

Dr. Haliehana Stepetin

[Independent Researcher](#)

Dr. Haliehana Stepetin (Unangaġ, Qigiiġun Tribe) was born and raised in her homelands in the village of Akutan, Alaska in Unangam Tanangin [Aleutian Islands] where she now resides. She weaves together her transdisciplinary experience deeply shaped by the Unangaġ subsistence cosmology she was raised within as an educator, artist, and scholar. Her research considers Unangaġ and Arctic Indigenous Peoples' roles in sustainable food sovereignty and environmental practices amidst a changing climate.

Håvard Tvedte

[Head of Market Development, Maritime CleanTech](#)

Håvard Tvedte is Head of Market Development at Maritime CleanTech, one of the world's leading innovation networks for sustainable shipping. Representing 150 partners across the full maritime value chain, the organisation accelerates the development and implementation of new technology solutions. Its portfolio includes pioneering projects on electrification, fuel solutions and energy efficiency, all designed to make cleaner shipping a global reality.

Dr. Philip McGillivray

[PACAREA & Icebreaker Science Liaison](#)

Dr. Phil McGillivray started work at the NOAA Atlantic Oceanographic & Meteorological Lab in Miami in 1976 in the Marine Geology & Geophysics Division and became a plankholder of the Ocean Chemistry Division in 1977 winning the NOAA Best Paper of the Year Award in 1978 for his work tracing sewage dumping in the New York Bight. He returned to graduate school at the Institute of Ecology at the University of Georgia studying plankton community structure and trace metal cycling at Gulf Stream fronts, spending more than a year at sea conducting those studies. His first post-doc was sponsored by the Office of Naval Research at UC Santa Barbara studying marine snow and a second post-doc sponsored by NOAA at the Monterey Center for Ocean Analysis & Prediction. He helped establish the Monterey Bay, Olympic and Hawaii National Marine Sanctuaries. He was called to work in the Office of Secretary of Defense on communication cyber-security for a special project, then accepted the position as Icebreaker and Pacific Area Science Liaison for the Coast Guard icebreakers in 1996. He is double-hatted as Chief Scientist for the Office of Naval Research's International Collaborative Engagement Program for Polar Research (ICE-PPR) focusing on communications, non-GPS navigation and surveillance technologies at high latitudes.

Dr. Sue Moore

[Affiliate Professor, University of Washington](#)

Dr. Sue Moore is an Affiliate Professor at the Center for Ecosystem Sentinels at the University of Washington. She has over 40 years of research experience focused on marine mammal ecology, bioacoustics and natural history, with most of her work directed toward research on bowhead, beluga and gray whales in the Pacific Arctic region. Sue worked for the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for 20 years, where she served as the Director of the Alaska Fisheries Science Center Marine Mammal Laboratory, and as a Senior Scientist for the NOAA Fisheries Science & Technology Marine Division. Sue currently serves as a Commissioner to the U. S. Marine Mammal Commission and as a science advisor to the Washington State Academy of Sciences.

Sissel Eriksen

[Principal Advisor, Norwegian Offshore Directorate](#)

Currently Working with Seabed Minerals mapping of the Norwegian continental shelf (NCS) in the Offshore Directorate. Member of the Program Group of the Mareano project developing strategies for Mareanos mapping of the NCS. Project Leader of Impact Assessment as part of the Norwegian opening process for Seabed Minerals activity on the NCS.

Member and vice-chair of the Legal and Technical Commission (LTC) of the International Seabed Authorities (ISA) since 2022.

Long experience from Petroleum exploration, development and production on the NCS. 10 years as Exploration Director of the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate. Extensive knowledge of the NCS through technical work.

Dr. Cody Johnson

[Director of Operations, UIC Science, Ukpeaġvik Iñupiat Corporation](#)

Dr. Cody Johnson, PMP, is the Director of Operations for UIC Science, part of the Ukpeaġvik Iñupiat Corporation, which represents the Indigenous community of Utqiaġvik, Alaska. For over 25 years, he has dedicated his career to advancing Arctic research that is not only safe and efficient but also grounded in ethical engagement and partnership with Alaska's Indigenous Peoples.

Taylor Holshouser

[Co-founder, Seamark](#)

Taylor Drew Holshouser is a partner at Seamark, an Anchorage-based consulting firm specializing in the seafood industry and sustainable resource development. Previously, he was an investor at Builders Vision, where he helped manage a \$1.6 billion endowment and \$125 million portfolio focused on ocean health and sustainable seafood. He advises several organizations, including the Prince William Sound Science Center and the Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation, and holds a B.A. in Humanities from Yale University.

Dr. Øyvind Frette

[Professor, University of Bergen](#)

Professor Øyvind Frette has a background in physics within the field of ocean optics. He has been a Head of department for Department of Physics and Technology at the University of Bergen and is currently the vice dean for research and innovation at the Faculty of Science and Technology at the University of Bergen. He has previously also held a position at Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Center where polar research was one of several the research topics.

Katharina Heinrich

[Predoctoral Research Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School of Government](#)

Katharina Heinrich is a predoctoral fellow at the Arctic Initiative at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. With a background in Polar Law and Coastal and Marine Management, her work focuses primarily on ocean governance and marine biodiversity conservation in the Polar regions and Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ). Since 2021, she has been working at the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, concentrating on Arctic ocean governance and marine biodiversity conservation. Katharina's contributions include involvement in the Central Arctic Ocean Synthesis Report (CAO-SR) under the Arctic Council PAME Working Group, as well as EU-funded projects addressing marine pollution and transboundary cooperation for biodiversity conservation in the Arctic. Additionally, Katharina is pursuing a PhD in Interdisciplinary Environmental Sciences at the University of Helsinki, investigating a threshold-based approach to advance marine management in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ), with a specific case study in the Arctic Ocean.

Francisco Amor

PhD student, UiT – The Arctic University of Norway

Francisco Amor is a PhD student in Sea Ice Remote Sensing based in Tromsø, with an interdisciplinary background in computer science, marine technology, and oceanography. He has worked across Arctic oceanography, remote sensing, acoustics, and offshore survey operations involving autonomous marine systems. His experience includes data analysis in support of maritime activities, as well as participation in maritime conservation NGOs focused on marine protection. His current research focus on processing satellite observations to study changing sea ice morphology and to explore its implications for offshore wind farms in subarctic water.

Dr. Margareth Hagen

Rector, University of Bergen

Margareth Hagen is the Rector of the University of Bergen (2025–2029), a position she also held during the 2021–2025 term.

Hagen is a professor of Italian literature. She has previously been the elected Pro-Rector (2017–2021) and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities (2013–2017).

Hagen has led several major initiatives at the University of Bergen as Rector and Pro-Rector. Among them are the revision of UiB's strategy, initiatives related to the university's policies for early-career researchers, research ethics, the development of UiB's Brussels Office, and efforts to increase external funding.

Margareth Hagen has extensive experience in national and European research and education policy through various roles and active participation. She emphasizes strong institutional presence and close collaboration with students and staff across all groups. (UiB webpage)

Pelagia Tsalampouni

[UiT – The Arctic University of Norway](#)

I'm a legally trained professional with a strong foundation in international, environmental, and energy law, and practical experience in cross-border regulatory research, policy development, and legal advisory. I've contributed to EU-funded projects on climate-resilient urban planning and AI compliance, evaluated Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) reports for EU law conformity, and collaborated on energy market governance research under Professor Kim Talus. My work has supported award-winning legal simulations and policy proposals presented at national conferences. I've recently completed certified training in CSRD and ESRS reporting, focusing on double materiality, gap analysis, and corporate sustainability frameworks, and am now building hands-on experience in ESG compliance and disclosure. I'm familiar with tools such as Greenomy, ESRS digital templates, and EIA compliance mapping platforms, and bring a detail-oriented legal mindset, analytical precision, and a commitment to evolving with the demands of corporate sustainability and risk governance.

Caitlin Hardy

[Founder and Managing Director, Ness Sea Consulting](#)

Caitlin Hardy is the Founder and Managing Director of Ness Sea Consulting. She began her career as a naval architect, focusing on workboats, commercial fishing vessels, sealifts, passenger vessels, and salvage.

Utilizing her engineering background, she moved into project management roles for new vessel construction. As her experiences shifted from engineering on a single vessel to building a class of multiple vessels, she moved to the cruise industry to oversee continuous improvement across fleet operations for four operating lines. This experience of navigating the considerations for an operating company from a single vessel to looking across an operating company's entire fleet has given her unique insights into navigating the value propositions and challenges at each decision-making point.

After completing her MBA, she spent time in two Series A startups focused on different aspects of the maritime and defense industries in cybersecurity and vessel analytics in product and leadership roles. Most recently, she led the US entity of Kongsberg Discovery, focused on expanding the company's offerings across all four product centers in the US, including establishing a US AUV team primarily to serve defense customers.

She holds a Bachelor of Science in Naval Architecture from the US Naval Academy and an MBA from the University of Washington, Foster School of Business. Currently, she serves as the Co-Vice Chair on the Board of Washington Maritime BLUE and on the Editorial Board of Lloyd's List. In her free time, she loves to explore the Pacific Northwest with her family and friends, from sailing and kayaking on the water to skiing in the mountains. (Ness Sea Consulting)

