



University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System ~UNOLS~

**RVTEC Meeting
Duluth, MN
October 24-26, 2017**





UNOLS Report – a few selections from a long list...

- UNOLS Office Re-compete
- UNOLS Committee for Maintaining a Respectful Environment on Ships (MERAS)
- UNOLS Annual Meeting & Goals



UNOLS Office Recompetition

~Role of the UNOLS Office~

Excerpt from the UNOLS Charter

h.) UNOLS Office and Executive Secretary: A UNOLS Office shall be established for the purposes of providing staff support and secretariat services to UNOLS, the UNOLS Chair, Council, and Committees as directed.

- The Office shall serve as a focal point for UNOLS correspondence and for central files on facilities, schedules, user requirements and related information. The Office shall advertise, arrange, support and report on UNOLS, Council and Committee meetings. It shall arrange and manage contracts for blanket services to the UNOLS fleet and UNOLS institutions under guidance from the Chair and Council, and at the behest of sponsoring agencies.



UNOLS Office Recompetition ~UNOLS Host Institution~

- It is expected that the UNOLS Office will rotate among UNOLS institutions.
- The Office should not remain at a single institution for more than ten years, except under extraordinary circumstances.
- The UNOLS Office shall normally be established at a UNOLS operator institution.



UNOLS Office Recompetition

Some key dates in timeline

2017	
September	Competition announced for hosting the UNOLS Office and solicit Letters of Intent
November 28	Letters of Intent due to UNOLS Chair or UNOLS Office
2018	
March 16	Proposals due (to UNOLS Chair or UNOLS Office)
April 1 – July 1	Evaluation of Proposals; may include site visits, interviews with candidate Ex. Secretaries, etc.
August 15	Notify Institution selected as the UNOLS recommendation
October 15	Recommended Host Institution submits proposal to NSF and other Funding Agencies
May 1, 2019	UNOLS Office established at new host institution



UNOLS Committee for Maintaining a Respectful Environment on Ships (MERAS)

- Medical privacy, pregnancy policies
- Promotion of civility, respect
- Prevention of harassment, discrimination, bullying

Committee Membership:

- Debbie Steinberg/VIMS (Co-Chair)
- Mark Brzezinski/UCSB (Co-Chair)
- Clare Reimers/OSU
- Bruce Appelgate/SIO
- Scott Ferguson/UH
- Chris Measures/UH
- Brandi Murphy/UW
- Assisted by: UNOLS Office- Alice, Annette, Caitlin, & Jon



MERAS Committee

Recent Activities:

- Review of Research Vessel Safety Standards Ch. 6 & Appendix E- Harassment Prevention
- Assisting with Video project – Shipboard Civility: Fostering a Respectful Work Environment
- Title IX office involvement

(federal law: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.")



Research Vessel Safety Standards (RVSS) - Significant Changes to :

- Chapter 6- Personal Behavior and Individual Safety - A new section was added: “6.3.3 PERSONAL BEHAVIOR AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT.” It required that each UNOLS vessel have:
 - Institution policy
 - Posting
 - Training
 - Reporting procedures
 - Off-vessel point of contact
 - Re-wrote the: Tell Someone section
 - Added to the Seek Advice section
- Revisions also made to Appendix E-Harassment Prevention
- Council endorsed the RVSS revisions in - Aug 2017



Video Project: Shipboard Civility

- Collaborative effort between NSF, ONR, NOAA, and UNOLS
- Will be composed of three modules
 - Module 1 (~ 12 minutes) – Shipboard Civility: Fostering a Respectful Work Environment
 - NOAA is supporting production, produced by Maritime Training Services Applicable to all Research Vessels
 - Explains appropriate, respectful behavior and provides Scenarios as animations
 - Module 2 (~ 12 minutes) – Fleet-Specific Video
 - Issues/information/practices that apply to all UNOLS ships
 - We will own the videos and they can be shared openly (e.g., YouTube)
 - Module 3 – Ship specific information regarding policies and reporting. In the form of posters or PPTs
 - All operators have been contacted for their ship specific material



2017 Annual Meeting

- **Dates:**
 - Wednesday AM, November 29th - Council
 - Wednesday PM, November 29th – Annual Meeting
 - Wednesday Evening – UNOLS Reception
 - Thursday AM, November 30th – Annual Meeting
 - Thursday PM, November 30th – FIC Meeting
 - Friday, December 1st – FIC Meeting (until mid-day)
- **Venue** – Holiday Inn Alexandria @ Carlyle
2460 Eisenhower Ave, Alexandria, VA
- **Featured Speaker** – Dr. Marcia McNutt will speak on
Wednesday, November 29th at 4:15 pm



2017/2018 UNOLS Goals

- Improve quality of life and morale at sea (food, exercise, fun, internet!)
- Ensure a smooth transition for the new UNOLS Office, including analysis of existing structure and suggestions for future changes.



Thank you!