

# Research Vessel Science Inspection Program

Where do we go from here  
and how do we get there?

# Historical Highlights

- ◆ Early inspections conducted by NSF had a science component run by Bob Dinsmore (WHOI)
- ◆ INSURV program for Navy owned vessels has never had a science component
- ◆ NSF contracted inspection has a minimal science component

# Goals of a Science Evaluation

- ◆ Primary goal is the improvement of service rendered to the Scientific clientele
- ◆ Secondary goals include:
  - Uniformity of data product produced
  - Maintenance of high calibration standards
  - Uniform and realistic understanding of services provided by the Technicians
  - Ammunition with which to approach funding agencies for upgrades
  - Maintenance of high quality safety standards

# Institutional Considerations

- ◆ Each institution has their own way of doing business, most accomplish the same goal with different models
- ◆ Inspections must remain free of institutional bias of the NIH type.
- ◆ Clearly no one knows this business better than the people in this room

# Strawman

- ◆ Inspection team of 4
  - 3 Techs from different institutions
  - 1 Team leader, could be program manager, scientist, marsup or outsider
- ◆ 3 day inspection period, 1 sea day
- ◆ Inspection ends with a debrief where Tech group can provide input which will be included in report

# Rationale

- ◆ Much of the Science community and the entire NSF operates on the principle of Peer Review.
- ◆ Communication between institutional groups has proven highly successful in dissemination of ideas throughout the community
- ◆ Scientists benefit by uniformity within the fleet