

**RVOC Report
UNOLS Annual Meeting
2004
Tim Askew, Chair**

A very successful 2003 RVOC Meeting was hosted by the University of Minn. Large Lakes Observatory in Duluth, MN.

This year's meeting is being hosted by Bermuda Biological Station for Research (BBSR) 19-21 Oct. (Next Week).

Topics of fleet wide importance.

Load handling system design standards.

Weight and stability management - Dirk Kristensen with Glosten Associates will give a presentation.

Vessel Security Plans (VSP) for ocean class vessels (Intermediates) all of which are greater than the 500 international tonnage threshold.

Uniformity of fees (Specifically who pays for what - science vs. operator).

Safety Standards - the safety committee has been tasked with updating the safety standards which will include a myriad of new regulations.

AMS (Automated Manifest System) U.S. Customs and Border Protection requires cargo which includes science equipment lab vans being TAE most obvious. (Problem exists when van or other equip. is loaded in a foreign port and brought to a U.S. Port.)

Lastly - discussion on issues of importance to operators: like crew retention, compensation, training, STCW renewals, port facility security plans, Post Cruise Assessments (PCA's), Physical exam requirements for crew, etc.

Deferred to 2006-

Presentation by NTSB, Morgan Terrel on marine accidents what to expect and do if it happens.