UNOLS Office Quarterly Report

Period: Q3 2026
July-September 2026

MEETINGS

- RVOC: Marine Superintendent virtual check-in meetings held July 15, August 26, and September 30.
- RVTEC: Registration is open for the 2026 RVTEC meeting at the University of Miami.
- MSROC: Fall virtual meeting is scheduled for October 8th, 2026
- 2026 MSROC Community Meeting scheduled for Dec 6th, 2026
- Annual Meeting: November 10; Fall Council Meeting: November 9, La Jolla, CA.
- DeSSC New User Program and Community Meeting: December 5–6, 2026.

NEXT QUARTER PLANS

- Finalize preparation for fall meetings (see above)
2026 Fall Council
2026 Annual
2026 RVTEC
2026 DeSSC New User Program & Community Meeting
2026 MSROC Community Meeting
- Process 2026 dues
- Create, send, and tally ballot
- Continue work toward finalizing the Fleet Improvement Plan.

MATE

- Paige FitzPatrick completed a 12-week UAF internship on R/V Sikuliaq.
- Christina Rorres completed a 7-week WHOI internship aboard R/V Armstrong.
- Aarav Shah completed a 4-week Alvin Group internship on R/V Atlantis.
- Mimi Johnston and Jessica Leonard are interning at sea on R/V Atlantis and R/V Thompson.
- Emily Pinneo, Drake Lee-Patterson, and Hannah Kepner will begin fall internships with UH HOT and BIOS aboard R/V Kilo Moana and R/V Atlantic Explorer.

OTHER INITIATIVES

- Tech Pool: Four technicians participated in five research cruises.
- 2026 Annual Dues: Sent reminders to member institutions.
- Continued upgrades to UNOLS data systems:
1. Upgraded Safety Report
2. Upgraded the UNOLS Contacts database
3. Updated quarterly KPI spreadsheet

Fleet Safety Support: CAPT Jon Swallow, NOAA (Ret.) and former UDel Marine Superintendent, began the newly created Fleet Safety Support role at UNOLS.

SCHEDULING

- Have started publishing parts of 2027 ship schedules (Thompson, Revelle, Sally Ride). Target for publishing Global / Ocean Class schedules remains by the end of October

ARF 3rd Qtr Science Summary		
	Days	Cruises
Global	376	19
Ocean / Int	196	13
Regional	38	5
Coastal / Local	260	38

COMMITTEES

RVTEC: Tech Training Sub-Committee: The Marine Technician Training Cruise aboard R/V Sikuliaq brought together 16 UNOLS participants for hands-on experience with shipboard systems, underway sensors, acoustic systems, and CTD operations during the Seattle-to-Nome transit.
- Upcoming Tech Training: The next What Went Wrong/Well Wednesday webinar will be a two-part electrical safety series with Erich Gruebel.

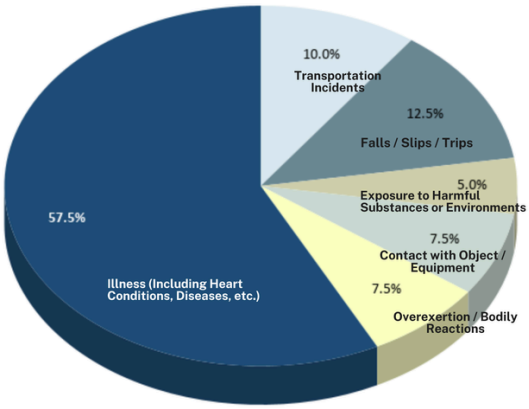
MERAS: Working groups are continuing to work on:
1. STEMSeas video demonstrating life and culture at sea.
2. Update Module III to include anonymous reporting.
3. Continue the Harassment Reporting Document with the Safety Committee.

OTHER INITIATIVES

Fleet Telemedicine Devices: UNOLS forwarded a recommendation to NSF to replace telemedicine devices for ARF vessels.

FIC: Meeting with various entities to better understand emerging strategies for recapitalizing the Academic Research Fleet and how they may affect incorporation of UNOLS community-developed Science Mission Requirements.

2026 Q2 Incidents



MFP

- Completed MFP Marine Superintendent virtual training sessions.
- The Project Support and Project Support Plan steps (“Cruise Contract”) project was finalized.
- The Hazardous Materials workflow was finalized, and bulk-upload functionality was added.
- U.S. ARF Equipment Inventory (old STRS) was launched. The public inventory provides a centralized view of equipment and instrumentation across UNOLS institutions.
- The Maintenance Policy in the Inventory Management module was improved.
- Working with SEASAM to improve facility cruise planning.
- NDSF vehicle scheduling on MFP was prioritized for delivery by the end of Q4.