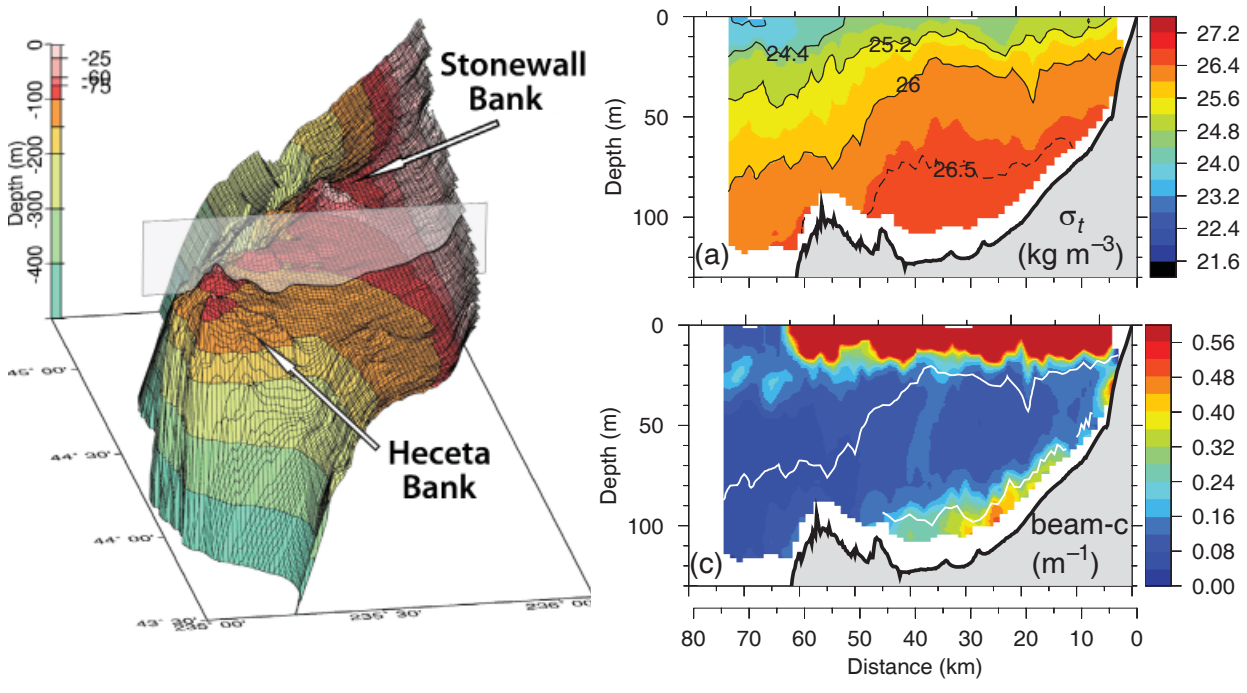
Jack Barth was named 2013 Fellow by The Oceanography Society. The TOS Fellow award recognizes individuals who have attained eminence in oceanography through their outstanding contributions to the field of oceanography or its applications during a substantial period of years.

Barth is honored for his contributions and sustained leadership in all aspects of continental shelf oceanography—including contributions to understanding coastal circulation and use of innovative technology—and for his commitment to community service.

Barth's research seeks to understand the spatially and temporally variable circulation, water mass structure and ecosystem response in coastal waters. He has led a number of research, technology development and ocean observing system projects off Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. He has also led field research on Gorges Bank, in the Middle Atlantic Bight, at the Antarctic Polar Front, and off Chile.

His present research includes a focus on the characteristics and formation of low-oxygen zones off Oregon. Barth's research team uses autonomous underwater gliders to study this region, logging over 49,000 km of measurements over the last several years. He presently serves on the Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee. From 2004 to 2007, Barth was a member of NSF's Observatory Steering Committee that launched the Ocean Observatories Initiative.

Barth took his Ph.D. in Oceanography from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Joint Program in Oceanography in 1988. Barth was appointed Professor in 2001 and has served as Associate Dean for Research for the College since 2011.



Cross-shelf vertical sections of density and light attenuation from over Heceta Bank, Oregon, measured with the towed, undulating vehicle SeaSoar. (From Barth et al. 2005.)

"I'm honored to be recognized for my work in coastal oceanography. It's been a joy working with my colleagues to decipher how ocean physics plays such a key role in so many societally important issues like marine fisheries and the formation of low-oxygen zones. I am grateful to be able to carry on the tradition of world-class, interdisciplinary studies of the coastal ocean so ably started by my predecessors here at Oregon State University." — Jack Barth