

## Bi-Weekly IOOS® Z-GRAM – 3 October

The Z-Gram is an informal way of keeping you up-to-date on US IOOS® activities. Pass it on! Please reply with an e-mail with additional addresses or if you no longer want to receive the Z-Gram.

Follow us: Facebook: [www.facebook.com/usioosgov](http://www.facebook.com/usioosgov); Twitter: <https://twitter.com/usioosgov>

### IOOS® - Enables Decision Making Every Day; Fosters Advances in Science and Technology

#### From the IOOS Program Office:

- **Hail and Farewells: PacIOOS, CenCOOS, GLOS:** We bid farewell to three outstanding Executive Directors. Heather of PacIOOS is departing for family reasons; during her tenure she oversaw the deployment of additional observing assets, the expansion of the data portal and new inundation and sea level rise products. In CenCOOS, Leslie is retiring at the end of the year. She has had a great impact with the deployment of the newly designed data portal, a West coast regional oceanographic model, and forged new relationships with the Marine Mammal Commission and animal stranding networks. In GLOS, Jen has assumed the position of Executive Director of the University of Michigan Water Center. Jen firmly established GLOS as the go to place for Great Lakes data, implemented an international partnership that now includes both a GLOS.us and GLOS.ca; and worked bilaterally on a modeling framework. Thank you to all three for their outstanding efforts. In PacIOOS, Chris Ostrander returns as the PacIOOS Executive Director, but Melissa Iwamoto has been promoted to PacIOOS Deputy Director and will take on the day to day operations. In CenCOOS, Dave Anderson was selected by the board. Dave comes to us from NOAA as the Director for the World Data Center for Paleoclimatology and Chief of the Paleoclimatology Branch of NOAA's National Climatic Data Center. In GLOS, Kelli Paige will be the Acting Executive Director while the board conducts a search. Kelli has been with GLOS since 2009, and most recently served as the Program Manager. We look forward to great things from our new Directors.
- **IOOS Advisory Committee:** Despite the air traffic control woes in the Midwest, with persistence our members prevailed and we had a successful committee meeting in Duluth MN at the Large Lakes Observatory (LLO). First a huge thanks to Bob Sterner, Director and Jay Aston (GLOS member) who were wonderful hosts and for the great tour of the facility. Bob, recently joining the LLO, stated in his opening remarks that he was really excited to be a part of the LLO because of its interdisciplinary focus. Bob looks forward to getting to know the GLOS team and be part of it. We welcomed our new chair, VADM (Ret.) Conrad Lautenbacher. We had excellent briefings from Kelli Page, GLOS; Glenn Warren, EPA; and Josie Quntrell, IOOS Association. One of the nice things about hosting the meetings in one of the IOOS Regions is that we get to hear from the local team on the issues they are facing so we can make IOOS more responsive. The committee concluded their discussions on the guiding principles to the vision they wrote last year. After final edits, this product will be available in November. As always the presentations and minutes will be posted on the IOOS website.
- **2015 NOAA Student Scholarships Is Open:** NOAA's Office of Education is accepting applications for the 2015 class of undergraduate

scholars. Applications must be submitted by January 30, 2015. Over 100 students are selected each year to participate in the Ernest F. Hollings and Educational Partnership Program (EPP) scholarship programs. These generous scholarships include support for two years of study in the junior and senior year and summer internship opportunities at NOAA facilities, including IOOS Regional Associations, across the country. For information on these programs and how to apply:

- o Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program: <http://www.oesd.noaa.gov/scholarships/hollings.html>
- o Educational Partnership Program Undergraduate scholarship: [http://www.epp.noaa.gov/ssp\\_undergrad\\_page.html](http://www.epp.noaa.gov/ssp_undergrad_page.html)

## Observation Subsystem and Sensor Technologies

- **High Frequency Radar/Radio** (Lead Jack Harlan, [Jack.Harlan@noaa.gov](mailto:Jack.Harlan@noaa.gov)):
  - o **HFR in AWIPS-III**: This is being rolled out to five Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) by 10 November: Boston, Miami, Fairbanks, Eureka, and Portland (OR). This rollout will be the first to include the HFR data ingest and display capability. We will keep you posted as other WFOs get the HFR capability. Thank you to NWS Science and Technology Division for their hard work to make this happen.
  - o **Archiving Plan**: The archiving plan, including the Submission Information Forms, is now posted on the IOOS HF radar page. It includes both total gridded velocity vectors and radial velocity data types and is on the right side panel at <http://www.ioos.noaa.gov/hfradar/> under "Technical HF Radar Documents".
  - o **Wind Turbine and HFR**: Newly added to the IOOS HFR page are papers on wind turbine interference to HFR. We are in the process of creating a short Powerpoint to capture the issue and for use by others in the IOOS community.
- **Marine Sensor and other Advanced Technologies Awards**: The U.S. IOOS Program, in partnership with NOAA's Ocean Acidification Program, continued a multi-year Marine Sensor Innovation project to advance science and technology and better enable decision making. As part of this effort, IOOS awarded five grants in September 2014 totaling \$2.1 million to foster the transition of marine sensor and other advanced observing technologies to operations mode. Details on the Marine Sensor Innovation Project and each of the five grant projects is located at: [http://www.ioos.noaa.gov/marine\\_sensors/grant\\_awards.html](http://www.ioos.noaa.gov/marine_sensors/grant_awards.html)
- **New Buoy in Gulf of Mexico**: A new 2.25-meter buoy marks the latest Texas General Land Office (GLO) effort to protect our coast and the western Gulf of Mexico from oil spills that threaten sensitive habitats. Located 65 miles (136 deg.) off Port Aransas in a previously unmonitored area of the Gulf of Mexico, the buoy completes the moored network of offshore sensing devices called the Texas Automated Buoy System (TABS). TABS is a GCOOS contributor and partner.

**Data Management and Communications (DMAC) Subsystem and Tools Built on IOOS data** (Contact Derrick or Rob to get on the list serve for changes [Derrick.Snowden@noaa.gov](mailto:Derrick.Snowden@noaa.gov), [Rob.Ragsdale@noaa.gov](mailto:Rob.Ragsdale@noaa.gov)):

No update.

### **Modeling and Analysis Subsystem**

For information on the US IOOS Coastal Ocean Modeling Testbed (COMT), contact our project manager, Becky Baltes, [Becky.Baltes@noaa.gov](mailto:Becky.Baltes@noaa.gov)

- **Howard Townsend provided this impact of the COMT Chesapeake Bay Hypoxia Project on his work in NMFS.**
  - “The current Chesapeake Blue Crab Advisory Report indicates that abundance of spawning females is below the recommended level; however, overfishing is not occurring. As a result, fisheries managers and scientists in the region want to better understand how environmental factors may be influencing the stock.

Howard Townsend (NOAA/NMFS/HC/Chesapeake Bay Office) has been talking with Raleigh Hood (UMCES) and Marjy Friedrichs (VIMS) about their testbed project to develop a Chesapeake ROMS model with estimates of dissolved oxygen (DO). The model will be able to produce 25+ year hindcast of DO. The historical estimates of DO could be useful for understanding environmental drivers that may influence Chesapeake Bay fisheries. Howard is working with this testbed team to use their output to explore the impacts of hypoxia/anoxia on the Chesapeake Bay blue crab fishery.”

For more information on the Chesapeake Bay Hypoxia project: <http://testbed.sura.org/node/524>

### **Interagency and International Collaboration/News:**

- **IOOS Program Office and USGS meeting:** We had a great meeting with Sky Bristol, the new United States Geological Survey Chief, Biological Characterization Branch, Mark Fornwall, and Phillip Goldstein of OBIS. Sky is also a co-chair of the US Group on Earth Observations (USGEO) data management working group. We discussed the progress we are making on enrolling biological data and in getting OBIS in the IOOS catalog. We both have the same challenge how to talk about the outstanding data management work we are doing in terms that folks will understand. We are committed to growing this cooperation.
- **Ocean Acidification Education Implementation Plan:** NOAA released the [NOAA Ocean Acidification Education Implementation Plan](#). The plan outlines steps to be taken in order to effectively work together to educate and communicate to students, stakeholders, and the public about OA science.

### **Delivering the Benefits:**

- **MTS/IEEE OCEANS14 in the Books:** The weather and hospitality in St John's Newfoundland was superb and only surpassed by the content of the conference. Congrats to Ray Toll on his election as MTS President. The plenary presentations gave great perspectives on the importance of the region and the ocean to St. Johns. Two quotes from the plenary: Minister Sullivan, “Oceans are our past, present and future. On the rock we are intrinsically linked to the ocean.” And Christine Healy, Statoil, on complex ocean use, “relationships with another on use of oceans will grow in complexity. We need to roll up our sleeves and work together.” We all had

multiple roles from chairing sessions, to talking during townhalls. The full story is located [here](#) and my presentations [on our presentations page](#). A few highlights:

- In the session I chaired we heard from TE SubCom on extending the reach of cabled observatories – and their motto – make every connection count. Josh Kohut, MARACOOS/Rutgers University talked about the power on integrated ocean observing to fisheries management. Fish move, the Ocean moves – you need to know both for good fisheries management. Lastly, Smart Bay is looking to develop the buoy and communications that can withstand the “Perfect Storm” and keep recording.
  - Townhall on partnerships: The project by project collaboration is great, but the time is now to explore formalizing the partnership.
  - Townhall on Developing the Ocean Enterprise: We touched on topics from articulating its impact, to providing testbeds for industry, to incubating new companies, to sustaining others. While now revolutionary take aways, we all agreed that we need to continue to get a better understanding on the definition of the ocean enterprise, the challenges, and opportunities.
- **CeNCOOS has a new 5-Year Strategic Plan:** Available at [http://cencoos.org/sections/about/strategic\\_plan.shtml](http://cencoos.org/sections/about/strategic_plan.shtml). The plan details the overarching programmatic strategies for the Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System (CeNCOOS) for the 2014-2019 period.
  - **PacIOOS Inundation Project Page:** PacIOOS released a new page titled, "Sea Level Rise Inundation Risk" under the "Projects" tab highlighting a project funded by the NOAA Coastal Storms Program. This project provides Hawai'i-specific information regarding the impacts of sea level rise on coastal inundation zones. Through targeted outreach and the web viewer on PacIOOS' website, the results of this research can serve as a decision-support tool for facilitating science-based planning and policy.
  - **Coastal Inundation Landmark Installed in New York City:** NOAA's Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS) installed a Coastal Inundation Landmark (CIL) at the Battery in New York City. Installing this initial physical reference point is a key milestone of our CIL project, which, when complete, will help coastal communities better understand, plan for, and respond to coastal flooding events.

#### **Congressional:**

- **IOOS Hill Visits:** Carl, Jen, Mike Jarvis (OLA), and Paul Bradley (NOS/PPAD) met with staff from Senator Cantwell's Office and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Coast Guard and Maritime Subcommittee (Minority) on September 22. Staff was very pleased with the progress of IOOS in publishing the Certification Rule, the System's Advisory Committee's progress, Marine Sensor Innovation activities, and the integration of HF radar data into PORTS for the San Francisco and Chesapeake Bays.
- **National Civil Earth Observation Plan Briefing:** I joined Peter Colohan, Chair, U.S. Group on Earth Observations Subcommittee, and Assistant Director for Environmental Information, OSTP; Tim Stryker, Director, U.S. Group on Earth Observations Program, National Science Technology Council, OSTP; and Lawrence Friedl, Vice Chair, U.S. Group on Earth Observations Subcommittee, NASA in my role as NOAA Vice Chair to USGEO to talk about the plan. Our message was focused on the new broad categories – Sustained and Experiment to classify Earth-observation activities, the discussion of

measurements vice focus on the platform, the continued support making data easy to use and it remaining an open public good.

#### **Communications / Outreach / Education:**

- Red tide off northwest Florida beaches killing marine life, Washington Post/Associated Press. SECOORA member Bob Wiseberg is quoted in the article. [http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/red-tide-off-northwest-florida-beaches-killing-marine-life/2014/09/22/6a8ee6b6-3f5d-11e4-9587-5dafd96295f0\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/red-tide-off-northwest-florida-beaches-killing-marine-life/2014/09/22/6a8ee6b6-3f5d-11e4-9587-5dafd96295f0_story.html)

#### **Upcoming Meetings with IOOS participation:**

- **BlueTech & Blue Economy Summit 12-13 November:** IOOS and NOAA are supporting this upcoming conference put on by The Maritime Alliance, a cluster organizer for the San Diego maritime technology industry which fosters maritime business and technology innovation through collaboration around the U.S. and around the world. This year's summit will take place at the McMillin Companies Event Center in San Diego, CA. This year's theme is Promoting Sustainable, Science-Based Ocean Industries. Dr. Holly Bamford, NOAA's Assistant Administrator for the National Ocean Service will give the keynote, Dr. Rick Spinrad, NOAA's Chief Scientist is the Dinner Speaker. I will chair the panel on Coastal Intelligence. Check out the impressive speakers Michael Jones has attracted. For more information and to register <http://themaritimealliance.org/2014/07/6th-annual-bluetech-summit/>. Hope to see you in San Diego.

View the IOOS calendar: <http://www.ioosassociation.org/calendar> or <http://www.ioos.noaa.gov/about/calendar.html>

Cheers,  
Zdenka

--

Zdenka Willis  
Director, US IOOS Program Office

[Like us on Facebook!](#)

[Follow us on Twitter!](#)