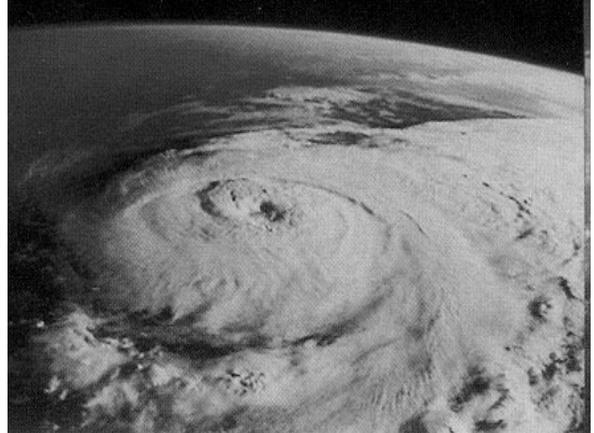
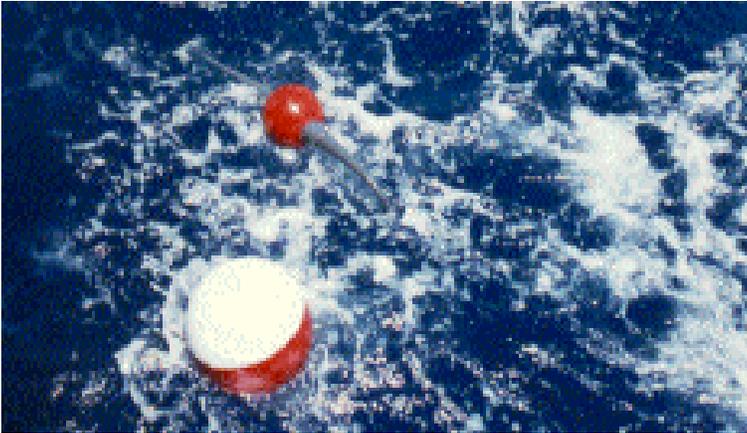


U.S. Department of Commerce



# Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory

A federal government research laboratory  
located on Virginia Key, Miami, Florida

(<http://www.aoml.noaa.gov>)



*Originally under the jurisdiction of the Environmental Science Services Administration (ESSA), the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory was founded in Miami, Florida in 1967. Several months after the establishment of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in 1970 (which superseded ESSA), groundbreaking ceremonies commenced for the construction of a new 12-acre federally-funded research facility located on Virginia Key. The Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory (AOML) was dedicated and established on this site on February 9, 1973.*

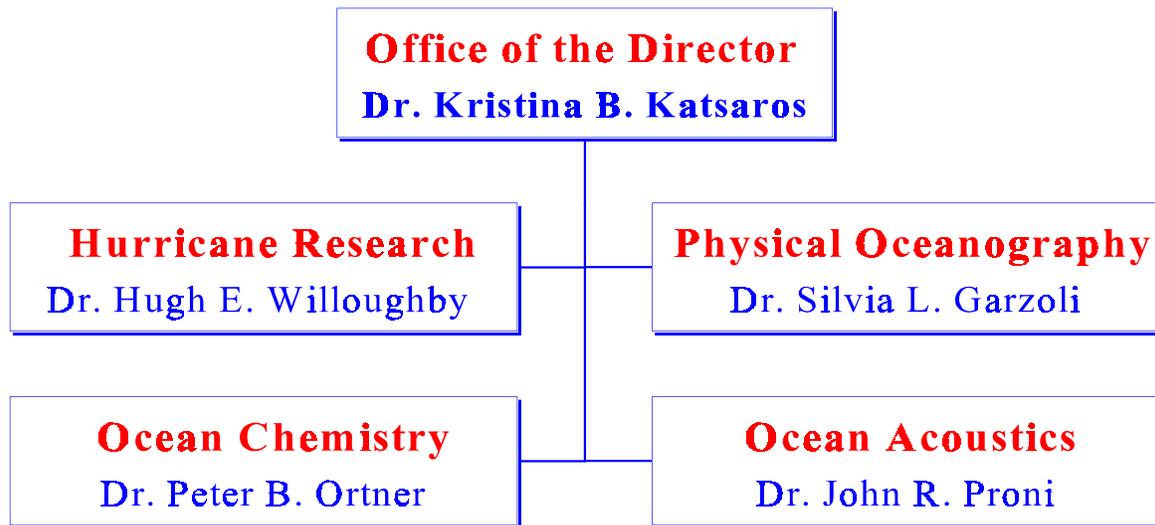
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### *Mission:*

The mission of the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory is to conduct a basic and applied research program in oceanography, tropical meteorology, atmospheric and oceanic chemistry, and acoustics. The program seeks to understand the physical characteristics and processes of the ocean and the atmosphere, both separately and as a coupled system.

The principal focus of these investigations is to provide knowledge that will ultimately lead to improved prediction and forecasting of severe storms, better utilization and management of marine resources, better understanding of the factors affecting both climate and environmental quality, and improved ocean and weather services for the nation.

AOML's organizational structure currently features four research divisions, categorized according to scientific discipline as follows:



In addition to AOML employees, the laboratory staff also includes several NOAA Corps officers, the National Oceanographic Data Center liaison, and the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Services library and staff. Research programs are augmented by the Cooperative Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Studies (CIMAS), a joint enterprise with the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science of the University of Miami. CIMAS enables AOML and university scientists to collaborate on problems of mutual interest and facilitates the participation of visiting scientists.