



06 April 2021  
For Immediate Release

## **SECOND ANNUAL CAPTAIN DON WALSH AWARD FOR OCEAN EXPLORATION IS NOW OPEN FOR ENTRIES**

*The Marine Technology Society (MTS) and The Society for Underwater Technology (SUT) announce the second annual Captain Don Walsh Award for Ocean Exploration is now open. Nominations must be received by 31 May 2021.*

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WASHINGTON, DC and LONDON, UK — Awarded jointly by both societies, the Captain Don Walsh Award for Ocean Exploration is presented annually to an individual who has made an outstanding, sustained, international contribution to the development, application, or propagation of marine/ underwater technology toward the advancement of ocean exploration. The award is named in honour of Captain (Ret) Don Walsh, an accomplished American oceanographer, explorer, retired naval officer, and marine policy specialist. He and Jacques Piccard were aboard the bathyscaphe Trieste on January 23, 1960 when it made a record descent into the Mariana Trench, which is the deepest point of the world's oceans. Dr. Edie Widder, an MTS member, won the inaugural award in 2020.

The judging panel, comprised of the presidents and three members from each society, will reflect diversity in demographics, sector and discipline. In addition, Dr. Edie Widder, MacArthur Fellow, a deep-sea explorer, and conservationist known for her expertise in oceanographic research and technological innovation and her commitment to reversing the worldwide trend of marine ecosystem degradation, will join the judging panel.

“A pioneer, outstanding Naval officer, mentor and influencer is how I describe Don Walsh. MTS is proud to join SUT in this award that recognizes an individual who is pushing the limits of ocean exploration,” said Zdenka Willis, President of MTS

“Don Walsh has been an inspirational role model for six decades, we are looking for a winner whose achievements will similarly inspire early career marine technologist, scientists and engineers,” said Judith Patten MBE, President of the SUT.

A prospectus detailing nomination information for the award is online at [www.mtsociety.org](http://www.mtsociety.org) and [www.sut.org](http://www.sut.org). The closing date for nominations is 31 May 2021.

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### **About the MTS**

The Marine Technology Society (MTS) promotes awareness, understanding, and the advancement and application of marine technology. Incorporated in 1963, the international society brings together businesses, institutions, professionals, academics, and students who are ocean engineers, technologists, policy makers, and educators. The Society publishes a peer-reviewed journal — [The Marine Technology Society Journal](#). It has three technical divisions and 31 [Professional Committees](#) (technical interest groups). The society hosts [several conferences](#) yearly. And, it supports 13 [Sections](#), which focus on events and programs unique to their geographic areas, enhancing networking among local colleagues, businesses, universities and government/military offices.

[www.mtsociety.org](http://www.mtsociety.org)

### **About the SUT**

The Society for Underwater Technology (SUT) is a multidisciplinary learned society that brings together organisations and individuals with a common interest in underwater technology, ocean science and offshore engineering. SUT was founded in 1966 and has members from more than 40 countries, & branches in 10, including engineers, scientists, other professionals, and students working in these areas. In recent decades many of our members have come from the offshore hydrocarbon sector, today we also see growing numbers of members from offshore renewables, marine autonomous systems, and the policy, law and insurance sectors who support offshore activities of many kinds.

[www.sut.org](http://www.sut.org)