



Dr. Allyn Clarke received his Ph.D. from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. Upon completion of his degree, he was hired by the Bedford Institute of Oceanography (BIO) in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, where he joined the Ocean Circulation Section. Al quickly made significant contributions to enhance our understanding of the physical oceanography of the North Atlantic, including its circulation patterns, water mass transformations, and environmental variability. During this time he was active in ICES's Hydrographic Working Group and later played lead roles in international climate programs such as the WOCE and CLIVAR. His primary scientific interest was in the high-latitude North Atlantic and its role in the global climate system. During his 35 years of distinguished service he led numerous research cruises throughout the northern North Atlantic including memorable winter visits to the Labrador and Greenland Seas in search of deep convection. His research papers include not only the observational results from these field studies but also theoretical considerations. Later in his career he became a science manager, first as head of the Ocean Circulation Section and then as head of the Atlantic Oceanographic Laboratory at BIO.

Although his contributions to oceanography have been many, he is particularly honored for his role in establishing the World Ocean Circulation Experiment (WOCE) line AR7W across the Labrador Sea, which has continued as a contribution to the Climate Variability and Prediction (CLIVAR) component of the World Climate Research Program (WCRP). This line stretches from the Labrador Shelf, across the Labrador Basin, to the West Greenland Shelf. It was started in 1990 with physical oceanographic measurements while biological sampling was added in 1994. It has been run annually since 1990 and forms the northernmost section in Canada's Atlantic Zonal Monitoring Program. The line represents the only long-term monitoring section covering the full width of the Labrador Sea. These data have contributed to a greater understanding of the hydrographic and current variability in the Labrador Sea, their influence on the North Atlantic circulation and the role of the physical oceanography on the biology. As a scientist and science manager, he provided scientific leadership in ocean and related climate research at local, national, and international levels. He earned the respect of his colleagues for his scientific productivity, strong leadership, and timely and scientifically-sound advice.