Dr. Steve W. Moore, co-author

Steve is passionate about his family, marine life, robotic gadgets, and education. By age twelve he was building underwater camera housings to photograph reef fish and designing electronic burglar alarms to keep siblings out of a top-secret laboratory in his bedroom closet. A few years later he completed a zoology degree at the University of California (UC) Davis, then went on to complete a Ph.D. in bioengineering from UC Berkeley and UC San Francisco. He is presently a full-time, gadget-building zoologist and professor at California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB), where he teaches courses in marine biology, physics, nature photography, and electronics/robotics.

Harry Bohm, co-author

As a teenager, Harry became fascinated with diving, designing underwater vehicles, and exploration. His diverse background includes working as an Outward Bound instructor, voyaging on traditional sailing vessels, operating towboats, conducting salvage operations, managing Simon Fraser University’s Underwater Research Lab, and working as an educator and technical consultant. He conceived of the Sea Perch ROV project that is now in wide use in many science classes and clubs across the United States. Part of each year he volunteers and photographs in Thailand and India; when in Vancouver he works on underwater robotics projects.

Vickie Jensen, co-author and editor

Vickie thrives on challenge, keeping several careers—as writer, editor, lecturer, photographer, and book distributor on the go at once. She earned her maritime waterwings as editor of Westcoast Mariner Magazine, traveling aboard tugs, tankers, fishing boats, dredges, or charter craft each month. She and Harry Bohm co-authored Build Your Own Underwater Robot and Build Your Own Programmable Lego Submersible. The MATE textbook is Vickie’s 10th non-fiction book and harkens back to her childhood dream of having magic glasses to view the wonders of the underwater world. She lives, writes, and operates her book publishing/distribution company Westcoast Words in Vancouver, Canada, and Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

Jill Zande, textbook project coordinator

Jill spent childhood summers exploring the creek behind her home in northwestern Pennsylvania. Between that and the local swimming pool, her parents had a hard time keeping her out of the water. She discovered the world of underwater vehicles during her Master’s research when she traveled to the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico in a submersible. So when it came to developing the MATE’s ROV competition program (and serving as the textbook project coordinator), she dove in. To her amazement and delight, the competition has grown into a network of events that are held around the world and inspire thousands of students and teachers to get wet each year.

Nola Johnston, illustrator and layout artist

Nola prefers staying on top of the water, rather than venturing under it (although in the past she has had involuntary submersible experiences due to an inclination for whitewater canoeing). She specializes in educational and interpretive design and illustration, with a particular focus on natural and cultural history. She also teaches design courses for the Emily Carr University of Art and Design and the BC Institute of Technology in Vancouver, Canada. In recent research projects, Nola has looked into the use of virtual worlds in the field of education. This is the third book on underwater robotics that she has worked on.

Marine Advanced Technology Education (MATE) Center

The Marine Advanced Technology Education Center is one of more than 30 Advanced Technological Education Centers established with funding from the National Science Foundation. Headquartered at Monterey Peninsula College, in Monterey, California, MATE is a national partnership of community colleges, research institutions, professional societies, government organizations, and marine industries working to improve marine technical education and meet the needs of the ocean workforce. MATE’s student ROV competitions, its summer institutes for faculty development, and this textbook are all examples of products and services developed by the Center to fulfill its mission.