

# OCEANS'09 MTS/IEEE

Excluding the exhibition staff, nearly 1,500 people registered for the OCEANS'09 conference, according to Co-Chair **Laurie Jugan**. Some people who attended decided to come after learning about the conference from two TV reports that ran on the local news station.

"It's still hard for me to believe the success of OCEANS'09," Jugan said. "It was the result of a truly dedicated and creative conference committee that made it all happen. We worked very hard, and I think it showed in the smiling faces of the delegates."

Jugan said the high school outreach program was what initially drew the press to the conference, but the cameras came back for more and continued the story. Noting the success of the Educator's Professional Development Program and the Career Fair, as well as the high school program, Jugan pointed out that these programs are all portable. "We hope future conferences will consider them as well," she said.

The exhibit floor featured 163 booths. No sessions were scheduled after the plenary sessions, so delegates could wander the exhibit floor. Exhibitor door prizes were a big hit.

Other factors contributing to the conference's success, Jugan said, were the "stellar technical program" put on by MTS members **Dick Crout** and **Stephanie Myrick**.