



## IMarEST Special Interest Groups

### PROFILE:

#### [Operational Oceanography](#)

Ocean observations underpin the long-term sustained measurements and analyses that keep us up-to-date on the health of our oceans. Oceanography plays a crucial part in recording and understanding these measurements to improve public safety and national security, supporting the shipping industry and protecting the marine environment.

The IMarEST Operational Oceanography special interest group (SIG) aims to boost public and industry understanding of the concepts that underpin this branch of the marine sciences, through participation in national and international initiatives.

Key roles of the SIG include raising the profile and understanding of the concept of operational oceanography through participation in national and international initiatives, particularly those promoting engagement between users and suppliers of operational oceanographic products and services.

Additionally, they promote expert knowledge exchange between sectors, undertaking academic outreach and early career path development in operational oceanography to help ensure the next generation of oceanographers are fully 'operational' when entering the workplace.

#### Recent outputs include:

- [Oceans of Knowledge conference series](#) – organised by the SIG, the conference considers the operational use of ocean observations and technologies. The third edition is due to take place in November 2019 and is focussed on innovation to support a sustainable blue economy. The full programme and details for registration can be found [here](#).
- [IMarEST Journal of Operational Oceanography](#) – given the expertise of the SIG, they support the ongoing publication of the journal and members regularly review paper submissions. The journal has a high impact factor with several highly notable papers including the [ocean state report](#).



- [Marine science careers brochure](#) – to aid the initial professional development of young oceanographers, the SIG created a careers brochure to raise awareness of the different career paths and requirements for those wishing to enter the sector.
- [IMarEST Annual Conference 2019](#) – presentation delivered by Ralph Rayner on the SIG's contributions outlining the scope of oceanography in shaping a sustainable blue economy. You can watch the full recording on [IMarEST TV](#) (members only) and our [Youtube channel](#) (non-members).

## How to get involved in IMarEST technical activity

The IMarEST SIGs are voluntary groups which operate to the benefit of a specialist field, spanning the interests of marine engineering, science and technology, by bringing together experts from the marine sector. SIGs are governed by a committee of members but all SIGs are open for all members to participate as corresponding members.

They provide a platform for knowledge-sharing, outreach, and advisory information for the wider industry and in some cases - influencing legislation and policy. The work of the IMarEST's SIGs is highly diverse, spanning across the three domains of the institute – often incorporating aspects of multiple disciplines.

All the SIGs welcome new members, wherever you are in the world. However, you must be an [IMarEST member](#) to join. As an IMarEST member, you can participate in a range of technical activities at both an international and intergovernmental level. The IMarEST holds an extremely privileged position of having formal recognition across a [range of intergovernmental organisations](#) at a level unrivalled by similar organisations of its kind.

By [joining a SIG](#), you can develop your knowledge through meeting and attending events with industry experts, as well as make your contribution to the development of a sustainable marine sector and blue economy – all of which counts towards your Continuing Professional Development.

You can join a SIG as a corresponding member by signing up through your [IMarEST web account](#) to follow SIG developments and hear the latest industry news. You can also engage with the SIG, other corresponding members and discuss specialist topics in the member only networking portal '[IMarEST Nexus](#)'. If you are interested in becoming more directly involved with a SIG you can apply to the committee – for more information contact [technical@imarest.org](mailto:technical@imarest.org).

The IMarEST welcomes the establishment of [new special interest groups](#) across the entire breadth of the marine engineering, science and technology domain. Whether you are a non-member or a current member, if you are interested in establishing a new SIG – please get in touch with our technical team to enquire: [technical@imarest.org](mailto:technical@imarest.org).

