Kenneth R. Hinga was a research scientist and assistant dean at URI's Graduate School of Oceanography. His teaching included courses in general oceanography, marine pollution, and understanding environmental issues. He moved to Federal service on a diplomacy fellowship where he spent ten years at the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, and US FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. He was a science advisor for both agencies, providing technical analysis of a variety of food safety and agricultural-environmental topics for international negotiations. He is also a longtime amateur shutterbug, having had a few photographs published, won first place in a photo show, and shot weddings (for friends). He has given the “Seven Rules” course for a camera store and other OLLIs. Ken teaches for URI OLLI as well as American University, Johns Hopkins University and UConn. Between classes Ken spends time in his woodworking shop, building furniture and other projects. He also has written a memoir, “Tales from the Trident and Some of Her Cousins.” The book compiles stories from his cruises on Trident, Endeavor and other ships—mostly in the 1970s. A copy is in the Pell Library.

For OLLI, Ken has taught courses on Zoom from his home in Maryland:

- A Look at Renewable Energy
- Introduction to Oceanography
- Introductory Oceanography, Continued
- Making Environmental Choices: Climate, Energy, Chemicals and Radiation
- Climate change, Nuclear Radiation and Forever Chemicals