

Bi-Weekly Z-GRAM - 21 Aug 2009

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The Z-Gram is an informal way of keeping you up-to-date on IOOS® activities. Please advise of additional addressees, or if you are receiving and no longer want to receive. If you think others could benefit from the Z-Gram please pass it on. To see previous Z-Grams go the IOOS website and view under 'program updates.'

IOOS® - Our Eyes On Our Oceans, Coasts, and Great Lakes.

### Programmatic:

- Congressional Report: **No change.**
- FY09: Congrats to the following FY09 IOOS awardees. As always I recognize that there are many partners involved in each award and I am listing the organization and institution for the IOOS Regional Associations and Regional Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (RCOOS) Awards. For the final year of our IOOS projects I will list the lead PI and institution. IOOS Regional Association Awards: SCCOOS - SCRIPPS; RCOOS Development: SECOORA - South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium; NERACOOS (Scott Gallager) - A Benthic Observatory to Support Multi-Species Fisheries and Ecosystem Management; OPeNDAP (Dan Holloway), "The Distributed IOOS Regional Data Node Framework"; NERACOOS (Jan Fredericks) "Standards Integration of QA/QC Requirements for Oceanographic Observing Systems" and SCCOOS, "Using ocean data assimilation to incorporate environmental variability into sardine and squid assessments." This completes our FY09 funding awards. Regina and Gabrielle sent e-postcards to award recipients informing them about Regina and Gabrielle's role in the administration of their grants, a great effort to show you our commitment to a high level of customer service and our contact information. For the remainder of August/September we will be working hard to close the books for the fiscal year.

### Initial Operating Capability - Data Management and Communications (DMAC) subsystem of IOOS®

- **IOOS DMAC in ACTION - FIRST USE OF NEW SLOSH DISPLAY PROGRAM:** NOAA's National Hurricane storm surge team made use of the IOOS-sponsored and managed SLOSH Display Program enhancement project during Tropical Depression/Storm Claudette August 16-17, 2009, specifically to view and monitor water levels. NHC said that it was easier to use than the previous system of calling up individual web sites for NOS stations and they encountered no issues.
- **What the DIF:** For all documents and information, please visit the [www.ioos.gov](http://www.ioos.gov) website.
  - **IPT workshop (8/11-12):** The workshop was a great success, which is significantly helping the IOOS office determine how we move forward with the DIF in FY10. The take a ways include:
    - Careful evaluation of next steps per the existing tools/services such as SOS with respect to standardization across the IOOS community, achieving interoperability, and processing speed;

- Assessing and perhaps realigning DIF goals per international/global goals for data access/interoperability and other "standards"; and
  - Increasing investment in and/or adoption/use of a standard suite of tools and applications.
- **CUSTOMER IMPLEMENTATION:**
  - **Hurricane Intensity DIF Milestone Achieved:** On August 19, 2009, NOAA's National Center for Environmental Predictions let NOAA IOOS know that all the model runs of the coupled HYCOM-HWRF system for all three hurricanes have been completed. This completes the work of the DIF Hurricane Intensity customer project milestone. We are now evaluating the results of this integration effort and next steps.
- **REGIONAL DIF IMPLEMENTATION:** On track.
- **DIF ENHANCEMENTS:** No update.
- **Analysis of Acquisition Alternatives (AoAA) Workshop:** This was conducted on August 19-20. With representatives from the NOAA IOOS Program, and three of NOAA's Line Offices - National Ocean Service, National Weather Service, and National Environmental, Satellite, Data and Information Service, and NOAA's Acquisition and Grants Office (AGO); three IOOS Regional Associations and Minerals Management Service met for two days to evaluate and rank six different acquisition alternatives for the IOOS National DMAC subsystem. Based on the outcomes of this workshop, a workshop report with recommendations for an acquisition strategy for the IOOS DMAC subsystem will be developed. We will work with NOAA's AGO to determine how much of this can be publicly disseminated.

**Interagency Project Collaboration:** The Z-Grams are certainly focused on providing information on IOOS® connections to these projects and it is not intended to provide programmatic updates of these specific projects because they all have project leads.

- **Interagency Modeling Activities:** No update
- **IOOS and Links to the National Water Quality Monitoring Network:** The next meeting is September 14. The NOAA IOOS office has a follow-up meeting with the Gulf of Maine Ocean Data Partnership to focus on the applications for this project. There were discussions of focus areas that could be developed into use cases and nutrients landed at the top of the list. The result is the formation of a small working group to develop a nutrient use case scenario.
- **IOOS and National Science Foundation (NSF) - Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI):** No update.

**Other:**

- **The Scarlet Knight (RU27) - What's Going on with the Biology!:** Scarlet Knight is about 80% across the Atlantic and she continues to be plagued by something that keeps her spinning to the right. So, the Rutgers team is en route Monday (August 24) to the Azores with a dive team, film crew, and marine biologist to see what is going on. Rutgers' schedule is being affected by the track of Hurricane Bill, while the East Coast is prepared this weekend, as Hurricane Bill curves back toward Europe it will affect when

the team can get out to see what's going on with Scarlet Knight. The plan is to document the biology and take some samples and determine if the mission can continue. It is all part of the adventure and now we are all anxious to see what is going on - keep up with the events by following along with the daily blogs: <http://www.i-cool.org/?cat=38>

- **Keynote speech at the 17th Annual Geoinformatics Conference:** I was pleased to provide an IOOS presentation. The International Conference on Geoinformatics is a well-known annual forum for Geospatial Information Science Professionals. The conference was held at George Mason University and attracted over 200 papers from many countries. I was honored to share the stage with Dr. Michael Goodchild (University of California Santa Barbara), Dr. John Townshend (University of Maryland at College Park), and Mark Reichardt (President and CEO of OGC). Ken McDonald (NOAA Data Management Architect) provided one of the welcoming addresses. For more information on the program please visit: <http://www.geoinformatics2009.org>
- **NOAA's R/V BAY HYDRO II assists in buoy swap:** Partnerships are the name of the game and I was pleased to see a BZ to the R/V BAY HYDRO II for the help in swapping a CDIP buoy. The quote from the email I received is as follows: Just wanted to thank & commend everyone for the great buoy swap on Friday, everything went very well. The R/V BAY HYDRO is an excellent platform - and very well staffed, I might add. Have a look at the website below for the wave data.  
[http://cdip.ucsd.edu/?nav=recent&sub=observed&units=metric&tz=UTC&pub=public&map\\_stati=1,2,3&stn=147&stream=p1&xitem=wwave](http://cdip.ucsd.edu/?nav=recent&sub=observed&units=metric&tz=UTC&pub=public&map_stati=1,2,3&stn=147&stream=p1&xitem=wwave)
- **ORRAP new chair named:** VADM (Ret) Paul Gaffney, President of Monmouth University, was named the new chair of the Ocean Research & Resources Advisory Panel (ORRAP), a panel created by statute to advise federal agencies regarding ocean science and management matters. The ORRAP brings together a broad cross-section of the ocean community with diverse experience and expertise to provide balanced and insightful advice and has strongly supported our IOOS and OOI efforts.
- **NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Meeting:** While this was an internal meeting that had a number of National Ocean Service and National Environmental Data and Information Service (NESDIS) offices represented, the IOOS Regions were represented by Gabrielle. Thank you for your input on regional HAB efforts. The purpose of the meeting was for NOAA to better understand (1) the end-to-end capabilities that NOAA is providing or funding; (2) efforts that are ongoing across NOAA and the nation; and (3) to better articulate how we can move forward in HAB forecasting and even begin to think about mitigation. This is in the early stages and NOAA IOOS will continue to participate, our lead is Gabrielle, and will ensure that the IOOS Regions are fully incorporated and involved as we move forward. Already a positive move forward was a post meeting discussion facilitated by the NOAA IOOS and CSCOR offices with CaRA on better understanding of the MERHAB program.
- **Funding Opportunity: NOAA and NSF.** The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service and the National Science Foundation's Division of Ocean Sciences are pleased to announce a call for proposals for the Comparative Analysis of Marine Ecosystem Organization (CAMEO) Program, which is implemented as a partnership between the two agencies. The purpose of CAMEO is to strengthen the scientific basis for an ecosystem approach to the stewardship of our ocean and coastal living marine resources. The program will support fundamental research to

understand complex dynamics controlling ecosystem structure, productivity, behavior, resilience, and population connectivity, as well as the effects of climate variability and anthropogenic pressures on living marine resources and critical habitats. CAMEO encourages the development of multiple approaches such as ecosystem models and comparative analyses of managed and unmanaged areas (e.g. marine protected areas) that can ultimately form a basis for forecasting and decision support. More information is available at <http://cameo.noaa.gov>. Proposals must be submitted no later than October 5, 2009. For further information, contact: NSF, Cynthia Suchman ([scuchman@nsf.gov](mailto:scuchman@nsf.gov)) or Dave Garrison ([dgarrison@nsf.gov](mailto:dgarrison@nsf.gov)); NOAA, Mike Ford ([Michael.Ford@noaa.gov](mailto:Michael.Ford@noaa.gov)) or Lora Clarke ([Lora.Clarke@noaa.gov](mailto:Lora.Clarke@noaa.gov)).

- **Funding Opportunity: NOAA's Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research (CSCOR) Fiscal Year 2010 for the Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB) Programs, Coastal Hypoxia Research Program (CHRP), and Sea Level Rise Program.** CSCOR leads the development of predictive, multidisciplinary, and regional ecosystem scale research to support sound coastal management decisions. Through CHRP, the focus will be on predictive model development to provide managers with actionable information on the causes and ecological and socioeconomic impacts of hypoxia. The HAB programs will, for the first time, be targeted more specifically to identify regional management needs. ECOHAB will accept proposals from the West Coast, Alaska, and Great Lakes, MERHAB from the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean/Pacific Islands, and PCMHAB from the South Atlantic, mid-Atlantic, and Gulf of Maine. The Ecological Effects of Sea Level Rise (EESLR) Program solicits proposals to develop predictive modeling and mapping tools that will enable proactive management of coastal ecosystems in the northern Gulf of Mexico in the face of sea level rise. Coastal management agencies are encouraged to apply as part of the multidisciplinary teams. Full applications for all competitions must be received by 3:00 p.m. EDT on October 14, 2009. To search all of the CSCOR announcements please use CFDA # 11.478. For more information visit: [http://www.cop.noaa.gov/research/2009\\_omnibus.html](http://www.cop.noaa.gov/research/2009_omnibus.html).

**Congressional:** No update.

**Communications:**

- NOAA released the following Press Releases:
  - [8/13/09](#) — NOAA Announces Funding to Support Ocean Observing in Alaska
  - [8/13/09](#) — NOAA Announces Funding to Support Ocean Observing in the Caribbean
  - [8/13/09](#) — NOAA Announces Funding to Support the Alliance for Coastal Technologies
  - [8/13/09](#) — NOAA Announces Funding to Support Ocean Observing in the Mid-Atlantic
  - [8/13/09](#) — NOAA Announces Funding to Support Ocean Observing in the Northeast
  - [8/13/09](#) — NOAA Announces Funding to Support Ocean Observing in the Great Lakes
  - [8/13/09](#) — NOAA Announces Funding to Support Ocean Observing in the Southeast

- [8/13/09](#) — NOAA Announces Funding to Support Ocean Observing Along the Gulf Coast
- [8/13/09](#) — NOAA Announces Funding to Support Ocean Observing in Central and Northern California
- [8/13/09](#) — NOAA Announces Funding to Support Ocean Observing in the Pacific Northwest
- [8/13/09](#) — NOAA Announces Funding to Support Ocean Observing in the Pacific Islands
- SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER/AP, "UW gets \$1.9 million for ocean observation efforts"
- HONOLULU ADVERTISER/AP, "NOAA Announces Funding to Support Ocean Observing in the Pacific Islands"
- PHYS.ORG: NOAA announces funding to support ocean observing in the Northeast in Science News Wire / Space & Earth
- KIRO (CBS); KIRO 7 E.W. News at 5 A.M. (News), Seattle, WA, Friday, 14 Aug 2009 08:26 A.M. EDT - short video clip: [http://www.criticalmention.com/ctv3-1/landing\\_email.php?type=email&video=true&random\\_string=d691faa17a9d2a3d01a273ad1437ddd](http://www.criticalmention.com/ctv3-1/landing_email.php?type=email&video=true&random_string=d691faa17a9d2a3d01a273ad1437ddd)
- LIVE SCIENCE (web news site): NOAA announces funding to support the Alliance for Coastal Technologies
- New on the IOOS Website: [IOOS Unlocking the Mysteries of the Earth's Climate](#)
- Unmanned submarines glide across the ocean, putting Rutgers at leading edge of exploration by Judy Peet/The Star-Ledger, Saturday, August 22, 2009, 9:00 P.M. [http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2009/08/unmanned\\_submarines\\_glide\\_acro.html](http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2009/08/unmanned_submarines_glide_acro.html)

### Upcoming Meetings:

- 25-27 August: Seattle, WA - 2009 IOOS Regional Coordination Workshop
- 9-11 September: OOI/CI Planning Meeting - NOAA IOOS (Ops) to participate
- 21-25 September: OceanOBS09: Zdenka Willis and Jeff de La Beaujardiere to represent NOAA IOOS
- 26-29 October: MTS/IEEE Oceans 09 - US IOOS and OOI - Ocean Observing for the Nation

Cheers,  
Zdenka