



Megan S. Ballard awarded the 2021 A. B. Wood Medal and Prize of the Institute of Acoustics (UK)



Megan S. Ballard has been named recipient of the 2021 A. B. Wood Medal and Prize of the Institute of Acoustics (UK). The A. B. Wood Medal and Prize is presented to an individual, preferably under forty years of age in the year of the Award for distinguished contributions in the application of acoustics, preference being given to candidates whose work is associated with the sea. The award is made in alternate years to persons residing in the United Kingdom and the United States of America or Canada. By agreement with the Institute of Acoustics, the Acoustical Society of America (ASA) nominates candidates for the award in alternate years. The list of prior recipients can be viewed on the [ASA webpage](#).

Megan 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 is the recipient of the ASA's R. Bruce Lindsay Award (2017), the Postdoctoral Special Research Award from the Office of Naval Research (2010-2011), the National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship Award (2006-2009), and the National Defense Industrial Association Undersea Systems Division Fellowship Award (2006). She served as Chair of the ASA Technical Committee on Underwater Acoustics (2015-2018) and is currently the Editor of ASA's Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics (POMA).

The award will be presented to Dr. Ballard at the Institute of Acoustics 2022 meeting in Southampton, UK.