



International Ecology Institute prizes awarded to Prof. Jane Lubchenco and Prof. Mary I. O'Connor

Oldendorf/Luhe (Germany) — Prof. Jane Lubchenco (Oregon State University, USA), distinguished marine ecologist and former close adviser of US President Barack Obama, was presented with the 2016 ECI (International Ecology Institute) Prize in a small ceremony held in Oldendorf/Luhe (Germany) on November 16, 2016. At the same ceremony, the enterprising marine ecologist Prof. Mary I. O'Connor (University of British Columbia, Canada) was awarded the Institute's 2016 IRPE (International Recognition of Professional Excellence) Prize.

Prof. Lubchenco is highly esteemed marine ecologist and an extremely effective leader and communicator. Through these skills, she has enabled marine ecologists to have significant influence on addressing environmental challenges to the oceans in the political arena. She is a former US Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and was a member of President Barack Obama's Science Think Tank. Presently she is a Professor at Oregon State University and the US Science Envoy for the Ocean. She is the recipient of many honours, including the climate change award of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, and a member of the US National Academy of Sciences. Prof. Lubchenco works tirelessly to advance scientific knowledge in service to humanity and nature.

Prof. O'Connor is a dynamic marine ecologist and inspiring teacher. She is an outstanding scientist whose work on the effects of changes in body size through climate change, metabolic scaling and source-sink concepts has broken new ground. She is a passionate advocate of the collaborative approach to research and "open science" (sharing data, code and research). Prof. O'Connor has been the recipient of many grants and prestigious awards, and she is frequently an invited speaker at conferences.

The ECI Prize recognizes ecologists of outstanding and sustained scientific achievement. The recipient receives €6000 and required to author a book to be published in the ECI's book series "Excellence in Ecology". The IRPE Prize recognizes ecologists younger than 40 years of age who have published uniquely independent, original and/or challenging research representing an important scientific breakthrough. The recipient receives €3000. The ECI and IRPE Prizes are awarded annually in rotation to a marine, terrestrial, and freshwater ecologist. A list of the distinguished earlier prize winners can be found on the ECI website at the links below.

Further information:

Prof. Jane Lubchenco: <http://gordon.science.oregonstate.edu/lubchenco/jlcvbio>

Prof. Mary I. O'Connor: <http://www.zoology.ubc.ca/person/oconnor>

ECI Prize: <http://www.int-res.com/ecology-institute/eci-prize/>

IRPE Prize: <http://www.int-res.com/ecology-institute/irpe-prize/>

This Press Release is available at www.int-res.com/pressreleases/ECI_IRPE_2016_EN.pdf

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The **International Ecology Institute** (ECI) was established in Oldendorf/Luhe, Germany by Prof. Otto Kinne in 1984. It is a non-profit organisation of ecologists and is funded by the publisher Inter-Research Science Center. The aims of the ECI are to promote important issues resulting from ecological research to other scientists, administrators, politicians, and the public; and to assist in finding a long-term compromise between the destructive potential of modern societies and the sustainment of the highest possible standard of living for humans. It awards the ECI and IRPE Prizes annually, and publishes the book series "Excellence in Ecology".

Books in the series "Excellence in Ecology", authored by the ECI Prize winners, are written for researchers, teachers, students and interested laypeople, as well as administrators and politicians professionally engaged in ecology-related decision-making. The authors are invited to present their personal experiences, insights and visions, to criticize freely, and to courageously formulate new scientific concepts. Several of the "Excellence in Ecology" books have become standard ecological texts.

Inter-Research Science Center (IR) is a small but very significant international publisher of high-quality academic journals in the fields of aquatic sciences, the climate, and endangered species. Prof. Otto Kinne (former long-term Director of the Biologische Anstalt Helgoland) founded IR and the journal *Marine Ecology Progress Series* (MEPS) in 1979 as an outlet to keep his seminal book series *Marine Ecology: A Comprehensive Integrated Treatise on Life in Oceans and Integrated Waters* up to date. MEPS is now in its 37th year, has published >560 volumes, and occupies the top position in various categories according to Journal Citation Reports and Eigenfactor. Over the years, IR has established seven other journals of the same high calibre.

International Ecology Institute (ECI): <http://www.int-res.com/ecology-institute/eci-home/>

Excellence in Ecology (EE) book series: <http://www.int-res.com/book-series/excellence-in-ecology-books/>

Inter-Research Science Center (IR): www.int-res.com

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