

Report to the UNOLS Council
UNOLS FLEET IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
May 2016

Fleet Improvement Committee (FIC) Chair Clare Reimers retired from FIC late 2015, along with Miles Sundermeyer and David Bradley. This May meeting is the first for incoming FIC Chair Jim Swift. Other new FIC members are Byron Blomquist (recently returned from a cruise on RV *Investigator* and unable to attend the May meeting) and Deborah Glickson (who is presently at sea on the RV *Okeanos Explorer*).

This brief report is assembled from minutes of the December 2015 FIC meeting.

FIC recent business has focused on activities related to the Regional Class Research Vessel (RCRV) acquisition process, Ocean Class Research Vessel (OCRV) construction and testing, and producing a final version of the 2015 UNOLS Fleet Improvement Plan.

There is also a recent FIC initiative regarding Science Mission Requirements for global-class research ships. This work will be overseen by a FIC subcommittee consisting of Clare Reimers, Jim Swift, and Greg Cutter.

Other business included

- discussion of reports from agencies and operators,
- initial discussion of plans for mid-life refits for RV *Thompson*, RV *Revelle*, and RV *Atlantis*,
- discussion of work on R/V *Kilo Moana*,
- polar icebreaker status,
- discussion of R/V *Langseth* and the MLSOC/FIC liaison,
- ROV and launch-and-recovery system performance updates,
- winch requirements, and
- telepresence guidelines.

The FIC is pleased to share the first day of its May 2016 meeting with the Council.