DeSSC report November, 2019 UNOLS Meeting

- DeSSC membership update
- NDSF vehicle updates
- Other activities



DeSSC Membership

Current members

Roxanne Beinart (URI) David Caress (MBARI)



Amanda Demopoulos (USGS), Vice Chair DeSSC
Brian Glazer (Univ. Hawaii)
Leila Hamdan (Univ S Miss)
Anna-Louise Reysenbach, Chair (Portland State U)
Andrew Thurber (OSU)
Dorsey Wanless (Boise State U)
Scott White (Univ, SC)

Peter Girguis, (*ex-officio, Harvard*) Rob Munier (*ex-officio, WHOI*) Tim Shank (ex-officio, *WHOI*) Adam Soule (*ex-officio, WHOI*)

ROV Jason

- Had a very successful and busy year in 2019
 - 11 expeditions
 - Many associated with the array



 Jason setting records for number of dives and instruments turned at RCA

Jason- a workhorse!

- Adams, Sparr, Abers (EOS article)
 - Understanding Alaska's volcanoesintegrating observations on land and sea
 - recovery of 13 shallow-water seismometers with trawl-resistant mounts (TRMs)
 - replacement of a transponder for one GPS-acoustic benchmark at a depth of 1176m
 - tested the Cassius system
- Heat and Fluid Flow Through Pythia's Oasis, Cascadia Margin
 - Jason and Sentry, Rob Harris



Examples of instruments that Jason deployed

- Reimers instrument (Benthic Observer Pro), deployed on Hydrate Ridge
 - Challenging because instrument was a bit too heavy
- COVIS (Cables Observatory Vent Imaging System)
 - Recovery redeployment, other instrument deployments for OOI





HOV Alvin

- 2 Alvin cruises with 1st time users (Sylvan, Hansel)
 - 12 new users on expedition
 - Achieved all and more objectives
 - BBC live
- 4100m abyssal plain (Drazen)
 - Only 4 dives but got lots done!
 - 11 Ekman grabs, 18 sediment cores, 127 animals from sea cucumbers to snailfish
- the importance of engineering trials to ensure both equipment readiness and proficiency for the teams





Alvin: Coming up (Adam Soule covered this)

- Final stages of planning for the Alvin overhaul which will result in the sub being rated to 6500m with planning for science verification
 - Proposal request: "Expanding Deep-sea Horizons: Scientific Priorities in Abyssal Research"
 - Plans to be pre-emptive and develop workshops
 - for the community to stimulate discussion and collaboration to study the abyss
 - Identify important technological needs to help address research questions in the abyss

Sentry Operation Highlights

- Concurrent Operations with ROV Jason (Dave Valentine 2019)
- Concurrent Operations with ASV waveglider (Henry Dick 2019)
- Concurrent Operations with Dredge (Henry Dick 2019)
- Shallow water dives off Santa Barbara
- Integration of new Kongberg multibeam sonar
 ROS (= robot operating system software) on Sentry with planning for conversion of Jason and Alvin in the works
 Many other upgrades- Servo design for actuating Sentry fins, XR replacements (weight release)





Other activities:

- microbial-biogeochemistry manifold sampler
 - New users request: Rika Andersen, Elizabeth Trembath-Reichert
 - 10L/sample
 - Adjustable flow rate
 - 10-12 ports
 - Temp probe, flow meter, modularity etc.
 - Andy Billings been building it
- WHOI as partner in the new NOAA Ocean Exploration Cooperative Institute





Other activities:

- DeSSC Dec 2019 and New User meeting
- AGU-DeSSC meeting discussions, RCN proposal (Mandy Joye), with a Townhall meeting planned at Ocean Sciences in San Diego in Feb.
- Imagery subcommittee
- Other partners at DeSSC meetings
 - ROV Lu'ukai Bruce Howe/ U. Hawaii
 - ROV Subastian Errol Campbell/Schmidt Ocean Institute
 - ROV Odysseus Ed Cassano/Pelagic Research Services
 - ROV Ropos Doug Bancroft/Canadian Scientific Submersible Facility
 - OceanGate Stockton Rush
- Thanks!