UNOLS – Coronavirus & its impacts

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Council Spring Teleconference
March 2020
COVID-19 – Actions & Impacts

• Posted guidelines/considerations for Scientists & Operators on the UNOLS Website. Updating with new pertinent info as it becomes available.

• Understandably - Many questions / concerns from operators and science parties

• Cruises already affected:
  ▫ Wilhelm / RV Atlantic Explorer / rescheduling for fall 2020
    • Due to institutional travel restrictions
  ▫ Farrar / RV Oceanus / may not be able to reschedule for fall 2020
    • Due to restriction on NASA aircraft flights

• Cruises that may be affected:
  ▫ Beinart / RV Thompson / many concerns – starts from Fiji in two weeks
  ▫ EXPORTS / RV Atlantis / many concerns – starts from WHOI in April
COVID-19 – Actions & Impacts Cont’d

- Tracking all planned cruises to foreign waters for potential impacts
  - Domestic cruises may also be affected due to institutional travel restrictions
  - Checking with State Dept for guidance & support concerns for foreign cruises

- Looking at options for 2020 cruises that have to be rescheduled
  - Later in 2020
    - Unknown when there is any return to “normalcy”
    - 2021 – those schedules already are being worked on – “back to drawing board”

- Important things for our community to consider: such as
  - Who makes the call to postpone / cancel a cruise
  - What about vessels being quarantined in foreign ports or not...
COVID-19 – Actions & Impacts Cont’d

- Upcoming UNOLS Meetings likely impacted
  - RVOC – April - Miami
  - Council – Summer - Seattle
  - FIC – Summer - Seattle
  - SCOAR – September – Boulder