



**Megan S. Ballard** is a Research Scientist at the Applied Research Laboratories, University of Texas at Austin. She received a B.S. in ocean engineering from Florida Atlantic University and a Ph.D. in acoustics from Pennsylvania State University. Her research focuses on a variety of topics in underwater acoustics including measurement and modeling of ocean acoustic propagation, as well as direct measurement and inference of sediment geoacoustic properties. She has conducted field experiments in several sites off the coast of North America, spanning from the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico to the frigid environment of the Canadian Beaufort. Dr. Ballard received the R. Bruce Lindsay Award from the Acoustical Society of America, the Postdoctoral Special Research Award from the Office of Naval Research, the National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship Award, and the National Defense Industrial Association Undersea Systems Division Fellowship Award. She currently serves as the chair of the Technical Committee on Underwater Acoustics.