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W. Kendall Melville is a professor of oceanography in the Marine Physical Laboratory and the Physical Oceanography Research Division at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego.

His research interests include fluid mechanics and its application in oceanography, especially in air–sea interaction, acoustic and microwave remote sensing, and ocean waves.

Melville was born in Sydney, Australia, in 1946. He received B.Sc., B.E., and M.Eng.Sc. degrees from the University of Sydney, and a Ph.D. in aeronautics and astronautics from Southampton University in the United Kingdom.

He moved from Australia to the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics at Scripps in 1977, and then took a faculty position at MIT in 1980, participating in the MIT-Woods Hole Joint Program until 1991 when he returned to Scripps.

He served as chair of the Scripps Graduate Department from 1996 to 2001 and deputy director for education in 2000-01. He is currently deputy director for research at Scripps, and director of the Joint Institute for Marine Observations. He has been an affiliated professor in mechanical and aerospace engineering at UCSD since 1998.

Melville is a fellow of the Acoustical Society of America and the American Physical Society, and a member of the American Geophysical Union and the American Meteorological Society. He received a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship in 1986 for research on ocean waves. He has served on review committees for the National Research Council, the National Science Foundation, NASA and the Office of Naval Research, and as associate editor of the *Journal of Geophysical Research (Oceans)*.

He is the author or coauthor of more than 100 papers on laboratory, theoretical, numerical, and field investigations in fluid mechanics and oceanography.

Melville and his family live in La Jolla, CA.

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