



2009/2010 UNOLS Goals and Priorities

UNOLS Vision and Mission Statement

- ***Vision*** - The US Ocean Science research and education programs are healthy and vigorous, thanks to broad access to the best possible mix of modern, capable, efficiently run, and well-operated research vessels, aircraft, submersibles and other major shared-use facilities.
- ***Mission*** - UNOLS provides a primary forum through which the ocean research and education community, research facility operators and the supporting Federal agencies work cooperatively to improve access, scheduling, operation, and capabilities of current and future academic oceanographic facilities.



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UNOLS Goals (standing)

Promote broad, coordinated access to oceanographic research facilities

- Maintain a system and procedures that facilitate and promote broad access to research vessels and other major ocean science facilities.
- Support coordinated, efficient and effective scheduling of research vessels and facilities.

Support continuous improvement of existing facilities

- Foster co-operation among facility operators, funding agencies and research scientists with the goal of continuously improving the quality and capability of existing ocean science facilities and the quality, reliability and safety of their operation.

Plan for and foster support for the oceanographic facilities of the future

- Provide leadership and broad community input to the process of planning for and supporting the improvement, renewal and addition of facilities required to support the ocean sciences in the future.



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2009 Goals and Status

- ***Investigate the feasibility of a more flexible UNOLS to meet the needs of additional users.***
 - Discussion at the 2009 summer Council Meeting regarding work that is in compliance with the Research Vessel designation.
 - The UNOLS Chair will form a subcommittee to explore this topic further (October Council Meeting)
- ***Work with the Consortium for Ocean Leadership, the National Research Council, and the federal agencies to ensure that the fleet is right sized and has the right capabilities for ocean sciences in the coming decades.***
 - The UNOLS Chair and Ex. Secretary attended the Ocean Leadership meetings
 - UNOLS works with the federal agencies and continues to offer advice regarding fleet composition issues and plans.
- ***Continue to lower barriers to effective use of UNOLS ships caused by disabilities, gender, or other special situations.***
 - Plans for an on-line harassment prevention course is being explored (there will be an update at the October Council Meeting)



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- UNOLS and OPP - Explore the relationship of working with NSF's Office of Polar Programs to coordinate support for Antarctic Research Vessels.
- Greening the Fleet – UNOLS should explore how to make the present and future fleet more environmentally sustainable. New and existing technologies and practices should be used in the construction, operation, and recycling of research vessels and UNOLS should take a leadership role in promoting a green U.S. research fleet, as we move forward in developing the academic fleet.