

October 14, 2011

Tentative Agenda
UNOLS FLEET IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
The National Science Foundation
Stafford II - Room 555
Arlington, VA 22230
Monday, October 24, 2011

Important Note: If you plan to attend the Fleet Improvement Committee Meeting, please RSVP the UNOLS Office at office@unols.org. **Your name will be added to the security list for access to NSF.**

0800 Coffee and Pastries

0830 Call the Meeting: Clare Reimers, FIC Chair, will call the meeting to order and provide an opportunity for introductions.

0845 Opportunity for Agency Comments

0900 Fleet Renewal Activities - Full reports on vessel acquisition efforts will be provided during the Annual Meeting on October 25th. However, Agency representatives and FIC meeting participants are welcome to discuss any issues or questions regarding the following facility acquisition efforts:

- Regional Class Research Vessel (RCRV)
- Ocean Class Research Vessel (OCRV)
- RV *Sikuliaq*

0920 Fleet Improvement Plan (FIP):

- Discussion on the need for an update to the document and incorporating the new UNOLS Four Class System into the FIP (Annette DeSilva)
- Finalize Appendix on Ocean Acoustics for posting on the UNOLS website (David Bradley)

0945 Early Career Investigator Oceanographic Research Cruise Training Opportunity
– Report and assessment of Chief Scientist training cruises - Clare Reimers

1015 Break

1030 Fleet Planning – Review and discussion of the following areas will be initiated:

- Fleet Utilization – past utilization trends and future initiatives (Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GRI), Ocean Observing Initiative (OOI), etc) (Annette DeSilva)
- Day Rates and the Apportioning of the Fleet Budget (Annette DeSilva)
- Service life end dates and investment recommendations for Pt Sur, Cape Hatteras, New Horizon, Sproul, Wecoma, Endeavor, Atlantic Explorer (Clare Reimers)
- Agency recommendation regarding Fleet operations: “*UNOLS Council is encouraged to 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)

- Consortium for Ocean Leadership’s “Report of the Working Group to Develop Funding Models for New Ships” – The UNOLS Chair has tasked the FIC to review and provide comments on the report. Information about the project along with the final report is available at: <http://www.oceanleadership.org/2011/ocean-leaderships-working-group-to-develop-funding-models-for-new-ships-submits-report-to-the-board-of-trustees/> (Clare Reimers)

1200 Lunch

1300 Suggestions for UNOLS/FIC Activities at the 2012 Ocean Sciences Meeting (Clare Reimers)

1320 R/V Langseth – MLSOC/FIC liaison report - Sandy Shor

1340 Polar Research Vessel (PRV) SMR Refresh Project status – (Jon Alberts)

1355 FIC Guest Speakers – Identify special topics and speakers of interest to FIC for the spring meeting.

1415 Break

1430 New Technologies and System Evaluations:

- **Load Handling Systems** (25 min)
 - Update on the performance and capabilities of the *Kilo Moana* handling system. (Sandy Shor)
 - New CTD handling system on REVELLE (Markey)
 - New LHS for ROV *Jason*
 - *Sikuliaq* LHS (Rapp-Hydema) –Marc Willis
 - East Coast Winch Pool Portable winches (MacArtnery)
- **Long-Coring System-** (15 min)
 - Schedule of future long core operations (Clare Reimers)
 - Discuss future user debrief process (Clare Reimers)
 - Status of NSF repositioning plan to R/V *Langseth* (Matt Hawkins)
- **Hugh R. Sharp User Debriefs** - Summary of debrief interviews – (Clare Reimers) (15 min)
- **Greening the Fleet: Construction, life cycle, and recycling** - Greening the Research Fleet Workshop, Jan 10-11, 2012 (Bruce Corliss or Annette DeSilva) (5 min)

1530 Other Business - Opportunity for Additional Reports

- **Informational Item** - Multibeam Pool (Annette DeSilva)

1545 Review FIC Action Items and Assignments (Clare Reimers)

1600 Adjourn

1610 FIC Executive/Working Session – The remainder of the day is reserved for FIC members to address tasks and follow-up on activities addressed early in the day. Participation by FIC members only is requested.
