July 5 at 2:30 PM
The Search for and Discovery of Air France Flight 447
Dave Gallo, WHOI Director of Special Projects
On April 4, a team led by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) located the wreckage of Air France Flight 447 in the Atlantic Ocean off Brazil’s northeastern coast in nearly 2.5 miles of water. Learn how the search team scoured some of the most rugged seafloor terrain using specialized vehicles to find the wreck, whose location remained a mystery for nearly two years. The crew’s success enabled the recovery of the flight data recorders—crucial for providing answers to the victims’s families and the airline industry about why the plane went down.

July 12 at 2:30 PM
Where the Rivers Meet the Oceans
Bernhard Peucker-Ehrenbrink, Marine Geochemist
River water accounts for only a tiny fraction of water on Earth, and it would take about three thousand years of river flow to fill the ocean basins. Yet despite this seemingly insignificant contribution, rivers supply the coastal oceans with nutrients that are essential to marine life, deliver sediments that sustain beaches, provide pathways for shipping, and freshwater for agriculture, industry and human consumption. Learn how the Global Rivers Project, a collaborative research effort by WHOI, the Woods Hole Research Center and international partners, is helping researchers better understand how rivers and their drainage basins are changing with the climate, and the impact on the coastal ocean.

July 19 at 2:30 PM
Right Whale Ecology and Conservation
Mark Baumgartner, Marine Biologist
With a population of approximately 450, the North Atlantic Right Whale, an inhabitant of our local New England waters, is seriously endangered. Its unique feeding behavior makes it vulnerable to two significant causes of mortality: fishing gear entanglements and ship strikes. Learn what we know about right whale feeding behavior and how recent research has improved conservation efforts.

July 26 at 2:30 PM
Imaging the Seafloor with Robotic Vehicles
Hanu Singh, Oceanographic Engineer
Marine robots are now becoming ubiquitous in oceanographic applications. Learn how underwater robots and imaging systems are changing the way we approach socially and economically relevant research arenas as diverse as fisheries, coral reef ecology, marine archaeology, and under-ice ecosystems.

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