



DISCOVERY • UNDERSTANDING • ACTION

## Weekly Newsletter

Week of April 28, 2008 • Number 14

1201 New York Avenue, NW • Fourth Floor • Washington, DC 20005  
P: (202) 232-3900 • F: (202) 462-8754 • [www.OceanLeadership.org](http://www.OceanLeadership.org)

To unsubscribe or change your email address, contact Gregg Schmidt at [gschmidt@oceanleadership.org](mailto:gschmidt@oceanleadership.org).

### President's Corner

Last weekend I was in Alaska for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual National Ocean Sciences Bowl Finals which was held in Seward. In Alaska I also attended a reception for many of the ocean organizations hosted by the Arctic Research Commission. There are a tremendous amount of ocean related activities in Alaska, and I appreciated the opportunity to hear from many of the people involved.

The entire weekend was a special experience including the train ride from Anchorage to Seward that was cut short because of an avalanche! This was my first competition at the NOSB, and it certainly was fierce with the winning team coming from Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School in Massachusetts (A review of the competition is noted below). I was so impressed with the knowledge and huge commitment that the students and their coaches put into learning about the ocean sciences. I must admit I was glad that I wasn't competing. Many of the questions were at the graduate student general thesis exam level, and many of the students were sophomores and juniors in high school. A special treat was to be able to spend time with these very bright and motivated young people learning about their future collegiate and career plans. It was a very invigorating and uplifting experience. After all, these are the next generation of leaders. While many are planning for careers in the ocean sciences, they all will be influential people with close ties and a deep understanding of ocean issues. I would like to extend a special thanks to our Alaskan hosts, volunteers and sponsors who numbered over one hundred people and made the event such a great success and truly a special lifelong memory for all who participated.

Next week Ocean Leadership is hosting our annual Members Meeting here in Washington, DC. At the meeting we will be discussing the future direction of the organization as well as planning for the transition of the next Administration. These are important issues and will be reported to you after the meetings have been completed. We are also hosting an ocean reception on Capitol Hill on Thursday evening and hope to see many of you there. Details of the meeting and the reception can be found on the Ocean Leadership Web site at <http://www.oceanleadership.org/node/1651>.

Bob

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### Congressional Calendar

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| Wednesday, May 7<br>9:30 AM<br>406 Dirksen Bldg | Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Public Sector Solutions to Global Warming will hold a hearing on science and environmental regulatory decisions.                    |
| Wednesday, May 7<br>9:30 AM<br>253 Russell Bldg | Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Subcommittee on Space, Aeronautics, and Related Sciences will hold a hearing on the reauthorization of NASA.                                |
| Wednesday, May 7<br>2:30 PM<br>419 Dirksen Bldg | Senate Foreign Relations Committee will hold a hearing on pending treaties including the Protocols of 2005, the Convention concerning Safety of Maritime Navigation and to the Protocol |

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|  | concerning Safety of Fixed Platforms on the Continental Shelf.  |
| Thursday, May 8<br>10:00 AM<br>2318 Rayburn Bldg | House Science and Technology Subcommittee on Research and Science Education will hold a hearing on draft legislation – Fulfilling the Potential of Women in Academic Science and Engineering Act of 2008.                                   |
| Thursday, May 8<br>2:30 PM<br>253 Russell Bldg   | Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will hold a hearing on climate change modeling, focusing on current computing capacity, continuous observational data needs, and basic science to improve the next generation models. |
| Tuesday, May 13<br>10:00 AM<br>366 Dirksen Bldg  | Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee will hold a hearing on the impact of climate change on the reliability, security, economics and design of critical energy infrastructure in coastal regions.                                  |

## Congressional News

### HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE PASSES OCEANS-21 ACT

Last week the House Natural Resources Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans Subcommittee approved H.R.21, a comprehensive national ocean governance bill that would set national policy for protecting and restoring ocean ecosystems. The Ocean Conservation, Education & National Strategy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act is based on the recommendations from the Pew Oceans Commission and the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy. The legislation's provisions include:

- o Consolidate national management of the oceans and create a system of regional committees promoting ecosystem governance;
- o Codify the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration into law;
- o Create an ocean advisor in the President's cabinet;
- o Create regional and national ocean advisory committees to address competing priorities and emerging issues;
- o Coordinate federal and state agencies
- o Create an Oceans and Great Lake Conservation Trust Fund to finance regional governance initiatives.

The Subcommittee also approved H.R.5618, a bill to authorize \$498 million through FY2014 for the National Sea Grant College Program. Both bills now move to the full committee for consideration before heading to the House floor. Neither bill has been introduced in the Senate.

### AAU SPEARHEADING EFFORT TO ADD SCIENCE FUNDING TO SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET BILL

The American Association of Universities (AAU) is asking its members to personally call their Members of Congress to request an additional \$500 million for scientific research as part of the FY08 supplemental appropriations bill. Specifically, they are seeking increases for NSF, DOE and NIST that were expected as part of the American Competitiveness Initiative, which was omitted from the final FY08 spending bill. Despite the strong bipartisan support for these programs, there is no assurance that they will receive increased funding in the FY09 budget cycle. If supplemental funding is not provided in FY08, funding for these priority programs will fall further behind the budget targets endorsed by both Democrats and Republicans.

Democrats remain divided over how to handle the supplemental war funding bill. The central issue is how much domestic spending Democrats will attempt to add to the \$170 billion package over President Bush's opposition. The Senate Appropriations panel has been considering more than \$20 billion in added domestic spending, including about \$10 billion for infrastructure. House and Senate Democratic leaders have been trying to hash out their differences before legislation is introduced and several times have backed off their stated goals for floor action on the supplemental.

## Ocean Leadership News

### **LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL WINS 2008 NOSB FINALS IN SEWARD, ALASKA**

Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School returns home to Massachusetts after winning the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB<sup>®</sup>) held at Seward High School in Seward, Alaska last weekend. Twenty-five high schools from all over the United States competed in the NOSB Final Competition with prizes and scholarships on the line. The NOSB is a program of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership based in Washington, DC.

After winning their respective regional competitions in February, the twenty-five champion high schools traveled to Alaska for the opportunity to compete over their knowledge of our oceans during the two-day NOSB competition. The team from Massachusetts made it all the way to the finals before defeating Mission San Jose High School to win the 2008 NOSB title.

The top eight teams were:

- 8<sup>th</sup> Place - East Carteret High School – Beaufort, NC
- 7<sup>th</sup> Place - Poudre High School – Ft. Collins, CO
- 6<sup>th</sup> Place - ExCEL Academic League – Vancouver, WA
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place - La Jolla High School – San Diego, CA
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place - Dexter High School – Dexter, MI
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Santa Monica High School – Santa Monica, CA
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Mission San Jose High School – Fremont, CA
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School – Sudbury, MA

Kealakehe High School from Hawaii won the James D. Watkins Sportsmanship Award for demonstrating the best sportsmanship throughout the NOSB final competition. Admiral James D. Watkins started the NOSB program in 1997.

Approximately 2,000 students from over 300 high schools participated this year. Through this educational forum, the NOSB strives to encourage and support the next generation of marine scientists, policy makers, teachers, explorers, researchers, technicians, environmental advocates and informed citizens.

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### **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS FOR NOPP ISSUE OF *OCEANOGRAPHY***

In celebration of the 10-year anniversary of the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP), a special issue of *Oceanography* is being prepared for publication in June 2009. Over the years, many of the NOPP-funded projects have proliferated beyond the bounds of the original project or have resulted in benefits that were not originally anticipated. The editors of this issue of *Oceanography* magazine invite all NOPP-funded principle investigators (current and past) to submit a one-page abstract, with the intention to write a full-length article for the special issue, describing the impact of the NOPP partnership project during its funding period, as well as any broader impacts beyond. Abstracts are due Friday, May 16, 2008 and can be submitted via email to the NOPP Program Office ([noppo@OceanLeadership.org](mailto:noppo@OceanLeadership.org)).

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### **SUBMIT ABSTRACTS FOR OCEANS 2008**

Oceans '08 MTS/IEEE Quebec City is now accepting Abstracts for its "Oceans, Poles and Climate: Technological Challenges - A Major International Technology Conference and Exhibition" Conference being held on 15-18 September 2008.

The Abstract Submission deadline for presentations and posters is May 15, 2008.

Ocean Leadership's Ron O'Dor is chairing a session with David Welch, called "Technological challenges in biological/fisheries oceanography" and would particularly welcome presentations on topics related to the tagging and tracking approaches developed in the Census of Marine Life POST and TOPP projects which are now linked with the Canada Foundation for Innovation and NSERC funded Ocean Tracking Network. For more information contact Ron at [rodor@oceanleadership.org](mailto:rodor@oceanleadership.org).

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## **U.S. SCIENTIFIC OCEAN DRILLING COMMUNITY SEEKS NEW MEMBERS**

The Consortium for Ocean Leadership is seeking new members for the U.S. Advisory Committee for Scientific Ocean Drilling (USAC) and the Science Advisory Structure (SAS) of the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP), specifically the SAS Executive Committee, Science Planning Committee, Science Steering and Evaluation Panel, Site Survey Panel, Scientific Technology Panel and Engineering Development Panel. New members will serve three-year terms beginning in October 2008.

U.S.-based scientists interested in volunteering for these opportunities should send a cover letter and a two-page CV to Emily Powell [epowell@oceanleadership.org](mailto:epowell@oceanleadership.org) by June 16, 2008. Letters should briefly document any previous committee experience, describe your interests in IODP and indicate preferred panel or committee assignment. We strongly encourage the involvement of early career scientists, as well as others with more experience. For more information visit <http://www.oceanleadership.org/usssp>.

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## **ARCTIC OCEAN HISTORY WORKSHOP**

The Arctic Ocean is crucial for understanding global ocean circulation processes and Mesozoic tectonics. The unexpected results derived from cores collected during the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program's Expedition 302 have exposed the ancient Arctic Ocean, providing the basis for further studies by framing new questions and by highlighting how little is known. Funded by the Consortium for Ocean Leadership, the European Science Foundation, the Arctic Ocean Science Board, and the Nansen Arctic Drilling Program, the "Arctic Ocean History, From Speculation to Reality" workshop will bring together an international group of scientists to plan future scientific ocean drilling expeditions to the Arctic Ocean that seek to understand this ocean basin, the continents that ring it, and the global climate system.

To participate in this workshop, visit <http://oceanleadership.org/arctic>. All interested scientists, researchers and students are encouraged to apply.

Participation will be limited to optimize workshop goals. Partial travel support is available. Applications are due August 24, 2008. Please contact Bernard Coakley, [bernard.coakley@gi.alaska.edu](mailto:bernard.coakley@gi.alaska.edu) or Ruediger Stein, [rstein@awi-bremerhaven.de](mailto:rstein@awi-bremerhaven.de) for further information.

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## **APPLY TO SAIL – NanTroSEIZE STAGE 1B**

The Integrated Ocean Drilling Program has begun accepting applications for scientific participants on the Stage 1B expedition of the Nankai Trough Seismogenic Zone Experiment (NanTroSEIZE). Following the recent Stage 1A expeditions, Stage 1B will return to the Nankai Trough to characterize the input materials and architecture of the subduction system and core the shallow mega-splay fault. U.S.-affiliated scientists interested in participating in this expedition should apply to sail through the U.S. Science Support Program of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership by May 26, 2008. For more information please visit <http://oceanleadership.org/usssp>.

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## **Ocean Community News**

View the Ocean Leadership Calendar through the Web site, <http://oceanleadership.org/event> -- if you have any additions, please email submissions to Gregg Schmidt at [ggschmidt@oceanleadership.org](mailto:ggschmidt@oceanleadership.org).

## **OCEAN TRACKING NETWORK SEARCHING FOR DATA MANAGEMENT & PROGRAMMING STAFF**

The Ocean Tracking Network (OTN), headquartered at Dalhousie University, unites the finest marine scientists in the world in the most comprehensive and revolutionary examination of marine life and ocean conditions ever conceived. As part of this initiative, OTN requires the services of a skilled and experienced scientific data manager and web services programmer. Descriptions of these positions and instructions for applicants can be found on the following web pages:

Data Manager - <http://staffingservices.dal.ca/viewuserposting.php?positionid=1061>  
Web Services Programmer - <http://staffingservices.dal.ca/viewuserposting.php?positionid=1062>

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## **COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED: REVISED DRAFT FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPING A NATIONAL SYSTEM OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS (MPAs)**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is making the Revised Draft Framework for Developing the National System of MPAs ([http://mpa.gov/national\\_system/framework\\_sup.html](http://mpa.gov/national_system/framework_sup.html)) available for comment. This is the second draft of the Framework, which as been revised due to the consideration of over 11,000 comments and recommendations received during its first public comment period. The Framework seeks to provide guidance for collaborative efforts among governments and stakeholders in order to develop an effective system of Marine Protective Areas. Comments must be received by Friday, May 16, 2008. For paper copies of the document and for additional information, contact Lauren Wenzel at [mpa.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:mpa.comments@noaa.gov) or (301) 713-3100; X 136.

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## **JSOST TOWN HALL AT 2008 OCEAN SCIENCES MEETING**

The Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology (JSOST) held a Town Hall outreach event at the 2008 Ocean Sciences Meeting to discuss implementation of Charting the Course for Ocean Science in the United States for the Next Decade: An Ocean Research Priorities Plan and Implementation Strategy/. Two presentations were given: one by the JSOST Co-chairs, and one by Shirley Pomponi of the Ocean Studies Board.

Both presentations are now available on the JSOST web site, <http://ocean.ceq.gov/about/jsost.html>, under "Recent Activities." The JSOST plans to provide additional Town Halls throughout 2008.

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## **TRANSPORTATION WORKER IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIAL (TWIC)**

Transportation Worker Identification Credentials are tamper-resistant biometric credentials that will be issued to workers who require unescorted access to secure areas of ports, vessels, outer continental shelf facilities, and all credentialed merchant mariners. Certain UNOLS vessels and port facilities are required to have approved Vessel Security Plans (VSP) and Facility Security Plans (FSP) that make it necessary to implement TWIC regulations by September 25, 2008.

Seagoing scientists and students who regularly sail on research vessels with a VSP or that will operate from secure facilities are strongly encouraged to obtain a TWIC in order to be allowed unescorted access to secure areas. In particular, those sailing as Chief Scientists, Principal Investigators and party chiefs should obtain a TWIC. Scientists and students that do not have TWIC cards will require escorts by approved personnel with TWIC cards in order to access secure facilities and vessels.

Many UNOLS institutions are or will offer assistance to their scientific personnel in order to facilitate obtaining a TWIC. Check with your marine facilities personnel or with the UNOLS office for assistance. The Transportation Security Administration and the Coast Guard maintain websites to assist applicants for TWIC cards.

1. **TSA TWIC Homepage website** <http://www.tsa.gov/twic>
2. **TSA TWIC Deployment website** <http://www.twicinformation.com/twicinfo/index.jsp>
3. **USCG Homeport – TWIC page** <http://homeport.uscg.mil/twic>
4. **List of Enrollment Centers** <http://twicinformation.tsa.dhs.gov/twicinfo/schedule.jsp>

To see the UNOLS guide for application of TWIC regulations to the UNOLS community, visit the UNOLS website at <http://www.unols.org> or email the UNOLS Office if you have questions: [office@unols.org](mailto:office@unols.org).

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## **ABSTRACTS ACCEPTED FOR THE 2008 GULF COAST ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES**

The Geological Society of America, Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies is accepting abstracts for its 2008 Joint Annual Meeting. The topic is Oceanic Geohazards: Distribution, Controls and Risks. Oceanic geohazards can have catastrophic impacts on society as well as drastic effects on marine and terrestrial environments. Such geohazards include submarine earthquakes, landslides, eruptions, coastal subsidence, and tsunamis, and may involve complex coupling of multiple processes. We encourage submissions on a broad range of topics relating to oceanic geohazards and their risks, which could include: (a) observations and analyses of deformation and failure; (b) interpretation of events in the depositional record; (c) experimental or numerical investigations of the underlying physics of these phenomena; (d) risk assessment of regional or global vulnerability, economic impact, or environmental

damage. This session will encourage the dissemination and exchange of knowledge to improve our understanding of global geohazards and their causes and consequences.

The deadline to submit abstracts is June 3, 2008. All meeting information is available at <https://www.acsmeetings.org/2008/> or contact Brandon Dugan ([dugan@rice.edu](mailto:dugan@rice.edu)) or Julia Morgan ([morganj@rice.edu](mailto:morganj@rice.edu)).

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#### **AGU JOINT ASSEMBLY MEETING IN FLORIDA**

The 2008 AGU Joint Assembly is being held 27–30 May 2008 at the Greater Fort Lauderdale-Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Program Committee is developing a Union-wide science program that will cover topics in all areas of geophysical sciences. Located in South Florida, the Joint Assembly is sure to offer exciting sessions and a relaxing atmosphere. For more information call 1-800-966-2481 or [ja-help@agu.org](mailto:ja-help@agu.org).

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#### **CALL FOR PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS AT COASTAL CITIES SUMMIT IN ST. PETERSBURG, FL**

International Ocean Institute (IOI-USA) and the City of St. Petersburg are hosting a Coastal Cities Summit on November 17-20, 2008, to address the challenges that coastal city leaders face as populations increase, resources are depleted, and the impacts of climate change are felt.

The 3½ day conference will focus on three themes: Climate Change, Risk and Vulnerability and Sustainable Development. The planners are soliciting speakers on four areas that are particularly relevant to coastal cities: freshwater, pollution, energy and port security. All sessions are intended to give a long-needed voice to local officials who are on the front lines taking leadership on climate change, providing the implementation and response plans for their city's security, and continuing to focus on protecting their citizens from possible extreme events and human-induced degradation.

For more information on how to give presentations, submit papers and a list of available sponsorship & exhibit opportunities visit [www.coastalcities.org](http://www.coastalcities.org).

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## **Job Announcements**

To access the job announcements page, go to <http://www.oceanleadership.org/about/employment>.

**Reminder:** As a service to the ocean community, job announcements from our readers are posted on the Ocean Leadership Web site with the Weekly Newsletter. In an effort to keep our job listing current, announcements will run for **90 days**, unless Ocean Leadership receives notification to continue posting a specific job announcement. Notification can be provided to [gschmidt@oceanleadership.org](mailto:gschmidt@oceanleadership.org).

No new jobs this week

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## **Calendar of Events**

If you have additions, please forward to [gschmidt@oceanleadership.org](mailto:gschmidt@oceanleadership.org). Ocean Leadership's Calendar of Events is located on the Web site at <http://www.oceanleadership.org/event>.

### **Calendar Year 2008**

- 8 May Annual Meeting of the Members, Washington, D.C.
- 9 May Board of Trustees Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 9 May Interagency Working Group Partnerships Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 13 May Subcommittee on Integrated Management of Ocean Resources (SIMOR), Washington, D.C.
- 13-18 May International Workshop on Barcoding of Deep-Sea Organisms, Wilhelmshaven, Germany
- 16 May JSOST Interagency Working Group on Ocean Observations Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 18-22 May National Monitoring Conference, Atlantic City, NJ

- 19-23 May Effects of Climate Change on the World's Oceans International Symposium, Gijon, Spain
- 22 May Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 23-25 May CoML International Scientific Steering Committee Meeting, Huangshou, China
- 27-30 May AGU Joint Assembly Meeting, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- 29 May Interagency Working Group on Ocean Observatories (IWGOO), Washington, D.C.
- 13 June Interagency Working Group on Ocean Partnerships Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 20 June JSOST Interagency Working Group on Ocean Observations Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 3 July Interagency Working Group on Ocean Observations, Washington, D.C.
- 7-11 July 11<sup>th</sup> International Coral Reef Symposium, Fort Lauderdale, FL ([www.nova.edu/ncri/11icrs](http://www.nova.edu/ncri/11icrs) )
- 8-11 July SCAR/IASC IPY Open Conference on Polar Research, St. Petersburg, Russia
- 14-16 July July USAC Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 15-18 Sep OCEANS '08 MTS/IEEE Quebec City: "Oceans, Poles, and Climate: Technological Challenges" (<http://www.oceans08mtsieeequebec.org/>)
- 22-26 Sep 2008 ICES Annual Science Conference, Halifax, Canada
- 6-8 Oct XIX Conference, Castelveccchio, Pascoli, Italy (<http://oceanopticsconference.org>)
- 6-8 Oct SCOR/UNESCO/IAEA/IGBP 2nd Symposium on the Ocean in a High-CO2 World, Monte Carlo, Monaco
- 6-10 Oct Ocean Optics XIX, Tuscany, Italy
- 11-16 Oct Eco-DAS Symposium, Manoa, Hawaii (<http://cmore.soest.hawaii.edu/eco-das/Eco-DAS2008.pdf>)
- 20-24 Oct SCOR 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium & General Meeting, Woods Hole, Massachusetts
- 23 Oct – 2 Nov PICES Seventeenth Annual Meeting, Dalian, China
- 3-5 Nov Arctic Ocean History, From Speculation to Reality, Bremerhaven, Germany
- 11-15 Nov World Conference on Marine Biodiversity, Valencia, Spain
- 16-17 Nov CoML International Scientific Steering Committee Meeting, Valencia, Spain
- 17-20 Nov Coastal Cities Summit, St. Petersburg, FL
- 18 Nov Ocean Science Education Retreat, Washington, D.C.
- 19-20 Nov Board of Trustees Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 15-19 Dec 2008 Fall AGU meeting, San Francisco, CA (<http://www.agu.org/meetings/>)

### **Calendar Year 2009**

- 8 Mar Congressional Hill Visits, Washington, D.C.
- 5 Mar Ocean Leadership Public Policy Forum, Washington, D.C.
- 6 Mar Board of Trustees Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 28 May Annual Meeting of the Members, Washington, D.C.
- 29 May Board of Trustees Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 15-16 Oct Board of Trustees Meeting, Washington, D.C.