Arctic Research Support & Logistics (RSL)

Program Overview

AGU Town Hall Meeting
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Program Managers for Arctic Research Support and Logistics (RSL)
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Contents

Part I - Program Overview
• Structure of the Program and Priorities
• RSL Budget and Management Strategies
• Introduction of Program Support Personnel
• Organizations working with RSL
• RSL Integrated Master Schedule

Part II - Special Topics
• Safety in arctic field research
• Environmental compliance for projects
• Communication between NSF and the research community
The organization of logistics support into portfolios allow Arctic managers to define and organize logistics support scope more accurately and specifically.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Portfolio</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Tasks associated with specific research grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustaining Facilities</td>
<td>Fixed costs at research facilities, including Toolik, Summit Station, National Ice Core Lab, etc.</td>
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<td>Facilities Upgrades</td>
<td>Upgrades at facilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Air Operations</td>
<td>Research aircraft and logistics aircraft: 109th, Twin Otters, Helicopters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vessel Operations</td>
<td>UNOLS vessel time, science technical support on vessels</td>
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<tr>
<td>IT / Communications</td>
<td>IT support in Barrow, Greenland, Iridium SIM cards for remote instrumentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Management</td>
<td>Systems Engineering and Technical Assistance (SETA) contractors,</td>
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Priorities for the RSL Program

• Meet the support needs of Arctic Division awardees
• Meet the support needs of other NSF awardees
• Facilitate access to the Arctic for other U.S. agencies
• Work collaboratively with other countries on Arctic research and research support
• Reduce fixed costs, such as facilities through efficiencies, scalability and other strategies
• Seek improved access and resources for arctic research
What that means
CPS-Supported Projects by Region

as of 10.14.11
Research Project Support

IPY & ARRA Project Impacts
2007-2012
2012 data as of 10.14.11

2007: Other 133, ARRA 0, IPY 41
2008: Other 90, ARRA 0, IPY 56
2009: Other 89, ARRA 9, IPY 61
2010: Other 91, ARRA 50, IPY 36
2011: Other 109, ARRA 35, IPY 13
2012: Other 94, ARRA 29, IPY 4
Contract to CH2M HILL Polar Services

- Awarded in September 2011
- 4 years, plus 2, 2-year performance awards (8 yrs)
- UMIAQ is a new partner, subsidiary of UIC
- Will implement 3rd-party evaluation and anonymous feedback mechanism
- Has increased capacity for environmental reviews and compliance
- New efforts to improve field safety
- Dashboard for management
Systems Engineering and Technical Assistance (SETA)

• Alternative Experts (ALEX)
  – Randy Olsen – Project management, facilities
  – Richard Armstrong – Technical management
  – Monte Ingram – Project controls
  – Dane Terry – AutoCAD, imagery, drawings

• CRREL
  – Jennifer Mercer – Program management, assistance and crevasse detection/other special projects
  – Other CRREL personnel – Engineering for special projects

• SPAWAR - Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command
  – Compliance with Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA)

• NREL - DOE National Renewable Energy Lab
  – Renewable Energy and power systems
  – Building construction and efficiency
Integrated Master Schedule (IMS)

• Overview of the entire RSL budget
• Schedule of all activities including infrastructure projects and fieldwork
• Projections out 5 years or more
• Long-range planning to aid in prioritizing improvements

Currently planning improvements at Toolik, Summit and smaller installations like Imnavait Creek
Special Topics for Discussion

Safety and Risk Management

Compliance with environmental laws

Communication with the community
Safety and Risk Management

Every individual is responsible for safety

• Grantee institutions are liable per NSF award language
  PIs are responsible for the safety of their teams

• At NSF supported facilities, policies of the facility operator will be followed

• Improving safety in the field
  Training: tailored, focus on Risk Assessment

Other suggestions?
Environmental Compliance

- Permitting remains PI responsibility, with guidance from CPS
- Documentation of NSF’s NEPA process
  Record of Environment Review (ROER, ROR)
  Follow-up as needed with additional documentation and consultations
- CH2M HILL personnel will provide assistance to NSF and communicate with PIs to draft documents
- OPP’s Environmental Officer Polly Penhale may also be involved
Communication

- Cognizant program manager
- RSL program managers
- Arctic Sciences Division Director and Deputy Director, other senior management
- CPS project managers and planners
- CPS outbriefs, 3rd party outbriefs and anonymous mechanism
- Town-hall meetings like this
- OPP Office Advisory Committee
- Other relevant committees, Polar Research Board, various science steering committees
- Other suggestions?
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