



BP Research Funding for the Gulf of Mexico

Council Meeting June 14-15, 2011



Main Points from Bruce Corliss's Letter

- Letter sent 7 June 2011 on behalf of UNOLS in regards to the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative RFP-1 released by the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative Research Board.
- As you prepare your consortium proposal I hope that you will consider using UNOLS ships, underwater vehicles, and aircraft. As part of the national response to the Deepwater Horizon crisis, six UNOLS vessels participated in studies of the oil spill, which were supported by NSF, ONR, NOAA, and BP among others.
- UNOLS office, ship operators, and NSF were able to organize and plan scientific cruises on a relatively short time interval
- Over 40 years, UNOLS has utilized research ships owned by the National Science Foundation, Office of Naval Research, and state or privately owned vessels to successfully carry out a wide range of scientific missions.
- UNOLS vessels have broad capabilities; these vessels are staffed by experienced crew with a long record of safe and successful scientific operations.
- UNOLS fleet is a national facility that has a wide array of state-of-the-art equipment available to scientific users, as well as the technical support for this equipment pool. UNOLS office and individual ship operators are available to discuss logistics and cruise planning utilizing UNOLS assets.



UNOLS Efforts to date

- UNOLS Council Chair letter
- Tracking and keeping informed on the RFP-I/III process which has been established by Gulf Research Initiative and the GRI Board
- RFP-I Letters of Intent due May 9, 2011
- Proposals due July 11, 2011- Peer review process to be used
- 1.0-7.5 million each, total 37.5 million
- Announcements to be made on/before August 30, 2011
- Jon contacted GRI Board Members John Farrington and Dana Yoerger encouraging use of UNOLS vessel.
- UNOLS Office answering requests for information from Consortiums and individual PI's.



UNOLS Efforts to date

- RFP-III process- Time Sensitive, Immediate, no collaboration
- RFP-III Proposals due June 17, 2011
- GRI Board Review Process
- 50 K to 300 K, total 1.5 million
- Announcements to be made on/before June 30, 2011.

UNOLS Office fielding Questions on ships, rates, schedules and will help facilitate and inform to the best of our ability



BP Research Funding for the Gulf of Mexico

UNOLS Related Activities:

- Letter from UNOLS Chair on Gulf of Mexico BP RFP
 - Sent to 113 PIs who have submitted Letters of Intent in response to the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GRI) RFP.
 - The letter asks the investigators to consider UNOLS ship time in their proposed GRI operations.
 - Copy to:
 - GRI Research Board Members
 - Agency Representatives – NSF (including David Conover and Tim Killeen), ONR, and NOAA
 - Marine Superintendents and Council
- Follow-up activities?