

Highlight Summary

UNOLS Advisory Council Meeting

Highlights of the January 6, 1983 Advisory Council meeting are presented for your convenience.

- Council establishes a subcommittee to address the issue of International Restrictions to Ocean Science Research, Robert Corell, Chairman. (pp. 1,2)
- Advisory Council Standing Roles reviewed. (pp. 2-5)
- Council establishes a subcommittee on Specialized Instrumentation Facilities, Roger Larson, Chairman. (pp. 4,5)
- Council recommended procedure for assuring timeliness of submission of science proposals requiring ship time. (This recommendation originated with G. Shor, Scripps.) (p. 5)
- Advisory Council realigned standing roles. (p. 5)
- UNOLS meetings scheduled:

Advisory Council	March 14, 1983	Boulder, CO
ALVIN Review Committee	April 21, 22, 1983	Woods Hole, MA
E-W Ship Scheduling	May 25, 1983	Washington, DC
Advisory Council	May 25, 1983	Washington, DC
UNOLS Semiannual	May 26, 27, 1983	Washington, DC

Advisory Council Meeting
Mount Ada Marine Conference Center
Avalon, Santa Catalina Island, California

Minutes of the Meeting, January 6, 1983

Advisory Council members and the Oceanographic Facilities and Support Section, National Science Foundation liaison representative convened at 8:00 a.m. in the Mount Ada Marine Conference Center, Santa Catalina. The meeting was called to order at 8:45 a.m. by Chairman Bruce Robison. The following were present:

Advisory Council

Robison, B.H., Chairman
Corell, R.W.
Frankenberg, D., *ex-officio*
Gorsline, D.S.
Larson, R.L.
Miller, G.B.
Spencer, D., *ex-officio*
Van Leer, J.C.

Observer

LaCount, R.R., NSF

UNOLS Executive Secretary

Barbee, W.D.

The agenda is attached as Appendix I.

The minutes of the Advisory Council meeting of October 14, 1982, held in Washington, D.C. were accepted.

Access for oceanographic research: In introducing this issue the Chairman cited the Law of the Sea Treaty and the United States' position regarding the Treaty together with recent articles and editorials addressing the issue by individuals in the UNOLS Community. In addition, according to widely held information, the President will soon make a proclamation and legislation is being introduced that would assert the U.S.'s right to regulate scientific research within a 200 mile zone.

Council discussion centered on the advisability of advancing a UNOLS position on the issue of International Restrictions to Ocean Science Research and on Advisory Council or UNOLS actions which might be helpful in formulating a UNOLS position and addressing the issue. The sense of the Council was that broad UNOLS (and oceanographic community) participation should be solicited for an effort to monitor groups and events with the potential to limit access for oceanographic research and to formulate an effective and responsive UNOLS position. To implement that course of action the Council agreed that International Restrictions to Ocean Science Research should be a standing role within the Advisory Council (assigned to Robert W. Corell) and that a UNOLS Advisory Council Subcommittee should be established with members from among knowledgeable individuals in the community. The Advisory Council's recommendation embodies the charge to the subcommittee:

The Advisory Council recommends that the Chairman of the Advisory Council and the Chairman of UNOLS jointly appoint a Subcommittee on International Restrictions to Ocean Science Research. The appointment of this Subcommittee is based on the following premise:

Scientific inquiry and the knowledge gained therefrom is of fundamental importance to all mankind. The ocean science community potentially faces restrictions which can seriously limit access to oceanic and coastal regions critical to scientific inquiry.

The Subcommittee charge, therefore, is to serve as a Working Committee of the Advisory Council seeking to preserve the freedom of access to the world's oceans for scientific research.

It shall:

Monitor international, national and state laws, treaties and regulations affecting freedom of access to oceanic and coastal regions throughout the world;

identify and inform the Advisory Council and UNOLS membership about those issues which could limit access for the ocean science community;

make recommendations to the Advisory Council on the issues that need action and on possible UNOLS policy statements in order to help preserve freedom of access for scientific research in oceanic and coastal zones under the jurisdiction of the nation states, such as those identified by the Law of the Sea Treaty;

establish liaison where appropriate with government, academic and scientific organization or groups concerned with these issues so that coordinated responses can be developed in behalf of the ocean science community.

The Subcommittee shall submit a status report on the issues to UNOLS at each semiannual meeting.

The Advisory Council recommended that the Subcommittee be established with members:

Robert W. Corell, Chairman
Dirk Frankenberg
John A. Knauss
David A. Ross
Warren S. Wooster

and that Dr. Corell move promptly to secure the recommended members' concurrence and establish the Subcommittee.

Advisory Council Standing Roles: In addressing their standing roles, the Council evaluated progress made in each role, together with the need for continuing action and considered additional roles. During 1982 Council members' standing roles were (as reported in the minutes of the October 20, 1981 Advisory Council meeting):

1. Fleet efficiency and effectiveness - J. Curray
2. R/V User Manuals - D. Frankenberg
3. Replacement and addition of ship's equipment
 - a. Winches/wire - T. Rossby
 - b. Computers - (D. Spencer), R. Corell
 - c. Communications - J. Van Leer
4. Replacements, additions, retirement of fleet
 - a. ship design - G. Miller
 - b. Management - (R. Corell), D. Spencer
5. Specialized facilities - T. Rossby
6. Cooperative bulk purchases - D. Gorsline
7. Regional ship scheduling groups
 - a. East - W. Sackett
 - b. West - B. Robison

Fleet efficiency and effectiveness remains an important consideration for the Council. UNOLS' collection of Cruise Assessment Reports from chief scientists on UNOLS ship research cruises provides useful information to operators, scientists and funding agencies. Their collection should be continued, and a Council member should continue to monitor these reports (i.e., that standing role should be continued.) The Council did, however, recommend procedural changes:

The Advisory Council recommends that the UNOLS Office prepare a quarterly summary of Research Vessel Cruise Assessments for submission to and the use of the Advisory Council, NSF/OFS and ONR.

It was suggested that Cruise Assessments would be useful to the committee recently formed to review NSF's Oceanographic Facilities and Support Section. The Council agreed that this distribution of the forms would be useful but because of the terms used in implementing use of the form they urged that the UNOLS Chairman clear with UNOLS members the forwarding of this assessment information.

R/V User Manuals: D. Frankenberg has completed a report on the research vessel user manuals issued by UNOLS member institutions. It was the sense of the Council that this report should be distributed to UNOLS institutions and to funding agencies. The standing role on User Manuals will be discontinued. The UNOLS Office is directed to collect copies of currently-employed user manuals from member institutions annually.

Cooperative Bulk Purchases: In general, differences among institution's modes of operation, scales of purchase, geographic separation and administrative constraints preclude extensive collective purchasing. The clear exception has been in wire and cable where bulk purchasing has resulted in important savings. It is important that wire and bulk purchasing be continued. The charge for this lies with OFS with advice from ship scheduling groups. The Council standing role will be discontinued.

Replacement and additions of ship's equipment: The Advisory Council received a preliminary Report of the Winch and Wire Subcommittee (TAC) and a draft of this report was distributed to UNOLS membership in March, 1982. The Council directed that the report be accepted and final distribution be made. They also noted that the recent seminar/workshop series on wire, maintenance and operational practices effectively supplants a Council role on this subject.

The Council was informed that the proposal for a work shop on micro-computers (as endorsed by the Council in their May 23, 1982 meeting) has been submitted and is being funded. The effort to integrate microprocessor and microelectronics technology into ocean science will continue.

Communications matters of general interest to UNOLS are being addressed through a project directly funded to the University of Miami. The University of Miami effort includes: management and operation of a satellite communications system to serve oceanographic programs and the UNOLS fleet, reports of satellite communications usage statistics, a radio frequency communications function for the oceanographic community, and development of satellite communications user's documentation.

This direct funding arrangement supplants previous arrangements for the management, operation and documentation of satellite communications in the UNOLS fleet.

The Council agreed that while the ship's equipment issue remains vital to the UNOLS community, Advisory Council standing roles should be realigned better to reflect current community needs. (Newly adopted standing roles are discussed and listed later.)

Replacement, additions, retirements of fleet: The Council noted that they had repeatedly endorsed the concept of orderly replacement of the UNOLS fleet. They have recommended that UNOLS establish a working committee to prepare a detailed replacement schedule. UNOLS adopted such a recommendation at its October 15, 1982 meeting.

Issues concerning fleet management were addressed by the Council as a whole during 1982 in preparing their report *Composition, Distribution and Management of the UNOLS Fleet*. The Council will continue considerations of fleet management by re-assessing their recommendation in that report (in Spring, 1983) and through participation in UNOLS' National Expeditionary Planning Process (NEPP).

Specialized facilities: C. Miller spoke to the need in oceanography for specialized instrumentation, equipment and analytic facilities costing \$250,000 - \$500,000 or more. Such equipment is available in other science fields but has not usually been available to oceanographic investigators (even though such equipment could be effectively employed). The cost of these sophisticated facilities makes their acquisition by the oceanographic community feasible only under a strict cooperative regime--analogous to national facilities operated in oceanography and other fields. He urged the Council move to help make appropriate specialized facilities available to the oceanographic community.

The Council agreed to the need for specialized instrumentation and that a systematic effort by UNOLS and the oceanographic community would be required if these expensive facilities are to be acquired. It would be necessary to:

prepare comprehensive, well-justified proposals that were supported by community-wide endorsement and devise working policies and procedures to assure that expensive equipments would be available and shared among projects and institutions, (even though individual institutions might be operators and managers of various suites of equipment).

The Council established a working subcommittee, chaired by Roger Larson to address the question of specialized instrumentation facilities for ocean research. The subcommittee will examine the issue and provide preliminary information to the Advisory Council and to UNOLS at their May Semiannual meeting.

The subcommittee should include C. Miller and at least two additional members from the UNOLS community.

Implementation of the National Expeditionary Planning Process (NEPP) was discussed. Membership on this committee, to be appointed by the UNOLS Chairman includes:

Chairman
Advisory Council Representative
West Coast Ship Scheduling Group Chairman
East Coast Ship Scheduling Group Chairman
1 Member designated from each of the UNOLS Institutions operating Class A, B Ships, L-DGO, Scripps, U.W. and W.H.O.I.

Functions of NEPP include:

- a. Identify and prioritize major projects,
- b. Coordinate use and schedules for major, long-term big ship use,
- c. Recommend to funding agencies deadlines or target dates for ship use requests (and, as pertinent, proposal funding decisions) that will help with effective ship schedule planning and efficient ship operations.

In considering appropriate timing for the submission of proposals requiring ship time, the Advisory Council accepted and endorsed recommendations advanced by George Shor, Scripps representative:

Any proposal requiring a significant amount of ship time

*(10 or more days on Class A or B
20 or more days on Class C, or
40 or more days on Class D or E),*

must be submitted by January of the preceding year. Proposals requiring less time than this should be submitted by June of the year preceding ship

operations. (Flexibility to accommodate later proposals requiring small amounts of time on small ships should be encouraged.)

(This recommendation was advanced in G. Shor's letter to the UNOLS Office dated November 8, 1982 and distributed to UNOLS institutions November 16, 1982.)

The Council agreed to an additional standing role:

Identification of new design ideas for observational platforms.

Advisory Council standing roles and assignments:

1. Fleet efficiency and effectiveness - Curray
2. Access for ocean research - Corell, Frankenberg
3. Specialized instrumentation facilities for ocean research - Larson, Miller
4. Replacements, additions, retirements of fleet - Miller
5. Regional Ship Scheduling Groups
East - Sackett
West - Robison
6. NEPP (and fleet management) - Spencer
7. Identification of new platform design ideas - Van Leer, Gorsline.

The Council resolved that all standing roles, committees and subcommittees should be reviewed annually.

UNOLS Membership: Criteria for membership and associate membership, as expressed in the UNOLS Charter have evolved over the decade of the organization's existence. Over the same interval, the scope and nature of the oceanographic programs at many institutions have changed. As a consequence, the current membership and associate membership is not in strict compliance with criteria in the Charter. Potentially, changes in the oceanographic community could lead to further disarray. To address this issue it was moved to introduce at the UNOLS Semiannual meeting in May the formation of a Membership/Charter revision committee. After a brief discussion the motion was tabled.

The nomination process for UNOLS officers and Advisory Council was discussed. The UNOLS Chairman will appoint a Nominating Committee in accordance with the Charter.

Advisory Council fleet study follow-up. The Council decided to meet in March, 1983 to complete their re-evaluations of factors affecting the UNOLS fleet and, with respect to any changes that might have occurred to re-examine recommendations in their Fleet Study. The Council requested of R. LaCount that OFS/NSF provide an update of information in their 1982 *Projected Ship Needs for Ocean Science Research, 1983-88*.

The Council asked R. LaCount, Head, OFS/NSF for comments concerning their fleet study. Mr. LaCount declined to characterize his agency's reaction to the report, since it is still being assessed. He noted that it continues to receive broad attention within NSF, and has been introduced into the Federal Oceanographic Fleet Coordinating Committee (FOFCC) in connection with their integrated fleet study.

Schedule for UNOLS Meetings: UNOLS, Advisory Council, and Committee meetings were scheduled as follows:

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ALVIN Review Committee: R. Corell, Chairman ARC reported that the Committee had, on December 11 and 12, held a workshop and planning review for ALVIN/ATLANTIS II work in the Pacific in 1984. At the same time a final 1983 schedule was set. Because modifications to the ATLANTIS II will not be completed until Fall, 1983, the ARC recommends that LULU continue to support ALVIN for some 1983 work.

Because ALVIN is now tied to the ATLANTIS II, a major ship in the UNOLS fleet, and because demand for ALVIN is so intense, advanced planning for submersible research is becoming very complicated. ARC has formed a special group to examine the current planning process for ALVIN and suggest improvements.

The ARC is also moving to define improvements needed to ALVIN capabilities.

The Advisory Council endorsed efforts by the ALVIN Review Committee and moved to continue the Committee.

Other business: R. LaCount noted that UNOLS institutions have acquired vessels from excess lists of various federal agencies (e.g., the University of Washington recently acquired the Vessel BITT from the U.S. Coast Guard). OFS/NSF favors this practice and will cooperate and support institution initiative where appropriate. *The Advisory Council endorsed the process.*

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

William D. Barbee
Executive Secretary, UNOLS

WDB:gm