



UNOLS 2021 Annual Meeting

**U.S. Academic Research Fleet COVID-19 Response &
UNOLS Update**

UNOLS Office



COVID-19 Response & Science Operations

- Continued operations since ~ 1 July 2020. **361 cruises completed thru Oct 2021!**
- Guidance for considerations in conducting science operations updated 4 times to account for the continued evolution of the pandemic incl.
 - Vaccine development & deployment
 - Delta variant
 - Next update to talk about boosters?
- Much less impactful pre-cruise mitigation steps for fully vaccinated crews & science party members
 - Vast majority of personnel are vaccinated but there are still some cases where folks are not
- Cases
 - Some prevented through pre-cruise testing, yet a few cases have developed onboard a few of the ships the past few months
 - all minor symptoms
 - some cruise impacts
- Ship Operators and Science Parties continue to do an amazing job of analyzing risks, implementing creative & effective risk mitigation strategies, emphasizing safety, and executing highly successful science
- Only one foreign cruise (Iceland) to date
- Some long duration cruises – further extended by need to start / end in U.S. ports (REVELLE, THOMPSON, ARMSTRONG)
- Continued ~6-week Check-Ins with Marine Superintendents that include COVID-19 issues