

# Science Lectureship 2011

## Dr. Edith Widder:

Biologist and Deep-sea Explorer



Dr. Edith “Edie” Widder is a biologist and deep-sea explorer who is applying her expertise in oceanographic research and technological innovation to reversing the worldwide trend of marine ecosystem degradation. Dr. Widder graduated Magna cum laude from Tufts University where she received her BS Degree in Biology. She earned a Masters Degree in Biochemistry and a Ph.D. in Neurobiology at the University of California in Santa Barbara. She was a senior scientist and director of the Bioluminescence Department at the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution from 1989 to 2005. She has published extensively in scientific journals.

Dr. Widder is a specialist in bioluminescence (the light chemically produced by many ocean organisms), and a leader in designing and inventing new submersible instrumentation, and equipment to enable unobtrusive deep-sea observations. Her research involving submersibles has been featured in BBC, PBS, Discovery Channel and National Geographic television productions.

In 2005, Dr. Widder cofounded the Ocean Research & Conservation Association (ORCA), a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and restoration of marine ecosystems and the species they sustain through development of innovative technologies and science-based conservation action. While translating complex scientific issues into technological solutions, Dr. Widder is fostering greater understanding of ocean life as a means to better, more informed stewardship. In September of 2006, based on her work with ORCA, Dr. Widder was awarded a prestigious MacArthur Fellowship from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

### Event Info:

Date: Thursday, November 3, 2011

Time: 7:00 p.m

Where: Marauder Court

**\*Free and open to the public, no tickets required\***

For more information about Dr. Widder and ORCA, please visit:

<http://www.teamorca.org/cfiles/home.cfm>