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A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR RAY NAGIN TO THE OCEANOGRAPHY SOCIETY

June 4, 2003

On behalf of the City of New Orleans, I extend my warmest welcome to the participants of the 2003 Oceanology International Americas Ocean Conference and Exhibition. It is our honor to host the members of your fine organization. I am sure that you will find our exciting city a pleasant backdrop for your proceedings. We are pleased that you have chosen New Orleans as the site for this year's gathering.

In consideration of the fact that your scientific discoveries are a crucial service to humanity, I commend all of you for your dedication to high standards of professional excellence and for your diligent commitment to learning about our physical and biological world. I would like to take this opportunity to thank convention organizers for providing a nurturing forum for the exchange and synthesis of knowledge. As you take advantage of this exciting event, be mindful of our sincere appreciation for your professional accomplishments. We congratulate you on your past achievements and encourage you to continue with the tradition of excellence that you have upheld.

Wishing you a productive conference and a pleasant stay.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "C. Nagin", written over the printed name and title.

C. Ray Nagin
Mayor

