

and finalized by Ken Johnson.

## **General Business:**

**Nominations for a New FIC Member** - Suzanne Strom was reappointed to the committee for a second term. It was recommended to place a call for volunteers in the next UNOLS Newsletter. The FIC can call upon these volunteers to serve as committee members and sub-committee members when needed.

**Scheduling of Next FIC Meeting** - The committee agreed that the next meeting should be held in May 1998 at Woods Hole. Joe Coburn will look into meeting room availability. Potential speakers were discussed. Suggestions included representatives from the SWATH industry, a fisheries oceanographer, and a representative from the AGOR 26 shipyard.

Recap of FIC Action Items regarding SMRs and new ship construction:

**Alaska SMR** - Tom Weingartner, chair, will establish a subcommittee of six to seven members for development of SMRs for an ALPHA HELIX replacement. This is a high FIC priority. A draft is planned for summer 1998 and the final SMRs are expected in fall 1998.

**East Coast SMR** - Larry Atkinson will chair a subcommittee for development of a coastal research vessel SMR for East Coast work. The schedule for this effort is the same as for the Alaska SMR.

**Fisheries SMR** - This item is deferred until after the Alaskan SMRs are complete.

**Intermediate SMR** - On hold until completion of the other SMRs.

**Central Pacific R/V** - FIC will participate in the planning process with the Navy via e-mail. It was noted that the FIC ad-hoc group needs to be more closely involved in the process.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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## **APPENDICES**

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### **Appendix I. FIC Meeting Agenda**

Fleet Improvement Committee  
NOAA Pacific Marine Center, 2nd Floor  
1801 Fairview Ave, E  
Seattle, Washington 98109  
November 6-7, 1997

#### **THURSDAY, 6 November**

Morning Session:

8:30 am FIC Welcome and Introduction - Larry Atkinson will welcome the Committee and review the meeting's agenda.

8:35 am NOAA Welcomes the Fleet Improvement Committee to the Pacific Marine Center

8:40 am Accept Minutes - Accept the minutes of the December, 1996 FIC Meeting.

8:45 am UNOLS Report - Ken Johnson will report on UNOLS activities over the past year and plans for the future.

9:00 am Agency Reports - Written reports provided by the agency representatives will be reviewed by

Ken Johnson. A question/answer period will follow.

9:30 am Development of a Long-Term FIC Agenda - Before the meeting, a proposed long-term agenda was distributed via e-mail for review. Additionally, Chris Mooers provided a paper titled, "Reflections on UNOLS/FIC and Council, and on UNOLS Overall" which was distributed via e-mail to FIC. Larry Atkinson will lead a discussion to finalize long-term FIC plans.

*10:15 am Break*

10:30 am Long-Term FIC Agenda - Discussion wrap-up and agreement on FIC long-term agenda.

11:00 am Presentation by The Glosten Associates, Inc. - A representative from the naval architecture firm, The Glosten Associates, will report on the impact of new US Coast Guard regulations on construction of future intermediate research vessels. (The new regulations call for twice as much crew and considerable structural changes.) These new regulations may place strong constraints on replacement and refit schedules FIC is to develop.

11:30 am FIC Discussion and Question/Answer Period on Impact of New USCG Regulations

*12:00 pm Lunch*

1:00 pm NOAA Fisheries Oceanography/Stock Assessment Needs - NOAA has drafted a paper titled "Talking Points: Fisheries Research Vessels," see enclosure (1). The paper outlines NOAA's long-term research vessel requirements and plans. They are proposing to build six new vessels to help meet their projected stock assessment needs. Even with six new ships, NOAA projections indicate that there could be additional fisheries oceanography work for outsourcing. The FIC has been tasked to examine the feasibility of building a general purpose fisheries vessel.

- FIC Tasking Summary - Ken Johnson will provide a brief history of the UNOLS activities to date on this topic and review the tasking to the committee.
- NOAA/ National Marine Fisheries Service Update - A representative from the NMFS will comment on NOAA's Fishery Needs and report on the status of their vessel construction efforts.
- University of Alaska Replacement Plans for ALPHA HELIX - A representative from the University of Alaska will discuss their considerations for replacement of ALPHA HELIX. The University has been increasing its emphasis on fisheries research. In a discussion at the June LTNOLS Council Meeting, it was recommended that the FIC develop SMRs for a research vessel that is:
  1. ice capable;
  2. capable for fisheries research; and
  3. operationally economic. A 1989 UNOLS/FIC report titled, "Science Mission for an Intermediate ke-Capable Research Vessel, is provided as enclosure (2) and "Scientific Mission Requirements for Intermediate ke-Capable, General-purpose Oceanographic Research Ship, " dated February 1989 is provided as enclosure (3).

*2:30 pm Break*

2:45 pm Fisheries Discussion - Continued

- Research Fishery Needs - Representatives from the research community will discuss their fishery research facility needs and plans for the future.
- FIC Discussion - FIC will outline their plans to study/develop conceptual designs for a general purpose fisheries-capable research vessel.

## **FRIDAY, 7 November**

8:30 am Replacement Plans for the OCEANUS Class - Planning for the replacement of the OCEAN-US Class vessels needs to begin soon. Larry Atkinson will lead a discussion on the initiation of these plans. "Scientific Mission Requirements for an Intermediate GeneralPurpose Oceanographic Research Ship"

dated March 1989 are included as enclosure (4). FIC should be prepared to discuss these SMRS.

*10:15 am Break*

10:30 am Coastal Research Vessel Planning - Discussion on FIC's role in development of a conceptual design for a coastal vessel.

11:00am AGOR-26 Report-The Navy will be selecting an operator for the new Central Pacific Swath, AGOR 26. FIC has been asked to represent the academic user community during the Science Mission Requirement development and construction phase in cooperation with the operator. Discussion on a proposed way for FIC to do this.

*12:00 pm Lunch and Tour of NOAA Pacific Marine Center*

1:15 pm Replacement Plans for Skidaway's vessel, BLUE FIN - Skidaway has provided a set of plans and drawings for their new research vessel, SAVANNAH, for FIC review. See enclosure (5).

1:45 pm 1998 Fleet Improvement Plan (FIP98) - Larry Atkinson will discuss plans for completing the FIP98.

2:15 pm Interim Fleet Improvement Plan (IFIP) - Ken Johnson will provide an update on the status of the IFIP.

2:45 pm General Business

- Nominations for a New FIC Member
- Schedule of Next Meeting
- Recap of FIC Action Items

*Adjourn*

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## Appendix II. Meeting Participants

FIC Attendance - Nov. 6-7, 1997

NAME	INSTITUTION/ ORGANIZATION	PHONE/FAX/E-MAIL
Larry Atkinson	ODU	(757) 683-4926/(757) 683-5550/atkinson@ccpo.odu.edu
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