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HOT Research Cruise & HNLC teachers aboard! [\[News & Events\]](#)  
posted Fri Sep 28 2007 at 15:16:22 by [Paulo Maurin](#)



The HOT (Hawaii Ocean Time-series) has been an ongoing oceanographic expedition, making repeated observations of the physics, biology and chemistry of the water column at Station ALOHA and several other oceanographic stations around Oahu, since 1988. These continuing measurements are contributing to our understanding of heat and chemical fluxes in the North Pacific Ocean, helping advance the objectives of the World Climate Research Program relating to climate variability. Two HNLC teachers will be onboard this upcoming cruise, from Oct 1 until Oct 5, 2007. They will have daily email access and will be available to answer questions from the HNLC community and the public (read rest of the

story to learn how to contact them).

The scientific objective of this HOT cruise is to maintain the collection of hydrographic and biogeochemical data at the five locations in the ocean around Oahu. Additionally, this cruise plans to recover one autonomous glider located north of ALOHA station, with a recovery estimated to take 2 hours.

HNLC teachers Barbara Mayer ([Barbara Mayer](#)) and Ben Pittenger ([Ben Pittenger](#)) will be onboard the cruise, assisting with the scientific activities and available to answer questions from the HNLC community. Ship operations and activities take place throughout day and night, and they were assigned opposite ship watches: Barbara has the watch from 3 AM until 3 PM, and Ben will work from 3 PM until 3 AM.

Barbara hopes this trip will lead to opportunities to promote remote, shipboard science to reach the students in the classroom. She also hopes to produce chemistry lesson plans for high school and middle school level about ocean acidification. Ben also shares his goals for this cruise with us by saying “I want to get an understanding, supported by data, of the thermohaline gradients in our region, to help my students understand how our salinity and temperature patterns compare to other areas of the Pacific and the world, and how these patterns drive the currents of the ocean.”

To send questions to the teachers, please email me at [maurin@hawaii.edu](mailto:maurin@hawaii.edu) with your questions, which will be relayed to the teachers on a daily basis, and they will answer them while the cruise is underway.

The project’s website offers a wealth of background information on the HOT cruises. See [http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/HOT\\_WOCE/intro.html](http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/HOT_WOCE/intro.html) for physical oceanography and [http://hahana.soest.hawaii.edu/hot/hot\\_jgofs.html](http://hahana.soest.hawaii.edu/hot/hot_jgofs.html) for biogeochemical oceanography. The HOT research page has many well-done videos, ranging from virtual cruises to detailing their collection procedures – you can view them at [http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/HOT\\_WOCE/vcruise/vc.html](http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/HOT_WOCE/vcruise/vc.html)

Happy Cruising!

Paulo Maurin

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