

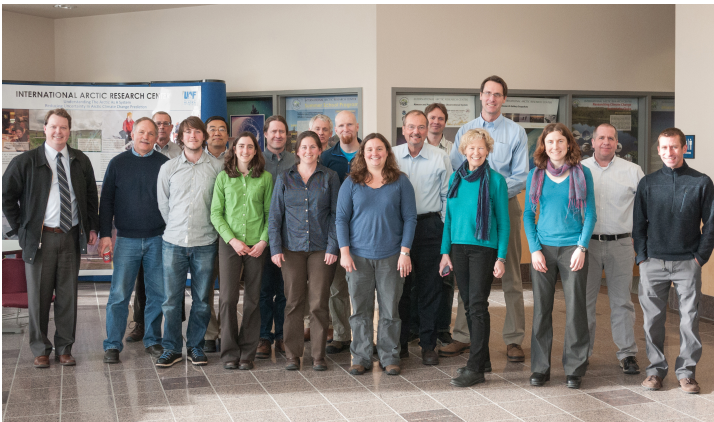
Celebrating 10 years of eyes on Alaska's oceans and coast!

AOOS 10th anniversary –In honor of AOOS' 10th birthday, we are highlighting moments in Alaska ocean history from the past 10 years at the top of the AOOS homepage as well as Facebook. We would be happy to highlight your work (scientific discovery, program kick-offs, interesting facts...). If you have a momentous event to add please email Darcy (dugan@aoos.org). Also, don't forget to tell your colleagues about the AOOS Short Film Contest 10 min or less with \$1,000 prize. Submissions due Sept 15th. More information at <http://www.aos.org/film-contest/>.



ADMINISTRATIVE

The AOOS Board met in Fairbanks March 14 to review and approve the work plan and budget for FY 2014 (June 1 2014 – May 31 2015). The board also held a strategy session focused on increasing ocean observations in Alaska, facilitated by AOOS Board member and UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences Dean Mike Castellini, with UAF Chancellor Brian Rogers, Vice-Chancellor for Research Mark Myers, and International Arctic Research Center Chief Scientist John Walsh. This was the first AOOS Board meeting held outside Anchorage and coincided with the Irving-Scholander lecture March 13 given by former NOAA Administrator Dr. Jane Lubchenco. See the board meeting summary at www.aos.org/aoos-governance.



AOOS researchers and the AOOS Data Management Advisory Committee (DMAC) met jointly in Fairbanks on March 13 to review current activities and discuss options for future projects. This was the first meeting with these groups together which helped provide AOOS PIs a greater understanding of data management activities, and the DMAC a better understanding of the research and monitoring landscape in Alaska. Dr. Lubchenco and several AOOS Board members joined this group for an informal breakfast to kick things off.

Axiom/AOOS quarterly review – AOOS staff met with Axiom staff on March 10 for the quarterly review of the data system and data activities.

MEETINGS/CONFERENCES/TRAVEL

IOOS Association spring meeting – Molly McCammon and Ellen Tyler participated in sessions with IOOS national program and other NOAA staff in Silver Spring March 4-5. These included meetings with National Ocean Service director Holly Bamford, and with directors of NOAA Co-ops, Geodetic Survey, and Office of Coast Survey. Focus areas included: ocean acidification, ecological forecasting, coastal intelligence, extreme events, development of a subsurface monitoring plan, and data management and modeling strategies.

Hill Briefings –The IOOS Association sponsored two Hill briefings March 5-6 on the importance of ocean observing and pending reauthorization of the Integrated Coastal Ocean Observation System (ICOOS) Act. The House briefing was hosted by Alaska’s Congressman Don Young, who spoke eloquently of the importance of understanding the ocean for our salmon resources.



GOAIERP PI meeting – McCammon and two members of the AOOS data team (Will Koeppen and Chris Turner) attended the PI meeting in Seattle, March 25-28 of NPRB’s Gulf of Alaska Integrated Ecosystem Research Program.

Oyster Population Resiliency in Homer – Ellen Tyler participated in a 2-day bivalve workshop hosted by the Kachemak Bay Research Reserve on March 11-12 in Homer. Ellen gave a short presentation focused on statewide monitoring of ocean acidification and participated in conversations about monitoring environmental conditions and stressors in the Bay.

UPDATES

Soon to launch statewide AOOS Ocean Data Explorer – AOOS is poised to release a new statewide portal early in April called the Ocean Data Explorer. This system combines the three large marine ecosystems (Arctic, Bering, and Gulf), allowing users to browse over 500 data sets from a variety of sources and overlay selected data on a common map interface. Keep an eye out for an announcement.

GOING FORWARD – Some Key Upcoming 2014 Activities

- April 1-2 Community Based Monitoring Workshop, Anchorage
- April 3 CBM in the Gulf Watch AK region forum, Anchorage
- April 7-11 Arctic Observing Summit, Helsinki (McCammon)
- April 16 STAMP Workshop, Anchorage
- April 22-24 Kodiak Science Symposium (Dugan)
- April 22-25 Western Alaska Science Conference, Kotzebue (McCammon)
- April 22-23 Ocean Research Advisory Panel, Washington DC

- May 5-30 Molly will be on personal leave

Molly McCammon, Darcy Dugan, Ellen Tyler and Rob Bochenek