UNOLS Report to DESSC

Fleet Renewal – Implementation

- Regional Class Ships
 - NSF plans to fund with mid-size infrastructure funding
 - Naval Architect is conducting study for NSF
 - > Preliminary findings Monohull design can meet all desired SMRs and stay within budget ~\$28M
 - Various acquisition strategies are under consideration
 - NSF may have RFP in the fall
- Ocean Class ONR's FY05 budget request to Navy includes funds for an Ocean Class vessel. Unlikely that it will be included in the Navy's budget. Funding is unclear. This is a major issue.

Design efforts underway:

- EWING investigating feasibility of acquiring a replacement vessel suitable for 3D MCS and convert for general-purpose capability.
- ARRV Will be sent to NSF senior management for MRE consideration for beyond FY05 budget
- > CAPE HENLOPEN Replacement
 - Specification and drawings complete by 6/20/03
 - Select Shipyard 10/15
 - Begin construction 5/04
 - Construction complete 10/05
- > URI/NOAA vessel?

Other Facilities

- Deep Submergence vehicle(s)
- Polar Icebreakers Refit \$400M (without science improvements)
- > Ocean Observatory facilities

Marine Mammals and Acoustic Permitting Issues

- Hire a UNOLS expert?
- Retain consulting services?

UNOLS Wires and Cables – Mike Prince will draft a performance specification for community review and input.

Quality of Service

- Post Cruise Assessments Council subcommittee formed to evaluate PCA recommendations
- Definition of Technical Services progressing

Ship Scheduling

- Ship time demand for large ships is high for 2004.
- Many programs are already funded (May panel decisions are just becoming known). Many programs were deferred in 2003:
 - > Permitting issues
 - > Clearance problems
 - > Funding shortfalls
 - > Scheduling conflicts
- Scheduling process will be challenging.

Annual Meeting – 19 September - RADM West (CORE President) keynote speaker

Nominations are needed for UNOLS Council positions

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Topics

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UNOLS Wires and Cables
Quality of Service
Ship Scheduling
Annual Meeting
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