UNIVERSITY-NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC LABORATORY SYSTEM

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

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March 20, 1986

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 17, 1986

This distributes the report of the West Coast Ship Scheduling Group Meeting held March 17, 1986 in San Francisco, California. Ship Time Requests held by West Coast institutions indicate heavy ship use in 1987. Cost projections for that heavy use are higher than will likely be realized. The scheduling group could not develop firm schedules or identify potential lay-ups without funding decisions that will result from April panels.

West Coast Ship Scheduling Group
Report of Meeting
March 17, 1985
Grosvenor Airport Inn
San Francisco, California

The West Coast Ship Scheduling Group met at 8:30 a.m., March 17, 1985. 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:

Frisbee Campbell, UH
Dolly Dieter, VA
Brian Lewis, UW
K. W. Jeffers, UW
Doug Caldwell, OSU
Ken Palfrey, OSU
John Martin, MLML*
Gail Johnston, MLML
Robert Douglas, USC
Don Newman, USC
George Shor, Scripps
Jim Williams, Scripps

W. D. Barbee, UNOLS

*Advisory Council observer

1986 Schedules and Cost Estimates. Detailed schedules for 1986 are on the UNOLS Bulletin Board: SHIP.SCHED86. Cost projections are shown in the attached table: 1986 Estimates.

Cost estimates for 1986 show a decrease from the similar estimates made October 22, 1985:

		$Million			
	OP Days	NSF	ONR	Other	Total
Estimates, Oct. 22, 1986	2,426	15.226	1.325	2.920	19.470
Reductions identified*	-	1.105	-	-	1.105
		14.121	1.325	2.920	18.365
Estimates, Mar. 17, 1986**	1,913	12.479	1.391	1.631	15.501
Difference	-513	-$1.642	+.066	-1.289	-2.864

*WECOMA reduced schedule (not laid up)
**includes NO 1986 costs for WECOMA.

It should be noted that the reductions to be realized in NSF (and total) funds will be less than the $1.642M difference, since the March 17 estimates do not include Oregon State University's WECOMA/marine operations costs for 1986. Those costs are currently in the proposal evaluation stage.

University of Hawaii. The MOANA WAVE has a solid 269 day schedule. Total cost estimates are essentially unchanged from October 1985.

University of Alaska. The ALPHA HELIX has just completed shipyard repairs and taken up operations. The schedule is for 190 days, the best in recent years. Estimates are unchanged from those in October.

University of Washington. The remainder of the THOMPSON'S 1986 schedule will be in the eastern Pacific, off the central and north American coast. Costs reflect a reduction to 252 operating days.

Oregon State University. The WECOMA is laid up and will not operate during 1986. Caretaker, maintenance and re-start costs have not yet been defined or agreed to. The lay-ups is an opportunity to put the WECOMA in a like-new condition. There is opportunity to realize many improvements if funding is available.

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories. The CAPE FLORIDA, operated by MLML for CENCAL is enroute to Moss Landing. The ship was transferred without winches, and efforts to secure the number and kinds required have been successful, but one more is still needed. A 162 day schedule is projected for 1986, more than half funded through the Navy Postgraduate School. Operations are in the CENCAL region.

University of Southern California. The OSPREY will not operate during 1986. Conversion for use as a research vessel is about one third complete with completion of Phase I and sea trials to begin in November-December 1986. The conversion is going well, with appropriate ABS approvals and Coast Guard approval on proposed manning.

Scripps. The MELVILLE is enroute back from Antarctica, scheduled to arrive in San Diego in early May. Remaining operations will be in the northeast Pacific. A small bottom-array recovery project will be picked up near the Galapagos. A Sandia-funded project has been canceled.

The WASHINGTON will remain in the Western Pacific through July, then return to San Diego. Two optional schedules are possible for work in November and December. The schedule is for 249 days.

The NEW HORIZON has a solid 259 day schedule in the northeast Pacific. Operations will be out of San Diego except for a loop to Hawaii June through August. Cost estimates are unchanged from October.

The SPROUL has 150 days in the northeast Pacific. The schedule reflects the reduction in days and resultant cost reduction anticipated in October, 1985.

1987 Ship Use Requests, Working Schedules and Cost Estimates.

Operators provided summaries of 1987 Ship Use Requests. These summaries included *funded* ship requirements as follows:

NSF	342 days
ONR	61 days
Other	238 days
TOTAL	1,141 days

In addition, the institutions hold more than 2,500 ship day requests for proposals submitted for April panels or to be submitted for panels in August, 1986. *Operators noted that ships operated by the West Coast institutions will have 1,913 days in 1986, and represent about 2,500 days if all ships operate full-year schedules.*

Estimated days of operation and costs, based on provisional schedules are summarized in 1987 Estimates, attached. The sense of the meeting was that neither the nearly 2,600 days of science project support would be funded nor would $17.46M be available from NSF for these ship operations.

Provisional schedules revealed numerous double bookings for:

- VERTEX
- SUPER
- Riser
- Pieper
- TROPIC HEAT
- West Coast, South America (e.g., Farrington, Codispotti)

In addition, decisions yet to be made could leave uncertainty concerning ISHTAR, transPacific transects and regional studies to support drilling in the west Pacific.

Because of decisions not yet made concerning science proposals for April (and to a lesser extent August) panels, operators were unwilling to rearrange schedules to eliminate multiple bookings. They were optimistic, though, that based on decisions after April panels, efficient schedules could be developed for early June UNOLS meetings.

Long Range Expeditionary Plans. No new information was presented.

1987 and 1988 wire requirements. Jim Williams reported that Don Moller at W.H.O.I. is now satisfied that MacWhyte can meet rotation - specifications for 3x19 torque-balanced wire. Jim announced that there is urgent need for 1/4" wire. There is none in the pool inventory.

1987 wire requirements were assembled to forward to Williams and Moller.

Liability Insurance. John Martin reported that general liability insurance for the CAPE FLORIDA was secured with difficulty and at a cost of about $43K for 10 1/2 months in 1986. Some brokers would not handle the insurance and all required elaborate arrangements to split the insurance. Other operators who had recently renewed their liability insurance reported that costs had at least doubled. The sense of the operators was that nothing could be done about these cost increases.

Recommendations Discussions were held concerning the need to reach firm ship schedules by or at the June UNOLS meetings. Operators were in agreement that it was necessary to achieve such a timely definition in order to: achieve cost-efficient and science-effective schedule for the overall fleet, identify the need for lay-ups and make timely recommendations for ships to lay-up, and reach a realistic basis on which to develop Ship Operations Proposals due July 1. The operators believed planning and scheduling should be essentially completed by early June prior to every operating year, not just for 1987.

The West Coast Ship Scheduling Group made recommendations in three parts.

1. *There is not adequate information at this time to identify potential ship lay-ups on the basis of provisional schedules.* Although numerous multiple bookings have been identified rational selections cannot be made because too much of the total schedule depends on science-proposal decisions from April (and even August) panels.

2. *The West Coast Ship Scheduling Group meeting in March should be eliminated. Operators should provide, by mail to the UNOLS Office, information on summaries of ship time requests, provisional schedules and summaries of costs and operating days (the same information requested for the meeting). The UNOLS Office should collate the*

material, organize total ship requirements and distribute the information to UNOLS institutions and sponsoring agencies. Since so many decision are dependent on April, even August, panels, a March meeting is not warranted.

3. *Funding agencies, especially NSF, are encouraged to make most (80%) funding decisions for science proposals requiring ship time by May preceding each operating year.* If, in the case of NSF, carryover continuing projects and projects funded after April panels account for about 80% of ship time requirements for the succeeding year, operators could achieve cost-efficient, science-effective schedules by early June. Required lay-ups would be identified in time to realize maximum cost savings, foreign clearance requests could be submitted on time, and planning could proceed more smoothly.

Election of Chairman. The West Coast Ship Scheduling Group selected George Shor, Jr., Scripps, as Chairman for a term beginning July, 1986.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40.

DATE 17 March 1986

1986 ESTIMATES

	1985 OP DAYS	1985 COSTS	1986 OPS DAYS	1986 NSF $K	1986 ONR $K	1986 OTHER $K	1986 TOTAL $K
MELVILLE	271	2,988	220	2,770	0	0	2,770
WASHINGTON	239	2,608	249	2,286	539	94	2,919
NEW HORIZON	195	1,479	259	1,018	157	DOE273 UC 321	1,769
ROBT. G. SPROUL	128	562	150	503	32	DOE 28 UC 40	603
VELERO IV/OSPREY	85	3,825	0	250K	-	-	250
CAYUSE/CAP FLORIDA	111	450	162	231	50	532	813
WECOMA	213	1,666	0	caretaker ?	costs? 0	0	?
THOMPSON	271	2,594	252	2,261	389	0	2,650
BARNES	150	206	162	201	0	20	221
ALPHA HELIX	153	1,528	190	(188 da) 1,484	-	(2 da) 15.8	1,500
MOANA WAVE	310	2,248	269	1,475	224	307	2,006
TOTAL	2,126	20,154	1,193	12,479	1,391	1,631	15,501

DATE 17 March 1986

1987 ESTIMATES

	1986 COSTS NSF	1986 COSTS	1986 OP DAYS	1987 OP DAYS	PROJECTED 1987 COSTS NSF	ONR	OTHER	TOTAL
MELVILLE	2,770	2,770	220	243	2,524	226		2,750
WASHINGTON	2,286	2,919	249	305	3,411	0		3,411
NEW HORIZON	1,018	1,769	259	253	1,030	125	DOE 195 UC 396 NASA 14	1,761
ROBT. G. SPROUL	503	603	150	150	486	58	DOE 33 UC 41	618
OSPREY	250	250	0	227	1,616	246	-	1,862
CAPE FLORIDA	231	813	162	222	459	45	495	999K
WECOMA	-	-	-	284	1,477	511	--	1,988
THOMPSON	2,261	2,650	252	270	3,010	0	0	3,010
BARNES	201	221	162	165	212	0	23	235
ALPHA HELIX	(188 da) 1,484	1,500	190	200	(198 da) 1,511	-	(2 da) 15	1,526
MOANA WAVE	1,475	2,006	269	270	1,725	59	215	1,999
TOTAL	12,479	15,501	1,913	2,589	17,461	1,270	1,427	20,159

AGENDA

1. Brief Review of 1986 scheduling costs and funding status *(Please provide 15 copies of the updated schedule and cost summaries.)*

2. 1987 Ship Use Requests *(Please provide 15 copies of Summaries of Requests that you have received.)*

3. 1987 Working Schedules *(Rough or time line. These will not be emphasized.)*

4. Ship Costs for 1987 *(Use forms attached.)*

5. Long Range Expeditionary Plans *(Expeditionary projects, Austral summer 1987-88 and beyond. Interface with UNEPC.)*

6. 1987 and 1988 wire and cable requirements *(West Coast Requirements to be interfaced with East Coast Requirements of their March 27 meeting.)*

7. Recommendations *(Raise any problems/solutions re UNOLS Ship Scheduling Process.)*

8. Election of Chairman *(Terms of reference for the Scheduling Groups say that chair should rotate among member institutions "about annually".*

Posted: Wed Mar 12, 1986 4:22 PM EST Msg: HGIG-2418-7084
From: J.MCMILLAN
To: W.BARBEE
CC: J.MCMILLAN
Subj: 87 OPS

Bill, in the absence of a detailed list of OSRS new or continuing grants that require ship time in 1987, the following is a list of major projects that will continue into next year or are scheduled to start in 87:

PROGRAM	DAYS
ADIOS	30
WEPOCS	? (Probably none)
VERTEX	100
ALVIN	30
TROPIC HEAT	30 (Not in yet)
ISHTAR	75
SUPER	30+?

In addition, the Drilling Program has indicated a potential for ODP projects in the Sulu Sea, the Banda Sea, Bonin Arc, Sunda Arc and in the Nankai Trough. Any of these that get funded would require a thirty day leg.

Beyond these, most proposed work will be reviewed in the April OSRS Panels, the results of which will probably not be know until early May. By the time of the semi-annual UNOLS meeting, we should have a fairly good indication of what will go in 1987 since the science programs will also have reduced budgets to work with, and we are all aware of the need to identify potential lay-ups as early as possible.