

UNIVERSITY-NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC LABORATORY SYSTEM

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

UNOLS Office, WB-15
School of Oceanography
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington 98195
(206) 543-2203

March 13, 1985

TO: West Coast Ship Scheduling Group
East Coast Ship Scheduling Group
UNOLS Members
UNOLS Associate Members
UNOLS Advisory Council
Federal Agency Representatives

FROM: William D. Barbee
Executive Secretary, UNOLS

SUBJECT: West Coast Ship Scheduling Group Meeting,
March 11, 1985

This distributes the report of the West Coast Ship Scheduling Group held March 11, 1985 in La Jolla, California. Schedules for West Coast ships suggest moderate to heavy use in 1986. Cost projections are high. Although the schedules for a few ships include nearly all funded projects, most include a high percentage of not-yet-funded projects (not unusual prior to June funding decisions). Because of pressure to do Antarctic/Southern Ocean work and some other remote work, several ships have alternative schedules. Some sorting out remains to pick up all funded projects and at the same time arrive at effective schedules for all ships.

WDB:JD

Enclosure

UNIVERSITY - NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC LABORATORY SYSTEM

West Coast Ship Scheduling Group
Report of Meeting
March 11, 1985
Room 114, Scripps Building
Scripps Institution of Oceanography
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California

The West Coast Ship Scheduling Group met at 9:00 a.m., March 11, 1985 at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brian Lewis, University of Washington. The order of business followed the agenda distributed before the meeting (Appendix I).

Attendees:

George Shor, Scripps
Jim William, Scripps
Don Newman, USC
Bruce Robison,*UCSB
Ken Palfrey, OSU

Brian Lewis, UW
K. W. Jeffers, UW
Dolly Dieter, UA
Frisbee Campbell, UH
Bob Dinsmore,**WHOI
Bill Barbee, UNOLS

* Advisory Council representative

**Chairman, East Coast Ship Scheduling Group



1985 Schedules Schedules for 1985 will be updated on the UNOLS bulletin board: SHIP.SCHED85. (Note that SHIP.SCHED84 will be discontinued.) Some relatively important changes have been made since October, 1984.

University of Alaska. The ALPHA HELIX has 155 days scheduled for 1985. This is a stronger schedule than in recent years, but about 30 days less than earlier projections for 1985. Project ISHTAR in the north Bering Sea dominates the schedule that also includes ice edge and other research in the Bering together with some local work near Seward. The ALPHA HELIX receives very few requests for winter work.

University of Hawaii. The MOANA WAVE is scheduled for 331 days. The ship will work off South America until June (including Peru site survey) then return to Hawaii before work on Gorda-Juan de Fuca, sponsored by Canadians and MMS. The remainder of 1985 (October-December) will be in the western Pacific (AID-sponsored).

The University of Hawaii has some local work, suitable for a small vessel and difficult to schedule on the MOANA WAVE.

University of Washington. The THOMPSON has a strong schedule of 272 days. The ship will work down the coast to San Diego, transect the Pacific at latitude 24N, support WEPOCS in the Bismark Sea, transect the Pacific westward at latitude 47N, support current meter recovery operation in the north central Pacific, work in the northern Marianas and end the year in Japan.

The BARNES is heavily scheduled with over 200 days in Puget Sound.

Oregon State University. The WECOMA has 212 days scheduled, with an open period in December. The ship will work off Peru and Ecuador through April and then return to Newport for maintenance. Work will be off Washington, Oregon and California June through November.

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories. The CAYUSE has 119 days scheduled in 1985, 78 supported by NSF, 11 by ONR and 30 by state and local authorities. Work is regional.

University of Southern California. The VELERO IV has 85 days scheduled for 1985, all local. Plans are to begin transferring equipment to a replacement vessel in September.

Scripps. The MELVILLE has 259 days scheduled for 1985. After biological studies near the Galapagos and bottom lander work off southern California, the ship will work out of Honolulu June through October, on projects TROPIC HEAT, PRPOOS, ISHTE and on benthic biology. The last project of the year will be a bottom lander project off southern California.

The WASHINGTON, scheduled for 254 days, will complete work off Capetown in March to do SEABEAM surveys near Tristan de Cunha in April, May and in June work with the CONRAD on a two ship seismic study on the East Pacific Rise. After a June-September overhaul, the ship will support bottom seismology work near Clipperton Island (September-October) SEABEAM surveys to Pago Pago (October-November) and then petrology and geochemistry in Lau Basins/Houre Trough to mid January, 1986.

The NEW HORIZON is scheduled for 191 days, in the Gulf of California (March), East Pacific Rise (April) and off Southern California (June-December). Half of the work is sponsored by NSF, the rest by University of California, DOE and ONR.

The ROBERT G. SPROUL, scheduled for 160 days will complete lab installation in April and work mainly off southern California until mid November. Nearly all projects are of 3-10 days' duration. Plans are to install a bowthruster in mid November.

Costs for 1985 are shown on attached table, 1985 Cost Estimates. Since October, 1984 estimated costs for the West Coast portion of the UNOLS fleet have decreased by \$900K, from \$17.22M to \$16.32M. The NSF share has fallen from \$13.61M to \$12.52M, a decrease of \$1090K.

1986 Schedules and Cost Estimates. A UNOLS bulletin board, SHIP.SCHED86, will be established to include 1986 schedules for West Coast ships (and after March 15, for East Coast ships). Early projections are for moderate to heavy use of West Coast ships. For some ships, nearly all projects are already funded but for others science funding decisions are still to be made.

Ship Time Requests for 1986 were exchanged among institutions and from the UNOLS Office. There was general discussion about how some requests might be accommodated, but funding uncertainties made it difficult to reach firm solutions. Projects not yet included in schedules have been identified, and scheduling solutions will be pursued as funding uncertainties are resolved.

University of Alaska. Cost and schedule projections for the ALPHA HELIX are currently based on 241 operating days, although best estimates are that about 180 days will be realized. Costs have not risen markedly over 1985. The 1986 schedule would begin with a N.E. Pacific study (February-March), with later phase in August and November, and with most of the rest of the year in the Bering, supporting ISHTAR and ice edge studies. Only ISHTAR for 75 days is firmly funded.

University of Hawaii. The MOANA WAVE projects a 1986 schedule of 311 days, about half already funded. Costs for 1986 are comparable to those for 1985 but, based on present projections, the NSF share would increase by about \$200K. The MOANA WAVE would support WEPOCS in the Bismark Sea, (January-February) do work for AID (February-March) and then return to Honolulu for projects AIDOS and SEAREX (March-July). After July drydock, the ship would do heat flow work Hawaii to Midway (July-September), and SEAMARC II surveys on the EPR and Easter Plate (October-December).

University of Washington. The THOMPSON projects 260 days for 1986, at costs comparable to those for 1985. The schedule begins with physical and geological work in the Yellow Sea (January), followed by WEPOCS (also scheduled on the MOANA WAVE), then a second phase in the Yellow Sea (March-April). After transit to Seattle, the ship would support project SOPER (May-June and August), sediment transport/benthic biology (June) and studies (July) off the northwest coast and project PATCHEX west of San Diego. The UW holds several ship time requests not yet accommodated, but funding decisions have not yet been made on much of the work. Problems remain in accommodating all

three proposed Yellow Sea phases and, potentially, in picking up work if the MELVILLE goes to the antarctic.

The BARNES is scheduled for 200 days in Puget Sound, almost all under NSF funding.

Oregon State University. The WECOMA has projected 220 days for 1986. Very little of this is yet firmly funded. Open periods remain, especially in January, February and November, December. Costs are projected at 1985 levels. Work will be off Oregon, California (March-May), to Hawaii in June, July and off Oregon for the remainder of the year.

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories. The Central California Consortium (CENCAL) has been signed. CENCAL continues efforts to acquire a more seakindly, capable vessel to replace the CAYUSE for 1986. Should a replacement vessel be acquired, schedules would include traditional MLML use together with about 100 days use for and funded by the Navy Postgraduate School. MLML would operate the vessel.

University of Southern California. USC tentatively plans to operate the OSPREY (VELERO IV) replacement in 1986. The schedule includes 170 days, at costs of \$1.38M, well above traditional costs for VELERO IV. The schedule resembles a typical VELERO IV schedule off southern California, with the addition of and as yet unspecified amount of work for USGS. Conversion would be completed in about May.

SCRIPPS. Alternative schedules are advanced for MELVILLE, each of about 258 days. Both options serve projects mostly already funded. In one alternative work would be mostly local save for ice edge work in the Antarctic in November and December. A second alternative, again with mostly local work would end the year in Papute after geochemical work. Late information that Antarctic ice edge work would also be approved for austral summer 1985-86 might lead to general re-scheduling. In that case a number of displaced projects would need to be picked up on other West Coast ships.

The WASHINGTON schedule is extremely full, extending even to May 1987, but also extremely soft. Almost all science funding decisions remain. After leaving New Zealand the WASHINGTON would do SEABEAM dredging, gravity and OBS in the Margueas (January-March), on Louisville Ridge (April) in the Cook Island area (May-June) and Tonga Trench (June-July). OBS pick up, seismology and refraction continue in Lau Basin (August, September) and Manihiki Plateau (September, October). In November, December area geophysical studies will be conducted in the Indian Ocean. Costs would exceed those of 1985 (because of more operating days) and would be nearly all NSF-funded.

The NEW HORIZON is scheduling 255 days in 1986, about two thirds NSF, and the rest University of California and ONR. Except for a marine snow project off Hawaii (April, May) all work is out of San Diego. Increased 1986 costs reflect increased operating days, especially in the NSF portion.

The SPROUL is scheduled for 150 days in 1986, except for marine mammal studies extending to La Paz (May, June) all out of San Diego. Costs nearly equal those for 1985.

In general review several projects not firmly accommodated were discussed. Solutions could not be reached, but as funding decisions are made some schedules may be drastically revised.

The UNEPC meeting held in December, 1984 was quickly reviewed. (That meeting report is being distributed in March.)

Winches and Wire. Discussion centered around the problem of a source for torque-balanced 3X19 wire. Since the previous manufacturer (U.S.Steel) has discontinued that wire, the new company (MacWhite) is still not manufacturing. There is no assured source now.

Wire and cable requirements for 1986 were furnished to Bob Dinsmore as input to pool purchases.

Computer system to register Ship Time Requests. Attendees discussed establishing, in the UNOLS Office, a computer-based system for registering and tracking UNOLS Ship Time Requests. A system developed by WHOI for their and NECOR's use was discussed as a model. It was suggested that such a system should allow manipulation (sorting) by any operator by phone line, input should be through individual institutions to UNOLS and that there should be cut off for very short lead time, mostly local requests (e.g. those received, scheduled and completed within a very short time). Criteria for purging requests also need to be set (i.e., when scheduled, when completed, when withdrawn, when not funded, other). It was recommended that UNOLS establish a system for presentation at the May UNOLS meeting.

Under other business FCC radio licenses and potential for cancelling them were discussed. Information on the status of the problem was exchanged.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.