

# Research Vessel Operators Committee



## Committee Report

UNOLS Council Meeting March 27-28 2019  
Tom Glennon



- RVOOC Committee Chair & Chair Elect
  - Tom Glennon (URI) Chair 9/2016 – 9/2019
  - Zoltan Kelety (SIO) Chair Elect 3/19 - 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 – Survitec Group/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**

- Doug Russell/UW to UNOLS, replaced by Capt. Robert Kamphaus
- Rich Behn/UM-RSMAS retired in April, replaced by Miguel McKinney
- Stewart Lamerdin/OSU replaced by Fred Jones/Interim Fall 2018, new MarSup announcement expected early April 2019



## **RVOC 2018 Recent Changes and some ongoing efforts:**

- **New 365 days/year on ship schedules w/9 day types**
- **Began 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**
- **Group Purchases - Jon Bichy/SKIO - EEBDs completed 2018. Jon Swallow/UDEL finishing up Man Overboard Beacons 2019. Tempus Medical Units?**
- 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**
- ♣ **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**
- OPEN - *Brandi Murphy/UW &RVTEC (New UNOLS Office)***



## 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 & equipment
- RVSS Committee revisions/updates:
  - Chapter 9.4, Lithium batteries – Revision approved 7/2018
  - Chapter 16.3.3.3, Emergency Escape Breathing Devices (EEBDs) – Revision approved Nov 2018. Feedback by MarSups
  - Chartering of Non-UNOLS Vessels, Chapter 18/Appx D – Removed from RVSS; draft UNOLS guidance doc provided as a read-ahead.
  - Appendix B, Overboard Handling Systems – Approved Nov 2018 Ed. Feedback from MarSups on implementation.
  - New RVSS edition needed in near future