



University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System ~UNOLS~

**Research Vessel Technical Enhancement
Committee (RVTEC) Meeting
November 1-3, 2016**





UNOLS Report

- UNOLS Fleet News
- Pregnancy at Sea, Sexual Harrassment, & Medical Forms
- Policy regarding UAS operations on UNOLS Ships.
- Chief Scientist Training Cruises
- UNOLS Calendar



UNOLS Fleet News – Design, UNOLS Designations, Mid-life Refit activities

- **Two new Ocean Class Ships:**
 - R/V *Neil Armstrong* (WHOI) entered service in May 2016
 - R/V *Sally Ride* (SIO) – designated a UNOLS Vessel October 2016 and will enter UNOLS service in November 2016
- **Mid-Life Refits/SLEPs:**
 - R/V *Thompson* is in its mid-life
 - Planning for 2018 overhaul of *Revelle* has begun.
- **Regional Class Research Vessels**
 - Pending Funds.
 - First ship could enter service in 2021





Pregnancy at Sea, Sexual Harrassment, & Medical Forms

Issues:

- In 2015, the UNOLS office received comments from the community that the policies regarding pregnant women as members of cruise science parties could be more clearly stated and readily accessible.
- There were concerns about the accommodations on UNOLS vessels provided for nursing mothers.
- Concerns about the types of protected personal information asked on medical history forms.



Pregnancy at Sea, Sexual Harrassment, & Medical Forms

An ad hoc committee of UNOLS Council members has been created to evaluate these issues and provide recommendations that will help to resolve them.

Committee Members:

- Debbie Steinberg/VIMS
- Clare Reimers/OSU
- Scott Ferguson/UH
- Bruce Appelgate/SIO
- Chris Measures/UH (UNOLS Chair)
- Jon Alberts/UNOLS Office (facilitator)



Pregnancy at Sea, Sexual Harrassment, & Medical Forms

Actions completed to date:

- **Survey of all UNOLS ship operators**, gathering information on procedures and policies regarding medical history forms, pregnancy and nursing mothers policy, and harassmtent preventions procedures.
- **MTS Sexual Harassment Prevention Video** - This video is on board the ships.
- **UNOLS home page banner titled:** “ Discussing the Gender Climate at Sea”. With links to: UNOLS Power Point on Harassment Prevention Links to pertinent articles, document MPOWIR (Mentoring Physical Oceanography Women to Increase Retention, Nature Article
- **UNOLS Research Vessel Safety Standards-** 10th Ed. Chapter 6- *Personal Behavior and Individual Safety*. Also Appendix E- *Harassment Prevention*.



Pregnancy at Sea, Sexual Harrassment, & Medical Forms

Document with Guidelines and Recommendation

- Importance of Operator's Policies – readily available
- Explain the Types of Documents Collected and purpose for collection
- Importance of security in handling, storage, and disposal
- Pregnancy Policy and accommodations for nursing mothers with examples from US Navy, US Coast Guard, and Cruise Lines
- Harassment Prevention and Importance of Harassment free workplace
- Tools available, Guidelines and Suggestions on how to handle situation



Policy regarding UAS on UNOLS Vessels

With the recent publication of the FAA small UAS rule, a policy for UNOLS ships has become necessary. **Effective immediately, operation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), or drones, from or over UNOLS ships may not take place without demonstrated compliance with national or international regulations (ICSA, FAA) and specific approval of the ship's captain or designee, as a minimum.** This applies to crew, techs and members of the science party, and refers to all operations, whether recreational, educational, or professional. Obtaining national approvals, such as FAA's Sec 333 exemption or Certificate of Authority or Waiver (COA), as well as pilot qualifications, are not a guarantee the operations will be approved by the ship's captain. **Recreational or hobbyist freedom of use over land is not available at sea, so the importance of contacting the ship's operator ahead of time is critical. Detailed policies and processes are in development by SCOAR to provide guidance and training.**



Chief Scientist Training Workshops/Initiatives

2016 – 7 cruises:

- **R/V *Thomas G. Thompson* - February 11-20, 2016** - Allan Devol & Evelyn Lessard/UW (Staged from San Diego and included research in coastal and offshore waters)
- **R/V *Atlantis* with *Alvin*, *Sentry*, and *Telepresence* – July 26-Aug 8** - Cindy Van Dover, lead PI
 - First leadership training cruise with deep-submergence assets, and it will be the first 'telepresence'-enabled leadership training program.
 - Partway through the cruise, participants on R/V *Atlantis* moved to the Inner Space Center at URI/GSO
- **R/V *Blue Heron* - Doug Ricketts/UMN (Summer) – 4 cruises**
 - Great Lakes Chief Scientist Training Cruises.
 - The program occurred from June 12 to July 2
- **R/V *Sikuliaq* Transit Cruise – December 2-17, 2016** – Rob Pockalny and Bernie Coakley
 - Emphasis on Marine Geology and Geophysics research
 - Transit from Honolulu, HI to San Diego, CA.





Chief Scientist Training Workshops

Tracking the Participants:

- 113 Participants in CSTW over 5 years (2011 – 2015)
- 38 Participants submitted a total of 177 STRS Requests (77 as *PI*, 100 as *Co-PI*)
- 35 Requests funded



86 Blogs Posts from the workshops

<http://csw.unols.org/scientist-posts/page/2/>



Chief Scientist Training Cruises

- Many thanks to:
 - The PI's who coordinated the chief scientist training cruise
 - NSF and ONR for their generous support of these programs and for participating in the classroom training
 - Ship's crew and marine technicians for supporting the cruise operations
- A "Lesson's Learned" and document with "Tips for leading a Chief Scientist Training Cruise" would be useful.



UNOLS Meetings and Workshops in 2016



Jan 5-7	UNOLS/OOSC – OOI Coastal Workshop - NSF, Arlington, VA
Jan 14-15	DESCEND-2, Harvard University, Boston, MA
Feb 21-26	Ocean Sciences Meeting, UNOLS Booth – New Orleans, LA
April 5-6	Green Workshop
Sept 27-29	UNOLS/OOSC – OOI NE Pacific Arrays, Portland, OR
Nov 1-3	RVTEC Meeting – SIO – La Jolla, CA
Nov 29-Dec 1	FIC, Council, and UNOLS Annual Meetings, Arlington, VA – Featured Speaker: Larry Mayer, UNH
Dec 11-12	DeSSC New User Program, San Francisco, CA
Dec 12	DeSSC Annual Community Meeting, San Francisco, CA
Dec 12	Marcus Langseth Science Oversight Committee Meeting, San Francisco, CA



Thank you!



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
SCOTT!!!**

