

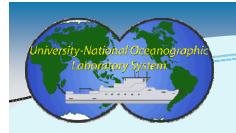
Highlights and Areas of Contention of Oct 24 FIC Meeting: Resulting Action Items

Clare Reimers FIC Chair



1. Fleet Renewal Activities

- RCRV is still in internal review at NSF- no change
- OCRV entering Phase II, design awarded to Dakota Creek, Joe Mackes gave a Design Overview. FIC pleased design meets or exceeds SMR specs and has some unique features.
- RV *Sikuliaq* on schedule for July 2013 delivery to UAF



2. Fleet Improvement Plan

- 2009 FIP needs updating
- Need to incorporate new Four-Class
 System into FIP (complicates portrayal of trends)
- Jan 1st was agreed on as due date for an Ocean Acoustics Appendix for FIC review (drafted by Dave Bradley, PSU)



Fleet Size Planning

- Major discussion of agency recommendation that: "UNOLS Council begin a dialogue with the Federal Agencies on how to reduce the size of the Fleet within the context of the declining demand, utilization and potential for declining federal budgets" (Bob Houtman)
- Looking for a collaborative approach for right-sizing the UNOLS Fleet that also minimizes funds spent on operations that do not take science to sea (e.g., layups)



FIC's Recommendation

Future decisions on Fleet size and composition be made <u>after UNOLS</u> (FIC and Council) work with the Agency Representatives to assemble data showing:

- Fiscal operational constraints (projected annual operation budgets)
- Research initiatives and geographic areas of interest
- A realistic projection of ship demand across classes



Further, UNOLS and the agencies should jointly evaluate the variables that make up the current and future Fleet including:

- Current and planned fleet capabilities (do we want no Regionals or Intermediates on West Coast by 2018?)
- Operating range and home ports
- Role of UNOLS in setting Safety Standards
- Operational Costs
- Ship Age and Condition
- Recommended Service Life End Dates



Immediate Strategy

- 1) Task Agencies and UNOLS Office to assemble data on restricting parameters and Fleet variables
- 2)Hold a series of Web/Phone Conferences to review data and formulate recommendations
- 3)If needed hold a 2-Day workshop of the FIC, Council subcommittee, and Agency representatives to finalize the recommendations.
- 4) Time frame: First Phone meeting Jan 2012



FIC Response to the COL Working Group Report

- In response to a request from Bruce Corliss to FIC a motion was made and passed to:
 - Hold phone meetings to review the COL Working Group Report recommendations on Funding Models for New Ships and to formulate a response.
 - Upon completion, forward the FIC response to the UNOLS Council.

Early Career Scientist — Cruise Training Program

- A motion was made and passed in favor of establishing a 3 year pilot program for an Early Career Scientist Chief Scientist Training Opportunity with one cruise training cruise per year. The program would be modeled after this year's cruise training program.
- Clare Reimers will be the lead PI on this program. She will work with NSF to determine program feasibility and ship/cruise options.



Hugh R. Sharp User Debriefs

• A motion was made and passed that this be the last year of the *Hugh R. Sharp* user debriefs. The data collected will be summarized into a report that can be provided to guide new ship construction and technology efforts.