



Vers: 1.5-31March2025

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Research Vessel Operators Committee Agenda

Viriden Conference Center

University of Delaware

Lewes, DE

Icebreaker Reception – Tuesday, 29 April 2025 1800-2000 **Note:** cash bar

Location: Irish Eyes Pub & Restaurant

RVOC Zoom Meeting Info:

<https://washington.zoom.us/j/91978903183?pwd=4aya3jEyvRenBtehXa6WZlqgI5Md8N.1>

Day 1 - Wednesday, 30 April 2025

- 0800-0830 Coffee & snacks**
- 0830 Opening Comments, Introductions
- Welcome - RVOC Chair – Doug Baird / UAF
 - UNOLS Code of Conduct
 - Announcements – Doug Russell / UNOLS
 - Participant introductions
 - Welcome – University of Delaware
- 0845 RVOC Meeting Opens – Old / New Business
- Old Business - Accept Minutes from 2024 RVOC Meeting
 - New Business – Suggested issues to discuss during the course of the RVOC meeting
- 0900 Federal Agency Reports
- NSF – Rose Dufour
 - ONR – Rob Sparrock
 - NOAA – LCDR Rachel Pryor
 - State – Amanda Williams
- 1015-1030 Coffee Break**



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- 1030 UNOLS Report – Doug Russell
 - UNOLS Activities
 - 2024 Schedule Wrap Up & 2025 Outlook
- 1045 RCRV Update – Ethan Roth
- 1100 RVOC Discussions / Presentations
 - Other Operators
 - Canada – Randy King
 - Netherlands – Zeynep Erdem
 - United Kingdom – Stuart Younghusband
 - USAP R/V *NB Palmer* – Brad Fabling
 - Schmidt Ocean Institute – Eric King
- 1230 **Lunch** - provided
- 1330 UNOLS Operators Updates & Challenges/Successes – up to 2 slides per operator
- 1415 Safer Seas Act Discussion – Doug Russell
- 1500 MOSA Guidance / Discussion – Eric Buck, Rose Dufour
- 1530 Coffee Break**
- 1545 R/V *Hugh R Sharp* & East Coast Van Pool Tour
- 1800** Tours Complete

- 1800 – 2100 RVOC Annual Dinner** (dinner included in registration fee, cash bar)
 - **Location:** Lewes Yacht Club
 - **Keynote:** **Dr. Deborah Bronk**, President, CEO & Senior Research Scientist, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences; “Ocean Research Advocacy”



Day 2 - Thursday, 1 May 2025

RVOC Zoom Meeting Info:

<https://washington.zoom.us/j/91978903183?pwd=4aya3jEyvRenBtehXa6WZlqgI5Md8N.1>

0800-0830 Coffee & snacks

- 0830 Legal / Risk – Jonathan Guttoff, UNOLS Risk Manager
 - Updates on Maritime Insurance, Risks, Major Legal Issues
- 0930 Safety Committee
 - Committee Recap – Jeff Garrett
 - Safety Manager Hiring Update – Doug Russell

1000-1015 Coffee Break

- 1015 Special Reports
 - Winch Pools – Sean Whelan / WHOI and Aaron Davis / SIO
 - Wire Pool – Eric Trotto / WHOI
 - Van Pools – Jon Swallow/UDel & Daryl Swensen/OSU
 - Cybersecurity Update – Michael Simpson / OMNISOC
 - ABS – Ben Komar
 - ARV Update – Tim McGovern

1200-1300 Lunch – provided

- 1300 RVOC Group Photo
- 1305 Miscellaneous
 - GW Marine Medical Services – ??
 - MFP – Alice Doyle / Stefani Martynenko
 - R/V *Hugh R Sharp* mid-life - Jon Swallow
- 1345 Lessons Learned: NOAA Ship *Rainier* fire from 2023 – Julie Wagner

1430-1445 Coffee Break

- 1445 Ship Inspections – Common Issues, Lessons Learned & Best Practices – Blake Powell / JMS



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1515 Discussion Items

- Dive Ops & RVSS Chapter 11
- New legislative language to classify ARF ships??
- Medical Evaluations for embarking students & scientists
- Science Party rest & RVSS 5.4.2
- UAS Operator Handbook update
- CyberSecurity Officer (CySO) and USCG rule on cybersecurity requirements

1645 Review Action Items, discuss location of 2026 RVOC meeting

1700 Conclude Meeting