

DRAFT CHARGE
OCEAN EXPLORATION ADVISORY BOARD
SUBCOMMITTEE on OCEAN EXPLORATION EDUCATION

This subcommittee of the Ocean Exploration Advisory Board will conduct a review of the NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER) education program and make recommendations to OER and the NOAA Administrator regarding the effectiveness of the program to date, whether OER should consider adopting new approaches to pursuing its education objectives under the OER Strategic Plan and the NOAA Education Strategic Plan, and what performance metrics would be most useful in measuring program effectiveness.

In particular, the subcommittee will:

1. Review briefly the history of the program; its evolution; its leverage of other marine education efforts; and how well it has cultivated its partnerships inside and outside of NOAA;
2. Evaluate the effectiveness of OER's approach of working through aquariums and informal science centers to deliver professional development workshops to educators;
3. Evaluate the quality and value of the ocean exploration education materials OER has produced;
4. Explore the potential for new partnerships to extend the reach and impact of OER's education programs;
5. Recommend strategies and approaches to increase the effectiveness of the OER education program and materials, with particular emphasis on reaching underserved and underrepresented communities in support of the relevant parts of the OER strategic plan; and,
6. Describe best practices and metrics that will help OER to monitor, assess, and adapt its education activities as conditions change and opportunities arise.