UNOLS Update

2023 Summer AICC Meeting
Doug Russell  UNOLS Executive Secretary
UNOLS Update

• Meetings: most are now hybrid
  - Council – Portland, ME 4-5 May
  - DeSSC – Woods Hole, 10-11 May
  - RVOC & Safety – Duluth, 16-18 May
  - FIC (virtual) meetings – dates tbd
• AICC – Alexandria, 19-20 July
• RVTEC – Honolulu, 23-27 Oct
• Annual & Council – Tempe, AZ 15-16 Nov
• MSROC – San Francisco, CA 10 Dec

• 2024 Ship Scheduling process proceeding towards goal of publishing schedules in September
  - Still a substantial backlog in cruises from COVID-19, crewing, & mechanical issues.
  - NOAA Ship Ron Brown will undergo a mid-life refit in 2024 further increasing the demand
  - We have also engaged with international r/v schedulers to see where we may help each other out

19 July 2023
Where will the ships be in 2024?

• **Atlantic**
  - Neil Armstrong (Ocean) – North Atlantic
  - Roger Revelle (Global) – East Pacific, Gulf of Mx, North Atlantic
  - Marcus G. Langseth (Global / Seismic) – A16S, Atlantic Basin
  - Atlantic Explorer (Intermediate) – Bermuda, Florida/Bahamas

• **Pacific**
  - Sikuliaq (Global / ice capable) – Arctic & NE Pacific
  - Sally Ride (Ocean) – U.S. West Coast
  - Kilo Moana (Ocean) – Hawaii, Fr. Polynesia, Galapagos

• **Indian**
  - Thomas G. Thompson (Global) – West Pacific & Indian - I09N followed by I08S in early 2025 (depends on USCG - pending decision reg. ARC01 on USCGC HEALY in 2024), other major projects

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More UNOLS Updates

• R/V Marcus G. Langseth (seismic ship) – 2024 last year of operations?
  • LDEO has discussed with NSF to determine whether MGL can continue to operated for another two years after completing a regulatory drydock in 2024. Submitting proposal to NSF for 2 more years in Academic Research Fleet
  • More time needed to acquire and refit a ship to support seismic operations and general oceanography

• Crewing – significant progress but challenges remain.
  • Crewing Support Manager in place & making strong impact.
  • Developing marketing video for working on ARF research vessels.

• MATE Internship Program – has successfully shifted from the previous host, the MATE Center at Monterey Peninsula College to the UNOLS Office.
  • Maria Osiadacz continues to run the program – now a UW employee
  • 18 interns in 2023!

• RVSS 11th Ed – Appendix A revision released in June

• UNOLS Office 5-year Review
COVID-19 Guidance Update

• COVID-19 guidance updated 25 June 2023
  • Much simpler

• Addresses & is consistent with latest CDC guidelines incl. incorporation of bivalent ("up to date") boosters.
  • Latest boosters are deemed up to date because they protect against both the original virus that causes COVID-19 and the Omicron variant BA.4 and BA.5. Two COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers, Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, have developed updated COVID-19 vaccines

• Give operators the flexibility they need to operate successfully while supporting their needs to maintain appropriate protocols for their operations