

SAML Annual Meeting Notes
5-11-05 to 5-13-05
UNC Wilmington, Center for Marine Science

INTRODUCTIONS:

Dan Baden, Center for Marine Science UNC Wilmington and Jim Sanders (SKIO), SAML president.

LABORATORY UPDATES:

Duke U Marine Lab

Mike Orbach –Director, planning new addition to lab. Joint professorship with Duke Marine Engineering. Partner in conservation technology...maybe in fisheries area. Now teaching physics at the marine lab during the summer so that students who otherwise could not attend summer program will.

USC Baruch Lab

Madilyn Fletcher –Director, lots of changes new president, new dean, merging of schools, new director Bob Fennel, sediment paleontologist. Budget-wise doing well; ocean observing merging with coastal observation studies. NERRS handling the data management system. Goal to take broad regional perspectives.

Savannah State U, Marine Sciences Program

Matt Gilligan –Director of the Marine Sciences Program, new university rules and new president; new housing leading surge in student enrollment; increase in quality of students. Now have MS program. First graduates this year. Funding is healthy NSF; integrate education and research; NOAA LMR collaborative center, minority serving institute. 5 marine science faculty; Dione Hoskins benthic marine ecology research program.

UGA Marine Institute

Bill Miller – Director, based in Athens; renovation \$ to upgrade buildings; historical nature of facility presents renovation challenges; trying to get all facilities up to code. Congressional earmark in support of funding housing unit 24 bed and power plant into a dining facility; next phase is to repopulate research faculty positions. Working on three positions now, two research/one Post Doc.

UTX – Pan Am Coastal Studies

Don Hockaday – Director Coastal Studies Lab; new sea water system; seaweed culture underway; no research faculty; seeking faculty interested in marine work.

UT Marine Science Institute

Lee Fuiman -- Chairman Dept of Marine Science; 14 faculty and in growth phase...two faculty under recruitment; 35 graduate students (evenly split between PHD/MS); \$14KK research funding; NERR site under consideration in TX looking for approval this summer; ground breaking for wetlands education center.

TAMU-Corpus Christi, Harte Research Institute

Wes Tunnell – Director Center for Coastal Studies; near completing a 3.5 yr planning and development phase for the Harte Research Institute; next spring we will host the SAML meeting; completion of building delayed; Have 6 Endowed Chairs, in phase of seeking/hiring (question was raised as to whether there should be two members in SAML in future).

SCDNR-MRRI

Bob VanDolah – Director MRRI; turning corner on some of budget woes; level funded, maybe small increase. Renovation of Waddell aquaculture Center; Federal funding stable; renovations underway at MRRI - \$2KK to improve meeting, lab facilities space and infrastructure (AC); also adding new capability – dedicated histology suite; improvements to vessel fleet; 50ft research vessel built in Canada, new, stable and cruises at 20 kts; 50 ft catamaran for ecotours; staffing downsizing - 120 research staff 16 PhD; lost a benthic ecologist, but will post position soon; HML OHH initiative actively involved in collaborations; Ace Basin NERR growing acquisitions and new manager; in midst of recharacterizing all state shellfish grounds; using low altitude digital imagery ¼ m pixel resolution and automated GIS software.

VIMS, School of Marine Science

Iris Anderson – Dean of Graduate Studies. John Wells is new Director; had several staff retire, thus hiring replacements; ecosystem modeler is advertised; established program in resource management policy – 4 courses jointly offered by VIMS/W&M; new vessel 74 Landing craft ‘Pelican’ 18” draft; new marine science building-largest yet at VIMS, state has approved two new buildings to replace 3 older buildings; also have an acre under roof of seawater facility. Student information - newest class (150 applicants) drop in #applicants (105)...make offers to 30%; 91% acceptance don’t have funding to cover that level; still recovering from hurricane damage; new docks, replacement of facilities that were flooded; Eastern shore lab still growing – involved oyster aquaculture and involved in new oyster species *Crassostrea ariakensis*. Sharon Miller – vessel coordinator for VIMS; presenting vessel safety training later in meeting.

New Colleges of Florida, Pritzker Marine Biology Center

Leo Demski – Director of the Florida Honors College; marine lab built with NSF funds over past 5 yr; Pritzker Marine Biology Research Center operates as a student oriented and student guided operation; students all doing honors research/thesis oriented (undergrad); process more important than the product; initiated program – to assist undergrad students to get into best graduate programs; main mission is education; aquarium oriented program; also have a summer program in coral reef biology – behavior of fishes and inverts; have had substantial NOAA grant support – e.g. funded installation of an emergency power system, much needed due to many hurricanes; in midst of new program planning, considering possibility of MS program...focus would still be aquarist and teaching.

Gulf Coast Research Lab

Bill Hawkins – Executive Director, representing Jay Grimes; administrative change - now report through the College of Science due to reorganization. Funding \$20KK (mostly outside funding) not much state support; program – 56 yr of undergraduate summer program; most of students are from out of state; recently added May-mester; facilities undergone two master planning efforts GCRL and Marine Education Center; looking for new aquarium upgrade for the Center; long-range plan is to relocate the Research facilities to a campus inside city of Ocean Springs – currently have 5 buildings all directed to marine aquaculture and one office-research facility; 50th anniversary of the education research vessel Hermes; Academics – 17 tenure track slots; seeking 3 positions – currently marine microbiologist & fishery management scientist actively being sought; eventually will leave old property, phased over numerous years.

NOAA/NOS/CCEHBR

Sylvia Galloway –representing Geoff Scott, Director of CCEHBR. Funding is healthy; new facilities planned including coral culture facility and an additional marine estuarine mesocosm facility; major renovation (\$2.5KK) to the Harmful Algal Bloom/Marine Toxins facilities in the main research building; the Lab was the recipient of a NOAA-wide award for an outstanding safety program and safety record- ‘Best of the Best’. Several research groups in CCEHBR are focusing activities on *Crassostrea ariakensis*. The HAB group has developed a DNA microarray for study the expressed genome of *Karenia brevis*, the Florida red tide dinoflagellate. The local SC phytoplankton monitoring network has been expanded to include both GA and NC with plans to network in MD.

Mote Mar Lab

Kumar Mahadevan – Director of Mote; two facilities in Keys; remote aquaculture facility 200 acres; hurricane sent scrambling; lost field station in Charlotte Harbor; suffered in budget—spent \$150-200K in preparations/hurricane; marine mammal rehabilitation program had record number of animals – 4x care costs; \$1.3KK deficit; 230 staff – 40 PhD scientists, 7 centers organization of research, multi-disciplinary interactions; new building at marine mammal center – raised \$2.3KK need \$3.3KK total – but cost of construction has doubled – so \$6KK needed; strategic plan to 2010 prepared; bringing in Science Advisory council in 2 weeks (occurs about every 5 yr) reviewing strategic plan and current activities; looking at translating science into policy as part of new strategic plan and asking guidance from Council; have ‘protect our reef’ vanity license plate – half funds are given out to other institutions – provide funding for coral reef programs \$600k this year (7th favorite plate in FL); having conflict over education needs vs research for funds; 200 acre aquaculture park – 12 bldg – attempt to consolidate variety of facilities, trying to control waste and include horticulture to handle waste; Siberian sturgeon one of species under demonstration hatchery (30 acre) looking at showing that culture is a viable industry; pompano, snook, corals, conch species under consideration – challenge is handling of disposal of sea water in inland culture; looking toward dedication of park this fall – inviting governor and other politicians; growth is focused inland; mid-level and low-level staff can’t afford housing on coast; struggling

with Charlotte Harbor..insurance co won't settle; 6-7 partners doing comprehensive study of Charlotte Harbor since hurricane, no funding from either state or federal programs available; success arises from working in consortiums. Education – SOCOOL – Sarasota Operations Coastal Ocean Observing Laboratory...collecting all data into one site and trying to tie data all together --- red tide, manatee data for instance. Going to have a college internship program – 25% foreign students.

Florida Institute of Oceanography (Consortium)

Sandra Vargo – Assistant Director; operate two state oceanographic vessels; operate facility on Long Key that has no permanent research staff; provide facilities for visiting researchers; 5 support staff; housing (30); have two separate housing units for smaller groups; NSF funding for education vessel 30ft carrying 12-15 students as class; staff operates vessels; have new website (www.marine.usf.edu/FIO/) attracts different groups of students. During hurricane season had no lab damage, but lost remote station in Dry Tortugas; 50-50 research & education.

CofC Grice Mar Lab

Lou Burnett –Director of Grice Laboratory, 9 resident faculty, 5 Phd researchers; graduate faculty ~100 about 50 graduate students; summer undergraduate program NSF REU site; excellent success with minority recruitment to summer program; new faculty in marine organismal chemistry. Academic: Chip Birnbaum retiring, replaced with invertebrate scientist; new undergraduate program on main campus – discovery bioinformatics; hiring new faculty in bioinformatics and genomics; plans for new housing, research lab and conferencing facilities.

HML

Lou Burnett – representative for partnership facility (NIST, NOS, MUSC, CofC, SCMRI) underway for 3yr; operating budget from NOAA; became a center in Ocean and Human Health Program; NMR facility is under construction – designed to house both 800 & 900 Mghz instruments; seawater system finely up and working; website for HML under constraints by NOAA and still hasn't come to fruition; new building addition 10,000 sqft– more offices and data management facility.

NOAA/NOS/NMFS Beaufort NC

Aleta Hohn – Director of NMFS staff Beaufort, shared facility NOS/NMFS; coordinator for marine mammal research for SEFSC; undergoing Pivers Island redevelopment plan; new building breaking ground in Aug-Sep; shared NERRS/NMFS/NOS –will house conference room, offices, library, education center, administrative offices, and IT. Next new building planning for wetlab and necropsy facility; doing major safety related renovations -- sea water facility, docks. Funding is fluctuating, some increases and losses. Cooperative Research Institute w/VA Tech - - running competitive undergraduate summer program assures graduate student recruits to VA Tech and gives summer research opportunity at Beaufort. CESU Cooperative Unit – is a program started by the FWS: might be good way to pass funds from NOAA partner to a University/Research Institute – fixed overhead rate and doesn't require special paperwork.

UNC, Wilmington - Center Marine Science

Ron Sizemore – Assoc. Director for Academics; represented Dan Baden at Galveston meeting, welcomed everyone and indicated that he was available to support any meeting needs. (provided a tour of the Center at the end of the first day).

Dan Baden – Director; University has a new Chancellor and as a result is moving more toward liberal arts based programs rather than science based; The center is undergoing a \$108KK expansion program; doing master plan for university---56,000 short space; have a new research vessel “SeaHawk” catamaran, low draft coastal vessel, range ~20 mi offshore; third endowed chair; new marine biotechnology program \$2kk – have established 3 patents related to marine products; established a postdoctoral position, focused on the business of marine biotechnology –joint activity of the business school and biotechnology program (4 stud/yr); Working with the Cape Fear museum to develop a YOTO +10 exhibit; working on exhibits collaboratively. Funding by Glaxo-Smith-Kline.

Skidaway Oceanographic Institute (SKIO)

Jim Sanders – Director; budget doing much better; 7% increase in state funding; extramural funding still strong; two position searches, chemist (candidates considered), superintendent for facilities and plan ops (current super will be moved to marine ops alone); plans to hire new faculty over next few years --- modify 5 yr strategic plan and will decide on positions then; will be having an outside review next yr; the vessel Savannah (23 berths) is doing well, 190-200 sea days (80 different cruises); funding thru Sea Grant for education cruises 10d/yr; faculty from GA Tech and CofC for educational purposes; building a new housing unit – bids came in at 2x budgeted amount; trying to scale back.

Discussion: vessels operation and staffing of concern to several members; deferred until afternoon discussion.

EXTERNAL ISSUE I:

SECOORA (SE Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association)

(presented by Madilyn Fletcher to stimulate discussion on SAML’s role in the RA for OOS activities and opportunities in the SE)

Integrated Ocean Observing System IOOS – presented background information.

Other federal programs are very important to efforts due to numerous databases that provide vital elements to overall data interpretation.

Justification for regional association: Stake holder driven priorities, Ocean Commission Report, regionally driven and science based, reduce redundancies.

SECOORA –

- covers coastal NC, SC, GA, FL, GoM FL
- [other associations: GCOOS, MACOORA covers region of SAML labs; MACOORA is not as far along as SECOORA and GCOOS]
- initiated activities 2003 and has been recently funded toward a pilot project;
 - initial activity was to identify stakeholder topics of interest – [commercial fishing, disaster response, coastal resource mgt, education, public health, weather & climate, recreation & tourism, industrial, financial, military, scientific community]

Discussion: Opportunity for SAML to use its Windows on the Sea to participate in ocean observing – should be conducted via the regional associations because the funding will flow via these associations. Individual members are involved, question whether SAML as an organization should be directly involved. Maybe the role for SAML is in dissemination of information and data arising from the regional activities. The role of SAML may be that of identifying the science issues that should be the focus of SECOORA; problem may be in getting consensus due to the broad diversity of marine activities throughout SAML. There is a concern that science is identified as one of about 14 stakeholder topics...but it is not emphasized anywhere that many of the other topics depend upon a science based approach to develop the desired information. It was pointed out that there are disconnects between users concept of what their science-based needs are and the reality of how the information that they identify as needed is generated. Question was raised as to the involvement of CORE in these regional associations? Again many of the individual members of CORE are involved in OOS activities, but CORE doesn't have a unified opinion on how it should be involved in the regional associations; it is at a very early stage of discussion. Was there a subcommittee assigned to LabNet...why can't SAML set up a subcommittee to reach a consensus statement on what SAML thinks is important? Jim S. is willing to be a part of a subcommittee to develop a SAML opinion --- need to have a presence at SECOORA meeting in July --- one point that can be made is that biological sensors should be considered as well as the current physical and chemical sensors. Perhaps the SAML representative should be someone not already participating in the SECOORA. Mike Orbach suggested Joe Ramus as the lead SAML representative, bringing together participants that also belong to SAML to develop how they might be able to participate in a meaningful way as SAML Labs; Jim S. indicated that it might be best to have as the SAML representative someone who has a broader view of SAML interests rather than those that have specific internal interests...Kumar suggested the need is for someone who has a good insight into the broader view and be able to articulate those interests to the decision body. Jim views the need for SAML to be in the organizing meetings for the regional associations so that the member Labs would be represented most broadly. Jim indicated: Almost 165 reps have been invited to the July meeting...guesses that 2/3 will attend. There will be an outside facilitator. Several committees have been formed to date. Not all of the topics have committees underway. Kumar offers solution: past-president, president, president-elect have obligation to represent SAML and could represent effectively the interests of SAML---e.g., interest in having more biology and biological sensors as part of the overall program. Jim asked Kumar to represent SAML --- July 27-28 --- must check. Kumar requests that he get input from others in SAML (email, committee). Question asked why

was SAML not invited in first place? No answer... Is there an agenda? Will it be mostly governance structure or business plan? Jim indicated that governance should be about 80% along the way...he thinks it should be mainly focused on business plan. Jim asked for attendees concurrence on having a representation at the SECOORA meeting...suggests the three presidents and Kumar...invited others to volunteer. Concurrence was given. It was suggested that Joe might also serve on the committee and maybe serve as an alternate for Kumar if he cannot attend. Madilyn pointed out that LABNET served as basis for all regional OOS database.

INTERNAL ISSUE I: VESSEL POLICIES AND ISSUES

Handouts

- Checklist for trailerable vessels
- Research vessel usage log
- Trailerable vessel float plan
- Request for vessel operator approval
- Practical examination for trailering certification
- Basic training checklist for new vessel operators

Discussed their vessel operations center –centralized (have a bosun [prepares vessel for field operation] and a mechanic); have about 120 d/yr on larger vessels for a variety of uses, much in between time is for outfitting for different uses.

Risk Management: UNOLS attorney visited VIMS and offered his opinion to the new Director about various risk issues. Suggested detail written vessel policy and procedures associated with field operations. Address inherent risks in field operations near and far; especially on non-VIMS vessels.

Boat Operators: all students/faculty eligible; all students-new staff train during ½ day orientation – personal safety, man overboard drills, basic hands-on small boat operation skills, basic navigation information, positive interaction with public

Vessel Operator Certification is given in reference to size vessel that the operator has had appropriate experience on under a mentor (a competent operator). Get written exam relevant to local area. Sharon certifies applicant, and certification is maintained by 6 vessel days per year. Sharon reviews operator responsibilities, especially those pertaining to passengers. Also reviews response to emergency situations.

Trailering training and certification: see checklists.

Personal Survival Training: use of safety gear –“pfds”, flares, deploying rafts; conducts a pool exercise with folks in full gear/clothing to see how well “pfd” does etc.

Liability Release Forms: differs across departments within state; can’t use another’s form; needs to be developed related to state and case law; should be updated regularly and should be written in plain language.

Communication: use both cell phones and pagers; pagers often have better range than cell phones; phone tags have pertinent telephone numbers for emergency response and contact info. Protocols are needed for communication during and following an emergency; who, what, where, why, when. (book suggested: 'Lessons Learned' by Deb Ajango)

Debriefing: Research Vessel Usage Log; will provide information to those maintaining vessels; also could serve as legal document during court proceedings.

Vessel Designations: Oceanographic Research Vessel; Passenger Carrying Vessels; Dual Designated Vessels; Personal Vessels (certified, must have insurance equiv to Univ, must be co-insured with Univ); varies as to who can participate on vessels. Comment, designation depends upon Coast Guard Area Group. Opinion whether students are paying passengers or researchers... also if vessel is used to transport persons to research site...

Can students be required to have medical insurance? Some answered no they can't require them to have it; others indicated this may be state dependent.

Benefit to having well described policies and training: more defensible in court; and may prevent potential accidents in first place. Policy must be read and signed by all staff and students.

Lou – question as to why these documents and policies are not up on the web? Not approved by faculty yet, but plan to do so.

Iris will provide the Powerpoint presentation given today to SAML.

EXTERNAL ISSUE II:

NOAA NURC AT UNCW – OPPORTUNITIES FOR SAML LABS

Andy Shepard, Director NOAA Undersea Research Program (renamed)

Part of regional program located from NC to TX; other regional centers exist.

Have new Technology Center. Mission: diving/undersea technology development and providing undersea research support. Became extramural program...solutions to national undersea access problems, submersibles, technical diving to 300ft, (setting protocols safety, risk mgt very important); tech diving support like the Monitor project. Using untowed unmanned undersea vehicles; lend out these vehicles with training. Level funded since 1996 in Res Submersible (Alvin). Aquarius Undersea Laboratory – Key Largo – laboratory and habitat; usual practical stays up to 10d though could stay up to 30d. Located in main reef tract. Over top of Lab is NOAA life support buoy with telemetry. Communication system allows information (data) transfer from sea floor to land based system. New data system allows interaction from desk top to sea floor via Lab.

SAML involved in 119 of the 200 NURC projects during 2000-2004. NURC provides Science sub-awards (\$30-50K) and bring field assets no cost, provides training, safety, supervision, expertise. Andy described many of the types of research projects

they are partnering in. (2005 have coral disease project; have oxygen sensors on AUVs). New undersea vehicle 'Webb Glider' has 30 hr service time on batteries and 20 km range with conductive, temp, depth, fluorescence, particle, light sensors (Mote testing a new sensor – called 'Brev-buster' for red tide detection)

Lautenbacher goals for NOAA:

Completed Operational Ocean Observing Program (IOOS)

Three Regional Ecosystem Management Pilots (ecosystems.noaa.gov)

First Ecosystem based fishery management plan

Andy suggested that SAML should make presentation to NOAA Goal (Planning) Teams: outline what SAML has produced for NOAA and what are the capabilities of SAML labs.

EXTERNAL ISSUE III: SAML'S ROLE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OCEAN COMMISSION REPORT

Mike Orbach

US Ocean Action Plan – Bush Administration response to US Comm Report

Plan responded to Items listed in the Report; e.g., established Cabinet level comm. on Ocean Policy etc.

Look through plan see Action Highlights – covered some of items;

Pointed out Fig 1 Structure and indicated that many of the items are already being put in place; not exactly the structure envisioned by both the Pew and US Ocean Comm.

Administration response is a comprehensive program w/o funding; impression is given that administration is saying 'we are doing all this already' but we will get better organized.

Reviewed quickly all the big Congressional bills that are in the works; uncertain what will come out of these activities. NAML created a public policy committee to respond to the flourish of Congressional activity, how does SAML fit in this?

SAML potential options:

- expression of support for NAML public policy stance by SAML
- support of related items not in Action Plan
- state and regional SAML initiatives (e.g. FL bill that directs formation of a FL Ocean & Coastal Council and research plan that will set priorities for funding – proposed \$100KK)

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Discussion:

State Activities - Mike O. suggesting that the FL and CA models of state bills should be considered by all ocean states. States should establish a commission that pulls together Ocean oriented groups, set goals for Ocean research by conducting a research review, setting research plan (comprehensive topical areas identified).

Regional Activities – examples in the SAML arena are Gulf of Mexico Alliance, tri-national supported by Harte Institute and the State of Gulf of Mexico Summit (consensus bldg format); the Summit meeting organization is: day one will involve the governors, days 2&3 leaders of science, industry and NGOs; meeting in November; using the SAML network to bring in science leaders to the Summit. Goal to develop Action Plan. There are several other Gulf of Mexico activities underway during the next year, many fostered by the direction provided from the Presidential Ocean Act Plan and the Ocean Commission Reports.

Matt G. pointed out that the Stratton Comm report impacts spanned 30 yr; so the Ocean Comm report should outlast current administration and the current limited action plan.

Matt G. discussed the Education Elements within the Watkins Commission Report; he feels that NOAA will take a strong lead in Ocean Education. SAML could build stronger links with COSEE and support the goals of these Centers.

Mike O. asked, what can SAML do to support the Ocean Commission Report? Would like the group to address this question now and over the next year.

Kumar pointed out that the administration did not deal with the funding recommendations, e.g. doubling of the oceans budget; he suggested that SAML could work toward sending a unified message to all the legislative delegations...also work through multiple agencies. Mike O. suggested that a danger is that if the funding request is not tied to need, it will get a 'yaya' response. Might solicit items from SAML members' needs and point out what the needs are in various Congressional districts. Wes suggested economic and environmental stability themes side by side appealed to the TX governor for the Gulf of Mexico Summit. SAML could prepare letters that would go to Federal legislative representatives followed up by letters from individual SAML members to local legislative reps. Goal is to educate the representatives as to how Ocean funding would be utilized if it were received – just exactly how would doubling federal ocean funding meet needs and goals. One item would be to demonstrate how very small programs like COSEE and Hollings Scholarship program could benefit and assist in improving minority access to Marine/Ocean Science [Education outreach; traineeships] – what can SAML do in this arena?

SAML involvement in Regional Issues – agreed that this is where SAML is effective, e.g. Florida alliance. Mike O. asked Kumar to write one-pager on how the Florida alliance and Wes the Gulf of Mexico alliance were put together.

INTERNAL ISSUE II: NAML PUBLIC POLICY PLANS

Discussion: All public policy issues out of SAML should now be coordinated through the NAML public policy committee. Madilyn F. and George C. both sit on NAML comm.

NEW BUSINESS:

Education

Matt G. requesting SAML input as to what role the individual labs would like to expand their education function and to address diversification of student body. Matt suggested, based on a survey of undergraduate students, that informal marine experiences most influenced students in their final career decisions. Is SAML interested in expanding its interaction with HBCUs and expanding the HBCU current geo-science programs? These institutions do have successful geo-science programs, but little marine orientation. He suggests funding, and loaning instructors (or hiring for the institution) would assist greatly; coupled with partners at a marine institution. Currently there is little funding or mechanisms to implement this type of development. Matt would like SAML to send a message that with funding SAML labs would be willing to partner in developing marine capability at HBCUs.

Discussion: What would be the instrument? Already there...add to the letter to the legislators. What about the ORAP approach? Why the focus on geo-science. Broader aspect than marine science. Iris would like to address the question of how one would increase faculty at HBCUs – Matt suggested can't ignore need for growth in both Marine

Labs and HBCUs for marine educators, to meet specific HBCU goals toward increasing interest in marine science.

Recommended that we as SAML use MSI (minority serving institutions) in future vs the more limited group HBCU.

WRAP-UP:

- Follow-up on Internal Issue I: Jim suggested that we need to look at vessel pricing policies, how are vessels maintained, what are the source of funds. Bob suggested that a committee be formed to solicit information on vessel costs and sea pay for personnel. Jim requested Iris and Sharon follow-up and collect information on vessels, sea pay during the next year. Obtain the PowerPoint Presentation to distribute to other SAML members as requested.
- Follow-up on External Issue I – develop SAML position on SECOORA; establish subcommittee to complete task (president, past-president, president-elect; Kumar M, Bob VD, Mike O); check and see if Kumar can serve as the representative.
- Follow-up on offer of hurricane response support w/ WAML
- Reminder: next meeting in Corpus Christi; there will be a decision email sent out by Wes T. and Mike O. requesting date decision.
- Follow-up on External Issue II: pursue Andy's idea of IPA from SAML (Matt volunteered, Mike, Jim works with Andy) and presentation to NOAA Goal (Planning) Teams.
- Follow-up on External Issue III: Mike O. asked Kumar to write one-pager on how the Florida alliance and Wes the Gulf of Mexico alliance were put together.
- Follow-up on Internal Issue II: Jim S. make sure that SAML is represented on the NAML public policy committee; check with Madilyn F. and George Crozier to see if they would serve in that capacity. Encourage other members to join NAML public policy committee
- All SAML MEMBERS: Update SAML webpage information via the NAML webpage for your institution: www.naml.org/admin Username: NAML; Password ch@nge; case sensitive. Check on access to SAML information like minutes etc.
- Webpage: www.Oceanceq.gov for all Ocean documents
- Follow-up on New Business: seek replacement chair of the Education Committee.

Items to be considered for the next meeting:

- Iris vessel platform, staffing, costs
- Lab safety
- Issues of storm preparations, implications; current models
- Student funding – mechanisms
- Invitation with UNOLS attorney to speak at vessel liability, Nixon
- Continued discussion of how SAML can respond to the Ocean Commission Report and perhaps effectively pursue the doubling of Ocean funding

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