



## UNIVERSITY-NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC LABORATORY SYSTEM

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### UNOLS UPDATE

May 14, 2004

- ❖ UNOLS is seeking nominations (or volunteers) to serve on the UNOLS Council, the Fleet Improvement Committee (FIC), the Arctic Icebreaker Coordinating Committee (AICC) and the Scientific Committee for Oceanographic Aircraft Research (SCOAR). Nominations for the UNOLS Council should be submitted to the Nominating Committee ([nominations@unols.org](mailto:nominations@unols.org)) by June 4<sup>th</sup>. Those interested in FIC, AICC or SCOAR should contact FIC Chair, Dave Hebert, AICC Chair, Margo Edwards or SCOAR Chair, John Bane. The requests for nominations are available from the UNOLS web site with more complete information on how to apply:  
<http://www.unols.org/>
- ❖ The National Science Foundation has asked the UNOLS Fleet Improvement Committee to set priorities for some of the Science Mission Requirements (SMR) for the proposed Regional Class Research Vessels. Certain SMR elements, such as science berths, lab space, deck space, range, endurance, speed and sea keeping, have a higher impact on overall ship size and cost. UNOLS and FIC are in the process of creating a Regional Class Advisory Committee (RCAC), which will draft recommendations regarding the prioritization of these SMR elements. This RCAC will have regional and disciplinary balance. At the same time we are seeking input from any interested scientists, ship operators or technicians regarding these priorities. An online survey that should take no more than 10 or 15 minutes to complete is located at:  
[http://www.unols.org/committees/fic/regional/regional\\_smr\\_priorities.asp](http://www.unols.org/committees/fic/regional/regional_smr_priorities.asp)  
More information on the development of the Regional Class Research Vessel requirements and design along with a link to the full set of Regional Class Science Mission Requirements is located at:  
[http://www.unols.org/committees/fic/regional/regional\\_class.html](http://www.unols.org/committees/fic/regional/regional_class.html)
- ❖ The U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy released their preliminary report to the nation's Governors and other interested stakeholders. The UNOLS Council had decided at their March meeting that UNOLS should review the report and provide feedback directly through the commission as well as to other organizations such as AGU, TOS and CORE. The Council also encouraged member institutions to provide input to their respective Governors. The Council drafted a response and UNOLS Chair, Tim Cowles (OSU) submitted it to the Commission this week. The response is very supportive of the report in general and emphasizes the importance of two key Commission recommendations calling for the doubling of the Federal ocean and coastal research budget (recommendation 25-1) and for the modernization of critical infrastructure (recommendation 27-1). You can see the full text of Dr. Cowles letter at:  
[http://www.unols.org/info/ocean\\_comm\\_response.html](http://www.unols.org/info/ocean_comm_response.html) (note, public comment period has been extended through June 4<sup>th</sup>)
- ❖ Upcoming meetings:
  - [DESSC Meeting](#) - May 17 & 18 - Woods Hole, MA
  - Ship Scheduling Meeting - July 21 - NSF Arlington, VA
  - Annual Meeting - October 15 - NSF Arlington, VA