

Regional Class Research Vessel (RCRV)

UNOLS Annual/FIC -October 2009

- Both final design packages received from NAVSEA.
- MOU with NAVSEA ended.
- NSF convened a “Panel of Experts” on October 7-8th :
 - Original Science Advisory Committee, Naval Architects, Marine Superintendents, Tech Managers, and Noise Experts.
 - Rigorous Design Selection Plan followed > Single design successfully chosen.
 - Science Support, Hull Structure/Stability, Machinery, and Noise/Vibration Control.
- Panel report pending (30 days)
- NSF actions to be developed based on Panel recommendations.

Proposed RCRV Schedule

- Move forward with “ARRV-like” process:
 - Phase I - Project Refresh
 - Phase II - Shipyard Selection
 - Phase III - Construction
 - Phase IV - Transition to Operations
- Following receipt of Panel report:
 - **Late 2009:** NSF Review of Panel Recommendation > Discussions with UNOLS Community.
- If construction funds are identified:
 - **Late 2010:** Release Solicitation for “*Construction and Operation of the RCRV*” > Review Proposals & Begin Phase I
 - **2012:** Shipyard Selection
 - **2013:** Construction
 - **2015:** Trials
 - **2016:** Begin Science Operations