

**NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (OCE) 1-Page Programmatic Update**  
**Prepared by Jim Yoder for CORE Board Meeting**  
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- **FYO3 Budget increase of >\$30M** for ocean science research/education, facilities and technology. FYO4 request is problematic, but we are optimistic.
- ***Centers for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence (COSEE)***: \$12M/5 yrs (plus additional funds from NOAA and ONR) for 7 regional centers and 1 central Office (at CORE). First PI meeting was this week. OCE is considering plans to sustain and enhance the program. Considerable interest from Ocean Commission.
- ***Oceans and Human Health*** program announcement (in cooperation with NIEHS) is on the street. Announcement based on NRC's *Monsoons and Microbes* report, with \$20M+ funding over 5 years. Future cooperation with NOAA's new OHH initiative is under discussion.
- ***Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP)*** begins in CYO3. The RFP Synopsis was released on 4 March to be soon followed by an RFP for "IODP System Integration". See <http://www.eps.gov/spg/NSF/DCPO/CPO/DACS-O3-00001/listing.html>.
- ***Ocean Observatory Initiative (OOI)*** development and planning continues in preparation for MRE funding in FY06.
- Design for ***Alaska Region Research Vessel (ARRV)*** (an Ocean Class ship) is close to completion. Later this year (spring to summer), OCE will submit internal proposal for consideration by National Science Board and NSF management for MRE-FC funding line.
- OCE is planning release of an RFP later this year to fund concept designs for Regional Class ships (ca. \$25M per vessel) leading to NSF-funded construction (process TBD) of 3 ships in 6 years beginning in FY06 using OCE program funds (for midsize infrastructure).
- Selected a Steering Committee to evaluate immediate and future community IT needs, in part to prepare for anticipated NSF ***Cyberinfrastructure*** Initiative.
- Along with ONR and NOAA, OCE funded an NRC/Ocean Studies Board committee to evaluate deep submergence needs for research, including the possibility of an NSF-funded human occupied submersible to replace AL VIN. Report expected in fall, 2003.
- Using guidance from NRC/OSB reports, NSF and ONR will promote a NOPP-led initiative for research on the effects of acoustic sources on marine mammals and other marine organisms. In addition to other federal agencies, we hope to engage industry, and possibly NGO, partners in the research program.