



# Tech Pool and Tech Exchanges

2013 RVTEC meeting  
18-21 Nov 13  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, TX  
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# 2013

## A busy year!



36 cruises supported on 12 vessels

- 29 tech pool
- 7 tech exchanges/fill-ins





# 2014 Tech Pool and Exchanges

- 2-3 Tech Pool techs will be available
- Increased familiarity with the different vessels will make the techs even more useful
- Available for at-sea and ashore projects
- Use them to their fullest!
- If you have tech support needs or techs that are underutilized in 2014, let me know.

# NSF Tech Pool Host Solicitation



## I. INTRODUCTION

NSF is soliciting proposals from UNOLS Institutions to host a Technician Pool. NSF is seeking to provide Tech Managers with more flexibility in achieving the optimum staffing levels to support at-sea and shore-side work while at the same time provide a more cost effective and efficient mode of operation across the Academic Fleet. NSF recently instituted a process whereby the exchange of full-time technicians between ship operating institutions can occur without the burden of sending invoices and payment between institutions. This process can now be coordinated through the UNOLS Technical Services Manager (TSM) and accounted for in the annual reports and reconciled through yearly carry-forward negotiations.

The NSF would like to take the next step by establishing a process whereby institutions can utilize non full-time (contract) technicians through a technician pool. It is recognized that many institutions have HR policies that make it difficult to hire temporary/part time employees. Hiring non full-time technicians through a single UNOLS institution into a technician pool for use at other institutions will ease these problems as well as provide a recourse for operators in the fleet to deal with unusual support demands or unanticipated staffing issues.

The intent is to start the Tech Pool slowly by primarily utilizing the technicians who have been orphaned by the retirement of their vessels or who are assigned to the pool. Dependent on the success of the pool as well as the operating budgets of the Federal Agencies, the pool may be expanded to encompass a larger percentage of the sea-going support staff.