

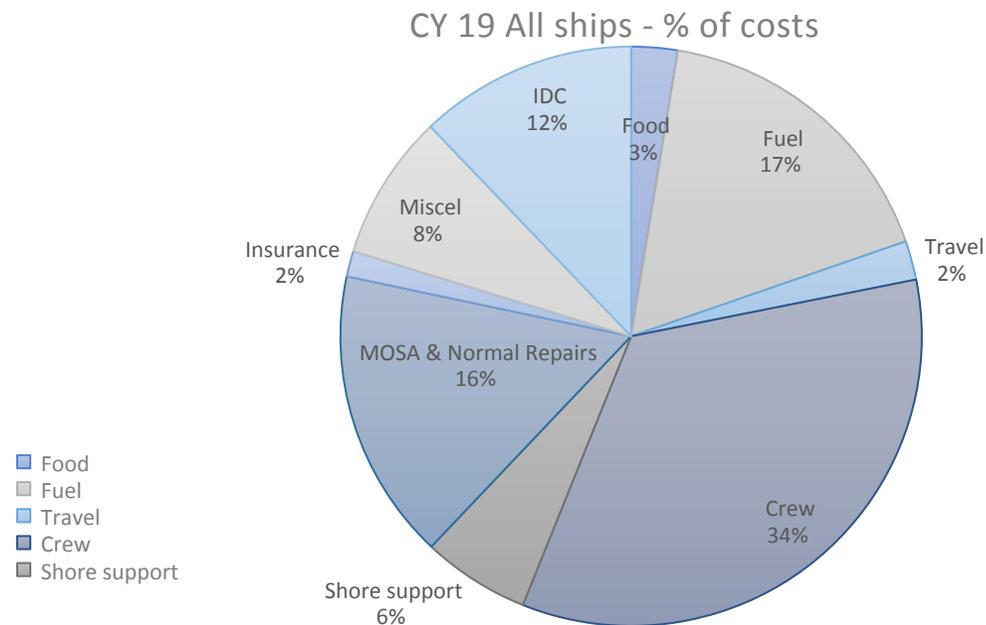
RVOC 2019- NSF Overview
Rose Dufour
NSF Program Director – Ship
Operations



- NSF has been very busy after the 35-day Federal shut-down, and the three-week CR. IPS sought to “shore-up” facility funding by obligating nearly \$45M for ship operations in case the CR ended up in grid-lock. We are now going back to annual funding requests to evaluate spending and negotiate rates (last week was very busy – 12 down and 6 to go). The month-long shutter plus the two-weeks of money shoveling put us very behind in terms of negotiating ship rates. Please know that coming back to find only a few annual reports in fast-lane made the challenge of getting money obligated even more difficult.
- We learned a valuable lesson on the lapse of appropriations wrt facilities, and NSF has made facilities a priority should we see another lapse. Thank you all for your patience. I will add a line to the annual report instructions that clarifies that operators have prior approval to draw-down based on their submitted provisional day rates if funds have been obligated.



- A quick year review of NSF work in CY 18. OCE supported ~1795 operational days within the U.S. ARF (this number does not include the 139 days on *NBP*)
- OPP used 84 days and OOI approximately 96 days on ARF globals, for a total GEO contribution of 1975 days, or about 61% of total Fleet usage. The other 39% came from ONR, State, other U.S. Federal agencies, and some private work. Total OCE/IPS spending on the ARF was just under \$83M (tech support and equipment, NDSF, Ship Ops, oversight).
- CY 19- starting off with about 1696 NSF/OCE days, and \$49M budget. This does not fully fund the year, but we anticipating the remaining funds this month.



- Seismic Workshop - convened in first week of April. Recommendation (s) to NSF expected soon.
- IWG-FI- We continue to work with our interagency partners to support common initiatives. We have now finished Module 1 of the *Civility at Sea* video, which will be shown on ARF and USAP ships, as well as the JR, NSF funded cruises on Healy and Oden. NERC also came to us asking permission to show the video with a re-done intro. We are pleased with the response.
- NOAA- Environmental Workshop - I didn't get any feedback. Is it worth asking NOAA if we can send folks again?
- Mid-scale 1 & 2; there was a good response. NSF is expected to fund projects for Mid-scale 1 in 2019, and mid-scale 2 in 2020 (because they represent bigger and more complex awards that also require NSB authorization). Ranges for MSRI-1 were set at \$6-\$20M (and design projects above \$600K), and MSRI 2 's range was \$20-\$70 M.
- RCRV #3 Solicitation was released. We hope to make an award in late summer.
- <http://webcam.oregonstate.edu/rcrv1>

This view shows the inner bottom of R/V Taani in the upper left corner under construction. The aft skeg or keel is shown lower left. The inner bottoms are built upside down, and then "rolled upright" for blasting, painting and outfit. Panels and hull plating awaiting assembly are shown in the upper half of the view.

- FY 2020 budget- early stages. This is what we know so far: President Donald Trump has proposed cuts across the board at the National Science Foundation (NSF) in his 2020 budget request. The biggest decreases would hit funding for research in Antarctica and the Arctic, the geosciences, math and physical sciences. The debt ceiling will likely be debated during the budget negotiations, which may add further complications to congress's ability to pass a budget resolution in a timely manner. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/nsf-fy2020.pdf>

- The NSF request for discretionary spending is \$ 7.1 B which is -9% of the FY 19 number (This is approximately \$800M) The GEO Directorate has just received additional FY19 funding so we are at 90% of the FY18 amount. We expect we will get the additional 10% in the next few weeks so our final FY19 amount will be approximately equal to our FY18 amount. With the FY20 Request at -9% from FY19 we must necessarily be ready to execute our IPS Programs at this lower level but we should also consider the recent Appropriations history so there is still the possibility that our final FY20 funding may be approximately level to FY19. The key is to be ready to execute either of these scenarios.

Counter Proposals



"I like to think we aren't so much anti-science as we are pro-

*U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin and U.S Rep Bill Foster, the lead House sponsor of the American Innovation Act, said the funding is vital. "It's more important than ever that we defend America's place as a world leader in scientific progress," he said in a statement. The Innovation Act would provide annual budget increases of 5% at five research agencies: the **National Science Foundation**, the Department of Energy Office of Science, the Department of Defense Science and Technology Programs, the National Institute of Standards and Technology Scientific and Technical Research, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Science Directorate.*



Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS) consists of about 60 academic institutions and national laboratories involved in oceanographic research. One of UNOLS' functions is to schedule scientific cruises efficiently on 18 research vessels (R/V) located at 14 operating institutions. Within UNOLS, NSF owns the



¹ OIG Report No. 12-2-008, *Audit of National Science Foundation's Independent Research and Development Program*, March 16, 2012

4 NSF.GOV/OIG



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

R/V *Sikuliaq*, a global-class ship, and the R/V *Oceanus* and the R/V *Endeavor*, ocean/intermediate class ships.

In March 2017, we reported on our audit of the R/V *Oceanus*,² and, in July 2018, we issued an alert memorandum associated with an ongoing audit at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.³ In both, we had concerns about UNOLS' Major Overhaul and Stabilization Account (MOSA), a special reserve that research vessel operators are required to fund through award drawdowns, often in advance of actual expenditures.

Audit objective: Determine if NSF's oversight of the UNOLS' fleet financial practices is effective and efficient.

NSF Inspector General (OIG)

One increase in the POTUS' budget - more money for NSF IG's office.

Do:

- include all money received in budget reports, and identify current status of expenses.
- Be careful not spend from MOSA until you have approvals documented (not verbal). The MOSA process is especially viewed with suspicion.
- Please include all email exchanges on MOSA in your annual MOSA reports. Use the MOSA template and provide final shipyard reports that show the draw-downs for ALL expenses.

Don't

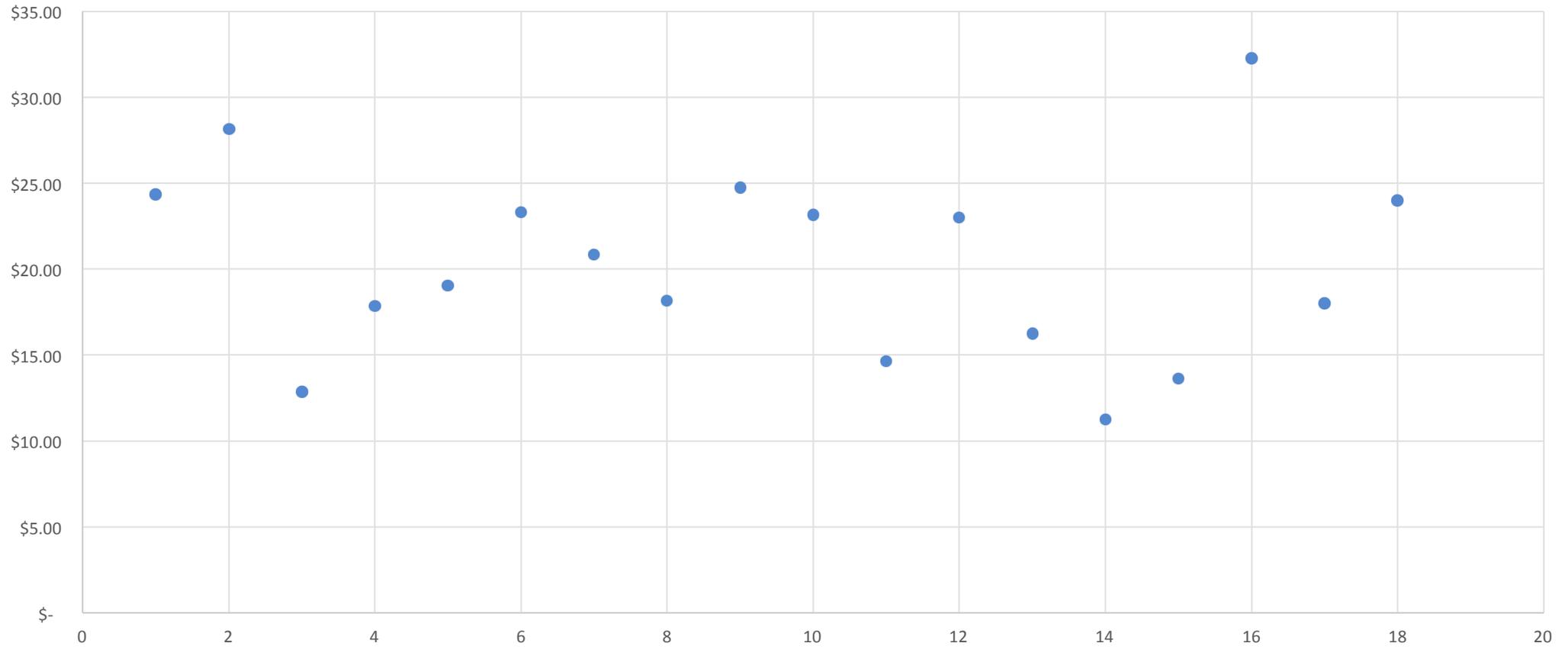
- Treat MOSA like a slush fund/contingency fund. It is only for planned shipyards/maintenance.
- MOSA is a stability account. It should not spike year to year.
- Any fixed contracts should have T&C that describe how to use excess funds.



Are we clear on MOSA rates, port charge rates, or other **proposal** questions???



Ship's Chow Costs CY 19





Jay Erickson (RV *Roger Revelle*)- 2018 Cheap Chow Recipient at King Arthur Flour baking school.

Jay is very excited for this training, stating he's wish to attend this baking school for years.

A shout-out to WHOI, OSU, UAF, UNOLS - this image was not possible without your willingness to find a solution to a complex scheduling challenge- Thank you !



i could not ask for any more, and none of this would have been possible if it weren't for the outstanding crew on this ship. from a social standpoint, which i believe is important, we had a warm and welcoming environment and it made me happy to see crew, Alvin ops and scientists all hanging out and talking and enjoying each other's company. and to top it all off, the night-time recovery was amazing and unexpectedly (for me, at least) moving and beautiful.