Meet the Lamont Scientists

**Wally Broecker**
Climate Scientist

“I like puzzles of any kind. It is what we don’t understand that is of most interest to me.”

Wally popularized the term global warming over 40 years ago and introduced us to the global ocean conveyor belt. He transformed our understanding of the climate system.

**Marie Tharp**
Marine Geologist

“The whole world was spread out before me, I had a blank canvas to fill with extraordinary possibilities.”

Marie, along with colleague Bruce Heezen, published the first complete world map of ocean floors. Their work helped prove the theory of plate tectonics, the idea that continents move over time.

**Taro Takahashi**
Oceanographer

“Being a scientist is exciting and fun.”

Taro was a seagoing scientist who made key discoveries about how oceans absorb and give off huge amounts of carbon dioxide.

**Robin Bell**
Climate Scientist

“Our home planet is so beautiful, and science is essential to making sure we can live here equitably and sustainably.”

Robin studies the changing ice in the polar regions, why it matters to everyone, and what is hidden beneath the ice. Has discovered hidden lakes and mountains, Bell Buttress in Antarctica is named after Robin.

**Joaquim Goes**
Oceanographer

“I love science because it makes you curious about everyday life problems and provides you the knowledge and skills to solve them.”

Joaquim studies how ocean ecosystems and plankton are responding to climate change.

**Suzanne Carbotte**
Marine Geologist

“The processes that shape our dynamic planet reveal an ever-fascinating cycle of life on the grandest scale.”

Suzanne studies submarine volcanos and earthquakes using different techniques to image beneath the seafloor and into earth’s crust.

**Róisín Commane**
Climate Scientist

“What we measure in the atmosphere is often times a mixture of what the weather tells us and emission changes.”

Róisín measures carbon dioxide and methane levels in the atmosphere and works to understand what the air we breathe in is made up of.

**Kevin Uno**
Climate Scientist

“The current climate crisis is the greatest challenge our species has ever faced. We must adapt and innovate, and we need to do it now.”

Kevin studies the impact of past climate change on human and mammal evolution and he also specializes in wildlife forensics.

**Kailani Acosta**
Oceanographer

“Science is so interesting because everything is connected. Understanding that connectivity gives you a greater admiration of the beauty and power of life and the Earth.”

Kailani studies biological oceanography and how nutrients move and flow in our ecosystem.

Illustration by Emily Soo

More scientists at: ldeo.columbia.edu