

HIGHLIGHTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

UNAVCO – UNAVCO is a non-profit university-governed consortium, facilitating geoscience research and education using geodesy. AOOS is setting up a subaward agreement with them to complete a table-top reconnaissance of potential sites for field installation and testing of UNAVCO's GPS reflectometry for shore-based water level observations. The goal is to identify several potential sites for field testing this summer.

Certification Revisions – The AOOS team submitted its response to IOOS office comments on our initial certification application on February 28.

OA Ferry Project – The installation of the instrumentation that will record ocean acidification parameters on the Alaska Marine Highway passenger ferry M/V Columbia starting in 2017, is underway at a shipyard in Portland, Oregon. The Columbia operates weekly from Bellingham, WA to Skagway, AK from late April through October, and was chosen because it covers the highest priority regions for OA monitoring, including cross-boundary coastal regions along Washington State, British Columbia (Canada), and the State of Alaska. This project is a joint venture between the Tula Foundation supported Hakai Institute (British Columbia, Canada), AOOS, the University of AK Southeast - Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center (UAS-ACRC), and the University of Washington Joint Institute for the Study of the Atmosphere and Ocean (UW-JISAO).



AOOS Board Meeting – Planning is underway for the AOOS Board Meeting to be held in Juneau March 20.

NEPA Compliance – Carol is actively working with principal investigators and the IOOS office on meeting NEPA requirements for all observing activities in the AOOS region.

IOOS ACTIVITIES

IOOS Spring Meeting Planning – Molly is on the national IOOS team, setting up the agenda and planning for a 3-day meeting that includes a joint session of the IOOS Regional Association directors and each region's data manager.

PROPOSALS & NEW GRANTS

NOAA Coastal Resiliency – AOOS has been approached to collaborate on 2 coastal resiliency grant proposals due to NOAA March 15.

ADAC proposals – AOOS is working with several partners to submit 3 new proposal ideas to ADAC for future consideration.

IOOS OTT Proposals: AOOS has received and will partner on 7 potential projects for the IOOS Ocean Technology Transition (OTT) Project application, due March 24, 2017. The primary objective of this program is to reduce the research to operation transition period for ocean observing, product development and data management technologies.

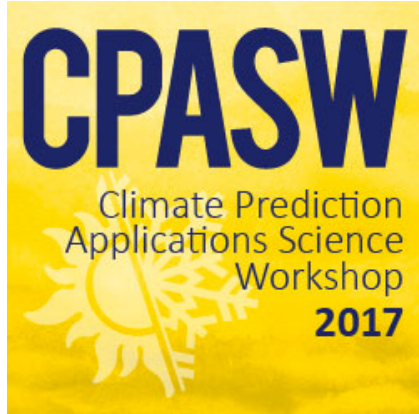
MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

Western Alaskan Interdisciplinary Science Conference (WAISC) – Holly is on the planning committee for this conference, to be held in Unalaska, April 26-29.

Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE) – Darcy gave a presentation on ocean acidification to a group of 65 people during the climate change track of the Alaska Forum on February 7. Co-presenting with

Esther Kennedy of the Sitka Tribe, she discussed the Alaska OA Network, current monitoring efforts, and latest trends.

Alaska Long-term Monitoring Work Group – Carol attended this meeting on 2/8/17 via teleconference.



Climate Prediction Applications Science Workshop 2017 – Holly is on the planning committee for this workshop to be held in Anchorage May 2-4, and both she and Carol reviewed abstracts for this conference. Darcy submitted an abstract on the Alaska Ocean Acidification Network.

Marine Technology Society – Carol is on the planning committee and a technical co-chair for this conference to be held in Anchorage September 18-22. Abstracts are due March 20, and ideas for special sessions, town halls and tutorials are welcome through June 12 for inclusion in the technical program.

High School Outreach – Holly gave a presentation on ocean acidification and The Blob to a Marine Biology class at East High

School in Anchorage on February 15.

Alaska Ocean Acidification Network – The new executive committee of the Alaska OA Network held its first meeting on February 16, charting out upcoming activities and the role of five new working groups. The network also coordinated OA briefings to the Alaska Legislature and the United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) on February 22. UFA passed three OA-related action items at their February board meeting. You can find the latest e-News from the network here.

Alaska HAB Network – A new network has emerged around the issue of Harmful Algal Blooms (the cause of paralytic shellfish poisoning) in Alaska with the goal of providing a centralized location for statewide information and improving communication about HABS events. Darcy Dugan is on the steering committee and is working on a new website for the network.

ADAC Partners Meeting – Molly participated in the ADAC Partners conference call on February 23.

DATA MANAGEMENT

During February 2017, the data management team has been hard at work rolling out the next generation AOOS data system which includes the ability to generate climatologist and seasonal averages on the fly from long term sensor time series and to visualize 4-dimensional ocean observations collected through the water column. Stay tuned for the release of these new exciting capabilities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 8-10 Consortium for Ocean Leadership public policy forum & spring meeting, Washington DC (Molly)

March 14-16 IOOS Program spring meeting, Washington DC (Molly)

March 20 AOOS Board meeting, Juneau

March 22 Alaska Marine Policy Forum

Molly, Carol, Holly, Darcy, and Rob