



Ocean Exploration
Advisory Board

Chair's Introduction

Ocean Exploration Advisory Board

March 31, 2015

Seaview Forum

Scripps Institution of Oceanography

OEAB Boundaries

- Advise the Administrator on **priority areas for survey/ discovery**
 - Understand FY15-16
 - Advise on FY17 +
- Assist the OER in development of a 5 year plan
- Review (annually): **proposal review process**
- Other assistance as Administrator requests
- Comply with FACA rules

Administrator Requests

- Focus first on the NOAA OER areas for discovery
 - **OER = OKEANOS + OET + ECS + Competitive Grants**
- Consider Administrator's priorities:
 - OE must support NOAA mission requirements
 - Exploration results must lead to “actionable environmental information” for NOAA clients

Note: We will get to other agencies and institutes in due course

NOAA OE Program Funding

- Approximate Funding:
 - FY 13: \$23.688 million
 - FY 14: \$26.0 million
 - FY15 : \$28.0 million
 - FY16: \$19.334 million (President's Budget Request)
 - FY17: in formulation now

FY 15 OER Funding Breakdown

\$28.0 M Appropriated

- NOAA overhead is \$1.8 M
- OER office cost is \$1.0 M
- Investments by Function: \$25.2 M
 - Science and Technology \$ 7.7 M
 - Expeditions \$ 13.8 M
 - Education \$ 1.9 M
 - Data Management \$ 1.8 M

FY 15 OER Funding Breakdown

\$28.0 M Appropriated

By “Discovery Activity”*	\$ 17.1 M
– <i>Okeanos Explorer</i>	\$ 5.6 M
– OET/ <i>Nautilus</i>	\$ 4.2 M
– Charters (ECS, BOEM)	\$ 2.2 M
– Grants and CIs	\$ 5.1 M

* Includes federal and contract labor costs. Does *not* include overhead, office costs.

March 2015 Meeting

- Understand the resources supporting areas of survey/discovery
- Hear about budget request and other reports from OER
- Discuss OER mission statement, the ocean exploration imperative, “citizen exploration”
- Hear from the Navy and learn about UNOLS (visit to R/V *Thomas G. Thompson*)
- Judge proposal process (an annual responsibility)
- Discuss National Forum 2015
- More discussion among Board
- Next meeting ... URI in summer/fall

Backup

Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009 (PL 111-11)

- Establishes a national OE program within NOAA
 - in collaboration with others
- Directs NOAA to explore
 - in collaboration with others
- Directs NOAA to develop an OE Strategic Plan
 - in collaboration with others
- Establishes an OEAB

NOAA OER Organization

- Under Secretary of Commerce/NOAA Administrator
 - *Dr. Kathryn Sullivan*
- Chief Scientist
 - *Dr. Rick Spinrad*
- Assistant Administrator for NOAA Research (OAR)
 - *Mr. Craig McLean*
- Director, Ocean Exploration and Research (OER)
 - *Dr. Alan Leonardi*
- Deputy Director, OER
 - *Mr. John McDonough*
- OEAB DFO
 - *Mr. David McKinnie*