

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 Annual Meeting 27-28 May 1975 - Washington, D.C.

1. General

The Meeting had a total of 122 attendees representing 32 academic institutions and 7 Federal Agencies. Chairman was John A. Knauss, Provost for Marine Affairs, University of Rhode Island. A list of registered participants is attached.

2. Ship Support

Funding for UNOLS Ship operations is about \$17.8M in 1974; \$18.9M in 1975 and projected to be about \$19.4M in 1976. This compares with actual ship costs of \$18.0M, \$19.7M and \$21.5M for the same period. The projected 5% deficit for 1975 and 10% for 1976 will have to be met by either ship layups or bringing additional support into the system.

3. Uniform Accounting

A proposed uniform terminology for ship operations accounting was approved in principle subject to final comments and agreement by members. Chief change to current usage will be use of term "operating days" for all ship days incident to mission. One goal of uniform accounting is to permit a single, audited UNOLS ship use system for all Federal agency use.

4. Insurance Study

The preliminary results of the insurance and risk management study was summarized by the study leader, Mr. Charles H. Martin. The diversity of coverage and premiums between various labs probably can be improved by some sort of group approach. Following a review by a group of UNOLS Members insurance and operating managers, the Study and its recommendations will be circulated along with special supplements for each member.

5. Long Range Planning for Ships

The preliminary report of the UNOLS Long Range Planning Session at Catalina in October 1974 was described. This showed no great increase in numbers of ships needed, but a clear requirement to upgrade the capabilities of future ships.

The next step in the development of the Plan is the review and comment by individual members.

6. New Ship Construction

About one-half of the twenty-nine ships of the UNOLS Fleet are under 10-yrs old. Four ships are 30 years old. These figures include the three new 177-ft

NSF ships now under construction. There are no further approved construction plans or funds budgeted. Current critical areas include coastal type vessels, the two remaining 150-200 ft. ships over 30 years old and the need for an Arctic Research Vessel. In an effort to keep viable in this area, UNOLS will sponsor proposals over the next year for design studies for several coastal ship types and an Arctic Research Ship.

7. Marine Technicians

Robert Sexton, URI, reported that the Conference on Marine Technicians, January 1975, showed all labs have common problems in defining and supporting marine technicians. NSF current block funds marine technicians at about \$1.0M whereas the total costs of seagoing, shared technical services for NSF Programs, is about twice that. It was recommended that principal investigators clearly state their technicians requirements in their proposal and that research and facilities support sponsors work together to meet these needs.

8. Safety Standards

Draft Standards were presented for UNOLS usage and approved in principle. Each Member will submit specific comments in writing and the final draft will be circulated for adoption.

9. Regional Activities

Following presentation of selected regional activities it was reaffirmed that UNOLS encourages and supports the formation of regional groups for the cooperative sharing of facilities. The UNOLS Office is to assist regional groups in every way it can.

10. Report of the Ocean Science and Technology Resources Study (ORS)

Mr. Robert Hale of the Center for Naval Analyses reported on the NACOA-ICMSE study of the capital structure for ocean science. That study concentrated on research ships (Fed. agencies and UNOLS) but also included aircraft, submersibles and computers.

Over the next five years approved Federal programs will require about 30% more ship days than at the current level. The Study showed that present fleet (90 ships total - 32 UNOLS) can provide about 14% more ship days through maximum utilization. The net shortfall (about 16% of current level) can be made up from either charters or new construction or both.

ICMSE has accepted this report and has recommended a substantial increase in budgeting to meet the anticipated shortfalls. The Federal Council for Science and Technology is holding back, however, pending more substantive planning efforts.

11. Law of the Sea and Foreign Clearances

Dr. John A. Knauss reported on the recent LOS Conference at Geneva. He noted that a 200-mile economic zone is inevitable and science activities therein will bear the closest scrutiny by each coastal state. He has recommended that UNOLS Members work as a group in an attempt to develop the most effective relationship in dealing with coastal nations. It was agreed that he would develop proposed arrangements using the Advisory Council as a working group.

Mr. William A. Erb, new Research Vessel Clearance Officer at the Department of State was introduced. He is now available to discuss and act on research clearance matters. (His telephone number is (202) 632-0650)

12. Bureau of Land Management Programs

Dr. Frank Monastero of BLM described the seagoing programs of that agency. These are principally to assess the effects of oil and gas exploration and exploitation in about seventeen offshore areas. The usual procedure is to proceed through a contractor on an RFP basis. Current work is in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaskan areas. Forthcoming studies will be on the mid-Atlantic Bight, Georges Bank, Blake Plateau and Southern California areas. These and other programs will continue for at least five years. Ship time needs are significant (250 days for Georges Bank alone) and BLM is considering the procurement of a ship full time for BLM work.

13. IPOD Site Surveys

Dr. Marc Langseth of Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory described the future site surveys required for the Ocean Drilling Program. About twelve Atlantic and nine Pacific sites require surveys which can require as much as 6 months ship time each in 1976 and 1977. Noting that only 2-1/3 ship months is programmed by NSF ship support in 1976, the Deep Sea Drilling Program is examining additional sources of funding.

14. Election of Officers

John A. Knauss (URI) and George Shor (Scripps) were re-elected to a second one-year term as Chairman and Vice Chairman of UNOLS respectively.

15. ALPHA HELIX and EASTWARD Review Committees

On the nomination of the Advisory Council the following were appointed to Review Committees as indicated:

R/V ALPHA HELIX

R/V EASTWARD

Dr. James Case, U. of Calif.
Santa Barbara
Dr. Samuel Gurin, Univ. Florida

Dr. Lynton Land, Univ. of Texas
Dr. W. F. Ryan, Lamont-Doherty

Remaining Members of the Committees are:

Dr. Ladd Prosser, Chairman
Univ. of Illinois
Dr. Wm. M. Sackett, Texas A&M
Dr. Andrew Benson, Scripps
Dr. Edward Chin, Univ. Georgia
Dr. Vera Alexander, Univ. Alaska
Dr. H. Burr Steinbach, Oceanic
Foundation

Dr. Dirk Frankenberg, Chairman
Univ. of North Carolina
Dr. Donald Atwood, Univ. of P.R.
Dr. Richard Barber, Duke Univ.
Dr. James Carpenter, Univ. Miami
Dr. Reuben Lasker, NMFS
Dr. H. Thomas Rossby, Yale

16. Advisory Council

The following were elected to the Advisory Council as indicated:

Dr. Grant Gross, Johns Hopkins Univ.	- 3 year term
Mr. T. K. Treadwell, Texas A&M Univ.	- 3 year term
Dr. Ferris Webster, W.H.O.I.	- 2 year term
Dr. Donald Hood, Univ. of Alaska	- 1 year term
Dr. Richard Dugdale, Bigelow Lab.	- 2 year term

The following Members are carried over:

Dr. Patrick L. Parker, Univ. of Texas	exp. 7/1/76
Dr. Adrian F. Richards, Lehigh Univ.	exp. 7/1/76

(Note: Immediately following the meeting, the newly elected Advisory Council met and elected Dr. Richard Dugdale as Chairman).

17. UNOLS Membership

Twenty-six institutions are now Associate Members and approximately ten additional are pending action. The change of Nova University from regular member to associate member was noted. The application by University of Texas for full membership was approved. Membership will be represented by the Marine Science Institute (Laboratories at Galveston and Port Aransas).

R. P. Dinsmore
Executive Secretary, UNOLS