

## **NSF Report**

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Program Director
RVTEC, October 26, 2023
Honolulu, Hawai'i





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Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences	SBE/BCS	(703) 292-8740
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# The Next Phase of U.S. Scientific Ocean Drilling

**Dr. Kevin Johnson** *Program Director, ODP RVTEC Meeting, October 26, 2023 Honolulu, Hawai'i* 

### NSF is the Majority Funder of the Drilling Vessel JOIDES Resolution(JR)

- NSF funds Texas A&M University as the JR Science Operator at \$48 M per year (FY 2014-2024) through a Cooperative Agreement (CA)
- International partner funds decreased from \$34.5 M in FY 2015 to < \$2M committed for FY 2025</li>
- Therefore, the JR was forced to be demobilized by the end of FY 2024.
- Will continue:
  - Post-cruise publication responsibilities
  - Data archival activities
  - Core repository sample management
  - Enhancing instrumented Gulf Coast Repository



### **Looking Forward**

### On-going and near-future activities

- Develop an innovative framework for supporting early-career scientists
- Engage early-career scientists to help determine what the future of SOD looks like
- Consider and continue to plan Mission Specific Platforms/seabed drilling/deep piston coring expeditions to meet scientific priorities
- Identify technologies (emerging or existing) that will enable a diverse portfolio of drilling approaches
- Explore design and construction of a NSF-owned drilling vessel development taking into consideration the community-produced SMRs and operational and budgetary constraints



### **Next steps**

- Continuing activities:
  - Build partnership opportunities with international community
  - Assess portfolio of platforms for subseafloor sampling
- Early 2024: National Academies Decadal Survey interim report on Scientific Ocean Drilling
- Late 2024: demobilization of the JR
- 2025 2028: Support transition of core and data repositories and IODP publications
- 2025 2026: Consider instrument access model in support of core repository
- Continue to support workshops and develop framework for long-term, nimble subseafloor sampling portfolio in support of science for the next couple of decades
- ASAP Initiate Development and Design of new NSF-owned vessel