



University-National Oceanographic
Laboratory System
~UNOLS~

RVOC and Safety Committee Report to RVTEC
October 15, 2018





RVOC 2018 Annual Meeting – April 17-19, 2018 Univ. of Rhode Island

- Hosted by Bruce Corliss/Tom Glennon ~ 75 attendees.
 - Format Change from 3.5 days to 3 days with Safety Committee Meeting on day one with marine superintendents, funding agency reps and industry
 - Andy Hiller/Marine Safety Equipment on safety equipment technology
 - Morgan Turrell/ NTSB & Dennis Nixon/UNOLS on the *M/V El Faro* final findings report
- RVOC Committee Chair & Chair Elect
 - Tom Glennon (URI) Chair 9/2016 – 9/2019
 - Stewart Lamerdin (OSU) Chair Elect 9/16- 9/19
- Recent Marine Superintendent Changes
 - Albert Suchy/WHOI retired in June, replaced by Tim Twomey/WHOI
 - Rich Behn/RSMAS retired in April- Miquel McKinney/Interim, then George Pellissier/RSMAS
 - Stewart Lamerdin/OSU replaced by Fred Jones/Interim Marine Superintendent
 - Paul Ljunggren/LDEO retired in April, replaced by Sean Higgins/LDEO
 - Anita Lopez/UH – now Director of R/V Operations



RVOC 2018 Recent Changes and some ongoing efforts

- New 365 days/year on ship schedules w/10 day types
- Modified home port day rate for 2019
- Charging for Load and Unload days in home port for ship days
- RVOC is tracking Fleet Broad Band/Sat Comms changes
- Medical Services Contract coming up April 2019
- Group Purchases -Jon Bichy/SKIO - EEBDs completed and Jon Swallow/UDEL leading Man Overboard Beacons
- AGOR Midlife refits and *R/V Rachel Carson* joins fleet, *Barnes* retired.
- UNOLS Office Transition- 6 proposals & UW was chosen.
- RVOC 2019 Meeting- Hosted by Scripps – April 23-25, 2019- La Jolla, California



RVOC SAFETY COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Charge of the RVOC Safety Committee:

To provide a forum for the formulation, review, and recommendation for the approval of the UNOLS Research Vessel Safety Standards (RVSS) for the UNOLS fleet through the RVOC.



Safety Committee Terms of Reference

- Voting Members- 10 members, representing the UNOLS class of vessels plus polar, regulatory, and RVTEC
- UNOLS Community Members, Federal Agency Reps, Observers all welcome
- UNOLS Subject Matter Experts- non-voting, expertise as needed, invited by committee
- Term limits- 3 year with a possible 3 year renewal
- Reporting- Safety Committee reports to RVOC
- Meetings- Twice a year to include RVOC, plus several teleconference



Membership Status

- Jeff Garrett/USCG ret. – 2015–2021
- Jon Swallow/UDEL – 2015–2021
- Doug Baird/UAF – 2018–2021
- Brandi Murphy/UW &RVTEC Rep – 2018-2021
- Miguel McKinney/RSMAS – 2018-2021
- Zoltan Kelety/SIO – 2015-2021
- Quentin Lewis/BIOS – 2016-2019
- Christopher Peterson/ 2016-2019
- Ben Anderson/Art Anderson Assoc/- 2016-2019
- Kerry Strom/WHOI-2018-2021



Accomplishments

- Received, considered and granted 4 RVSS waiver requests:
 - All involved incorrect wire diameter-sheave groove size mis-match as specified in Appendix A
 - All involved short-notice action by committee
 - All 4 waivers granted due to low risk to personnel & minimal impact on equipment
 - Appendix A revision needed?
- Jeff Garrett/Safety Committee Chair & Science Committee for Oceanographic Aircraft Research (SCOAR), August 2017 and August 2018, to develop a UAS policy ... and ultimately revision of RVSS as appropriate
- Continued working on RVSS revisions



RVSS Revisions

Chapter 6 & Appendix E, *Personal Behavior & Individual Safety* – Revision complete July 2017; approved by UNOLS Council 30 August 2017

Chapter 9.4, *Lithium batteries* – In final draft

Chapter 16.3.3.3, *Emergency Escape Breathing Devices (EEBDs)* – In final draft

Chapter 18 & Appendix D, *Chartering of Non-UNOLS or Non-Institution Vessels* – Council voted to remove this from RVSS.

Appendix B, *Overboard Handling Systems* – Final draft in review & forwarding for RVOC approval