

OER Cooperative Institute Update



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Deep Submergence Science Committee
June 16–17, 2009

OER Cooperative Institute Timeline

- ▶ NURP/Ocean Exploration Merger
 - OAR reorganization approved Oct, 2005
 - OER created Oct 1, 2007
- ▶ 2006/7: NURP East Coast Funding Cut
- ▶ 2007/8: Development of Cooperative Institute Prospectus
- ▶ 2008/9: Competition and Award

Cooperative Institute for Ocean Exploration, Research, and Technology (CIOERT)

- ▶ Managing Partners:
 - Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution at Florida Atlantic University (HBOI/FAU): *Dr. Shirley Pomponi*
 - University of North Carolina, Wilmington (UNCW): *Dr. Daniel Baden*
- ▶ Limited Partners:
 - SRI International: *Mr. Larry Langebrake*
 - University of Miami, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (RSMAS): *Dr. Peter Auster*
- ▶ Awarded May 6, 2009
- ▶ Replaces four east coast NURP Centers
 - Funding ends July 1, 2009

Research Themes

- ▶ **Advanced Undersea Technology Development**
 - *As applied to OER goals*
- ▶ **Exploration and Research**
 - *Priority areas to be determined by program with partner*
 - *Includes Extended Continental Shelf*
- ▶ **Research Focus: Deep and Shallow Coral Ecosystems**
 - *Applies existing resources (CRCP Research funding)*
 - *Encompasses aspects of all four OER Research themes*

Partnership Principles: Participate in full range of OER activities

- Information and feedback for planning and research priorities
- Education, outreach
- Data management
- Operations

NURP Authorization (PL 111-11)

- ▶ **Purpose:** ... “to increase scientific knowledge essential for the informed management, use, and preservation of oceanic, marine, and coastal areas and the Great Lakes”
 - NURP Director and national headquarters
 - A network of extramural regional undersea research centers that represent all relevant NOAA regions
 - The National Institute for Undersea Science and Technology (NIUST)
- ▶ **Funding**
 - 50/50 split between east/west coast
 - 10% program administration

NURP Authorization

- ▶ **Program Direction:**
 - Developed with a Council of Center Directors within 1 year of enactment
- ▶ **Competition for Centers**
 - Initial timeline (includes federal register comment period)
 - 5 yr recompetition requirement
- ▶ **Projects funded through Centers**
 - Merit based competitive review

NURP Authorization

- ▶ (1) Core research and exploration based on national and regional undersea research priorities.
- ▶ (2) Advanced undersea technology development to support the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's research mission and programs.
- ▶ (3) Undersea science-based education and outreach programs to enrich ocean science education and public awareness of the oceans and Great Lakes.
- ▶ (4) Development, testing, and transition of advanced undersea technology associated with ocean observatories, submersibles, advanced diving technologies, remotely operated vehicles, autonomous underwater vehicles, and new sampling and sensing technologies.
- ▶ (5) Discovery, study, and development of natural resources and products from ocean, coastal, and aquatic systems.

Ocean Exploration and Research Budgets

	2008	2009	2010
NURP	10.0	9.2	9.2
OE	15.1	18.6	18.6
Combined	25.1	27.8	27.8

NOAA NDSF and NDSF– Related Funding

	2009	2010
OER: Lophelia	\$ 500 K	\$ 500 K
OER: HROV	\$ 100K	\$ ~100K
PMEL: NeMO	\$ 200K	\$ tbd

Hawai'i Undersea Research Laboratory

NOAA's Undersea Research Center
for Hawai'i & the Western Pacific



Deep Submergence Science Committee June 16-17, 2009

HURL 2009 Dives

PI	System Dives			Topic
	<i>P-IV</i>	<i>P-V</i>	<i>RCV</i>	
Fowler, Mark	2	2	0	Marine Archaeological Investigation and Survey of the I-400 and I-401
Montgomery, Tony	0	2	1	Black Coral Density and Uncertain Taxonomy: What are the implications for the black coral fishery?
Edwards, Margo	4	12	6	Hawai'i Undersea Chemical Weapons Assessment
Wolfinger, Kirk	2	2	0	Investigation of the Japanese Midget submarines
McDermid, Karla	0	2	0	The Lower Limit of Light-Harvesting: An Examination of Photosynthetic Capacity and Population Structure of Deep-water Benthic Algae Using In Situ Active Fluorescence and Submersible Conducted Survey Techniques.
Moffitt, Robert	0	1	0	Collection of Bottomfish Community Faunal Organisms
Parrish, Frank	0	5	8	Investigating the Deep Coral Reefs of Hawai'i
Wiltshire, John	3	3	3	HURL Test & Training dives
Total	11	29	18	8

HURL Future Plans

Summer 2009: Submersible overhaul

Fall 2009: Hawaii region dive plans

Summer 2010: Possible Aleutian expedition

Winter 2011: NWHI projects

Planning:

Okeanos Explorer discovery operations

PL 111-11 Competition

5 Year Strategic Plan

NWHI Monument emphasis