

UNOLS Deep Submergence Science Committee



October 6, 2006

Annual Meeting Report



University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System

Criteria for Incorporating New Assets into the NDSF

- ✍ In the coming years there will be significant demand for new tools to support deep submergence research
- ✍ There will also be a need for uniform community access to them.
- ✍ NSF requested DESSC to develop criteria for incorporating assets into the National Deep Submergence Facility (NDSF).
- ✍ Federal agencies and academic institutions considering incorporation of a deep-sea research asset into the NDSF will request DESSC to review and consider the item for status.

Criteria for Incorporating New Assets into the NDSF

- 1) Is there a significant and established broad demand by the community for the asset and will this demand continue in the future?
- 2) How would the community benefit by having it in the facility?
- 3) Does the asset provide a unique capability to the deep submergence community that is not currently available from other facility assets and/or is the demand so high that a single asset cannot fulfill the demand?
- 4) Is the asset proven to be robust and beyond a developmental stage?
- 5) What is the plan for transitioning this asset into the NDSF and how will it be incorporated operationally into the facility?
- 6) What are the financial costs associated with the asset?
- 7) What is the mechanism for providing high-quality data products from the asset in a timely fashion that are easily accessible to the users?

ABE/Sentry Added to the NDSF

- DESSC recommended that the autonomous vehicle *ABE/Sentry* be included in the NDSF
- Concurrent with the removal of the two towed vehicles *DSL-120A* and *Argos II*
- The Council endorsed DESSC's recommendation in June



NDSF User Debrief Interviews

- ✍ In order to better track the status of vehicle and system performance, DESSC will conduct debrief interviews of PIs who use *Jason2*, *Alvin*, and *ABE/Sentry*.
- ✍ Participation in the debriefs will include DESSC, the science user, and the NDSF operator
- ✍ A standard set of debrief questions will be drafted (the AICC debrief questions as a template).
- ✍ Agendas for future meetings will include summary reports of these debrief.

Science Sensors for Replacement HOV

- ✍ A community on-line survey on science outfitting for the RHOV is being drafted.
- ✍ It will include both tools and sensors
- ✍ It will be announced when available.

Safety Standards for Human Occupied Vehicles



University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System

Establish Safety Standards for Human Occupied Vehicles (HOVs)

- ✍ NSF and NOAA tasked DESSC to establish safety standards for HOVs.



Committee Membership:

- Dana Wilkes - NOAA Representative
- Tim Askew (HBOI) – HOV Operator, UNOLS Safety Committee
- Colleen Cavanaugh (Harvard U.) – Science HOV user
- Pat Hickey (WHOI) - HOV pilot
- Terry Kerby (HURL) – HOV Operator and Pilot
- Dan Schwartz (UW) - Marine Superintendent, past Ship Captain
- Barrie Walden (WHOI) – HOV Operator
- Craig Young (U. of OR) - Science HOV user, DESSC

Agency Representatives:

- NSF- Dolly Dieter, Holly Smith
- NOAA – Barbara Moore



Document Chapters



- ✍ HOV Operations
- ✍ HOV Support Ship
- ✍ HOV Handling Systems
- ✍ Training Procedures for HOV Crew
- ✍ Science User Safety Guidelines



Project Timeline and Meetings

 **Timeline:** **Multi-year**

 **Meetings:**

- Phone and Web conferencing every other month
- Next Conference – October 31, 2006

 **Completion:** **before new HOV comes into service.**

Meeting Announcement

DEEP SUBMERGENCE SCIENCE COMMITTEE

Annual Planning Meeting

Thursday - November 9, 2006

Seattle Aquarium
1483 Alaskan Way
Seattle, WA 98101

8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



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