

## Glossary of Terms

**Academic** – Relating to education and scholarship

**UNOLS Institutions** – Academic institutions that:

- use, or operate and use, sea-going facilities,
- maintain an academic program in marine science,
- make substantial contributions to the national oceanographic program,
- apply for membership in UNOLS,
- and are approved for membership by a simple majority of the UNOLS membership.

**Operator Institutions** – UNOLS institutions that operate UNOLS Vessels or National Oceanographic Facilities (Annex II)

**National Oceanographic Fleet** – Valuable infrastructure that supports federal agency research and operational maritime missions. The Fleet enables scientists to conduct basic research on the oceans and seafloor, emplace and maintain sensors in support of climate studies and natural disaster warning programs, and respond to catastrophic events around the globe. The Fleet acquires important data for fisheries assessments, pollution monitoring, habitat protection, resource management, and national defense, and is instrumental for the education of future oceanographic scientists. Policy makers and the general public also benefit from the research conducted on the vessels.

**U.S. Academic Research Fleet (ARF)** – A subset of the National Oceanographic Fleet that includes federal, state, and privately-owned vessels operated in support of national oceanographic research programs by academic or other non-profit institutions and are significantly funded by U.S. Federal or state governments.

**UNOLS Vessel** – A vessel operated by a UNOLS institution, designated by the UNOLS Council, and operated in accordance with UNOLS Research Vessel Safety Standards (RVSS), subject to regular, recognized ship inspection programs, scheduled by established UNOLS procedures and meet cruise reporting, cruise assessment, cost accounting and performance standards. UNOLS Vessels make-up the U.S. Academic Research Fleet and are listed here:

<https://www.unols.org/ships-facilities/unols-vessels>

**National Oceanographic Facility** – Those facilities, specialized and otherwise, that are made available for the use of qualified scientists from any institution and the use of which shall be recommended by a UNOLS advisory committee as outlined in Appendix 2 of this charter.