

## Minutes of August 12, 2008 MOC Meeting

*Attendees:* Jerry Smith, Jen MacKinnon, Bruce Applegate, Gabi Laske, Mike Landry, Dave Chadwell, Woody Sutherland, Jim Swift, Jeff Babcock, Dave Skydel, Ralf Goericke, Steve Miller, Joris Gieskes, Rose Dufour, Jeff Gee

*Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m.*

### *Agenda and Related Discussion*

1. Updates
  - a. Status of pending UC Ship Funds proposals
    - i. Bruce Applegate provided a brief update. The majority of proposals are still pending but a small number of proposals have recently been funded. This include proposals that are fall within the highest funding priority categories (teaching and student research) and/or that had time constraints that required immediate action.
  - b. Current status of 2009 ship scheduling
    - i. Rose Dufour provided an update on 2009 ship scheduling. In an exception to general policy, proposals for 2009 ship time may be considered from submissions to the Aug 15 deadline. This reflects an overall decline in proposal pressure for seagoing work.
  - c. Nominations for Deep Submergence Science Committee
    - i. There is currently a call from the UNOLS office for nominations for the Deep Submergence Science Committee (DESSC). This committee deals with issues related to Jason, Alvin, ABE. If you are interested, the application deadline is Sept 15 (see attachment 2). I should point out that Mike Tryon is currently a member of the DESSC. It may be unlikely that multiple representatives from SIO would be selected so perhaps it would be good to talk to the UNOLS office prior to applying.
  - d. Committee on Evolution of the National Oceanographic Research Fleet
    - i. The Ocean Studies Board of the National Research Council is soliciting nominations for members of a committee to review future development needs for the UNOLS fleet (see attachment 1 below). Scripps would like to nominate one or more persons as possible members for this committee. If you would like to nominate someone (or self nominate) please let Bruce know. The deadline for nominations is August 25.
2. SIO Radiation Safety Committee
  - a. STS currently has an ongoing search for a Radiation Specialist. There were a number of applicants and 11 have been selected for further evaluation.
  - b. The UCSD Radiation Safety and Surveillance Committee (RSSC) is interested in our SIO Radiation Safety Committee as some licensing extends to the SIO vessels. It has been requested that the chair of the SIO committee also be a member of the RSSC (perhaps with an associated change in reporting to the UCSD committee).
  - c. We are currently reviewing the membership of the SIO committee (as well as it's mandate) and will develop a plan to interface with the UCSD RSSC.
3. Ship status report (see attached report; attachment 3)
  - a. Tom Althouse was not available for the meeting as there is currently an NSF Business Practices Review underway at Marfac. No discussion.
4. STS report (see attached report; attachment 4)
  - a. No discussion
5. Other business

- a. The Shipboard Scientific Equipment proposal is due on Nov. 1. Suggestions for items that should be included are welcome. Bruce will circulate a list of items from recent proposals to give an idea of the types of equipment that have been funded.
- b. The Oceanographic Instrumentation proposal deadline is Oct. 15. Similarly, suggestions here are welcome.

*Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.*

## Attachment 1

From: "Chiarello, Heather L." <HChiarello@nas.edu>

Date: July 31, 2008 12:16:22 PM PDT

Subject: NRC National Oceanographic Research Fleet Study Call for Nominations

Dear Colleagues:

The Ocean Studies Board of the National Research Council is soliciting nominations of individuals to serve on its Committee on Evolution of the National Oceanographic Research Fleet. A summary of the project follows:

An ad hoc committee will review the scientific and technological issues that may impact the evolution of the University National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS) academic fleet over the next 25 years. The committee will investigate how technological advancements in ocean research will affect the demand for UNOLS vessels with various capabilities, the most important factors in oceanographic research vessel design, the impact of evolving modeling and remote sensing technologies on the balance of research operations, and how the increasing cost of ship time will impact the type of science done aboard ships. The committee will also evaluate the usefulness of partnering mechanisms such as UNOLS to support national oceanographic research objectives.

The committee will be comprised of eight individuals with expertise in various fields of ocean sciences such as: biological oceanography; chemical oceanography; physical oceanography; marine geology and geophysics, remote sensing; marine policy and economics; ocean observing systems; ship design and engineering. Some individuals may be able to fill more than one category.

If you would like to nominate someone to serve on this committee, please use the attached form and provide his/her name, institution, area of expertise, contact information, and any other comments concerning their suitability for participation no later than August 25, 2008. You may either email (hchiarello@nas.edu) or fax (202-334-2885) this form to me. We hope that you will also forward this note to others who may have suggestions for committee membership.

On behalf of Susan Roberts, director of the Ocean Studies Board, I want to thank you in advance for your contribution to this important activity. Although not all suggestions will result in membership on the committee, this process helps ensure that the committee is drawn from a broad pool of qualified experts. If you have any questions about the study or the nomination process, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,  
Heather Chiarello

## Attachment 2

### **Call for Nominations DEep Submergence Science Committee**

The UNOLS Deep Submergence Science Committee (DESSC) is seeking nominations to fill one membership vacancy that will open in September 2008.

The DESSC is the UNOLS Committee charged with providing oversight and advice to the National Deep Submergence Facility (NDSF) operator on matters concerning utilization, upgrades, and long-term planning of its vehicles (*Alvin, Jason, ABE/Sentry*). The Committee strives to maintain awareness of the needs of the users for new sensors and equipment to address important scientific questions, and to provide this information to the NDSF operator and the federal agencies. Nominations to fill one committee opening are requested. Experience in the use of deep submergence vehicles is required. In an effort to maintain disciplinary depth on the committee, we are particularly interested in candidates with research experience in chemical oceanography. For additional information about DESSC, visit the Committee website at <<http://www.unols.org/committees/dessc/index.html>>. For information about committee responsibilities contact the DESSC Chair, Debbie Kelley at <[dskelley@u.washington.edu](mailto:dskelley@u.washington.edu)>.

Terms of office are three years, with the possibility of re-appointment for a second term. Applicants or nominees should submit a brief statement of interest in serving on DESSC along with a CV to the UNOLS Office by email <[office@unols.org](mailto:office@unols.org)>. Statements of Interest and CVs are requested by September 15, 2008. Committee members are appointed by the UNOLS Chair based on the recommendation of the DESSC and with the concurrence of the UNOLS Council.

Annette DeSilva - UNOLS Office Annette's Phone: (401)-874-6827 UNOLS Office  
Phone: 831-771-4410 UNOLS Office Fax: 831-632-4413 email: [office@unols.org](mailto:office@unols.org) <<http://www.unols.org>> \*\*NOTE\*\* If you wish to unsubscribe from this list, please send an e-mail to the UNOLS Office at: [office@unols.org](mailto:office@unols.org)

### **Attachment 3: Ship Status Report**

#### MARFAC IS UNDERGOING A BUSINESS SERVICE PRACTICES REVIEW BY NSF THIS WEEK

##### ROGER REVELLE

1. Completed maintenance period at WHOI on 9 July and departed on JASON cruise on the mid-Atlantic Ridge for Reysenbach, Ding and Seewald. Cruise went well until late last week when problem developed with Markey Traction Winch. JASON was down 3000 meters when traction winch brake would not release. Crew was able to override the brake and get JASON back aboard. Trouble shooting was accomplished and problem appeared to be a sticky solenoid. After repairing this, JASON was again launched system was tested near the surface and appeared satisfactory. JASON was sent to 3000 m again for the dive but the brake problem reappeared when recovery was attempted. Crew attempted several measures with little effect. Several discussions were held with Markey who recommended things ship had tried and a few other things. All suggestions were attempted with little result. Suspicion was now centered on the synchronous traction winch motors.
2. It was possible to recover JASON at a rate of 5 – 7 meters a minute. Tensions in the 10,000 lb range were being observed on the cable. When tension got above this brake would set. As tension decreased, the incidence of the brake setting decreased but line speed did not increase. After many hours, JASON was safely recovered.
3. Because we did not have firm indication of what the problem was, JASON operations were terminated and ship departed for Miami 2 days early. ETA 0900 Wednesday 13 August.
4. Markey Field Service engineer will arrive 14 Aug and [parts are being organized to attempt repair. If the problem is the traction unit motors, repair will not be possible during this stop because of long lead time for replacements. These motors will have to go back to Seattle for rebuild and reinstallation before Steve Constable's cruise in October. We will be removing the F/O cable currently on the winch as that is accomplished at low tensions and the .680 EM cable will be loaded before the FSE tears into the winch. I expect no problems meeting Constable's requirements.
5. As noted above, ship arrives in Miami 13 Aug and departs 20 Aug with Southall for 6 weeks of work in the Bahamas (during hurricane season). That cruise ends in Miami on 3 October. On a bright note commercial fuel in Miami is now \$3.87/gal vice the Navy price of \$4.06.
6. We have a few minor problems to correct during this port stop but not other significant material problems are reported.

##### MELVILLE

1. Completed maintenance period in Honolulu. Major items were overhaul of I main engine and reinstallation of 3.5 KHz transceiver array.
2. Completed Bogue's ONR funded AUV cruise yesterday. Ship is in Pearl Harbor refueling now prior to departure for Dutch Harbor conducting Granot's UC Ships Funds work enroute. Stabeno/Kachel cruise will load and work in Bearing Sea. Cruise ends in Dutch Harbor on/about 11 September. Ship then transits to San Diego but some details of that are still to be confirmed.
3. The recently installed K POS DP11 computer failed before Bogue's cruise but was not needed. New computer was supplied by Kongsberg under warranty and installed yesterday. System is back up.

4. No significant material problems reported.
5. Bruce can address MELVILLE's return home plans.

#### NEW HORIZON

1. Ship completed Barbeau and Prahl cruises arriving in San Diego last Thursday.
2. After completion of the Barbeau cruise MARFAC's Isotope van and other equipment was shipped back to San Diego by road truck. This shipment was detained at the border by Mexican customs based on their interpretation of the Mexican Research Clearance which did not specifically address this. This is the first time in my tenure that we have shipped anything back from Baja California and from anyplace in Mexico other than by sea. U.S. Embassy and the Consulate in Tijuana have been assisting in trying to get this sorted out but we have not been successful yet.
3. Ship departs on CALCOFI cruise on Thursday morning. This is followed by a Navy advanced development cruise in early September.
4. On the ship's arrival, 3 members of the Science Party from Spain were found not to have US visas in their possession. They were detained aboard by order of CBP for over a day before being paroled until their flights out of the country. The individuals stated they had been told they did not need visas because Spain has a visa waiver program with the US. While this is true it applies to commercial flights and cruises only. The need for visas, even for citizens of countries with Visa Waiver agreements with the US when arriving aboard our ships will be stressed during cruise preparations.
5. There were a couple of instances of Nr 2 generator tripping off the line during these cruises. Each time it came right back up but the problem is under investigation.
6. We are planning some work on the ship's drain system this import for repair later in the year. No significant material issues reported.

#### ROBERT GORDON SPROUL

1. Ship completed student cruise for Norris and 10 day cruise for Morretti. Currently loading for Brown mooring cruise. These will be followed by Terrill, D'Spain and Pickering cruises.
2. Pickering cruise has heavy demands on the ship's electrical system which will require careful monitoring to ensure we don't have problems.
3. We continue to accomplish general maintenance during import periods.
4. No significant material problems are reported.

## Attachment 4: STS Report

STS Report to MOC, August 2008

### R/V ROGER REVELLE

completed JASON cruise for A.L. Reysenbach

- after initial glitch with HiSeasNet, communications remained good throughout cruise as long as satellite was not blocked; a parameter had been reset in a configuration file after a power outage at WHOI
- all shipboard science instrumentation worked well, including refurbished BELL gravimeter installed in WHOI
- problems with trawl winch during last couple of JASON deployments

### R/V MELVILLE

completed ONR cruise for N. Bougue

- all shipboard science instrumentation worked well
- several glider deployments and recoveries
- installed 4 linux servers and moved most network services to these from aging SUN hardware; this effort is ongoing
- 3.5 transducer array reinstalled, to be tested during transit from HI to Dutch Harbor

### R/V NEW HORZION

completed cruise for F. Prah

- problems with CTD mid-cruise, found to be combination of wires in wet end of .322 EM cable (50 m cut off), deck unit (spare put into operation) and interconnecting cables between fluorometer and CTD (replacement with spare cables)
- problems with HiSeasNet operating in fringe of satellite footprint
- majority of science operations went well

### R/V SPROUL

no reported problems

### NSF

received year-end funds to purchase CTD instrumentation to replace a package lost on SPROUL in 2007