

HIGHLIGHTS

AOOS ED Hire – It’s official – Sheyna Wisdom, currently general manager of Fairweather Science based in Anchorage, will take over the reins of AOOS Executive Director on January 1, 2021. We’ll devote more on that in our next monthly update.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Proposal planning & development continues – AOOS staff continue to work on all of the components for our FY21-26 proposal submission to the IOOS program. We hope to submit in mid-December.

AOOS Board – The board will meet virtually December 15 to elect new officers and address other business.

AOOS Diversity and Inclusion Working Group – This new working group met for the first time on Nov 16 and began discussion on AOOS board membership and policies and ways we can be more inclusive of the diverse communities in our state.

AOOS Non-profit Status Working Group – The Board’s Working Group met November 9 and reviewed some of the items relating to potential changes in AOOS governance and grant management. Staff are collecting additional information for the committee to review in January.

IOOS

IOOS Association – Nominations for the 2021 Caraid Award are due Dec. 11. This award honors an individual, group or organization that has contributed to observing and understanding the oceans, coasts, and/or Great Lakes through collaboration, innovation, and/or a commitment to working with stakeholders. [For more information.](#)

IOOS FAC Vision Working Group - Molly participated in the October 19 administrative meeting of the IOOS Federal Advisory Committee, which reviewed current membership, as well as, the recommendations from the summer meeting.

CONFERENCES/MEETINGS/PRESENTATIONS

ADAC AMSM Project – Carol and Jill participated in the Arctic Domain Awareness Center (ADAC) project “Arctic Maritime Spill Response Modeling “ workshop on Nov 16.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council (EVOSTC) GulfWatch Alaska and Herring Program PI meetings – Carol and Stacey (Axiom) participated in the annual GWA and HRM meeting November 17-19. AOOS/Axiom reported out on the status of the data submissions from 2019, and also provided guidance for how to handle data submissions during 2020 due to COVID-19 delays and cancelled field work. Discussions were also initiated with the PIs on the next 10-Year proposal EVOSTC will consider for 2022-2032. Work is now underway to answer this call for proposals, and AOOS/Axiom will be submitting to continue providing data management support for the EVOSTC longstanding observing programs.

Northern Connections Bridging Indigenous Knowledge & Observations workshop - Jill and Axiom Data Science attended the three day virtual workshop Nov 17-19 organized by a group with funding from an NSF Navigating the New Arctic planning grant. This was a kick-off meeting for a 2-year project with the goal to bring together and strengthen monitoring & observation programs, especially community-driven programs, across Alaska and western Canada.

Ecosystem Sciences Management WG fall meeting – The Working Group, which reports to NOAA’s Science Advisory Board, met November 17-18 to review and finalize the draft report on Decision-Making Under Deep Uncertainty.

COLLABORATIONS

Welcome Thomas Farrugia, AHAB Coordinator – Thomas Farrugia began his new position coordinating the Alaska Harmful Algal Bloom Network on Oct. 30. Since then, he has had 15 “listening sessions” with tribal, research and agency stakeholders working on harmful algal blooms in Alaska, with the goal of having these informal conversations with all interested parties by the end of the year. Thomas led his first AHAB monthly call in November and has started revitalizing the AHAB Steering Committee and AHAB Action Plan. Thomas has also taken over management of the AHAB website and will be updating it regularly with news, alerts and public outreach materials.



Alaska Water Level Watch National Demo – The AOOS team demo’d the new Tiered Water Level Data Portal on Nov 10 developed by Axiom and hosted on the AOOS website to representatives of all the IOOS Regional Associations. There is a lot of interest in integrated Tier B and C water level data into water level products for use in storm surge and flooding planning. You can find the new data portal on the [AWLW Website](#).

Alaska Ocean Acidification Network – The OA Network’s outreach and communications group met on November 6 to discuss upcoming activities for the year. The network also organized a panel presentation to United Fishermen of Alaska on November 16 where four researchers presented on current conditions, modeling efforts, and species response. Darcy also presented on OA to a class of college students from University of IL on November 18. The network is in the process of developing a framework for sharing the 2020 OA state of the science report which will be in electronic format this year. Stay tuned.

UNDOS Arctic – The Data Management WG, which Molly co-chairs, continues to move forward in developing recommended action items as part of an Arctic implementation Plan for the UN Decade of Ocean Science. Two virtual meetings were held in November, and an additional meeting is scheduled for December.

DATA MANAGEMENT

The Axiom data management team has been working on back and front end changes for the v2.13 data portal release, scheduled for mid-December. Changes include: custom map drawing and print tools, display of instrument narratives on station pages, improved dataset download, brush time selection for timeseries charts, and introduction of a user time zone selector. In addition, Axiom has been responding to bug fixes and making other ease-of-use improvements to datasets, including updating portal tags and exposing additional metadata for platform (i.e. mobile) instruments. Updates were made to the [ioos qc library](#) to add the Argo tests, including location, ranges, spike and speed tests.

ENGAGEMENT METRICS

Audience Name	Type of Presentation	# of people
IOOS RA Directors and PO	AWLW data portal demo	30
United Fishermen of Alaska	Ocean acidification presentations and panel Q&A	35
University of Illinois environmental economics course	Ocean Acidification	150
GulfWatch Alaska and Herring Program researchers	Data management	38

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec 1 IARPC EI, CR and ME Teams – Post-summer sampling research cruise update report
- Dec 4 CIRCAC Board (Molly)
- Dec 4 Coastal Acidification Network coordination (Darcy)
- Dec 8 AOOS Diversity & Inclusion working group (Molly and Darcy)
- Dec 9 AK Sea Grant Advisory Committee (Molly)
- Dec 9-10 AK Coastal Mapping Summit
- Dec 15 AOOS Board meeting

Molly McCammon, Carol Janzen, Holly Kent, Darcy Dugan, Jill Prewitt, Thomas Farrugia, Marta Kumle and our data team at Axiom