

UNIVERSITY - NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC LABORATORY SYSTEM

An association of Institutions
for the coordination and support
of university oceanographic facilities

UNOLS Office
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE UNOLS ANNUAL MEETING May 22-23, 1973 Washington, D. C.

1. Chairman for the meeting was Dr. Jay M. Savage acting for Dr. A. E. Maxwell who had been called out of the country on urgent business. The meeting was attended by 106 participants representing thirty-one academic institutions and eleven Federal and State institutions. A list of those who registered is attached.
2. Dr. Thomas B. Owen, Assistant Director of NSF for National and International Programs addressed the meeting on the subject of support for academic research ships. Dr. Owen reviewed the budget outlook for 1974 and foresaw that problems due to reductions over current levels probably will not materially improve in the years ahead. He pointed out that the impact is spread throughout the environmental sciences and that Federal operated ships are even more affected. Action required to meet constraints includes more effective use of ships and the development of a broader base of facility support to include those agencies which are responsible for the research programs from academic ships.

Speaking on behalf of NSF programs Dr. Owen pointed out that the Foundation is putting more than adequate funds into ship operations to meet the needs of NSF research projects, and that he looks for assurance that NSF funded ship support goes to NSF projects as a first priority.

To a question regarding impounded FY-73 funds for research ship construction, Dr. Owen advised that those funds already have been included into the general FY-74 money and are not available for reinstatement. To a further question on policy for support of "coastal" projects in view of reductions by other agencies, he advised that NSF has no singular policy to support coastal program but hopes that other agencies will make their positions more clear.

3. The UNOLS Executive Secretary presented a report on the activities of academic research ships over the past year giving a profile of the fleet and statistics of ship operations. On request, the Secretary agreed to distribute this report in written form suitable for use by members.

4. Dr. J. V. Byrne, Chairman of the UNOLS Advisory Council gave a report on the work and recommendations of the Advisory Council. He reviewed the 1972 Annual Report containing some eighteen recommendations dealing with ship scheduling, operations, replacement and Federal support. Dr. Byrne noted that about half the recommendations, principally those dealing with operations and specialized facilities were met as well as those regarding general funding for 1973; but 1974 recommendations for broader based ship support, coastal facilities and ship construction are far short of the mark. This is largely due to the shortfalls of the Federal 1974 Budget.

Dr. Byrne also reviewed the Advisory Council Guidelines to Federal Agencies for the allocation of Ship Operation Funds made in March 1973 as a means of meeting the budget stringencies. These included:

- Elimination of classroom instruction aboard major ships.
- Increased efficiency of operations through uniform economies of comparable ships and alternatives to academic ship use for data (e. g. buoys, government ships, cooperative efforts, etc.)
- Eliminate ships carrying weaker programs as determined by "scientific peer" groups, but giving due consideration to the impacts on single ship institutions.

Dr. Byrne noted that the spirit of these recommendations appeared to have been followed by NSF in its initial approach to 1974 funding.

Dr. Byrne further noted that the additional recommendations of May 2, 1973, by the UNOLS Advisory Council to UNOLS Members for specific funding schemes to stay within the funds limitations were generally not acceptable to Members and that additional efforts in this area are necessary.

5. The interim Report of the Working Group on Oceanographic Aircraft was presented by Dr. Robert Ragotzkie, its Chairman. The principal recommendations included:
 - The commonality between requirements of multi-engine meteorological and oceanographic aircraft indicates joint use of these aircraft. Operation of multi-engine, high performance aircraft is beyond the capability of a UNOLS institution and should be by one of the Federal research flight facilities (NCAR, Navy, NOAA)

- Current requirements indicate the justifiable need for one and possible two twin engine aircraft as National Oceanographic Facilities to be operated by a UNOLS institution.
 - Light aircraft should be utilized by laboratories on a project basis and justified and funded on an individual institutional basis.
6. UNOLS Members approved for trial use a ship time request form which use will be acceptable at all member operator institutions. Internal use of the form at a laboratory is recommended but not necessarily required. A copy of the form is attached.
 7. Dr. Pearn Niiler of Nova University proposed a current meter facility for cooperative use in the Southeastern Region. He described the need and justification for such a facility. This was referred to the Advisory Council for further action.
 8. During the Ship Scheduling and Coordinating Session UNOLS Members reviewed the proposed 1974 schedules of their ships. Requests on hand and from investigators present were referred to appropriate operators. Captain Treadwell of Texas A&M submitted that the present ship schedule coordinating session under Annex I of the UNOLS Charter is not effective and that shipboard access under this routine is better handled directly through the UNOLS Office. Noting that Annex I is about to expire unless renewed, Members referred this matter to the UNOLS Executive Committee for a more effective set of procedures.
 9. UNOLS Members re-elected Dr. Arthur E. Maxwell as UNOLS Chairman, and Dr. Jay M. Savage as Vice-Chairman each for a second term of one year.
 10. Twenty one persons were nominated in open session to fill three expiring terms on the UNOLS Advisory Council. Giving due regard to the balance of geographic distribution, scientific discipline and institutional size UNOLS Members elected the following for terms of three years each commencing July 1, 1973.

Dr. Adrian Richards, Lehigh University

Dr. Patrick L. Parker, University of
Texas

Dr. Richard C. Dugdale, University of
Washington

11. In view of the shortfall of the Federal research ship support budgets for 1974 and the issues which have surrounded funding arrangements, UNOLS Members considered it important to make a statement addressing this subject and which sets forth points of agreement amongst UNOLS. The following constitutes the UNOLS position. Although some points apply in general all are specific to the problems facing UNOLS in 1974:
 - i. NSF ship support funding should be related to NSF funded research as a first priority. However, NSF has a unique responsibility to support science facilities for high quality research regardless of the origin of that research or its sponsorship.
 - ii. Through the joint efforts of NSF program managers and UNOLS every effort will be made to ensure the accomplishment of NSF funded research projects.
 - iii. Bearing in mind that the fleet of academic research ships is a vital national resource, its composition should not be altered so much by budgetary constraints as by the needs of science. Institutions should be allowed to decide the best employment of their ships commensurate with overall support.
 - iv. In order to live within the stringencies of the FY 1974 NSF ship support budget, all institutions should effect every possible savings in ship operations. Further they should vigorously seek non-NSF sources of ship support funds.
 - v. As an interim measure for 1974 single ship operators who under the provisional guidelines do not now have adequate ship funding outlooks from NSF and who previously received such funding should be assured of a total ship support funding of not less than two thirds of projected costs. It should then become incumbent upon these operators to seek new and additional sources of support to make up the balance.
 - vi. In order to relate ship funding to research needs each UNOLS Member will show in his proposal for ship support the sources of funding for proposed research along with attendant details of the research funding. In addition all NSF research proposals which require ship use should include a clear statement of estimated ship needs.

UNOLS Members agreed that the foregoing statement of principles should be transmitted to the National Science Foundation and to other Federal agencies which share responsibilities for research from UNOLS ships.

SHIP TIME REQUEST

TO	and/or	UNOLS OFFICE <input type="checkbox"/>	(check)
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SHIP REQUESTED (if no specific ship, leave blank)

PRINCIPAL SHIP USE (where project will be chief use of ship)
 ANCILLARY SHIP USE (on a shared or not-to-interfere basis)

PURPOSE (project title and brief outline of scientific objective)

CHIEF INVESTIGATOR (name, title, address, tele.no:)

OTHER SCIENTISTS INVOLVED

TOTAL NUMBER OF SHIPBOARD PARTY

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

SHIP REQUIREMENT (large, small & why)

SHIPBOARD EQUIPMENT NEEDED

SPECIALIZED FACILITIES OR INSTRUMENTS REQUIRED

SUPPORTING PERSONNEL NEEDED (technicians)

EXPLOSIVES CARRIED	RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL
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MINIMUM NUMBER OF SHIP DAYS NEEDED

OPTIMUM INCLUSIVE DATES

ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVES

AREA OF OPERATIONS (attach page size track chart)

UNDERWAY and/or STATION REQUIREMENTS (attach sampling plan if available)

FUNDING STATUS

FUNDED

FUNDING AGENCY

GRANT NO:

AMOUNT OR ANNUAL RATE	BEGIN. DATE	DURATION
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NOT-FUNDED

PROPOSAL SUBMITTED WILL BE SUBMITTED TO:

DATE: AMOUNT REQUESTED:

NEW PROPOSAL or RENEWAL OF GRANT NO:

OTHER SHIPS, LABS, AGENCIES TO WHOM REQUESTS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED

SUBMITTED BY (name, title, address, tele.no if different from chief investigator)

SIGNATURE

APPROVED BY (department chairman or lab.director)

DATE OF REQUEST

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