

University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System

UNOLS Report to AICC



December 12, 2005

UNOLS 2005 Major Activities

- **Provided recommendations on budget shortfalls and impact on 2006 ship use**
- **2006 Ship Scheduling Process and Results**
- **Marcus Langseth Science Oversight Committee**
- **ADA Guidelines for Research Vessels**
- **UNOLS Office Review**
- **Fleet Renewal Activities and Status Changes**
 - **Regional Class performance specification review and comment**
 - **Ocean Class hull evaluation and recommendation**
 - **Global Class SMR Development**
 - **Decommissioning and transfer**
 - **Fleet Improvement Plan**
- **UNOLS Booth (#228)**

Budget Shortfalls and Impact on 2006 Ship Use

- **Clark (NSF) Letter to UNOLS outlining funding shortfall in February 2005.**
- **Ad Hoc Committee Formed in March 2005.** - Marcia McNutt, MBARI (Chair), Eileen Hofmann, ODU, Denis Wiesenburg, UAF.
 1. A short-term recommendation to address the 2006 budget shortfall.
 2. Provide long-term scenarios (3 years) for ship lay-ups and retirements.
- **UNOLS preliminary recommendations provided to Larry Clark on July 18, 2005, prior to summer scheduling.**

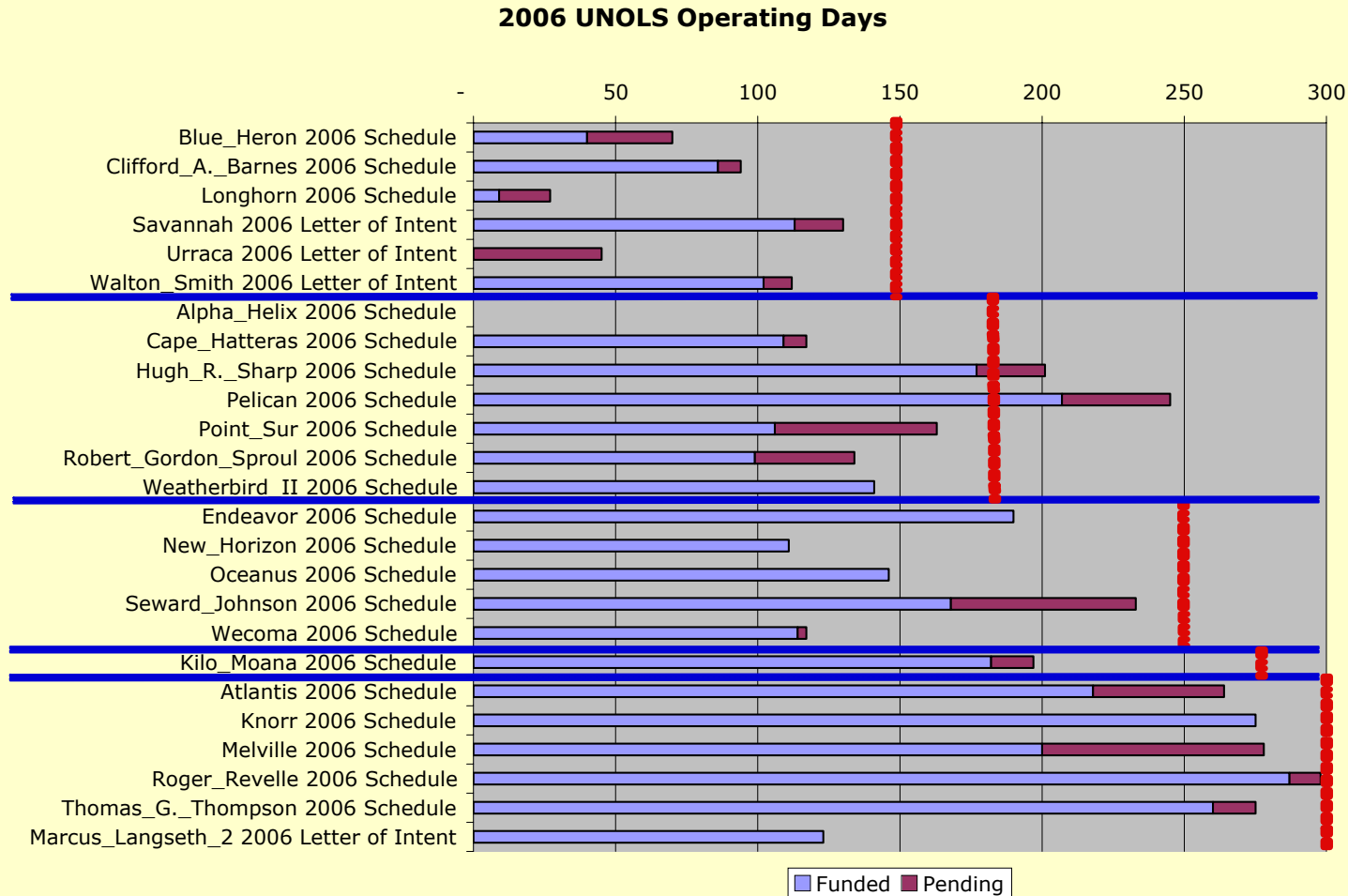
<http://www.unols.org/projects/UNOLS_response_to_Clark_July05.pdf>

2006 Ship Scheduling Process and Results

- The Ship Scheduling Committee meetings held in July and September.
- ONR advised large ship schedulers that NSF and ONR had come to an agreement to use rotating extended maintenances periods in home port
- A large portion of the shortfall in funds and ship days will fall upon intermediates and regional class vessels:
 - *Alpha Helix* will be in lay-up status
 - *Marcus Langseth, Oceanus, Endeavor, New Horizon* and *Wecoma* are working on the premise of partial lay-ups.
 - Many other vessels are operating well below optimal utilization.
 - Some institutions will receive lay-up support from NSF and perhaps from ONR. UNOLS institutions and funding agencies will have to work together in order to help with crew retention.

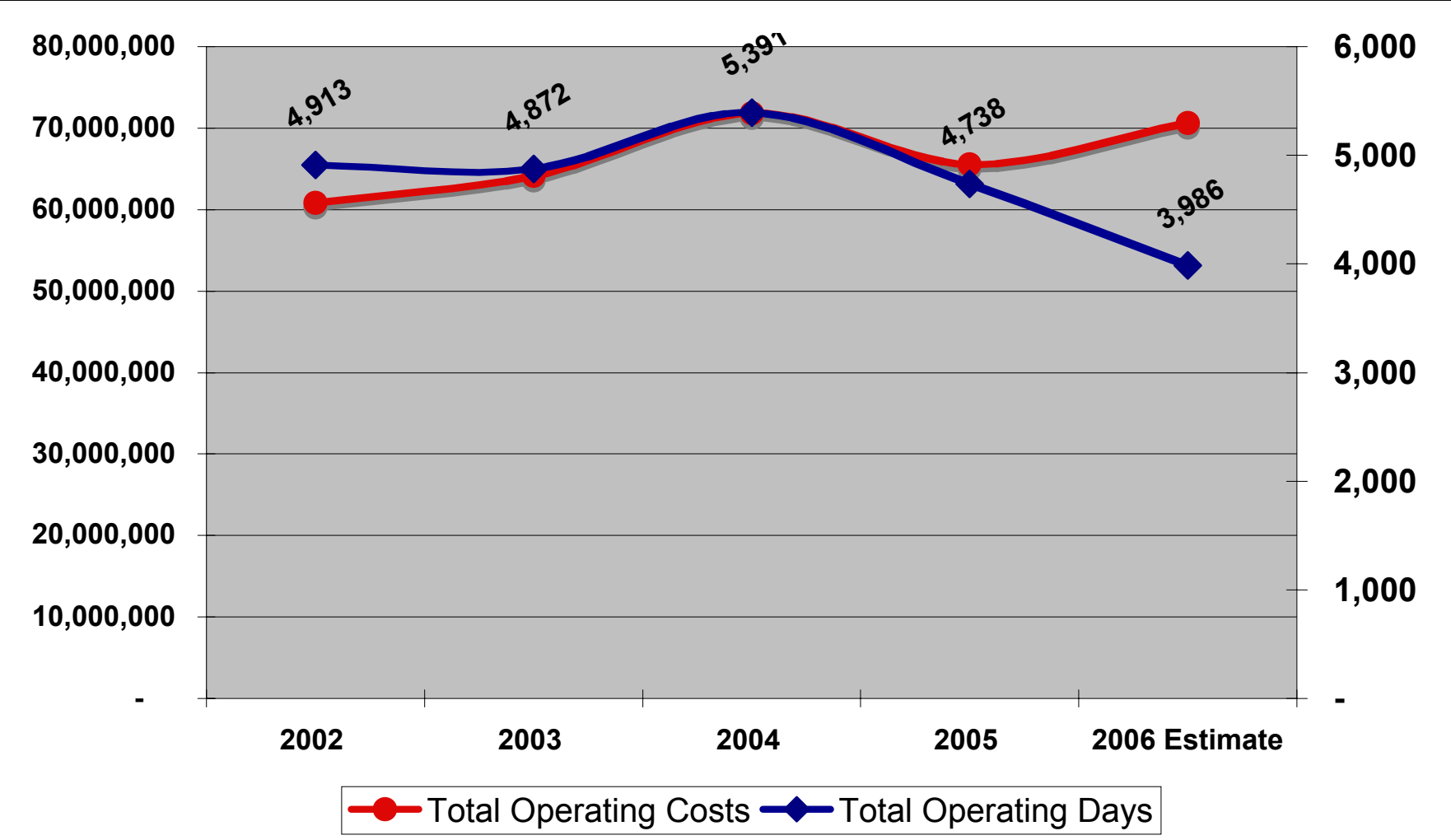
2006 Operating days = 3986

\$80M in Ship Ops & Technician Costs



Note: In the FOFC fleet renewal plan Ocean Class utilization is nominally 275 days, whereas the Global class utilization target is about 300 days. Regional class utilization is 180 - 200 days and local vessels are about 150 days.

2002 – 2006 UNOLS Fleet Operating Days and Cost



Summary - 2006 Budget vs. Cost and Future Ship Time Initiatives

- Projected budgets were fairly close to the projected costs of 2006 scheduled operations.
 - Appropriations are not final.
 - NOAA budgets are below requested in many cases.
 - Fuel costs are big unknown with huge impact.
- Need further evaluation of budget impacts on our long term fleet utilization projections.
- Additional analysis of delayed access to the sea and impact on seagoing science is needed.

Marcus Langseth Science Oversight Committee (MLSOC)

- A New UNOLS Committee was formed (Oct 2005) to oversee Science and Ship Operations for a National Oceanographic Science Facility (R/V *Marcus Langseth*)
- **Membership:** 9 voting members to include representation from 3D and 2D seismic, OBS and PASSCAL experience, and General Oceanography.
- **Appointments:** Steve Holbrook (Chair), Michael Enachescu, Graham Kent, Nancy Grindley, Mitch Lyle, Ray Schmitt, Peter Tyack, Paul Johnson & Peter Littlewood.

R/V Langseth Town Hall Meeting - AGU 2005

To update the community about progress on several fronts, the second R/V Langseth Town Hall Meeting will be held at the AGU meeting in San Francisco

**6pm- 7:30pm
Thursday, 8 Dec**

**Marriott Hotel,
Golden Gate ,A3**



Agenda:

- Langseth conversion progress report - Al Walsh, L-DEO
- EROCC report – Tom Shipley, UTIG
- MLSOC announcement - Marcia McNutt - MBARI
- 3D Symposium follow-up – John Mutter, L-DEO, CEI
- General discussion, Q&A

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Guidelines for Research Vessels

Background:

- NSF has indicated the need for new ship construction and ship conversion efforts to address ADA requirements.
- Vessels that support Federally funded academic research should be equipped and arranged as feasible to accommodate persons with disabilities.
- In turn, procedural guidelines to carry out shipboard operations and emergency procedures when persons with disabilities are on board are needed.

Membership: Terry Whitley (Chair and FIC), UNOLS Risk Manager, Safety Committee Rep, Seagoing scientists with disabilities, Ship Master, Marine Sup, Langseth Conversion Rep, RVTEC rep,

UNOLS Office Review

Conclusion and Recommendation

- The Council conducted a review of the UNOLS Office. On-line survey:
 - Leadership
 - Management
 - Functional Competence
- Based on their evaluation, the Council passed a resolution endorsing MLML to host the UNOLS office for a third three year term.

Fleet Renewal and Activities

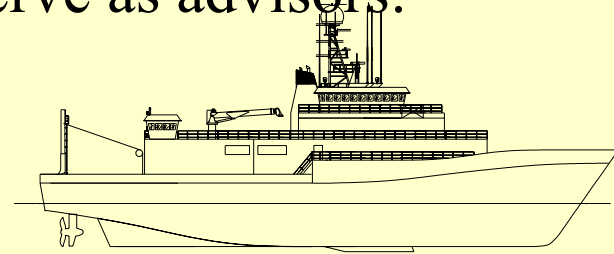
Regional and Ocean Class

Regional Class:

<http://www.unols.org/committees/fic/regional/regional_class.html>

Provided feedback to NSF:

- Community representatives to serve as advisors:
 - Technical Advisors
 - Source Select
- Operational capabilities
- Performance Requirements
- RFP issued to industry on Oct. 31st for design/build teams.



Ocean Class:

- Provided a recommendation on hull form (Feb 2005) – “Monohull”
- UNOLS poised to provide feedback

General Purpose Global Vessel SMR

Mid Life Refit considerations



2006 - *THOMPSON*



2011 –
REVELLE



2012 –
ATLANTIS

- **Global Class SMR Steering Committee** - Bruce Howe (UW), Chair
- **Tasking:**
 - Produce Global Class General-Purpose SMR document.
 - As a follow-on activity incorporate Heavy Lift considerations, and Seismic Capabilities
- **Project Website:**
<http://www.unols.org/committees/fic/global/global_smr.html>
- **Upcoming Activity** - Community Survey:
 - UNOLS On-Line Form
 - *Community input requested*

R/V Seward Johnson II

Transfer

BBSR has acquired *R/V Seward Johnson II* from HBOI and will retire *R/V Weatherbird II*.



- Late October 2005 – *SJII* began a 4.5 month modification and maintenance period at Lyon's Shipyard in Norfolk, VA
- March 2006 – *SJII* begins operations from BBSR



***R/V Gyre* Decommissioning**

- After 32 years of service, the *R/V Gyre*, operated by Texas A&M, retired from the UNOLS Fleet in August 2005.

UNOLS Fleet Improvement Plan Outline

- **Executive Summary / Intro**
- **Identify Future Science Initiatives** – includes major science disciplines, education & outreach, multidisciplinary programs, and cross cutting initiatives. – **Why are Ships Needed**
- **Current Fleet Composition and Utilization**
- **Future Fleet Projections and Future Requirements**
- **Recommendations**

~ **Working Draft Exists** ~

~ **Review Draft available March 2006** ~

Current Fleet vs. 2020 Fleet

Class	Number of Ships	Total # Science Berths in 2005	Days Available	Avg Op Days Used (03-05)		Number of Ships	Total # Science Berths (1)	Available Days
Global	6	199	1800	1594		4	130	1200
Ocean/ Intermedia	8	177	2200	1708		6	156	1650
Regional	3	39	400	469		3	60	600
Fleet Total	17	415	4400	3771		13	346	3450

Notes: **1) Berths: Ocean Class = 25, Kilo Moana = 30, ARR V = 26, Regional = 20**

Please Visit the
UNOLS Booth at Fall AGU
#228

Features:

- ~ **Posters and Movies** ~
- ~ **Deep Submergence Vehicles** ~
- ~ **UNOLS Committee Activities** ~
- ~ **Fleet Renewal** ~

December 6-9, 2005

End