

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT
SEA-COOS SPRING WORKSHOP

28 and 29 MAY, 2003
Jacksonville, Florida

THEME: Stewardship of the Coastal Ocean Observing System of the Southeastern USA

OBJECTIVES:

- Provide an open forum for discussing coastal ocean observing systems in the Southeastern U.S.A., including their current status, future plans, and opportunities for development.
- Present the progress and plans for the SouthEast Atlantic Coastal Ocean Observing System (SEA-COOS) and related programs.
- Identify and facilitate linkages between SEA-COOS and government agencies, particularly state organizations, to enhance the utility and application of SEA-COOS information products.
- Consider the outcome of the Ocean.US Regional Summit held in Washington, D.C., on March 31-April 1, 2003 and steps to be taken to form a Regional Association for the SouthEast.

GENERAL PROGRAM OUTLINE:

-May 28, morning:

Overview of the status and prospects of the national and regional plans for the coastal component of the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS), including national observing programs, national backbone infrastructure, and regional systems and user applications.

-May 28, afternoon:

Overview of state agency coastal operations, including activities such as emergency management, port operations, and resource management uses and needs for coastal ocean information.

-May 29, morning:

Discussion and identification of future needs, approaches, and priorities for the southeastern coastal ocean observing system, with emphasis on the future steps to be taken – including broadening of research, agency, and community involvement -- to form a Regional Association. This will include breakout working group discussions and synthesis of working group reports. It is recognized that the participants will not provide the broad representation required to fully address the

Regional Association concept, which was presented in the Ocean.US Regional Summit. Nevertheless, this is a valuable opportunity to expand the discussion to additional researchers and OOS users, as well as formulate some recommended next steps for development of an organizational framework.

PRODUCT:

Brief report for public release on the status of the southeastern coastal ocean observing system, its needs, and plans for the future, with emphasis on potential opportunities and applications that will enhance state resource and management activities and priorities. A second product will be recommendations for next steps to be taken to develop the process to form a Regional Association.

VENUE

The meeting will be held at the Jacksonville Riverfront Hilton, 1201 Riverplace Blvd. A block of rooms has been reserved, and you can reserve your room by calling the hotel at 904-398-8800 and saying that you are with the SEA-COOS Spring Workshop. The room rate is \$81. Call before May 12, after which the block will be released.

REGISTRATION FEE

A registration fee of \$30 will be required from all participants. This will cover the cost of lunch and an evening reception on May 28, as well as refreshments during the course of the meeting.

NOTE: Anyone requesting information about the workshop should contact Dr. Madilyn Fletcher (fletcher@sc.edu). A more detailed program will be distributed in mid-May.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Dr. Madilyn Fletcher, USC, Co-Chair
Dr. Chris Mooers, RSMAS, Co-Chair
Dr. Harvey Seim, UNC-CH
Dr. Pat Welsh, WFOJAX/NWS/NOAA
Dr. Mike Spranger, Florida Sea Grant
Ms. Debra Hernandez, Coastal States Organization

LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Dr. Pat Welsh, WFO/JAX, Chair
Dr. Rick Gleeson, GTM NERR
Dr. Quinton White, Jacksonville University
Dr. David Lambert, University of North Florida
LT Angie Walker, Navy MetOc
Mr. Frank Andrews, NLMOF
Dr. Maia P. McGuire, Florida Sea Grant