

Research Vessel Operators Committee



Committee Report

UNOLS Annual Meeting November 2018
Tom Glennon



- RVOOC Committee Chair & Chair Elect
 - Tom Glennon (URI) Chair 9/2016 – 9/2019
 - Stewart Lamerdin (OSU) Chair Elect 9/16- 9/19



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

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 – Reorganized Marine Office - Director of R/V Operations



RVOC 2018 Recent Changes and some ongoing efforts:

- New 365 days/year on ship schedules w/9 day types
- Modified home port day rate for 2019
- Charging for Load and Unload days in home port for ship days
- Tracking Fleet Broad Band/Sat Comms changes - WHOI
- Medical Services Contract coming up April 2019 –Doug Russell
- 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, Clifford A. Barnes retired.

RVOC 2019 Meeting:

Scripps – April 23-25, 2019- La Jolla, California
Hosts - Bruce Applegate and Zoltan Kelety



- **RVOC Safety Committee:**
 - **Jeff Garrett/USCG ret. – 2015–2021 - Chair**
 - □ 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



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.

- Voting Members- 10 members representing various UNOLS vessel classes plus polar, regulatory, NavArch, 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



Recent 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

- • Committee continues working on RVSS revisions:

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

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