

HIGHLIGHTS

Consortium for Ocean Leadership President and CEO Jon White (Rear Admiral, USN (Ret.))– AOOS staff met with Jon White on June 13 and provided an overview of the AOOS program initiatives and observing and network activities. Axiom provided a demonstration of the AOOS data system. The Consortium for Ocean Leadership (COL) is a non-profit organization that represents and advocates for the leading ocean science and technology institutions across the nation. AOOS is an associate member and Molly sits on the Board of Trustees for COL.



ADMINISTRATIVE

AOOS Budget from IOOS – We now have our final numbers and will be doing some minor modifications to the budget approved by the AOOS Board in March. The AOOS Executive Committee will meet July 14 to review and approve the changes.

NOAA Semi-Annual Report – AOOS staff prepared and submitted the second Semi-Annual report for the first year of AOOS' 5-year Cooperative Agreement with NOAA. This report is available on the AOOS website as are all semi-annual reports for the current and most recent past NOAA 5-year cooperative agreements.

AOOS Data Management Review – Molly and Carol are preparing a scope of work, as well as contacting potential committee members, for the upcoming external review of the AOOS Data Management System.

Build-out Plans - Molly and Carol are continuing work on drafting updated buildout plans for ocean observations in Alaska, based on input from a broad group of stakeholders. Drafts will be completed this fall and circulated broadly for further comment.

Website – AOOS staff have begun a review of the website for a refresh and possible new organization. Holly is reviewing websites from other regional associations and we welcome any input on functionality of the existing website from readers.

Potential Office Move - With the lease on the 3rd and K office space coming up at the end of October, Molly and NPRB's Betsy Baker are looking into additional office space options.

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

IOOS – Molly attended the IOOS Regional Association director meetings in Washington DC June 12-14. She also participated in the IOOS Association (IA) Finance Committee call June 8, the IA Executive Committee June 30, the IOOS Data Management working group call June 19, and the Data Management Tech Webinar June 29.

Consortium for Ocean Leadership – Molly participated in a trustee call June 1, and has been asked to serve on a revamped Public Policy Committee.



OCEANS'17 Conference – Carol is developing the technical program for this conference in September 18-21, 2017 in Anchorage. Final paper submissions are due July 10, 2017. To date, 7 tutorials and 7 free workshops are scheduled for Sep. 18, and over 20 special sessions that include town halls, writing workshops and policy discussions are planned in addition to the regular program agenda of presentations.

ALASKA AND REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

AK Ocean Acidification Network – Darcy published an expanded version of the [OA brochure](#) which is now two-sided and includes OA basics, monitoring platforms, general findings and the role of the network. Three new members have signed on to the network; the U.S. Arctic Research Commission, the Alaska Marine Highway System, and the Alaska Department of Fish & Game.

Alaska Climate Assessment – Molly worked with Carl Markon on the draft ocean section for the Alaska chapter of the National Climate Assessment. That is now out for federal agency review.

Moore Foundation – Molly met by phone with the foundation’s Arctic program manager, Mary Turnipseed, to follow up on conversations held in Fairbanks in May. The foundation funded Alaska Audubon to update their Marine Synthesis Atlas, and we are working with Audubon to incorporate the new data layers into our Arctic Data Portal.

Adapt Alaska – A small working group led by Agnew-Beck met June 8 to discuss next steps for developing an Adapt Alaska initiative in response to recommendations made during 4 coastal resiliency workshops held in western Alaska in the past year. Alaska Sea Grant is developing a website to continue communication and sharing that is expected to be live by late summer.

Ice Radar – Molly and Carol met with Hajo Eicken by phone June 22 to discuss future funding options for the ice radar located in Barrow.

OUTREACH

IOOS Outreach Committee Call – Holly participated in the monthly IOOS Outreach Committee call on June 8. The focus of the meeting was a discussion on the website redesign process. Attendees discussed their methodologies for newly redesigned sites and answered questions for people working on a redesign project now. The information was especially timely for AOOS and helped to inform our process. SCOOS shared their new designation as a Weather Ready Nation Ambassador and as a result, AOOS has just applied for this designation.

AOOS Film Contest – Holly participated in an interview for [Fish Radio](#) on the AOOS Short Film Contest that was broadcast on June 26. She is continuing to publicize this event, please share [this link](#) with friends, family, and co-workers interested in submitting films. The deadline for entries is September 15, 2017.



MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

AK Climate Change Executive Roundtable – Molly participated in a meeting of this group June 29. Numerous agencies are interested in finding a way to sustain funding for the Alaska Array, a network of seismic stations across the state funded by NSF for 2 years as part of a national program to establish a seismic footprint of North America. Lt Governor Byron Mallott attended the meeting to hear the status of agency science programs.

IARPC Marine Ecosystems Collaboration Team Meeting –Carol attended this meeting on June 14 which featured a set of presentations on actions by NOAA on Performance Elements including Climate Science Strategy for the Southeastern Bering Sea Region & the Alaska Climate Integrated Modeling Project

NOAA Emerging Technologies Workshop – Molly and Carol have been working with the IOOS Program Office and the IOOS Association to discuss how best for IOOS to participate in this workshop. We are encouraging our technical partners to submit abstracts and participate.

JPSS/CPO Technical Interchange Meeting – Molly participated in a teleconference/webinar technical interchange meeting June 6 between the Joint Polar Satellite System through NESDIS/STAR and NOAA’s OAR Climate Office, to discuss Arctic needs for satellite imagery related to biogeochemistry and living resources. A follow-up meeting was held June 22. AOOS will follow-up by surveying our science community about potential interest in derived satellite products.

DATA MANAGEMENT

The AOOS Data Management team released two new information systems during the month of June. The long-awaited Research Workspace was launched mid-June providing members of the platform several new capabilities including an advanced metadata editor and integration with Jupyter notebooks to enable users to generate and execute their own R and Python scripts. The Alaska Harmful Algal Bloom (AHAB) network tool was also released at the beginning of the month of June.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 14 – AOOS Executive Committee meets to finalize FY 2017 budget.

July 18-20, 2017 - [7th Symposium on the Impacts of an Ice-Diminishing Arctic on Naval and Maritime Operations](#) (Molly will participate in panel on infrastructure needs)

August 22-23, 2017 – NOAA’s second Emerging Technologies Workshop, [NOAA's second annual Emerging Technologies Workshop](#)

September 18-21, 2017 – MTS and IEEE OES sponsored OCEANS’17 Conference, Anchorage at the Dena’ina Convention Center (Carol)
<http://www.oceans17mtsieeeanchorage.org/>

Molly, Carol, Holly, Darcy, and Rob