



Florida Institute of Oceanography

Annual Report

FY 2013 – 2014

July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014

Date of Submission to Chancellor, Florida Board of Governors:

Reviewed and Approved by USF Board of Trustees (as host institution):

August 28, 2014

Date of Submission to Host Institution Provost:

August 05, 2014

Reviewed by FIO Advisory Council:

August 01, 2014

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Highlights from the Director:

Dear Colleagues,

This fiscal year, I returned to take the helm of FIO full-time, after a year as Interim USFSP Regional Chancellor. We continue to work diligently to build and strengthen our commitment to better serve our members, however, our efforts were reduced by Dr. Virmani's departure to the west coast December, 2013, to join her husband Ben, and become Director of Technical Operations for the Wendy Schmidt Ocean Health XPRIZE.

With that said, the *R/V Bellows* and *R/V Weatherbird II* were dry-docked this past January, 2014 for their bi-annual thorough inspection and maintenance. At the dry-docked, the *R/V Weatherbird II* crew upgraded the water filtration system aboard the *R/V Weatherbird II*. This upgrade can now provide potable water at a rate of 1000 gallons/day, which will enhance the duration at sea for the *R/V Weatherbird II*. Since, we know that the *R/V Bellows* is aging and has structural issues, we paid special attention to the hull inspection and sanitary water system, and we will continue to monitor her status.

FIO continues to play a supporting but vital role assisting FIO member institutions conduct not only the normal research, teaching and other activities, but to create vibrant partnerships contributing to programs that enable research, monitoring and training of future scientists. Three (3) of the eight (8) consortia established by funding from the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative are located in Florida at Florida State University, University of Miami, and University of South Florida. Many of our members are involved in the consortia along with experts from other universities and laboratories, both national and global.

At the Keys Marine Lab (KML), the team has been assessing ways to improve the infrastructure to better serve our customers. The third phase of the seawater system funded by an NSF grant, is underway and is expected to be completed and operational by end of August. FWRI funded the first two phases of the project. In May, 2014, FIO and Mote Marine Laboratory co-hosted the Southern Association of Marine Laboratory (SAML) at Hawks Cay. Members of SAML were given tours of the KML and Mote Marine Lab.

In April, 2014, a team from the U.S. Treasury Department-Office of Inspector General, who oversee the RESTORE Act programs, conducted a site visit to FIO. The visit included an explanation of the Inspector General's role in the RESTORE Act and evaluation of FIO's process to ensure sound management of funds, control of conflict of interest, fraud, transparency in operations and compliance with the Treasury Regulations. The FIO team included the Provost, Audit & Compliance Officers, Sponsored Research Office of USF and the FIO administration.

In preparation to be the *Florida's Center of Excellence* under the RESTORE Act, we have launched a search committee, led by Gil McRae, to locate the most qualified individual as the Program Director. The search is underway and will be completed in the early stages of the new fiscal year. We thank all of the committee members for taking time to serve on this extremely important committee.

For the second summer, Dr. Courtney Hackney successfully led the FIO's 5-week field intensive "*Study Aboard in Florida*" course. This year, the course had an enrollment of 12 students, who were represented by a full range of academic backgrounds, from sophomores to seniors. The program expanded with the addition of UWF as a host institute joining Florida Atlantic University (FAU) hosted at the KML, Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU),

University of North Florida (UNF), and University of South Florida- St. Petersburg (USFSP). Just as for new courses, Dr. Hackney and team continue to address the challenges to improve the course. Students appreciate the structure of the course, the enthusiasm of the professors and most importantly the field work especially the opportunity to go to sea on the *R/V Weatherbird II*, which the course provides. I want to thank the faculty from all the institutions for their leadership and devotion to making this course a success. It is wonderful to hear the student's enthusiasm to encourage their friends to enroll in a future course.

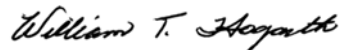
Despite the many challenges this fiscal year, FIO's finances remain stable, however, in order to improve our financial position, we must sail more than the 156.5 total days per year; which should occur as the RESTORE Act funds become available. I am happy that we were able to increase the FY13/14 SUS days to 47 (awarding 14 proposals from 8 different institutions). This is a steady increase from FY12/13, which was 35 days. This is a great achievement and I want to thank Dr. Jennifer Cherrier and the Ships Committee for their diligent work in reviewing and ranking the proposals, and for the legislative for providing the funds.

While FIO was fortunate to receive increased recurring operating funds in FY14/15 to continue our marine operations, we failed to get funding for the replacement of the *R/V Bellows*. As this is an extremely critical issue for FIO and its members we will continue to seek funding in the 14/15 legislative session. I encourage all members to speak with your University Leaders and Legislators to support this critical State-wide initiative.

Time has flown by since the establishment of FIO as an Academic Infrastructure Supporting Organization (AISO). We are approaching the 5th anniversary in FY 2015 and will be seeking renewal of the Academic Infrastructure Supporting Organization (AISO) before the Board of Governors. I ask that our members be involved in the renewal process as we move ahead.

I hope after reading this informative report, you will be able to visualize FIO's accomplishments as one of Florida's AISO. I appreciate the support of the Board of Governors, Legislators, and the University of South Florida-as the host university and all of our members. Finally, I want to thank the small, but dedicated FIO staff for their dedication and participation in assisting our FIO members meet their goals and mission.

Sincerely,



William T. Hogarth
Director

Summary of Activities for Fiscal Year (FY 2013-14)

A. Administration and Planning

FIO implemented various administrative and planning actions during the fiscal year 2013-14 which included:

- On August 1, 2013 the Annual Report for FY 2012/13 was approved by the FIO Advisory Council, August 5, 2013 the host institution and on October 1, 2013 it was submitted to the Board of Governors.
- September 12, 2013 at FGCU; Dr. Courtney Hackney presented to the BOG's Academic and Student Affairs Committee the FIO's Summer Cooperative Pilot Course: "*Study Aboard in Florida*"
- October 9, 2013 Dr. Hogarth presented to the BOG Facilities Committee a request to replace on R/V Bellows. Based on the discussions, it was determined a new vessel was the best choice. LBR FY13/14 was prepared accordingly.
- Three in-person meetings of the full FIO Advisory Council were held on August 1, 2013 at Florida Institute of Technology, February 9, 2014 and June 23rd, 2014 both in St. Petersburg. In addition, numerous Executive Committee meetings were held by phone. The August Advisory Council meeting was held back-to-back with the Florida Ocean Alliance to begin discussions between academia and business communities.
- Established the Board of Visitors (referred to as the Business Advisory Council in the FY 2012/13 Annual Report). Two in-person meetings were held at FIO facilities (October, 2013 in St. Petersburg and February 7, 2014 at KML).
- No new member application requests were received. Florida Polytechnic University will automatically become a full voting member in August 2014 as Florida's twelfth state university.
- Continued to work closely with the 3 Florida GoMRI consortia to coordinate and fulfill vessel needs. GoMRI consortia are: C-IMAGE-University of South Florida; DEEP-C- Florida State University; CARTE- University of Miami.
- Continued to offer administrative support to the GOMURC director. FIO also collaborated with GOMURC to continue the USCG MOU with District 7 and possible expand to include other district(s) that oversee the Gulf of Mexico.
- Continued to maintain and expand its AISO communication role through continual website improvements (staff biographies, documents, membership lists, and a mailing list for all marine biology educational contacts), posting documents of interest to members and stakeholders, increasing its social media presence, monthly newsletter, and maintaining a categorized opportunities page for students and jobseekers.
- Administers approximately \$3,227,603 in grant funding from various sources, with 1 new and 12 continuing grants. The new grant was awarded by the National Science Foundation for Improvements to the third phase of the Keys Marine Laboratory Seawater System. The first two phases were financially supported by FWRI.

- Staff reviewed vessel and KML user costs to maintain competitive pricing. KML use and ship time fees will not increase to FIO members in FY 2014/15. FIO continues to seek cost saving opportunities in all areas of administrative and ships operations.
- January 2014, both *R/V Bellows* and *Weatherbird II* were dry docked at International Ship Repair and Marine Services in Tampa. Work included: five year American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) inspection and recertification for *R/V Weatherbird II*, new topside, deck and antifoulant paint, bow-thruster inspection and various mechanical and hydraulic repairs. A new Lowrance depth sounder was added to complement the existing acoustic suite. *R/V Weatherbird II* also installed a new water maker which will provide potable water at a rate of 1000 gallons/day. *R/V Bellows* also received a new coat of topside and antifoulant paint in addition to repairs to the forward berthing spaces, u-frame and hydraulic systems. The *R/V Bellow's* hull and other safety inspections and repairs were performed as needed.
- Continue to follow the current UNOLS Research Vessel Safety Standards Policy wherever possible. Both vessels USCG Research Vessel designation letters will be renewed in 2015. Rob Walker attended UNOLS' RVOC meeting in Savannah in April 2014. FIO strives to continue to being involved by attending UNOLS meetings in order to keep current with the new technology and safety standards.
- Staff and crew members took advantage of various safety and professional development training opportunities.
- September 2013 the US Treasury Department opened a 60-day comment period on the draft rule language implementing the RESTORE Act of 2012 (TREAS-DO-2013-0005). FIO staff disbursed information to members and coordinated a unified response and clarifying comment in support of the proposed regulation that was submitted through the host institution by the November 2013 deadline.
- April 11, 2014 in Houston, TX Dr. Hogarth met with Dept. of Treasury Inspector General personnel, to prepare for site meeting to get a better understanding of FIO's establishment and organizational structure and position with regards to the RESTORE Act. March 24, 2014, St. Petersburg, FL; Initial Entrance Meeting with Dept. of Treasury Inspector General, FIO Director, Host institution Provost, General Counsel, Research & Audit Compliance Officers to discuss the regulations and how FIO is organized to handle audits, compliance, fraud, conflict of interest and etc.
- Recruitment for Marine Vessel Services Coordinator (land support), Program Director for the RESTORE Act Center of Excellence and Assistant Engineer for *R/V Weatherbird II*. Positions should be filled within FY 14/15.
- Supporting the present GoMRI consortia as well as other FIO institutions as they prepare new proposals for the next round of the consortia competitive, designation process. Consortia will be selected by the GoMRI Board for a new 3 year grant on November, 2014.

B. Legislative Initiatives

As a state-wide organization, FIO serves as advisor to the Governor, State Legislature, State University System Board of Governors, and others, providing science-based advice on natural resource management, mitigation, regulations, programs and policy. To this end:

- A Legislative Budget Request (LBR) was submitted for the FY 2014/15 Legislative Session to: 1.) enhance FIO's state-wide services and responsibilities in particular the Research Vessels--*Weatherbird II* and *Bellows*; 2.) stabilize and expand its administration, shared use resources, and member support; and 3.) maintain FIO as the point of coordination for the SUS and other marine research and educational entities in coordinating and administering the academic research response to disaster events affecting the State, such as oil spills, harmful algae blooms, and hurricanes. FIO received \$1 million recurring for FY 2014/15 to address these issues.
- Due to the age and safety concerns, a LBR was submitted for the FY 2014/15 Legislative session for designing and building a new research vessel to replace the *R/V Bellows*. This request was for \$6 million dollars, was approved by the Board of Governor but unfortunately, it was not funded in the final 2014/15 state budget.
- Administration and members met with the Florida delegation in Washington D.C., and locally, to discuss the U.S. Government penalty phase of the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill (DWH). Meetings were also held with various local and state legislature members to discuss oceanographic research and education priorities and funding and, in particular funding for a new research vessel. Various legislators are actively engaged in the RESTORE Act Council process.
- Administration and member institution representatives gathered on April 9, 2014 at the Florida Capital in Tallahassee for 2014 Florida Ocean Day. Mote Marine Laboratory hosted a reception. FIO, Florida SeaGrant, and Florida Ocean Alliance co-sponsored the morning public workshop and panel discussion "*Tomorrow's Ocean Workforce: Bridging the gap between industry and academia*", which was well attended and Director Hogarth was a panelist. Inside and outdoor displays were available to visitors, staff and legislators showcasing FIO's capabilities and infrastructure assets in support of oceanographic education and research, and its goals and strategies as set forth in the current strategic plan. Individual FIO member institutions were also on hand to promote their research initiatives, including Deepwater Horizon Oilspill, fisheries, harmful algal blooms, and marine mammals.

C. Academic Support

Part of FIO's mission as an Academic Infrastructure Support Organization (AISO), includes operating the research vessels, the Keys Marine Lab (with FWRI), contributing to the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) degrees and supporting other performance metrics that are imperative to all SUS institutions. As a result FIO was able to achieve its mission through the following accomplishments:

- Supported specific member activities on the Research Vessels: GOMRI consortia, Natural Hazard/Oil Spill response preparation, Oceanography Camp for Girls, equipment testing (USF/COT, SRI), and educational courses by UCF, FIT, Eckerd, UNF, UWF, FGCU, USF, USF-St. Pete, FAU and GOMURC.
- A total of 156.5 days of FIO ship-time were used by FIO members for FY 2013/14. Of the total days, the FIO Ship Scheduling committee recommended 47 SUS days for 8 member institutions on the *R/V Bellows*. Ship-shore broadcasts between vessels and classrooms were enabled by funding from the Guy Harvey Foundation. These broadcasts are very important to reach students and potential future marine scientists and for outreach and education activities.
- The Keys Marine Lab had 2,431 dorm nights and 390 visitors, 115 user groups (21 education, 66 research and a combined 28 education/research) in FY13/14 with 102 boat trips collecting

207 specimens. KML is preparing to expand facilities through recent grant funding, continues to host classes, researchers and workshops, and now supports an onsite postdoctoral researcher to facilitate research opportunities. These efforts are expected to attract more users.

- KML's Seawater System project is progressing and is estimated to be completed and operable by August 2014.
- Dr. Courtney Hackney (UNF) led the multi-institutional FIO Study Abroad in Florida summer course for the second year after developing and launching it in FY 2012/13. The course was held in May-June 2014 and twelve (12) students travelled to five (5) participating member institutions (UWF, UNF, FAU, USF-St. Petersburg, and FGCU) and to the Keys Marine Laboratory. Student evaluations indicated this course was outstanding, and they have learned a lot and would "*absolutely*" recommend the course to fellow students.
- We were able to improve education outreach this year through direct mail and social media campaigns. FIO brochures and summer course announcements were emailed and mailed to 200+ undergraduate marine science programs in the US and territories and ~100 additional contacts at applicable state and federal agencies, private research foundations, and other non-governmental organizations. Course and cruise blogs were broadcast via FIO social media (Facebook and Twitter)

D. External Activities

- Sponsored with Ocean Conservancy the workshop "*Advancing Fishery Management: Innovation and Evolution*" convened November 19-21, 2013 in St. Petersburg. Proceedings are in preparation.
- At the University of North Florida in March 2014, KML co-sponsored the Benthic Ecology Meeting along with two member institutions, Nova Southeastern University and University of North Florida, the American Association for Underwater Science and COSEE-Florida.
- March 24-27, 2014 Director represented FIO at the State of the Gulf Mexico Summit 2014 in Houston, Texas. Director was a guest speaker, topic on: *Science and RESTORE-Like Oil and Water or Will They Mix?*
- Continuing progress made since the 2012 USCG MOU, on April 2, 2014, FIO and member institution faculty and staff, USCG District 7 personnel, and others held a workshop at FWC's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute in St. Petersburg to achieve better coordination of oceanographic information in response to oil spills and natural hazards and to close existing data gaps.
- FIO staffed an informational display at the US Coast Guard Sector 7 St. Petersburg's Open House on Saturday May 17, 2014, which was also Armed Forces Appreciation Day throughout the local area.
- June 24, 2014 FIO hosted "*Input Session with Dr. Robbie Kroger, Science Coordinator for RESTORE Act Gulf Ecosystem Restoration Council*" Attendees included FIO members, state and federal representatives to further discuss Florida's needs as a result of the Deepwater Horizon Incident.
- Due to Dr. Virmani's departure, the present member institutions site visits were not achieved.

- To maximize benefits to FIO members and the State of Florida, the Director participated in ongoing discussions and decisions related to: RESTORE Act funding; GOMRI documentary proposal reviews; policy and planning with GOMURC Board, ocean observing systems (SECOORA and GCOOS meetings), National and Southern Association of Marine Laboratories (NAML/SAML), National Academy of Sciences annual meeting, and UNOLS; and other meetings with various staff from all the Gulf states, various federal agencies, and the mayor of Key West.
- Dr. Hogarth and Dr. Schwaab's commentary on the Reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Management Act was featured on Roll Call: "*The Magnuson Act: It's a Keeper.*" Dr. Hogarth met and provided comments on the Magnuson-Stevens Fishing Conservation and Management Act legislation to Senators and House Representatives in D.C.

E. Areas of Needed Improvements

- Not accomplished in last year's work plan was to hold two regional workshop/seminars on current topics related to Florida's marine resources (water quality and aquaculture were suggested) that would increase FIO visibility and get stakeholders involved with current issues..
- Increase number of days chartered to 155 days for the *R/V Weatherbird II* and 145 days for *R/V Bellows*.
- Increase awarded SUS days to 60 on the *R/V Bellows*; 10-12 days on the *R/V Weatherbird II*.
- Resolving FIO's level of vessel service needed by east coast members.
- Active participation at the USCG Miami disaster exercise August 2014 at Port Everglades.

F. Anticipated workplan for 2014/15: Administrative

- Provide, promote, and support a collaborative statewide forum for addressing opportunities to advance the understanding and management of Florida's coastal oceans.
 - Future meetings will continue to be held at different member institutions, to allow all FIO members first-hand knowledge of activities and resources across Florida.
 - Create collaborations and develop best possible research and monitoring programs for the utilization of funds received from RESTORE Act Legislation to protect the multi-billion dollar marine industry of Florida.
 - Provide shiptime and support to 3 BP Consortia and other principle investigators and faculty members within the State of Florida.
- Leverage and integrate existing physical and intellectual resources within the SUS and throughout the State of Florida.
 - Continue FIO as the SUS coordinating body for ships, equipment, marine laboratories and other shared-use facilities and equipment.
 - Support, lead, participate and coordinate state-wide collaboration to support the newly formed marine science summer course conferences and other opportunities to provide educational and research opportunities related to the FIO mission and for the marine science community and the general public.

- Boost visibility by holding advertised public open houses when vessels are in other ports of call.
- Hold two regional workshops/seminars on current topics related to Florida’s marine resources to increase FIO visibility and stakeholder involvement.
 - Explore opportunities for an east coast FIO satellite office.
 - Promote the use of FIO vessels and other facilities by private enterprise to increase the number of chartered days on both vessels.
 - Encourage professional development of essential personnel, marine technical experts and support positions for both research vessels and the Keys Marine Lab.
 - Plan to broadcast/feature “*Science Q&A session*” from ship to shore into K-12 classrooms and general public.
- Anticipate and plan for future shared use infrastructure needs;
- Provide vessels to member institutions as reasonably priced as possible to keep FIO competitive and thus provide opportunities for faculty and students.
- Identify and apply for grants to improve infrastructure and educational opportunities.
- Develop and strengthen networks that enable timely identification of research opportunities and distribution of results
- Actively participate in appropriate State-wide and Regional alliances such as Florida Ocean Alliance and Florida Oceans and Coastal Council.
- Explore and implement innovative ways of communicating results of shared-use research platforms, equipment, and facilities.
- Seek recognition by, and participation with, national and international leaders in establishing priorities in coastal oceanographic research.
- State of Florida designated oceanographic research organization.
 - Serve as advisor to the Governor, State University System Board of Governors, State Legislature, and others as requested, providing science-based advice on mitigation, regulation, programs and policy.
 - Participate in planning a coordinated rapid response of FIO members to assess and understand impacts on the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic ecosystems – and including atmosphere, coast, estuaries, and rivers - of events such as hurricanes, oil spills, red tide and other harmful algal blooms.
 - Continue to provide necessary information to the U.S. Treasury Department in support of FIO’s designation as the Florida’s Center of Excellence under the RESTORE Act.
 - Dr. William Hogarth to continue serving on the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GoMRI) as one of the two State of Florida representatives to the Board. The other, Dr. Richard Dodge, also a member of the FIO Advisory Council.
 - Ensure peer-reviewed documentation, widespread dissemination and interpretation of findings and recommendations to policy-makers, educators, and the general public.
- Continue participation in the Gulf of Mexico University Research Collaborative (GOMURC). The GOMURC is comprised of a team of five university-based collaborative representing the many marine-oriented research organizations within the five Gulf States (Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas).

- Work closely with legislature to maintain funding as necessary to operate and maintain research vessels and provide subsidized days for researchers and students to FIO membership through a competitive process.
- Continue the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation subsidize ship to shore educational communications.
- Continuously review FIO's business and marine processes to effectively and efficiently provide better service for our constituents.
- Maintain and foster the relationship between the USCG and implementing the MOU by involving FIO members. Participate in the full scale USCG Miami disaster exercise is planned for August 2014 at Port Everglades.

G. Anticipated workplan for 2014/15: Facilities

Conduct needs-assessment of education and research capability enhancements for *R/V Weatherbird II*, *R/V Bellows*, and *Keys Marine Lab* and the need for additional shared-use resources.

- *R/V Weatherbird II*:
 - July 1-31, 2014 *R/V Weatherbird II*-new main drive engines installed at the International Shipyard in Tampa. Engine replacement will provide a more reliable operations, lower maintenance costs, reduced emissions and fuel efficiency.
- *R/V Bellows*:
 - Continue the effort to fund and construct a new FIO vessel to replace *R/V Bellows*.
 - Due to the advance age of the *R/V Bellows*, we will continue to monitor the safety and structural needs.
- *Keys Marine Lab*:
 - Establish additional courses, in addition to hosting the current summer FIO course "*Study Abroad in Florida*"
 - Conduct and address safety concerns at the *Keys Marine Lab*. Safety upgrades to equipment, etc. as necessary to be in compliance with local, state, and federal regulations.
 - Postdoctoral researcher at the *Keys Marine Lab* to facilitate/continue user research opportunities as requested.

Appendices

Appendix A: Financial Summary and Grant List

Florida Institute of Oceanography
2013/2014 Financial Summary

		SUMMARY			Ending Cash Balance (Gain/Loss)
Fund No.	Fund Description	7/1/13 Beginning Bal.	Revenue	Expenditures	
10000	E&G	1,902,846.00	-	1,889,847.66	12,998.34
01419	Weatherbird II Aux.	(8,301.45)	777,988.25	415,300.27	354,386.53*
03001	Bellows Aux.	120,093.81	166,131.80	239,147.00	47,078.61
03003	Keys Marine Lab Aux.	173,456.91	239,070.91	224,607.91	187,919.91
Total 2013-2014 All Source Balance		\$ 2,188,095	\$1,183,191	\$2,768,903	\$602,383

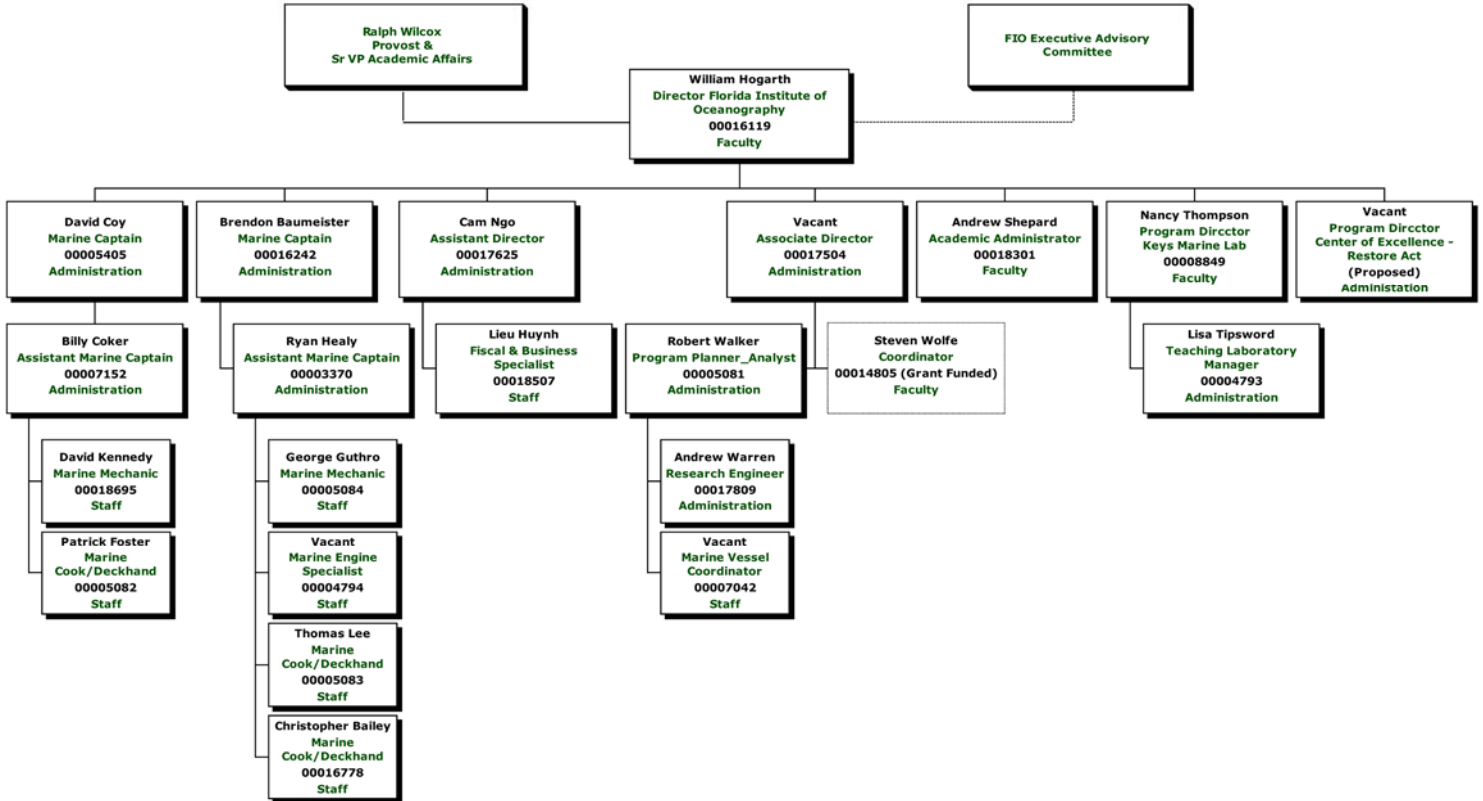
*Outstanding Expenditures that did not post in FY 13/14
 -WBII Engine Installations: \$350,000
 -Est. Actual Ending Balance for WBII Aux \$4,386.53

FY 2013/14 Grant Administration:

Award Title	Award Amount
<i>Center for Integrated Modeling and Analysis of the Gulf Ecosystem (C-IMAGE)</i>	\$1,000,0029
<i>Binational Training Workshops on Harmful Algal Blooms in Support of HABSOS</i>	412,322
<i>GOMA Gulf Research Initiative Data Management</i>	240,000
<i>Enhancement of the Harmful Algal Bloom Observing System (HABSOS)</i>	45,000
<i>Deep-C: Deepsea to Coastal Connectivity in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico</i>	998,275
<i>Gulf of Mexico Research University Collaborative (Foundation)</i>	175,000
<i>Gulf of Mexico Research University Collaborative</i>	125,000
<i>Coordination of GOMA's Water Quality Priority Issue Team</i>	35,973
<i>Coordination of Water Quality PIT</i>	3,252
<i>Coordination of Water Quality PIT</i>	31,500
<i>Improvements to the Keys Marine Laboratory Seawater System</i>	161,052
Total Grants Administered at FIO:	\$3,227,603

Appendix B: Organizational Chart

FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY



April 8, 2014

Appendix C: Subsidized Days Awarded

Institutions by Number of Proposals Awarded:	Days Awarded FY13/14
Eckerd College (1)	2
Florida Atlantic University (2)	6
Florida Gulf Coast University (2)	6
Florida International University (1)	4
Florida State University (1)	1*
University of Central Florida (1)	2
University of South Florida (4)	14
University of West Florida (2)	12
Total Institutions (8) and Proposals Awarded (14)	47

*Value was applied to services at KML

Appendix D: Council Members



FIO Advisory Council Membership List 2013-15

The Institute is governed by the FIO Advisory Council. Council members are appointed by the head of their respective institutions and serve two-year terms.

Kevin Claridge, Director

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Appendix E: By-Laws

Florida Institute of Oceanography
Council Bylaws
Approved by FIO Council June 2012

I. Creation and Administrative Assignment of the Florida Institute of Oceanography

The Florida Institute of Oceanography (FIO) is an Academic Infrastructure Support Organization (AISO) of the State of Florida approved by the State University System (SUS¹) Council of Academic Vice Presidents (CAVP), ratified by the presidents and chairs of the boards of trustees of the member organizations and approved by the Florida Board of Governors (BOG). Under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) ratified by the member organizations and approved by the BOG, the University of South Florida (USF) assumes the role of host university, with the support of participating universities, for the operation of FIO. FIO administrative offices are housed on the campus of the College of Marine Science in St Petersburg, Florida and fiscal accounting functions are administered by USF and will be overseen by the USF Board of Trustees (BOT).

II. Purpose and Duties of the FIO

The FIO will facilitate and support Florida's emergence as the pre-eminent state in the nation for research and education in understanding ocean processes and how they impact economically essential natural resources and contribute to natural and man-made hazards. The FIO will have within its scope all aspects (research and education) of oceanography that affect the State of Florida. FIO will direct its focus on the entire coastal ocean, from the coast to the deep ocean, thereby positioning itself to facilitate and support systems-wide scientific leadership within the SUS for the environmental stewardship of the State of Florida. The FIO mission, as defined in the MOU, is to: (1) provide a diverse and collaborative statewide forum addressing problems of concern in coastal oceanographic research and education; (2) leverage and integrate existing physical and intellectual resources within the SUS and throughout Florida; (3)

¹ The State University System Consists of the following institutions: Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Florida Atlantic University, Florida Gulf Coast University, Florida International University, Florida State University, New College of Florida, University of Central Florida, University of Florida, University of North Florida, University of South Florida, and University of West Florida

anticipate and plan for future infrastructure needs; (4) facilitate, promote and support collaborative oceanrelated research and education statewide; and (5) develop and strengthen networks that enable timely identification of oceanographic research opportunities and distribution of research results and other information to the general public, natural resource management agencies and local, state and national policymakers.

As an AISO, the FIO provides technology, equipment, facilities, services, and resources for academic programs and research in Florida. The FIO facilitates access to major marine research and educational capabilities and facilities throughout the State, including the operation of seagoing vessels for coastal ocean research, and promotes research, education, economic development, and environmental sustainability of Florida’s coastal ocean. FIO enables Florida to provide a virtual intellectual and physical hub for the mature and diverse marine science enterprise that exists in the state. Established entities across academia, government, and the private sector will collaborate to:

- a. Promote research, education, and project management;
- b. Enhance awareness of ocean science issues affecting all Floridians;
- c. Maximize the efficient use of supporting infrastructure;
- d. Produce scientific solutions;
- e. Leverage public and private sector investments to increase capacity; and
- f. Inform public policy development and decision-making.

III. Membership and Governance

The FIO shall consist of the Membership, the FIO Council, the FIO Director and staff, standing and ad hoc committees of the Membership, and a Board of Visitors.

A. Membership. The FIO consists of the state universities as defined by the Florida Statue Title XLVIII 1000.21 sec (6) and fifteen (15) other entities which include faculty, staff, and scientists conducting research and teaching and who may wish to utilize ships, facilities, and other services provided by FIO. All state universities are full members of FIO. The non-state university full members of FIO by ratification of the MOU are: Eckerd College, Florida Sea Grant College; University of Miami, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science; Florida Department of Environmental Protection; Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, Fish and Wildlife Research Institute; Florida Institute of Technology; Mote Marine Laboratory; Nova Southeastern University; and the

Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce. The associate members are Hubbs-Seaworld Research Institute, Jacksonville University, SRI St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg College, and University of South Florida St. Petersburg. The affiliate member is Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecasting Service, Inc.

1. Full Members: All SUS members (as defined by the membership of the CAVP) who wish to become members of FIO can do so as a Full Member. As an AISO, FIO serves the needs of the SUS. To retain integrity as an AISO, the majority of Full Members needs to be from the SUS, therefore, at least 51% of the Full Membership needs to be SUS institutions.

If there is a vacancy on the Council for a new non-SUS Full Member, acceptance of the new non-SUS Full Member to the Council will be by a vote of the entire FIO Advisory Council at an in-person Council meeting. A 3/4 majority vote is required to accept a nonSUS member as a Full Member.

2. Associate Members: Associate Membership is established for non-profit non-SUS organizations with a marine science focus. These include all non-profit entities, such as, but not limited to, colleges, museums, aquariums, and other organizations that fit the Criteria for New Member Applications. Associate Members will promote FIO and provide FIO and its members with access to ships, laboratory facilities, and other ocean and coastal research and education assets (for a fee, if appropriate). Other branch campuses of existing SUS Council Members may become Associate Members, but there can only be one voting (Full) member from any one SUS institution other than the Host University, which has two voting members. All SUS faculty, regardless of whether on a main campus or on a branch campus, remain eligible to apply for SUS-subsidized ship time.
3. Affiliate Members: Affiliate Membership is established for for-profit non-SUS organizations with a marine science focus. Affiliate Members will provide FIO and its members financial or in-kind support, use or access to ships, laboratory facilities, and other ocean and coastal research and education assets (at a fee, if appropriate).

Election of New Members. The FIO Council may elect to membership other institutions in the Florida ocean science education and research community that meet the criteria for membership approved by the FIO Council ("New Members"). Criteria for membership will address commitment to the support of shared use facilities; agreement to support legislative budget requests of the FIO

as required to maintain and operate these facilities in a safe, efficient and cost-effective manner; commitment to attend all scheduled meetings of the FIO Council and FIO Executive Committee, if appropriate; and completion of assignments in a timely manner as agreed to by the FIO Council or FIO Executive Committee. The FIO Council will evaluate each New Member request individually. All SUS (as defined by the membership of the CAVP) New Members are eligible to be Full Members and will automatically be awarded a seat at the FIO Advisory Council. A simple majority vote will be required to accept any non-SUS Members as a New Associate or Affiliate Member onto the FIO Advisory Council.

Criteria for New Member Applications:

1. Significant presence in Florida, such as an operating facility in the State of Florida.
2. Primary focus is marine science education and research.
3. Ratify a modified FIO MOU specific to the Associate or Affiliate Membership.
4. Provide a proposal (written), including documentation of the extent of presence in the State of Florida. Orally present to the FIO Advisory Council how the institution will support FIO Council activities.
5. Demonstrate ability to bring tangible support to FIO.

Privileges of FIO Membership

	Full Members	Associate Members	Affiliate Members
Attendance and participation at FIO Advisory Council Meetings	Yes	Yes	Yes
Voting privileges on the FIO Advisory Council	Yes	No	No
Participate in specific FIO project funding opportunities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Access to subsidized ship time on FIO vessels.	Yes	No	No
Access to at-cost ship time on FIO vessels.	Yes	Yes	No
Access to commercial rates of ship time on FIO vessels.	No	No	Yes

- B. FIO Council. The primary function of the FIO Council is advisory to the FIO leadership, including the FIO Director and the Provost of the host institution. The FIO Council will consist of one (1) representative from each member organization and two (2) from the host institution who are active members of the

Florida coastal ocean research and education community and who are appointed for a two (2) year term by its president or CEO or his/her designee. The president or CEO (or his/her designee) of each member organization may also appoint one (1) alternate who may serve in the representative's stead at meetings of the Council, but each institutional member may be represented by only one (1) individual in the deliberations of the Council. Member representatives may be reappointed, but shall not serve more than three (3) consecutive terms. The foregoing notwithstanding, the second member appointed by the host institution may serve unlimited terms. The FIO Council shall elect a Chair biennially from the membership. The FIO Director together with a representative of the BOG will serve as non-voting, *ex-officio* members. Council members shall have the authority to participate in all activities on behalf of the member organization and cast its vote as required. Each institutional member can change a delegate at any time by notifying the FIO Director by written communication. The Director is required to notify the affected organization member if an appointed representative misses two consecutive meetings of the FIO Council.

- C. FIO Director and staff. The FIO Director shall be appointed by the Provost of the host institution in consultation with the FIO Executive Committee. The FIO Director reports to the Provost of the host institution. The FIO Director will maintain active contact with FIO member institutions by visiting campuses, scheduling and conducting workshops, conducting needs assessments and providing advance knowledge of FIO activities to achieve the goals of the AISO. The FIO Director shall complete an annual report no later than September 1 of each year covering the previous fiscal year (July 1-June 30). The report shall include a summary of activities and accomplishments, provide actual expenditure and position data, and include a workplan for the current fiscal year. Prior to its submission to the Chancellor, no later than October 31 of each year, the report will be distributed to members of the FIO Council for review and comment and will be approved by the Provost of the host institution. Under the FIO Director's guidance, the FIO staff has the primary responsibility for operation and maintenance of the vessels, implementation of the ship schedule, and support for PIs to achieve the research goals; coordination of the education components to achieve the education goals; maintenance of the FIO website; and support for grants and other services provided to member institutions. In the event of a vacancy in the FIO Director position, a search committee will be appointed by the Provost and will follow the customary search process of the host institution.

IV. FIO Council Meetings

The FIO Council will meet at least once in person each year and by telephone conference as needed. Agendas for the meetings will be set by the Chair of the FIO Council in consultation with the FIO Director and approved by the Provost of the host institution. A quorum must be present for the Council to take action. A quorum shall consist of no less than half of the full member institutions plus one. All meetings will be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order.

Voting. Each member of the FIO Council has one vote. Voting will be decided by a simple majority of full member representatives (or designated alternates) present in person, by phone, or by e-mail unless otherwise specified in these by-laws. New full member institutions elected to the FIO secure voting privileges upon the appointment of an FIO Council representative as specified in the bylaws, but not before adjournment of the meeting at which they were elected.

Meetings of the FIO Council are open to the public. A Council member may designate an individual to attend the meetings as an observer and to comment on agenda items but the observer will not have voting privileges.

Minutes of the Meetings. Minutes shall be kept for all regular meetings of the Council and shall be made available by email to the membership within two weeks of each regularly scheduled meeting. Following a period of two weeks for comment and amendment, the minutes shall be approved by email vote of the members and posted on the Council web site.

Staffing of the Council. Members of the staff of the FIO will act as staff for the Council, organizing meeting logistics, taking minutes and handling communications with the members.

V. Standing Committees and Workgroups

Executive Committee. The FIO Executive Committee will consist of five (5) full Council members including the Council Chair and four elected members. At least one member of the FIO Executive Committee shall be from the host institution. The FIO Executive Committee will meet at least three times per year and provide administrative oversight of the FIO in cooperation with the FIO Council and the Provost of the host institution. The FIO Director will serve as a nonvoting, *ex officio* member. The past Chair will serve as a non-voting, *ex officio* member for one year following the election of the new Chair of the Council. The Board of Governor's representative on the FIO Advisory Council will serve as a non-voting, *ex officio* member. Written reports of the items discussed and actions taken at meetings will be sent to the FIO Council via email and posted on the FIO

website for the benefit of the FIO Council and interested parties. Membership on the Executive Committee will be evaluated biennially. In the event of a vacancy on the Executive Committee, the FIO Council will elect a member to fill the vacancy.

Ship Advisory Committee. The Ship Advisory Committee (SAC) will be elected by the FIO Council and will consist of at least three (3) Council members (with at least one from the host institution) reflecting the geographical diversity of Florida. The SAC will provide oversight and advice to assure the efficient deployment of FIO research vessels in all of Florida's coastal ocean and surrounding waters (Straits of Florida, coastal Atlantic, Bahamas, Caribbean, northern Gulf of Mexico). The SAC will assist the FIO Marine Superintendent with efficient long-term planning to ensure that FIO members will have equitable access to these vessels from Jacksonville to Pensacola. The SAC will meet at least once annually, in conjunction with the FIO Council meeting.

Nominating Committee. A Nominating Committee will consist of three (3) members appointed by the Executive Committee. The Nominating Committee will recommend candidates to the FIO Council to serve on the standing and ad hoc committees. The Nominating Committee will meet on an as-needed basis to fill vacancies on the standing and ad hoc committees.

Board of Visitors. The FIO Board of Visitors will have five (5) to nine (9) members appointed by the host institution President, in consultation with the FIO Council and the Council of Academic Vice Presidents (CAVP), for a three (3) year term, to provide broad oversight to the FIO. Members may be reappointed, but shall serve no more than three (3) consecutive terms. Members will represent the overarching oceanographic research and education interests of global, national and Florida-focused entities. The FIO Board of Visitors shall include representatives from the private sector, higher education, government scientific laboratories and agencies, and others as deemed appropriate by the host institution President. The Board of Visitors will report to the Provost of the host institution and the FIO Executive Committee, and will serve as a valued resource to FIO by providing advice on best practices for optimizing the resources of the FIO and member institutions; identifying strategic directions for potential cooperative programming; interfacing with potential funding sources; and representing FIO and the vital importance of oceanographic research to the broader community.

Additional *ad hoc* or special committees may be formed by the Executive Committee with the cooperation of the Council to address particular issues.

VI. By-Law Revisions

The bylaws and any proposed revisions shall be reviewed yearly. Council members shall submit any proposed revisions to the Chair at least 30 days in advance of the FIO Advisory Council meeting. The Executive Committee and the Provost of the host institution shall review the proposed revisions prior to a full vote of the Council. Amendment of the bylaws requires a two-thirds vote of the Council.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2010-2015
For the
FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY

Approved by FIO Advisory Council on January 7, 2011

The Florida Institute of Oceanography (FIO) was established in 2009 as an Academic Infrastructure Support Organization (AISO) by the State University System (SUS) Council of Academic Vice Presidents, ratified by the presidents and chairs of the Board of Trustees of the member organizations and approved by the Florida Board of Governors. Under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) ratified by the member organizations and approved by the Board of Governors, the University of South Florida (USF) is the designated host institution. Operations and administrative offices of the FIO are housed on the campus of the College of Marine Science in St Petersburg. The **Vision** of the FIO founders was that a statewide consortium of universities and research laboratories would allow development of both human assets and physical infrastructure that would elevate Florida into a leadership position in oceanographic and coastal education and research. Exploration, solving problems, and development of new knowledge is the very definition of education and FIO should facilitate the functional integration of education and research by involving students in every facet of FIO activities. The **Mission** of the FIO is to facilitate and support Florida's emergence as the pre-eminent state in the nation for coastal ocean education through the development of educational and research infrastructure, which will support faculty and scientists who can advance our understanding of coastal ocean processes and communicate that understanding to Florida's residents, educators, policy makers and resource managers.

Goals and Strategies

1. Provide, promote and support a collaborative statewide organization that can support the education of students in state and private colleges and universities by:
 - a. Supporting existing marine education programs and member institution research projects with FIO maintained facilities, research vessels and other infrastructure.
 - b. Developing a statewide coastal and ocean network that can organize the coastal and oceanographic intellectual assets of

Florida to provide high quality educational opportunities for students interested in coastal and ocean science and related disciplines.

- c. Supporting and leading conferences, seminars, and workshops for students, teachers, public officials, and residents of Florida.
2. Maintain a state-of-the-art infrastructure for coastal ocean education and research with centrally maintained assets including research vessels, marine laboratories, and shared-use facilities and equipment that will:
 - a. Establish and support FIO as Florida's coordinating body for coastal ocean research. This may include reduced cost for ship time and laboratory use for FIO members that can provide a competitive advantage to FIO member institutions.
 - b. Arrange and coordinate vessel and equipment leasing opportunities for FIO member institutions when FIO infrastructure is not sufficient to support member needs.
 - c. Develop and promote research initiatives for FIO member institutions within coastal waters of Florida as well as within the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean.
 - d. Prepare a long-range plan to support FIO members in the future through the maintenance and purchase of research vessels and equipment.
 - e. Hire vessel crews, marine technical experts and support positions.
3. Develop and strengthen networks that enable timely identification of needs of member institutions, state agencies, and local governments by:
 - a. Actively participating in state-wide and regional alliances, including ocean-observing alliances.
 - b. Participating in national and regional forums that will assist in establishing priorities for the FIO.

- c. Exploring and implementing innovative ways of communicating research results with scientists, agencies, policy makers and citizens of the state.
- d. Assisting the state in communicating technical and scientific concerns with FEMA, Coast Guard and relevant state or federal agencies in emergency situations, e.g. the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.
- e. Providing science-based advice to the state's leaders on coastal and ocean issues whenever requested.
- f. Visiting constituent FIO institutions to understand needs and opportunities for both teaching and research.
- g. Partnering to develop plans for rapid technical response to environmental and natural disasters that impact the state.

