



University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System ~UNOLS~

**Non-Operator Committee to update
procedures to respond to Agency
Recommendations**





Non-Operator Committee

Wilf Gardner/TAMU- Chair

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Edits also from Peter Ortner, Past Chair



Agencies-UNOLS interaction

Agencies provide UNOLS Council their joint projection for the coming operating year with respect to ship operations.

Request UNOLS' input to guide their final decision.

Especially when vessel retirements, layups, or changes in operating institutions.



- **Committee procedures**
- 3 members minimum, odd number
- Evaluate Agency plans and provide approval or recommend alternatives
- Share the draft response with UNOLS ship operators, UNOLS Council, and any other interested parties
- Committee votes and presents to Council for vote prior to sending to Agencies



- **2014 NSF/ONR positions**
- Vessel owners decide whether to retain their vessel(s) in service.
- Agencies have final say on where their federal work will be carried out.
- Don't assume NSF/ONR will provide layup funds or divert work from other UNOLS vessels to reduce ship day rates.
- Agencies seek ship scheduling to maximize science support, minimize overall costs.
- NSF and ONR agree surge capacity is needed; (esp. for rapid response) and for potential future increases in science utilization.



- **Values to be considered (in priority order):**
- *Meeting science needs.*
- *Geographic availability.*
- *Cost of operations.*
- *Quality of operations.*
- *Sharing the pain.*
- *Diversity of operators.*



- **Additional relevant information:**
- Personnel impacts on experienced technical staff, crewmembers and shore-support personnel. Investments in training and experience are significant.
- Agency budget timing and decisions
 - NSF decisions are generally known first
 - ONR decisions by first of fiscal year
 - NOAA decisions come early in fiscal year

