



Faculty Lectures at SEA

The Phoenix Islands Protected Area:
Lessons for stewardship of our global ocean.

Dr. Jan Witting

Sunday, March 20th at 1 p.m.

Sea Education Association

James L. Madden Center Lecture Hall
171 Woods Hole Road in Falmouth

Free and Open to the Public
Light Refreshments Served

The global ocean is under stress. Depletion of fisheries, increasing temperatures and the resulting loss of coral reefs to bleaching, and acidification of the surface ocean due to increased atmospheric CO₂ concentrations are but few examples of the challenges to our marine ecosystems today. In face of such issues, how are we to safeguard the natural capital of our oceans?

The Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA) is an early attempt to do this on a grand scale. Located in the middle of the Pacific, this California-sized area represents a big opportunity not only to protect a rich ecosystem that includes eight spectacular coral atolls, but also to learn important

Next Lecture

Sunday, April 10th at 1 p.m.

[Dr. Mark Long](#)



The SSV *Robert C. Seamans* anchored in the Phoenix Islands Protected Area, 2015.

lessons about a successful stewardship of the global ocean. SEA Oceanography Professor Jan Witting draws on the research expeditions SEA classes have mounted to Phoenix Islands in the past two years, while also describing the role of PIPA in a global network of large marine protected areas.

About the Lecturer

Dr. Jan Witting is a Professor of Oceanography at Sea Education Association. His research interests are centered around the Equatorial Pacific, where he has served as SEA chief scientist on more than twenty SEA Semester cruises. Dr. Witting worked with colleagues from WHOI and the New England Aquarium to start a new SEA Semester program called Protecting the Phoenix Islands in 2014.