It's been an exciting year in the field of marine technology—there have been dozens of important expeditions including Victor Vescovo's historic dive to the Mariana Trench, 59 years after MTS Founding Member Don Walsh and Jacques Piccard traveled there in the Bathyscaph Trieste, as well as innumerable important—and well-publicized—new developments in vehicles, platforms, sensors, and many other technologies. The education line-up at OCEANS is a perfect example of the breadth of what's happening in the field today.

What follows are some of the things that the Society has been doing to contribute to the world of the marine sciences.

When I took the helm as President in January, I shared with the membership that we were well-positioned to take some important strategic steps forward. I want to thank Donna Kocak for having steered the ship through some heavy seas and kept us on course and at speed.

As I indicated earlier in the year, using the guidance of the MTS Strategic Plan, we could now build out more benefits for members, expand our outreach and engagement with key partners, and build important programs to attract new members of our community while expanding services to our core membership.

While continuing our great relationship with long-standing partners like the Oceaneering Engineering Society (OES) and the Association of Diving Contractors (ADCI), we have begun meaningful dialogues with a broad array of potential new partners, including the Society for Underwater Technology (SUT), the Consortium for Ocean Leadership (COL), the American Meteorological Society (AMS), Association for Unmanned Vehicles Internation (AUVSI), as well as several U.S. Navy commands.

I also wanted to fully empower our Board of Directors to strengthen the Society’s activities in the key areas of research, education, communications, section and committee activities, as well as government relations. And, of course, we couldn’t do this without a fully staffed headquarters of professionals, and for that, we owe thanks to our new Executive Director, Dr. Katie Herndon, and her staff, as well as to VP of Budget and Finance, Mike Pinto.

We are pleased to report that membership has grown over 15% in the last year and we want to continue to attract smart people to the Society.

Industry Advancement at Academic Events

In the last 12 months, MTS and its Sections and Committees have hosted an impressive number of events—more than 50 in total, with thousands of research papers or posters submitted. These events not only facilitate research sharing, but they also help the community build professional networks and make connections with people from academic, government, and corporate worlds.

There are too many event takeaways to cover here, but here a few highlights include the first International Buoy Workshop, held in April in Hobart, Tasmania, which attracted broad attention, especially from Asian marine technologists.
We’ll also be launching our updated online *Guide to Higher Education Programs in Marine Science and Technology* that provides information about and contacts for all the marine technology college and university programs in the United States.

**MTS Sections and Technical Committees**

MTS Sections and Technical Committees have always played an important role in the advancement of marine technology.

This year, under the direction of the VP of Section Affairs, Dick Crout, headquarters has offered support to all the MTS Sections, to help reinvigorate Sections that have been less active, and to provide administrative, communications, and marketing support so that Sections can focus their time on hosting meaningful events.

Next year, we are going to go through the same process with each MTS Technical Committee to see where MTS headquarters can provide support for new activities.

I encourage all MTS members to get involved in local Sections and Technical Committees and review the guidelines on our website if you are interested in starting a new Section or Committee.

**Student Education and Scholarships**

Another important part of what we do at MTS is to prepare the next generation of ocean scientists and technologists. We do that in a variety of ways, largely through the activities of our VP for Education, Liesl Hotaling.

We’ve been able to support competitions like the International MATE ROV competition and the National Ocean Sciences Bowl, and provide MTS education and technical sessions at the annual OCEANS conference is one of the ways MTS offers professional education in a wide range of marine technology disciplines.

Students appreciate the learning and networking opportunities at the OCEANS 2019 Seattle annual meeting.

---

**Professional Credentialing**

As we look to the next year, there are new professional development opportunities in the works, including one that I am particularly excited about—that is our pilot program to offer the Chartered Marine Technologist, or CMarTech, credential, an idea enthusiastically embraced, especially by our corporate members.

We had an incredible response to our request for volunteers to participate in the pilot program and were only able to accept about 15% of applicants. We are also working with five to six volunteer assessors who will evaluate the candidates. If the pilot is a success, we’ll offer the credential to all eligible members, and we’ll introduce additional types of credentials as well.
travel scholarships at the National and Section Level, and we are providing hands-on experiences at the Marine Technology Camps at Northwestern Michigan College and Rutgers University.

I would like to recognize and appreciate the diligence and creativity of our VP of Research, Industry, and Technology, Andy Clark, for spearheading our national Maritime Industry Mentoring Program and Section Internship Programs, supporting student poster presentations and research sharing, and providing student awards. We are also working to strengthen the MTS Student Sections, and we welcome input, especially from students and professors.

**Public Policy**

I’ve been sharing many ways that MTS works within society to advance marine technology and support the next generation who will carry our work forward; but to have a significant impact, all that research and knowledge needs to be understood by policy makers and shared with the worldwide marine community.

To that end, MTS has a voice in Washington D.C. and around the world that brings our collective knowledge to the table.

In two weeks, in my capacity as MTS President, I will be playing a leadership role in the White House Ocean Summit, which we hope becomes a catalyst to foster stronger partnerships between industry, government, and academia.

The Society is also participating in the planning for the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030)—with MTS Past-President Donna Kocak representing the Society.

We are working closely on policy issues with RADM Jon White at the Consortium for Ocean Leadership—and recently President-Elect Zdenka Willis has been discussing the establishment of a U.S. Blue Economy Coalition of organizations to advocate for the advancement of marine technology, economic development, research, education, and workforce development.

MTS is also exploring collaborations across scientific fields to help develop new applications in marine technology. We are in discussions with the Optical Society of America and the American Geophysical Union.

We also want to increase engagement with our MTS corporate members to build stronger collaboration between researchers, government, and the engineering and manufacturing communities.

Strengthening our communications is an important part of having a greater impact on policy, and I want to thank VP of Communications Erika Montague for her efforts in that regard. This year we launched our new mtsociety.org website, and we are rolling out mini-sites for many of our Sections and Committees to bring everything under the same umbrella for a stronger presence. In addition, we’ve recently launched the biweekly *Marine Technology Digest* newsfeed to share stories about the impact of marine technologies at work around the world.

**New MTS Board of Directors**

I’d like to take a moment to recognize our outgoing Vice Presidents.

- **Liesl Hotaling** has served as the VP of Education for the past 6 years. She has been a tireless advocate for college and secondary marine technology education programs, helping to create the Marine Technology Camps, running the K-12 educator workshop at OCEANS, coaching MTS student sections, and recently, launching a new regional model for Student Sections—starting with New Jersey.

- **Craig McLean** was the VP of Government and Public Affairs for MTS for 2 years before stepping down in May. Many of you know Craig personally and know what a strong advocate Craig is—at the national and international levels—for the Ocean Research Community.

The new Vice President of Education is **Dr. Josh Kohut** of Rutgers University, and the new Vice President of Government Relations and Public Affairs is **Dr. Jerry Miller**, president of Science for Decisions. Their terms will run from January 2020–December 2022.
Since 1963, the Marine Technology Society has promoted awareness, understanding, and the advancement of marine technology. Our members continue to play a crucial role in the research, development, and application of marine technologies. This is a critical time for ocean and marine technology. Thank you for your active participation in the Society.

**MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS**

MTS Membership July 2018 to Present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MTS Member Breakdown**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>SEPT 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INDIVIDUAL</td>
<td>394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STUDENT</td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMERITUS</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INSTITUTION</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORPORATE GOLD</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORPORATE SILVER</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATRON</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIFE</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASSOCIATE</td>
<td>458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSINESS</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPLIMENTARY</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONORARY</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPANY MEMBERS</td>
<td>397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL MEMBERS</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS**

MTS Membership July 2018 to Present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MTS BY THE NUMBERS**

**Scholarships**
In FY19, MTS and its Sections and Professional Committees awarded over $200,000 in college scholarships - more than $2 million in scholarships to more than 300 students worldwide. Visit mtsociety.org to apply for a scholarship.

**Awards**
- In the last 10 years, MTS has presented 107 awards
- Since 1975, there have been 124 MTS Fellows

**Marine Technology Camps**
MTS supports 2 summer camps (NMC & Rutgers), and awarded 4 camp scholarships in FY19.

**Conference Attendees**
MTS has welcomed more than 15,000 attendees at OCEANS conferences in the last decade, plus thousands of attendees at local and regional conferences; more than 3,000 technical papers have been presented.

**EVENTS/CONFERENCES**

**ANNUAL EVENTS**
- Underwater Intervention
- Buoy Workshop
- USA Science & Engineering Festival
- Offshore Technology Conference
- Oceaneering/MTS Symposium
- Dynamic Positioning Conference
- NorthWest Technology Summit
- Oceans in Action
- New Orleans, Louisiana - February
- Domestic and International - April
- Washington, DC - April
- Houston, Texas - May
- Aberdeen, Maryland - September
- Houston, Texas - October
- Washington/Oregon - October
- Gulf Coast - November

**FUTURE OCEANS CONFERENCES**
- OCEANS 2020 Singapore - Singapore - April 6–9, 2020
- OCEANS 2020 Biloxi - Biloxi, MS - October 19–22, 2020
- OCEANS 2021 San Diego - San Diego, CA - September 19–23, 2021
- OCEANS 2022 Chennai - Chennai, India - February 21–24, 2022
- OCEANS 2022 Hampton Roads - Hampton Roads, VA - October 17–22, 2022
SECTIONS & COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEES

MTS Professional Committees host meetings, workshops, and events throughout the year, bringing together members with common interests and enhancing a sense of community within their professional domain.

Active Committees
- Bioinspired Marine Systems
- Buoy Technology
- Cables & Connectors
- Deepwater Field Development Technology
- Diving
- Dynamic Positioning
- Manned Underwater Vehicles (MUV)
- Marine Education
- Marine Materials
- Marine Mineral Resources
- Maritime Cyber Security & Infrastructure
- Ocean Pollution
- Oceanographic Instrumentation
- Offshore Structures & Seafloor Engineering
- Physical Oceanography & Meteorology
- Remote Sensing
- Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV)
- Renewable Energy
- Ropes & Tension
- Unmanned Maritime Systems (UMS) formerly UUV

Committee Chair
- Active Committees
  - Jason Geder (Bioinspired Marine Systems)
  - Rick Cole (Buoy Technology)
  - John Flynn (Cables & Connectors)
  - Benton Bough (Deepwater Field Development Technology)
  - Michael Lombardi & Michael Max (Diving)
  - William Kohnen (Dynamic Positioning)
  - Ed Bailey (Manned Underwater Vehicles (MUV))
  - Ramasamy Venkatesan (Marine Education)
  - Alex Barnard (Marine Materials)
  - Dan Turissini (Marine Mineral Resources)
  - Ryan Morton (Maritime Cyber Security & Infrastructure)
  - Carol Janzen (Ocean Pollution)
  - Christopher Lindanger (Oceanographic Instrumentation)
  - Travis Miles (Offshore Structures & Seafloor Engineering)
  - Ryan Vandermeulen (Physical Oceanography & Meteorology)
  - Chuck Richards (Remote Sensing)
  - Cliff Merz (Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV))
  - Christopher Lindanger (Renewable Energy)
  - Andrew Ziegwied (Ropes & Tension)

See more on professional committees at:
https://www.mtsociety.org/about-mts-professional-committees/

COMMITTEES seeking new leadership in 2020

- Arctic Technology
- Marine Archaeology
- Marine Geodetic Information Systems
- Marine Law & Policy
- Moorings
- Ocean Economic Potential
- Ocean Exploration
- Ocean Observing Systems (OOS)
- Underwater Imaging

SECTIONS

MTS Sections host workshops, fundraisers, and educational and networking events across the US and internationally.

- Florida
  - John Flynn & Bill Venezia
- Great Lakes
  - Hans VanSumeren
- Gulf Coast
  - Laurie Jugan
- Hampton Roads
  - James Haluska
- Hawaii
  - Elizabeth Corbin (Vice Chair)
- Houston
  - Tere Sonne
- India
  - Ramasamy Venkatesan
- Japan
  - Hideyuki Suzuki
- Monterey Bay
  - Jill Zande
- New England
  - Rhonda Moniz
- Oregon
  - Jeremy Childress
- Puget Sound
  - Fritz Stahr
- San Diego
  - Larry Hagstrom
- Singapore
  - Vacant
- Washington, DC
  - Jake Sobin

MTS FINANCIALS$

The Society is in a strong financial position with substantial reserve funds. To view MTS financial reports, visit, www.mtsociety.org/governance.

NEW IN 2019

- Pilot program to offer the Chartered Marine Technologist (CMarTech) credential
- The first international Buoy Technology Workshop, held in Hobart Tasmania, in partnership with CSIRO (Buoy Technology Committee)
- The Lakebed 2030 TechSurge to focus on Great Lakes mapping and data gathering (Great Lakes Section)
- The Unmanned Untethered Vehicles and Oil Spill Response TechSurge (Unmanned Maritime Systems formerly UUV Committee)
- Launched the Maritime Industry Mentoring Program
- Cyber-Skilled Mariner “Call to Action” symposium, in partnership with the Maritime Administration (Maritime Cyber Security and Infrastructure Committee)
- Participation in the United Nations IOC Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development meeting in Copenhagen
- Two new awards honoring John P. Craven and Walter S. Munk
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Society for Underwater Technology to explore joint awards, chapters, and a pilot certification program

JOIN THE CONVERSATION: MTS Facebook link: https://www.facebook.com/MarineTechnologySociety/
MTS Twitter: @MTSociety | MTS LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1859481/

If you have questions or comments, please email: membership@mtsociety.org.

1100 H Street, NW, Suite LL-100 | Washington, DC 20005 | Office: +1 202 827 7176 | www.mtsociety.org