



# University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System ~UNOLS~

## Fleet Operations in 2014 & 2015 Non-Operator Committee to address Agency Recommendations





# Fleet Operations in 2014 & 2015

## Non-Operator Committee to address Agency Recommendations

### Non-Operator Committee

Wilf Gardner/TAMU- Chair

Tammi Richardson/Univ. of South Carolina

Miles Sundermeyer/UMASS-Dartmouth

### Response Letter Focused on 3 key areas:

- Retirement of R/V *Point Sur*
- Reduce Costs, Identify Other Funding Sources, Reduce Carry-Forward
- Information Item #12- West Coast Intermediates ship schedules



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**R/V Point Sur-** “Until decision is made on retirement or purchase of vessel, we can provide no further comment”

(Decision was made, MLML informed NSF, not to operate)

### **Find Additional Funding Sources & Reduce Costs- Observations**

No consistent trend on funding from states/institutions. Institution funding for infrastructure upgrades could be substantial. Doubtful if states will bring new money at this time.

Ship Operators could learn from others on non-traditional sources.

Operators seek outside industrial funding, within constraints. Possible re-write the rules?



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Greater onus placed on scientists and program managers to more carefully consider size of ship and number of days

Group Purchases on Insurance, Equipment, Fuel

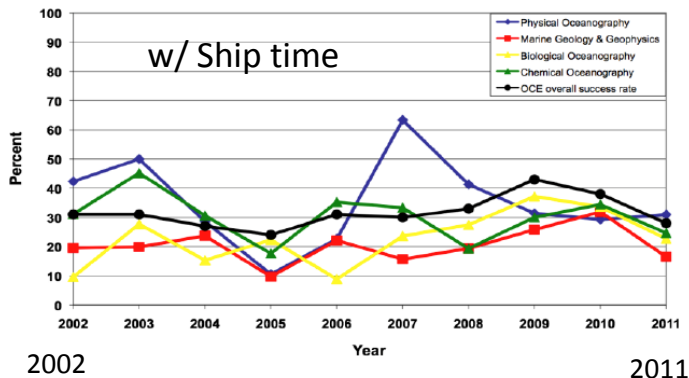
### **Carry Forward**

All steps must be taken to maximize days at sea with available dollars rather than carrying them forward.

### **Funding Cap**

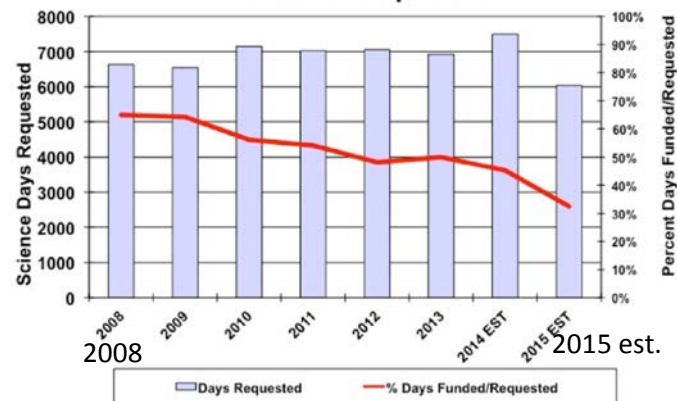
NSF is not allowed to fund any single institution more than 1% of total GEO budget averaged over a 5-year period, without special permission.

Proposal success rate with UNOLS Time Requests by Program **2012 COV report**

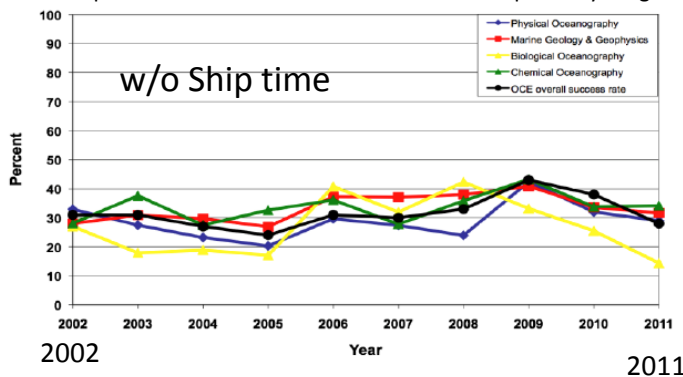


**9/19/2014 Non-operational Letter**

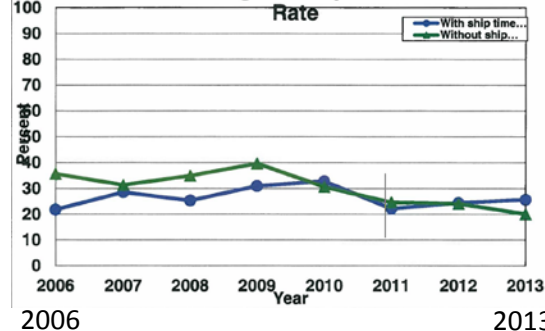
**Ship Days Requested and Percent Days Funded/Requested**



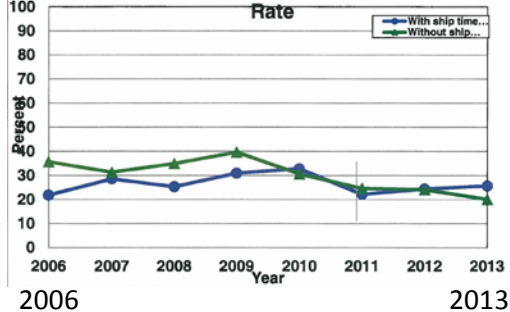
Proposal success rate without UNOLS Time Requests by Program



**OCE Core Program Proposals Success Rate**



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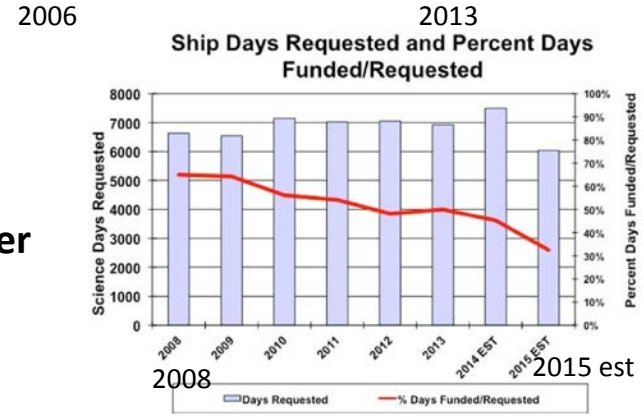
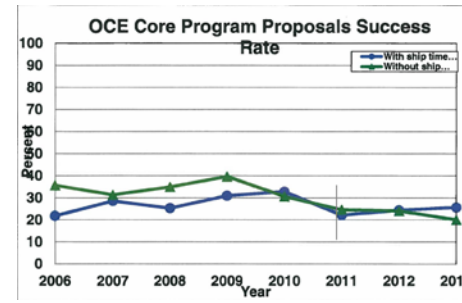
**10/10/2014 NSF reply to Non-operational Letter**

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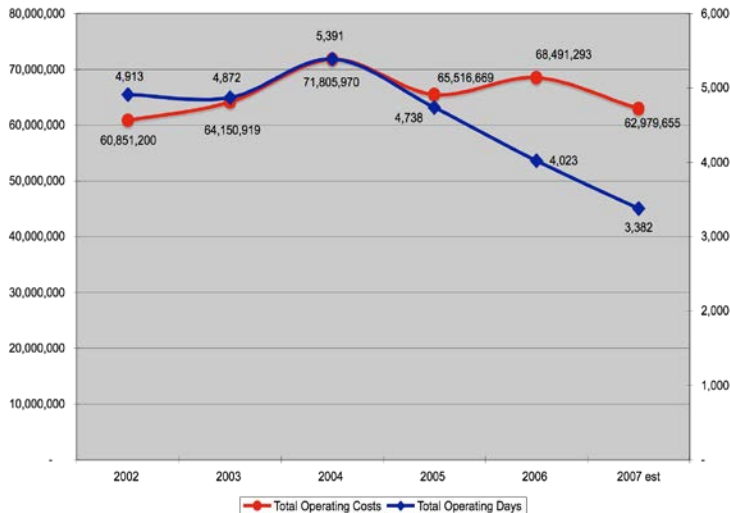
It appears that the decrease in ship days results from flat funding and an increase in ship operating costs.

**9/19/2014 Non-operational Letter**

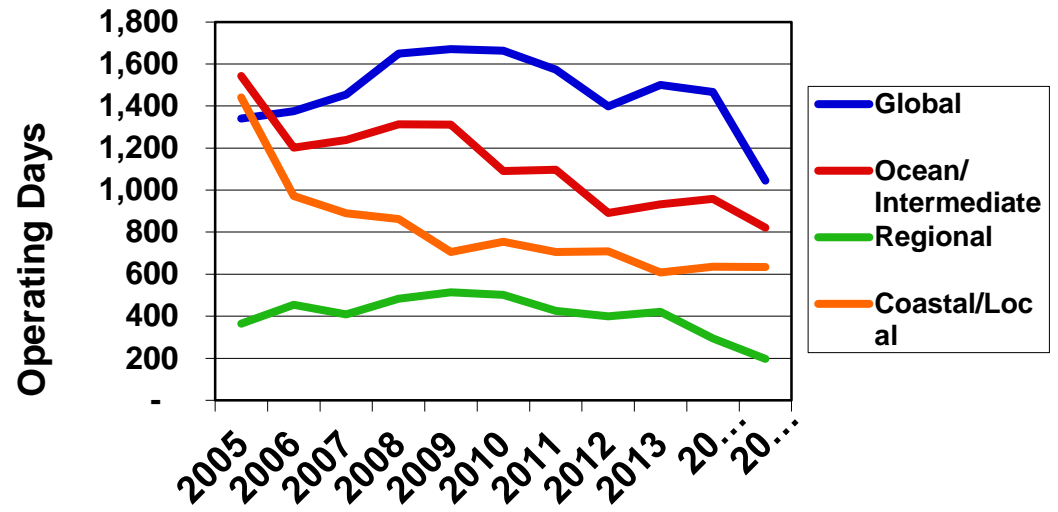
**We need to graph these data up to 2015**



**2002-2007 UNOLS Fleet Operating Days and Costs**



**Ship Utilization by Class: 2005 - 2015**





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### Potential Layup of West Coast Intermediate Vessel Scenarios Discussed

1. Laying up either *Oceanus* or *New Horizon* and losing some institutional days.
2. Operating two intermediate ships with less than optimal schedules, but maintaining capacity for unexpected events
3. Have each ship do a partial layup in 2015 to complete all work, maintain excess capacity, preserve shipboard and shore-based personnel and expertise.

In 2006 Non-Op Committee Guidelines, we need to consider impact on experienced personnel.

**In Closing- we all agree we need to maintain close communication and interaction.**