# FY 2001 OCFS Priorities Identified in Budget Request

- Continued support for the academic research fleet to ensure that required ship time and capabilities are provided to satisfy merit reviewed research project requirements for NSF-sponsored studies;
- Enhancement of technical and shared-use instrumentation support for research projects to reduce financial and management burdens on research project awards to sea-going scientists;
- Continued maintenance and ship-improvement programs to provide a modern and efficiently operated academic research fleet for effective support for a diverse set of research projects from all fields of oceanographic and environmental sciences; and
- Increased support for quality improvement activities in operations and technical services programs.

#### **FY 2001 Budget to Congress**

NSF Requested Overall 17.3% Increase Ocean Sciences Request +22.2% Facilities Request +27.3%

NSF Plan is to double budget in 5 years.

10/13: Congress approved overall NSF +13.6%, largest increase ever.

Details of Ocean Sciences budget to be resolved in coming weeks, but very positive compared to recent years.

#### **Recent NSF Personnel Changes**

- Dr. Margaret Leinen joined NSF 01/00 as Assistant Director, Geosciences.
- Dr. G. Michael Purdy resigned as Division Director, Ocean Sciences, effective 12/00 (becomes Director, LDEO). Acting DD TBD.
- Former Research Section Head Michael Reeve replaced Donald Heinrichs as Head, Facilities Section, 01/00.
- Research Section Head search nearly complete (Acting SH Larry Clark).

## Recent NSF Personnel Changes, Cont'd.

- New Section (MG&G + ODP) being formed, Search for Head to begin shortly. Some personnel and program redistribution, but little effect expected on ship-related activities.
- Linda Goad, University of Michigan, coming aboard as Program Manager 01/01 to work with Dolly Dieter in Ship Operations.

### **2001 UNOLS Ship Schedules**

- Ship Scheduling process difficult due to conflicting schedules, overall increase in demand over 2000.
- Especially difficult for large and intermediate ships in Pacific.
- Positive side is continued increase in NSF ship use, up from 2000, despite essentially flat budgets in NSF research programs.

#### **Various Instrumentation Issues**

Robotic Drill Workshop.
To address needs for small drills
November 3-4, 2000, Texas A&M.
Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers
Recent tests of Phased Array RDI systems now becoming available.
1999 Seismic Reflection Workship.
Report now available.



### **Federal Fleet Plan**

- A Federal Interagency Policy for the long-term management of the National Academic Research Fleet, called for in Academic Fleet Review 1999.
- A blueprint of the fleet for the next 20 years based on past utilization and science requirements and future science trends and technology visions.
- To be used as a compass for Federal Government Agencies, Academia and Congress for guiding the fleet into the 21st century.
- To be approved by NOPP NORLC via FOFC.
- Plan expected by mid-2001.

### **Fleet Plan Goals**

- Distribute fleet resources geographically to best support science needs and optimize access to perform ocean research.
- Provide state of the art surface ships for performing ocean science research at sea.
- Maintain an efficient fleet capable of meeting future science demands.
- Improve Ship Utilization Rates and Quality Control.

## **Quality of Service, Training**

- Oceanographic Technical Service Program will continue to emphasize Quality of Service and Training issues in evaluation of operations and proposals, as identified by Academic Fleet Review in 1999. Important elements of this include
  - adequate attention to technician training, and
  - definition of levels of service that customers should expect.
- Plan discussion on "Service Standards" later in the meeting.