

# 2026 DeSSC New User Program

## DRAFT Agenda

American Bookbinder Museum  
355 Clementina St.  
San Francisco, CA

|              | Date             | Start Time | End Time |
|--------------|------------------|------------|----------|
| <b>Day 1</b> | December 5, 2026 | 11:30 AM   | 8:00 PM  |
| <b>Day 2</b> | December 6, 2026 | 8:30 AM    | 5:00 PM  |

### Remote Login Information

Registration Link:

TBD

All times are in Central Standard Time

### Saturday, December 05, 2026

| Time      | Minutes | Topic                                                                        | Facilitator                      |
|-----------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 11:30: AM | 30      | <b>Check In &amp; Lunch</b>                                                  |                                  |
| 12:00 PM  |         | <b>Welcome, Introductions, Review of Agenda</b>                              |                                  |
| 12:00 PM  | 5       | • Code of Conduct                                                            |                                  |
| 12:05 PM  | 5       | • Welcome from NSF                                                           | Brian Midson                     |
| 12:10 PM  | 15      | • Deep Submergence Science                                                   |                                  |
| 12:25 PM  | 5       | • Participant Introductions                                                  |                                  |
| 12:30 PM  | 15      | • Organization Introduction                                                  |                                  |
| 12:45 PM  | 20      | <b>Post-It Brainstorming Session</b>                                         | Andrew Thurber                   |
|           |         | • Ships, Vehicles and Technologies                                           |                                  |
|           |         | • Opportunities to gain experience                                           |                                  |
|           |         | • Developing Collaborations                                                  |                                  |
| 1:05 PM   | 10      | <b>BREAK</b>                                                                 |                                  |
| 1:15 PM   | 40      | <b>Panel/Discussion Session</b>                                              |                                  |
|           |         | A panel will discuss topics/questions from the brainstorming session.        |                                  |
| 1:55 PM   | 20      | <i>Break</i>                                                                 |                                  |
| 2:15 PM   |         | <b>Deep Submergence Scientist Career Paths</b>                               | 15min talks from 3 people on how |
| 2:20 PM   | 15      | • Talk 1                                                                     |                                  |
| 2:35 PM   | 15      | • Talk 2                                                                     |                                  |
| 2:50 PM   | 15      | • Talk 3                                                                     |                                  |
| 3:05 PM   | 10      | <b>Introduction of the Breakout sessions</b>                                 |                                  |
| 3:15 PM   |         | Users will be broken into 3 groups and rotate through the breakout sessions. |                                  |
| 3:15 PM   | 20      | <i>Break</i>                                                                 |                                  |
| 3:35 PM   | 30      | <b>Breakout - Session 1</b>                                                  |                                  |
| 4:05 PM   | 5       | <b>Break &amp; switch break-out session</b>                                  |                                  |
| 4:10 PM   | 30      | <b>Breakout – Session 2</b>                                                  |                                  |
| 4:40 PM   | 5       | <b>Break &amp; switch break-out session</b>                                  |                                  |
| 4:45 PM   | 30      | <b>Breakout - Session 3</b>                                                  |                                  |
| 5:15 PM   | 15      | <b>Open Discussion – General Q&amp;A</b>                                     |                                  |
| 5:30 PM   | 30      | <b>Break</b>                                                                 |                                  |
| 6:00 PM   |         | <b>Dinner Seminar – Featured Speaker – TBD</b>                               |                                  |
| 8:00 PM   |         | <b>Day 1 - Meeting Adjourned</b>                                             |                                  |

### Sunday, December 06, 2026

| Time | Minutes | Topic | Facilitator |
|------|---------|-------|-------------|
|------|---------|-------|-------------|

## 2026 DeSSC New User Program

8:30: AM

### 2026 UNOLS Deep Submergence Science Committee (DeSSC) Annual Community Meeting

8:30: AM

American Bookbinder Museum  
355 Clementina St.  
San Francisco, CA

• 08:30AM - 5:30PM

• [See Agenda here](#)

## Breakout Session Descriptions

### Intro to Deep-Sea Organizations

Moderators: TBD

Facility Operator Representatives: TBD

This session will offer an opportunity for participants to learn more about the facilities, tools, and instruments that are available for deep submergence research. The latest technologies that are offered and how to integrate them into your future field programs will be discussed. In the earlier plenary session, representatives from NDSF, SOI, OET, NOAA OER and others introduced you to their respective facilities and operations. You will have an opportunity to ask these individuals questions about vehicle capabilities, tools and instrumentation, and how to access these facilities/operations.

### Broader impacts/communicating science

Moderator: TBD

Panel: TBD

This session will explore the importance of incorporating meaningful broader impacts into deep-submergence research and practical ways to communicate science to broader audiences. Panelists will discuss strategies for sharing the value and relevance of deep-submergence research beyond the scientific community, including engaging students, educators, policymakers, media, and the public. The discussion will highlight approaches for developing effective broader impacts and creating opportunities to share the discoveries, experiences, and value of deep-submergence research with diverse audiences.

### Technologies & Tools

Moderator: TBD

Panel: TBD

This session will offer an opportunity for participants to learn more about the facilities, tools, and instruments that are available for deep submergence research. The latest technologies that are offered and how to integrate them into your future field programs will be discussed. In the earlier plenary session, representatives from NDSF, SOI, OET, NOAA OER and others introduced you to their respective facilities and operations. You will have an opportunity to ask these individuals questions about vehicle capabilities, tools and instrumentation, and how to access these facilities/operations.