

Summary of FIC Spring 2015 Meeting

- Dates: March 26-27
- Major Reporting Items:
 - Ship Design, Construction, Acquisition, and Refit Activities
 - R/V Langseth & MLSOC/FIC Liaison Report
 - Fleet Projected Service Life End Dates and Operational Cost Projections (including update on New Horizon)
 - National Research Council Report Sea Change: UNOLS response
 - New Technologies and System Evaluations (including presentations by Alice Doyle on Telepresence Guidelines document and by Demian Bailey on RCRV)

FIC Spring 2015 Meeting cont.

- Major FIC Activities and Outcomes
 - Executive Session Discussion of FIP and drafting of recommendations section
 - Discussion of Sikuliaq and Armstrong/Ride debrief questions/process and drafting of guiding documents
 - Membership re-appointments/ selection (Rick Keil, UW)

FIC Action Items remaining

- Finalization of Armstrong/Ride Debrief questions (in consultation with Mike Prince)
- Finalization and web publishing of FIP after Council input
- Drafting of new SMRs for Global Class
 - Need to assure community input so discipline specific operations such as piston coring are not overlooked
 - Need to review new regulations, science programs on the horizon
- Solicit nominations for new FIC Chair

Fleet Improvement Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
Report Release and Approval History	4
List of Acronyms	4
1. INTRODUCTION	7
1A. Why Is Maintaining a Modern Academic Fleet Important?	7
1B. The 2015 UNOLS Fleet	9
1C. The Federal Agencies Supporting Science at Sea	10
1D. Private and Non-Federal Entities Supporting Science at Sea	12
1E. Scientists at Sea-The Importance of Being There	14
1F. Broader Impacts Through Telepresence	14
1G. The Process of Improvement and Renewal of a Fleet Designed for Academic Research	16
2. THE UNOLS FLEET OF 2015-2025	17
2A. Decadal Core Research Questions and Major Science Programs (Overview)	17
2B. Fleet-Wide Vessel Specifications	20
2C. Fleet Support, Utilization and Operational Costs	23
2D. Maintenance of Facilities: Near Future Upgrades to the Fleet	24
3. FLEET RENEWAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR 2025-2034	26
3A. Facilities Projected to Retire 2025–2034	26
3B. Projections of Fleet Operation Costs	26
3C. Projections for Polar Programs	29
4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	31
4A. Recommendations for Fleet Renewal Activities	31
4B. Recommendations for Fleet Improvements apart from Fleet Renewal	33
5. REFERENCES	33