

Ocean Observing Science Committee members

- Larry Atkinson (Chair), ODU,
- Emmanuel Boss (U. Maine),
- Suzanne Carbotte (LDEO),
- Steve DiMarco (TAMU),
- Mary Jo Richardson (TAMU),
- Ruoying He (NCSU)
- Raphael Kudela (UCSC)

Charge

- Provide advice on decisions and plans from the science perspective related to NSF ocean observatories (MARS, HOTS, BATS, OOI, and others) and ocean observing support systems. These may include the US Academic Research Fleet, AUV/ROVs, and other unmanned systems such as gliders. The OOSC will not review proposals, but rather provide a research community perspective on the strategic, tactical and prioritization issues that project teams and agencies are addressing for the portfolio of ocean observatories.
- Represent science user perspectives. The OOSC will provide through the UNOLS process, the science user perspective to the project teams and the federal agencies that are developing, deploying and operating ocean observatories. The OOSC will develop a process and structure for effectively representing the community who use or who have interest in NSF ocean observatories and supporting systems.
- Provide technical advice. The OOSC will be requested by NSF to review technical decisions and trade off analyses to inform decisions and provide advice as needed. This may require establishing subcommittees.
- Project Reviews. NSF will conduct periodic performance reviews of the OOI construction project using personnel not associated with the OOI Project Team. The OOSC will be requested by NSF to observe (1-2 OOSC members) these reviews and provide science users perspectives.
- Evaluate best practices across Ocean Observatories. The OOSC will identify and disseminate best practices for ocean observatories across both technical and managerial regimes.
- Reporting. Reports of activities shall be made to the UNOLS membership on at least an annual basis and to the UNOLS Council at regularly scheduled Council meetings.

- OOI Focus
- Attending OOI science workshops (2)
- Participation in design reviews
- Main concern –
 - How will scientists use the OOI assets
 - What needs to be done to help scientists start to use OOI as it comes on line.
- Future – review NSF ocean observing assets

Recommendations based on May 16 meeting with NSF and COL/OOI

- Recommendations from the meeting are summarized as follows. Note that all are related to the OOI.
- Provide early career scientists opportunities including planning funding and available bunk space opportunities on ships servicing the OOI: no empty bunks.
- Climate Studies – Sampling rate relevant to climate science: organize a workshop that brings climate scientists and modelers together to address this issue and provide recommendations on the sampling requirements and rates to assure data are suitable for climate science.
- Data Management programs – Engage current cyber-infrastructure efforts– HOTS, BATS, Neptune, ARGO to learn from and explore synergies and, where relevant, possibilities of merging resources and infrastructure.

- Explore the feasibility of performing a full system test (one year) of a Global Array in a location near the US for accessibility if the need for repair arises. Additionally, the first deployment of a Global Array should not be in the Southern Ocean.
- A cooperative approach to science research at Pioneer Array - Consider an approach for collaborative science planning for use of the Pioneer Array that will optimize its use for its planned 5 year deployment period.
- NSF draft and distribute a “Dear Colleague” letter announcing the opportunity to submit proposals for science use of OOI.
- Expand external community involvement in OOI design reviews.
- The glider operations should have a re-compete clause.

- The framework for relocation of the Pioneer Array should be developed now.
- Other UNOLS Committees – OOSC needs way to liaison with them.
- Create adaptive sampling protocols.
- Plan to ensure long term deployments considering short term budget cycles.
- Policies to allow users to optimize mobile assets.

- A final recommendation regarding OOI Science workshops was discussed at length leading to these initial first thoughts.
 - Organized through UNOLS and OOSC with OOI collaboration
 - Engage the broader community
 - Participation by other UNOLS Committees
 - Incorporate an early career/student component (poster sessions, etc
 - Identify Workshop Theme (s) by (refer to OOI science plan)
 - Participation by other existing ocean observing systems - HOTS, BATS, MARS, etc
 - First Workshop in fall of 2012 – tied to coastal gliders
 - Theme - Coastal Ocean Dynamics and Ecosystems
 - Identify champions/steering committee
 - Multidisciplinary
 - Facilitator - a person(s) skilled in planning and conducting such events
 - Location – Convenient West Coast
 - Organization support – UNOLS Office
 - Hands-on Demos – Glider Data
 - Linking the OOI Infrastructure to science and other applications