New Principle Investigators, Post Docs, First-time dives …

NDSF - 2010

AT18-02
November 8th – December 3rd, 2010
Gulf of Mexico

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Department of Marine Sciences

AT18-02

- This was a very successful cruise, we obtained extremely good samples, which included sediment cores collected with the DSV Alvin, brine fluid samples collected with our new Brine Trapper System, carbonate rocks, chimneys, animals, amazing HD video, and nice images.
- We also had deck operations, which included CTD and multicorer launches.
- The amount of work accomplished on board by the different science groups was impressive!!! It was an intense but very rewarding cruise.
- I was able to dive twice with Mike and Sean as my pilots. They did an excellent job. I had Bruce as a pilot on previous expeditions.
- The team is very motivated, dynamic, and professional!!!

Dive 4640

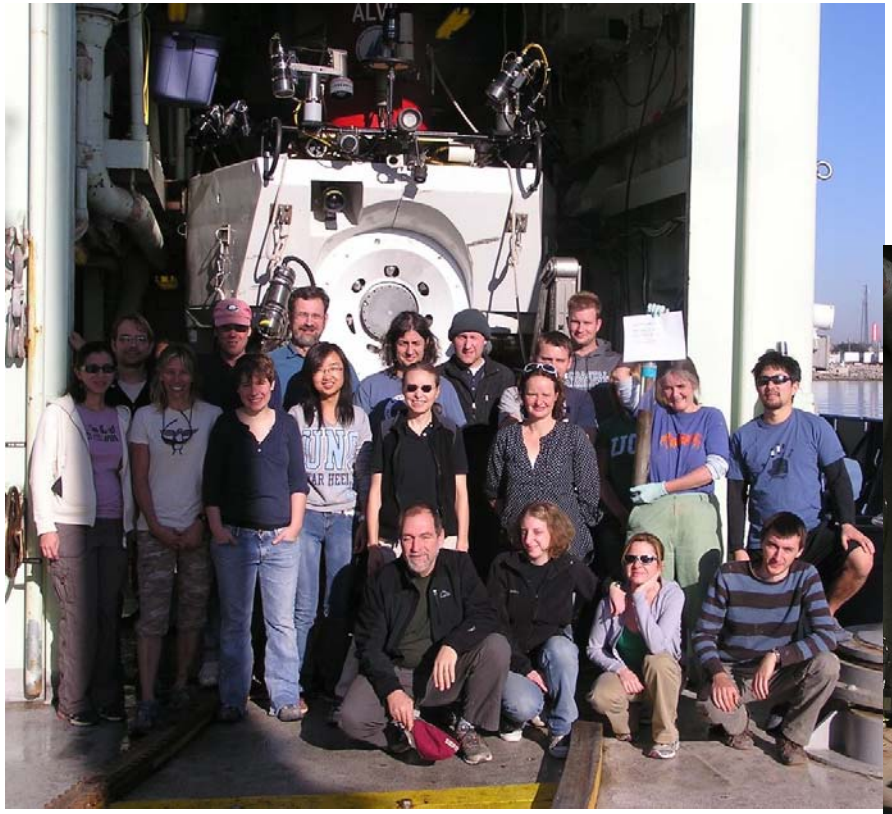
Samantha Joye and Melitza Crespo-Medina, November 11, 2010

- Dive 4640
- Pilot: Mike Skowronski
- AC601 Brine Pool
- Depth 2333 m
- It was a sediment coring dive. We obtained 24 sediment cores in the area near AC601 brine lake. It was a very successful dive.
- Mike was great! He did an excellent job…
- Lots of mud to keep everyone busy the whole night!!!

Dive 4642

Melitza Crespo-Medina and Sunita Shah, November 13, 2010

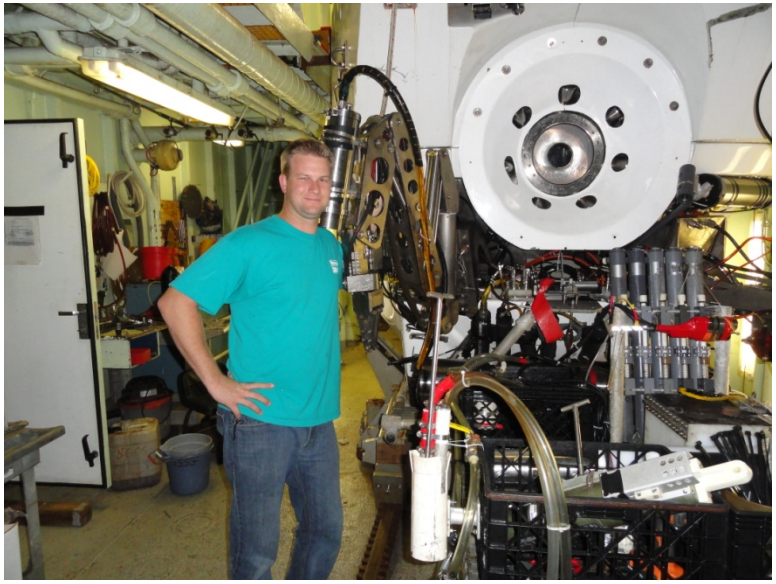
- Pilot: Sean Kelly
- It was a brine trapper dive.
- Sean did an excellent job obtaining the brine samples without letting the sub drift or touch the interface to avoid mixing of the brine with seawater.
- It was very successful!
- Everyone was happy about the brine samples obtained that day

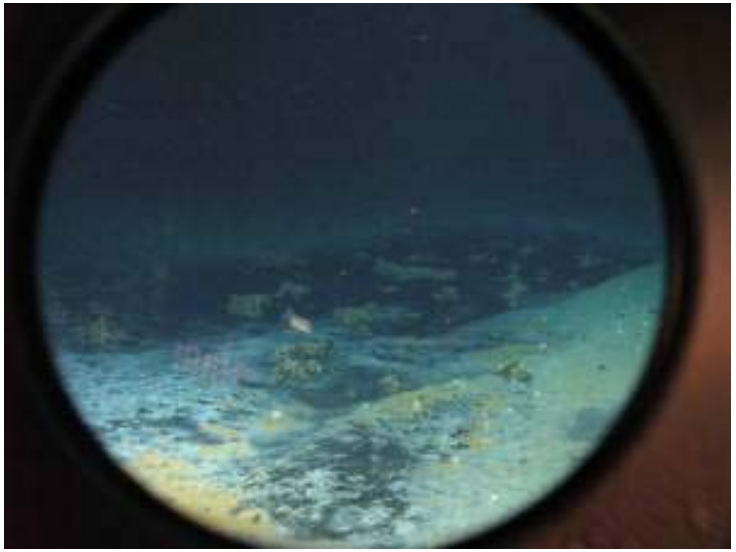


Thank you!!!

I am sure that the whole science party will join me in congratulating and thanking Captain A. D. Colburn, the crew of the RV Atlantis, and the Alvin group for an incredible job at sea. Thank you for making our cruise a very successful one with all your help and devotion!!! **You are a great team!!!**


Some cruise memories…
Photos by: M. Crespo-Medina, R. Viso, L. Nigro





Brine pools and associated seafloor erosional features (left) support chemoautotropic organisms (right) that can be observed and collected by Alvin's valuable basket of tools (top-right).

Atlantis and her well-trained crew are well equipped (bottom-right) to handle the daily *Alvin* launches and recoveries (right).

New *Alvin* divers are greeted on deck by their colleagues bearing buckets of icy seawater (right) in a cold, wet (top) celebration of initiation into the *Alvin* club.