UNOLS Activities and issues



2007 / 2008









Data Management Best Practices

- An Ad-hoc Committee has been formed to report on best practices for the collection of data and metadata at sea to promote public dissemination.
- The membership represents a wide spectrum of disciplines and ship operations across the UNOLS community.
- The Co-Chairs are Stephen P. Miller (SIO) and Robert Arko (LDEO).
- The Final report will be provided to the Council prior to their late spring/summer 2008 Council Meeting.

Crew and Marine Technician Retention and Hiring Issues

- The recruitment and retention of skilled technicians and crewmembers is a critical factor for ensuring the high quality of UNOLS fleet operations.
- The ability to attract and retain competent crew and technicians for the fleet is reaching crisis proportions.
- The RVTEC and RVOC Chairs and Vice Chairs/Chair Elects, are gathering information from operating institutions to generate a list of tangible solutions to the problem.
- The list will be presented to the UNOLS Council for consideration and possible action in the fall 2007.
- Stay tuned...

ADA Guidelines for UNOLS Vessels

- Terry Whitledge has prepared a final draft of the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Guidelines for UNOLS Research Vessels. The draft document is in review by FIC and the ADA Committee
- ADA Procedural recommendations are being incorporated into the Research Vessel Safety Standard Update.
- NSF inspections of the UNOLS vessels will consider improvements that will enhance accessibility for various impairments. (Examples adequate lighting, removal of trip hazards, high visibility marking of obstacles, etc.



Al Suchy leads a tour of *Knorr* during the ADA Workshop (2006)

Science Opportunities on UNOLS Vessels - Web Resource

- Opportunities aboard UNOLS Vessel is now available: http://www.unols.org/info/cruise_opportunities.html>
- Each year, a portion of UNOLS cruises have available space for science and education opportunities. A list of available cruises aboard these vessels will be maintained on the UNOLS website.
- Chief Scientist can also use the site to recruit "Watchstanders" to assist in their research cruise.
- Individuals interested in participating on a cruise, can submit an on-line form with information about availability and areas of interest.
- The UNOLS Office will maintain a list of individuals who are seeking cruise opportunities and will provide it to Chief Scientists/PIs on request.

R/V Marcus G. Langseth UNOLS Vessel Designation

UNOLS Council approved UNOLS Vessel Designation for R/V Langseth with contingencies for successful completions of reflagging, conversion and NSF inspection.



Status:

- USCG Inspections are underway and successful completion is expected soon
- NSF Inspection early November

Appointments to Committees

- Executive Committee
 - Marcia McNutt, UNOLS Chair
 - Vernon Asper, UNOLS Chair-Elect
 - Deborah Kelley, Council
 - Peter Ortner, Council
- FIC David Checkley (SIO)
- RVOC
 - Matt Hawkins (RVOC Chair)
 - Peter Zerr (RVOC Chair-Elect)
- AICC Steve Hartz (ex-officio: RVTEC rep)
- SSC
 - Stan Winslow (SSC Chair)
 - Liz Caporelli (SSC Chair-Elect)

UNOLS Brochure

It is out in print!

- It describes UNOLS and the standing committees
- It describes the **UNOLS** fleet and facilities
- **Explains** 3) challenges ahead.
- Printed on recycled paper.

Challenges Ahead

Increased Operating Costs: Prior to 2006, ship use had been just under 5000 days per year. Recent cuts in funding to operate the fleet, increased costs of fuel, personnel issues, and maintenance have resulted in a decline in the ship time that can be supported annually by funding agencies (Figure



- expected as the Ocean Observatory Initiative is impl
- Aging Fleet: Many of the current vessels in the UNOLS Fleet are approaching the 30-year age mark when service life is expected to end Over the next decade 15 ships will reach their projected retirement date.

 Despite fleet renewal implementation and the addition of new ships, by the year 2020 there will be fewer ships to support science than is currently
- * Modern Fleet Needed: A diverse, modern, and distributed fleet will be required to carry out the recommendations of our nation's ocean research priorities plan.
- for increased demands made upon the fleet unless the vision of the Ocean Commission is realized and ocean science funding is increased as

All of these concerns have serious implications for the maintenance of a healthy and vigorous ocean research and training program.



Vision - A healthy and vigorous United States research and education program in the ocean sciences with broad access to the best possible mix of modern, capable and well-operated research vessels, aircraft, submersibles and other major shared-use facilities.

Mission - UNOLS provides a primary forum through which the ocean science research and education community, research facility operators and the supporting Federal agencies can work cooperatively to improve access, scheduling, operation and capabilities of current and future



UNOLS Chair: Dr. Marcia McNutt (MBARI) UNOLS Chair Elect: Dr. Vernon L. Asper (U. So. Miss.) UNOLS Past Chair: Dr. Peter H. Wiebe (WHOI)

UNOLS Office Personnel

Mike Prince - Executive Secretary Annette DeSilva - Assistant Executive Secretary Dennis Nixon - UNOLS Risk Manager/Legal Advisor Kate Sawyers - Administrative Assistant Laura Dippold - Webmaster/Project Assistant Aaron Payne - ASP.Net Programmer/Developer

UNOLS Office

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories 8272 Moss Landing Road Phone: 831-771-4410 Fax: 831-632-4413 Email: office@unols.org Web: http://www.unols.org

Revised - September 2007 or with vegetable based inks by Abrego Print & Copy



University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System



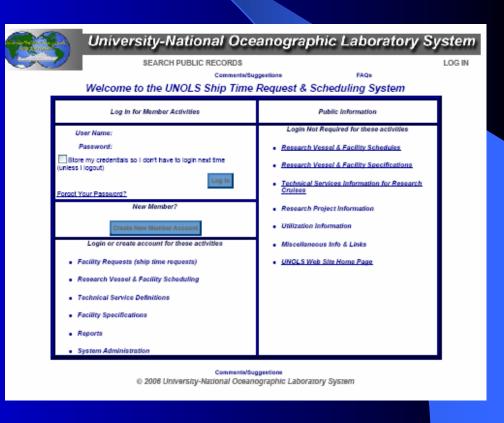
UNOLS is a union of 61 academic institutions and national laboratories involved in oceanographic research. This unique organization, originally created in 1972, ensures access to research vessels and other major shared use facilities that support U.S. research and education programs. UNOLS coordinates and reviews the scheduling and utilization of facilities (e.g. ships, planes, submersibles) for academic oceanographic programs. With the community of users. we review the current match of research program needs to available facilities. UNOLS makes recommendations for replacing, modifying or improving the number and mix of facilities, especially research vessels. UNOLS fosters federal and other support for academic oceanography, thereby continuing and enhancing the excellence of this nation's oceanographic programs.

Contact the UNOLS Office for copies <office@unols.org>

The new UNOLS Ship time Request (STR) & Scheduling Database is up and running!

http://unolsweb.cms.udel.edu/STRS/Public/diu_login.aspx

- All ship time requests have been entered into the new STR System
- Tutorials have been provided to all Ship Schedulers
- 2008 Ship Schedules are being created using the new system



UNOLS Dues Accounting

- 2006/2007 Balance Forward:
- Membership Dues Collected:
- Total Income:
- Expended:

 (Catering, Room rental,
 certificates/frames, Donations.)

Balance Forward:

\$ 850.03

\$1,800.00

\$2,650.03

\$3,400.91

(-\$ 750.88)

UNOLS 2007 Calendar

Committee	Meeting	Dates	Location/Notes
RVTEC	Annual Meeting	Nov 6-8	Monterey & Moss Landing, CA
AICC	Fall Meeting	Nov 27-28	Seattle, WA
DESSC	Winter Meeting	Dec 9	Fall AGU in San Francisco
MLSOC	Winter Meeting	Dec	AGU, San Francisco, CA
UNOLS Booth	2007 Fall AGU Meeting	Dec 10-14	San Francisco, CA

Please stop and see us at the UNOLS Booth 2007 Fall AGU Meeting, San Francisco, CA



End

Establishing Safety Standards for Human Occupied Vehicles (HOVs)

Document Status: All Chapters have been drafted and are in review:

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Definitions
- 3. Procedures
- 4. HOV Operations
- 5. HOV Support Ship
- 6. HOV Handling Systems
- 7. Training of HOV Crew
- 8. HOV Science User Guidelines

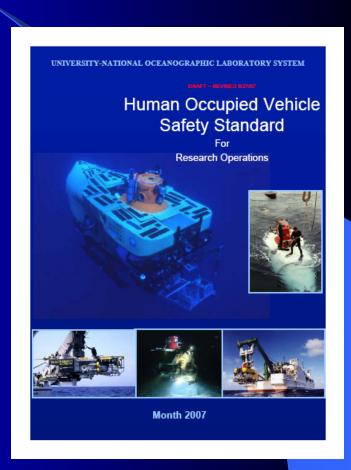
Committee Membership:

Dana Wilkes (Chair), Tim Askew (HBOI), Colleen Cavanaugh (Harvard U.), Pat Hickey (WHOI), Terry Kerby (HURL), Dan Schwartz (UW), Barrie Walden (WHOI), Craig Young (U. of OR)

Agency Representatives:

Dolly Dieter (NSF), Holly Smith (NSF), Barbara Moore (NOAA)

UNOLS Office: Annette DeSilva



UNOLS Council Election Results

NON-OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:

AT-LARGE: