For immediate release: January 2, 2018

Gary Griggs to receive Global Oceans Award

SANTA CRUZ, CA—The Seymour Marine Discovery Center will honor UC Santa Cruz geologist Gary Griggs with the 2018 Global Oceans Award on Saturday, March 24, 2018. This award is bestowed annually to an outstanding individual who has made significant contributions to ocean science, conservation, policy, or education. Past awardees include Leon Panetta, Kathryn Sullivan, Julie Packard, Richard Harris, and others (complete list below).

Griggs, a distinguished professor of Earth and planetary sciences at UC Santa Cruz, is a leading authority on coastal issues. He has written or co-authored 10 books about the California coast and coastal issues in general, and he is a frequent resource for news media on questions of climate change, sea-level rise, coastal erosion, and related issues. Now in his 50th year at UC Santa Cruz, Griggs served as director of the Institute of Marine Sciences for 26 years.

This benefit event supports the education programs of the Seymour Marine Discovery Center. Reservations will be accepted beginning January 4, 2018.

ABOUT THE SEYMOUR CENTER: Overlooking the Monterey Bay, the Seymour Center is a "living classroom" featuring exhibits, aquariums, touch pools, whale skeletons, full-scale elephant seal models, the Ocean Discovery Shop, and unsurpassed ocean vistas. The aquariums and exhibits feature the everyday tools of ocean exploration and focus on research conducted by scientists locally and around the world. Interactive stations provide hands-on learning experiences, and docents lead tours and bring marine science to life. The Center is a community-supported marine science education center of the University of California, Santa Cruz.

WHAT: Global Oceans Awards Gala honoring Gary Griggs

WHEN: Saturday, March 24, 2018

WHERE: UC Santa Cruz

TICKETS: Reservations accepted beginning January 4, 2018

GENERAL INFORMATION: seymourcenter.ucsc.edu; 831 459-3800

SPECIFIC INFORMATION / RESERVATIONS / SPONSORSHIP INQUIRIES: 831 459-4568
Former Global Oceans Award Recipients:
2004 – M.R.C. Greenwood
2005 – Frans Lanting
2006 – Bruce McPherson
2007 – Leon Panetta
2008 – Marcia McNutt
2009 – Brent Constantz
2010 – Kathryn Sullivan
2011 – Julie Packard
2012 – Stephen Palumbi
2013 – Richard Harris
2014 – Andreas Merkl
2015 – Margaret Leinen
2016 – M. Sanjayan
2017 – Sam Farr

About the Global Oceans Gala: This semi-formal dinner honoring a key individual impacting ocean science, policy, conservation, or education is held each year. The event includes exquisite dishes from sustainable sources, paired with fine wines from award-winning California vintners. Proceeds directly support the Seymour Marine Discovery Center’s education programs.

2018 Global Oceans Hero Gary Griggs