

Atlantic Crossing: Flying A Robot Under the Ocean

Thursday, April 9, 2009

7:00 pm, Multipurpose Room, Cook Campus Center

This spring, ocean scientists, engineers and students from Rutgers University will launch a small autonomous underwater vehicle, also known as a Slocum Glider, off the coast of New Jersey on a mission to Spain. While past transatlantic journeys have been accomplished by boat, plane, kayak and even by swimming this will be the first crossing by an autonomous robot. And this robot (RU27) is guided by Rutgers undergraduates.

RU27 will cross the Atlantic by gliding beneath the ocean's surface, flying up and down while collecting enough data to generate a continuous profile of the ocean from NJ to Spain. A similar glider mission almost made it last year (unfortunately, poor RU17 sank near the Azores); this year they plan to make it all the way across the Atlantic.

See some gliders and find out about the RU27 mission from the undergraduates who are helping to make it happen!

Visit <http://rucool.marine.rutgers.edu/atlantic/> to see what RU27 is doing right now.

Sponsored by the Cook Campus Dean and the Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences.

