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# NEWSLETTER

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WOODS HOLE  
OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION



OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 1995

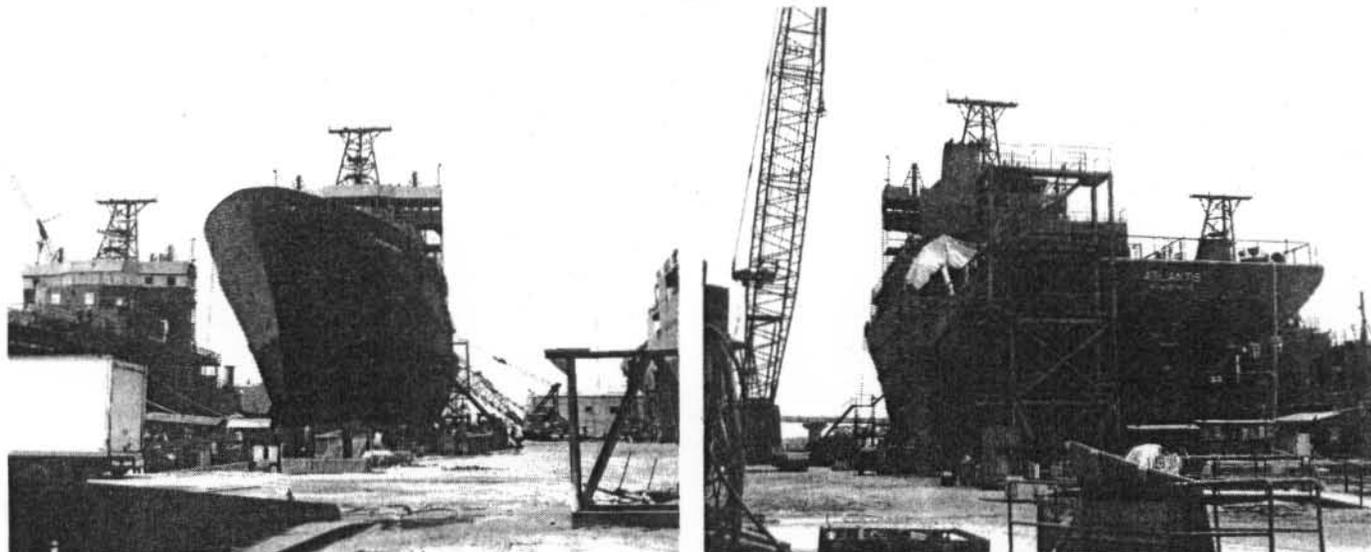
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## R/V *Atlantis* Launch

## Set For February 1

Photos courtesy Halter Marine



Views of the bow (left) and stern (right) of the 274-foot *Atlantis* under construction at Halter Marine in Mississippi.

### Atlantis Construction On Track

Plans are underway for the February 1 launch and christening ceremony of the 274-foot AGOR-25, *Atlantis*, at Halter Marine in Moss Point, Mississippi (see recent construction photos above).

Construction is progressing well, according to Associate Director for Marine Operations Dick Pittenger. The ship is expected to arrive in Woods Hole after completion of construction and outfitting in early 1997.

The Institution is waiting for a decision from the federal funding agencies on whether *Atlantis* will be converted during final construction to support deep submergence operations, both manned and unmanned, for the U.S. academic research fleet. It was originally planned as a general purpose oceanographic research vessel, and the 279-foot *Knorr* was to be converted for deep submergence operations. If *Atlantis* becomes the deep submergence platform for the ocean research community, *Knorr* will remain a general purpose vessel.

### Working with Washington: WHOI's Strategy for Future Ocean Research Funding

Although WHOI has long worked with government organizations supporting ocean research, the funding climate during the fifty years of the Cold War did not generally require coordinated action from the oceanographic community to protect support for basic ocean research. Times have changed. Worldwide political and economic changes have meant a vastly different set of priorities to make the community's voice heard in Washington.

For the past year, the Institution has been putting together a specific strategy or plan to work with various government groups in Washington. The Washington strategy is part of the ongoing discussions, begun in January 1995, to develop a long-range strategic plan for the Institution. Senior management and representatives of the scientific staff have spent considerable time and effort discussing the strengths of the Institution, the

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## Working with Washington

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mission or "raison d'etre" for its existence:

- world-class science and engineering research;
- world-class technology;
- world-class seagoing capabilities;
- graduate education and postdoctoral programs;
- a high degree of independence in an environment that fosters creativity and innovation.

In order to accomplish this mission, the group developed an Institution strategy for working with the various groups in Washington which control funding for ocean sciences. The result is a three-prong plan focused on Congress, the funding agencies and the President's Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

"Our strategy for working with Washington is very straightforward," Director Bob Gagosian says. "Of our government-sponsored research, we receive 60 percent from the National Science Foundation (NSF), 30 percent from the Office of Naval Research (ONR), four percent from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and two percent from the Department of Energy (DOE). It is clear that our priorities must be Capital Hill, the funding agencies and the Executive Branch through the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)."

The strategies for working with the three are different, the Director says. "With NSF, our strategy is to get more funds into the pot, to get

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Writer/Editor: Shelley M. Lauzon  
Staff Support: Kathleen Patterson

the total NSF research budget increased so that our staff can compete for those funds. If the money is there we can compete successfully as we have in the past, but if there is less money available to everyone that obviously means less for the Institution."

On Capital Hill, working to get more money into NSF's total research budget means working with the various Appropriations Committees in the House of Representatives and the Senate that control research funds. "We must educate them as to how important basic research is to the taxpayers of this country, using oceanography as an example. We need to convince them that basic research can and is being used for the benefit of society, and to show them the excitement of exploration for students and those who are the future of the nation."

One way to share that excitement is to get key Congressional staff members to WHOI to see research activities firsthand. Visits to labs and facilities and the opportunity to speak directly with researchers in an informal setting helps them learn about ocean sciences, particularly those projects that have a clear economic and environmental relevance to society. The recent visit of Congressman Jerry Lewis of California (see August-September *Newsletter* article on his visit) and members of his staff is one example.

"We don't ask them for anything," Bob Gagosian says. "We simply show them some of the work we are doing, let them ask questions of the staff, have them observe the level of commitment and excitement here for basic research. The information Congressman Lewis gains can then be helpful when he goes back to his committee and has to defend appropriations decisions. We are doing this for the good of the oceanographic research community, not simply for WHOI. If it benefits the community, we believe it will benefit WHOI as well."

The strategy for working with the funding agencies follows the same philosophy. With NSF, the goal is to maintain and hopefully increase support for all scientific research. WHOI's senior managers, particularly the Director, Associate Director for Research Jim Luyten, Associate Director for Education John Farrington and Associate Director for Marine Operations Dick Pittenger, work closely with the agency's senior management in a variety of ways. They visit key staff members in Washington on a regular basis and communicate weekly via telephone calls and letters, providing advice and information on specific projects of interest to the oceanographic community and/or to WHOI specifically. Key NSF staff are also invited to visit WHOI.

"We go to Washington to give funding agency managers information to sustain and grow the oceanography budget," Bob Gagosian explains. "We also want to make sure some of the best people in the field are on the staff at the various federal agencies to help in that effort. For example, Mike Purdy, former department chair of the Geology and Geophysics Department, recently resigned from WHOI to become Director of the Ocean Sciences Division of NSF, a key position for the oceanographic research community."

WHOI scientific staff serve as rotating program managers at the agencies: Associate Scientist Al Plueddemann of the Physical Oceanography Department is currently at NSF in this capacity, and current G&G Department Chair Bill Curry spent several years there

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## Technical Training Facility to be Established; Training Team Formed

With the new electronic library system and the Bi-Tech system scheduled to go on-line in the coming months and to better utilize technology to meet present and future needs, the Institution is establishing a dedicated training facility in the Clark Laboratory.

The new technical training facility will be located in Clark 141, part of the MBL/WHOI Library formerly used for the Document Library. Clark 181, which has been the site of training, will be returned to the Physical Oceanography Department as soon as Clark 141 is outfitted and ready for use. The Document Library has moved to McLean and is now part of the Data Library and Archives.

The Group Training Facility will accommodate work stations for twelve students and an instructor, along with various training aids such as projectors, a screen, whiteboards, etc. A adjacent UNIX Training Lab will house several UNIX workstations to allow for hands-on UNIX system administration training. The nearby Individual Training Facility will provide one workstation for individually-paced training, a TV/VCR for video training and the management and skill-building library currently housed at Nobska. This room will enable one person to access the workstation for individualized software training/previewing or four to five individuals viewing/discussing a training video. All three areas are expected to be ready for use in early 1996.

The Institution has also re-focused its staff training and development efforts in light of recent budget reductions and future needs. A team approach will distribute the training responsibilities to those areas currently involved in training and development, including Human Resources, CIS, Education, the Library and the Ombuds/EEO Office. Karen Rauss, Ombuds/EEO Officer, has been asked to coordinate the Training Team's activities, which will focus primarily on technical and computer training.

## Staff Honors and Awards

Jeff Seewald, an assistant scientist in the Marine Chemistry and Geochemistry Department, has been honored by the Geological Society of America (GSA) with an award for the best paper in the field of organic geochemistry for 1994. His paper, "Evidence for Metastable Equilibrium Between Hydrocarbons under Hydrothermal Conditions" appeared in *Nature* (370, pages 285-287). The GSA met in New Orleans in November.

Senior Scientist Ken Brink of the Physical Oceanography Department has been elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Fellows are elected "for their efforts toward advancing science or fostering applications that are deemed scientifically or socially distinguished." Each new Fellow will be presented with an official certificate and a gold and blue (representing science and engineering, respectively) rosette pin at the 1996 AAAS Annual Meeting in Baltimore in February.

Founded in 1848, AAAS represents the world's largest federation of scientists and has more than 140,000 individual members. The association publishes the weekly, peer-reviewed journal *Science*. The tradition of recognizing scientific and societal contributions with the AAAS Fellow distinction began in 1874.

## 1996 WHOI Wall Calendars Available Soon

The 1996 Institution wall calendar, featuring 12 photographs from Biologist Dave Caron's collection of the marine microworld, will be available in the Stockrooms around December 15. Cost will be approximately \$4.50 each.

## ONR Site Review Held

The annual Office of Naval Research (ONR) Site Review October 18-20 was smaller than usual in the number of submitted proposals, but very successful, according to Associate Director for Research Jim Luyten.

Nineteen proposals were submitted for the period January 1, 1996 through December 31, 1997. The total amount requested was \$4,676,713. Thirteen of the proposals were funded as requested, two were funded at reduced levels, two were deferred for a later decision but are expected to be funded, and two were declined. The total amount awarded was \$3,510,697.

"While the success rate this year was very good, particularly in this tight funding environment, the number of proposals was significantly fewer than we normally submit," Luyten notes. "For example, last year we submitted 29 proposals in the ONR Omnibus Proposal for review at the Site visit. We have discussed this internally and with ONR, and believe that this lower number of proposals reflects both the uncertainty about changes in the research agenda at ONR as they move toward scientific and technical problems associated with the littoral and coastal regions, and uncertainties about the availability of support from ONR."

Jim Luyten noted that, at the external critique at the end of the Site visit, ONR representatives said they were very impressed by the quality of the science and engineering presented during the Site visit, and with the involvement of the senior administration of the Institution in Washington in supporting the ocean sciences research agenda.

"They also thanked us for the welcome and help the Institution provided for the Site Review Team," he added. "Many thanks to everyone at the Institution who helped make this a successful review."

## Whale Watch An Adventure for More than 200

Nearly 220 employees, Associates, Trustees, Members of the Corporation and their families and friends filled the *Captain John and Son II* from Plymouth for a whale watch October 1. The cruise was sponsored by the Employee Capital Campaign Committee.

The crowd learned about Stellwagen Bank and whales in the area from Senior Research Specialist Bill Watkins and Research Assistant Damon Gannon, who also works for the charter company. Two finback whales were sighted during the four-hour trip, a male about 40-45 feet long and a female about 65 feet long, believed to be one of the largest whales in the area.

Photos by Shelley Lauzon



*Binoculars came in handy for eager whale watchers.*



*Research Assistant Damon Gannon provided background information and showed a videotape during the trip out to the bank.*

## WHOI Cookbook Makes Great Gift

A holiday gift idea is the WHOI cookbook, *Sailors' Delight*, printed earlier this year under the auspices of the Employee Capital Campaign Committee. The hardcover book features more than 270 recipes and is available to staff and students in the Stockroom for \$8 plus tax and to the public for \$10 plus tax. Copies are also available for \$10 from the Exhibit Center and Information Office. Proceeds benefit the Institution's Capital Campaign.

## Holiday Food Drive

The Women's Committee is sponsoring its Annual Holiday Food Drive to benefit the Falmouth Service Center (the local foodbank) and the Emerson House (a residential treatment program for women, adolescent girls, and mothers with infants). Any non-perishable food, baby items, or personal hygiene items can be left in the festive boxes at the following locations through Friday, December 22nd:

### Village

Challenger  
Challenger Annex\*  
Bigelow 1st Floor  
Smith Lobby  
Redfield Lobby  
Blake (Upper Floor)  
Nobska House (Main Floor)\*  
Iselin Port Office

### Quissett Campus

McLean  
Clark Lobby  
USGS (Crawford)  
Bell House\*  
Fenno House (Main Entrance)  
GEOSECS  
Fye Lab\*

*\*indicates new location for 1995*

## Exhibit Center Plans Open House

The Exhibit Center and Gift Shop at 15 School Street will hold an Open House December 15 from noon to 3 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and visitors will have an opportunity to do holiday shopping.

December hours are Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sunday noon to 4:30 p.m. Special holiday hours are December 19-23 and 26-30, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed December 24 and 31).

The Exhibit Center will be closed in January and February.

## EMPLOYEE EDUCATION OFFERINGS-SPRING 1996

On-site course offerings by UMASS/Lowell at WHOI for the spring 1996 semester are listed below. **Classes start the week of January 15th and end the week of April 22.**

### 89.225 Coastal Oceanography

Instructors: Graham Giese and Christopher Weidman, WHOI  
Wednesday 6:00-9:00 p.m. in Clark 237

Explores coastal environments and processes from a geological perspective. Includes discussions of tides, waves, meteorology, water characteristics, sea-level change, geomorphology, erosion and sedimentation, and coastal management. Coastal environments covered will include sandy and rocky shores, estuaries and bays, deltas and salt marshes, and tropical and high-latitude coasts. Reference will be made to local coastal systems. Optional field trips. (3 credits, or 45 PDPs) Prereq: none

### 92.213-001 Introduction to Programming in C++

Instructor: Peter Schmitt, WHOI  
Tuesday 6:00-9:00 p.m. in Clark 271

Offers an introduction to the processing of information by computer. Computer logic, memory, input/output processing, and programming in the "C++" language. (3 credits) Prereq: Algebra

### 92.312-003 UNIX Shell Programming

Instructor: Art Newhall, WHOI  
Tuesday 6:00-9:00 p.m. in Smith Conference Room

Teaches the concepts, features and functions of the Bourne Shell. The course covers the building blocks necessary for programming the shell. Shell scripts are developed which can be used as new utilities. (3 credits) Prereq: Introduction to UNIX Operating System

### 92.314-002 UNIX Systems Interface Programming

Instructor: Peter Schmitt, WHOI  
Thursday 6:00-9:00 p.m. in Clark 201

Introduces a UNIX programmer to the tools which are necessary to take advantage of all the facilities provided by the UNIX operating systems. Use of system calls, as well as the pros and cons of using direct system call on the C library routines, will be discussed. (3 credits) Prereq: Introduction to UNIX Operating System, UNIX Shell Programming and C Programming

**REGISTRATION:** by telephone 508-934-2700 after December 1st 8:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Friday. Payment taken with Master Card or VISA only. For additional information contact Katharine Galaitsis at 508-934-2446; e-mail galaitsik@woods.uml.edu

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

A World Wide Web page which includes staff training and development resources for employees and community members is located at URL <http://uop.who.edu/stdac.html>. This page can be accessed directly from the WHOI homepage at the link "Professional Development for WHOI Staff and Community". Check both UMASS/Dartmouth and UMASS/Lowell for distance learning online courses being offered this spring.

WHOI employees applying for Employee Education Assistance should remember to submit their applications for reimbursement prior to enrolling.

## Thank You!

Our group of weekday basketball-warriors would like to thank the WHOI Facilities group for maintaining the basketball hoops, and especially our considerate Clark colleagues for not parking on the court during our Tuesday/Thursday noon playing times. Beginning in late spring until cold weather set in, we have consistently enjoyed full court, obstacle-free basketball games. We would also like to encourage others who would like to play next spring; game times will be Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon beginning in May.

WHOI Basketball Players

## Don LeBlanc Retires

Machine Shop Supervisor Don LeBlanc retired October 31 after more than 33 years of service to the Institution. Many friends and colleagues gathered in the Iselin shop area to honor Don October 26. He will divide his time between Florida and Falmouth, and recently sent the following note:

*A special thanks to everyone who was able to attend my retirement clam boil. It was a great time. I will miss you all.*

## Holiday Party Notice

The holiday season is celebrated at many department and group parties and activities, and is a busy time for everyone. In view of declining attendance and interest in the past few years in the Institution-wide holiday party, and in discussion with the Recreation Committee and others around the Institution, the all-Institution holiday gathering will not be held this year.

## Human Resource News

The following is a quick update on a variety of topics from the Human Resources office.

### DELTA DENTAL

- Family dental premiums will increase from \$19.18/payperiod to \$20.53/payperiod effective 1/1/96.
- Delta Dental offers a foreign language translation service through their Customer Service department. If needed, Delta representatives can access a foreign language interpreter for 140 different languages while the customer remains on the line.

### FIDELITY

- Fidelity is on the WWW at <http://www.fid-inv.com:8080/>.

### FLOATING HOLIDAYS

- Any floating holidays not taken by December 23 will be paid in the paycheck 12/29/95.

### HOUSING

- Effective January 1, the Housing Office will no longer maintain listings of properties for rent in the Falmouth community. A list of other resources will be available.

### PILGRIM HEALTH CARE

- There will be no rate increase for 1996.
- If you're planning to visit the Member Services department, it has relocated to 1200 Crown Colony Drive, Quincy. Pilgrim's corporate mailing address and toll free telephone numbers remain the same and are noted on the back of your identification card.
- A 90-day mail order drug program will be available through participating pharmacies. Further information will be forthcoming.
- A Cambridge Eye Doctors office has opened at Falmouth Plaza.

### TIAA-CREF

- The hours of TIAA-CREF's telephone center have expanded to 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday to make it easier to call for personal retirement counseling and information services.
- TIAA-CREF is on the World Wide Web at <http://www.tiaa-cref.org/>.
- Total (guaranteed plus dividend) effective interest rates credited on Supplemental Retirement Annuities (SRAs) through February 29, 1996 are:

#### Premiums and Dividends Applied

7/1/95 - 12/31/95	6.5%
1/1/95 - 6/30/95	7.0
10/1/94 - 12/31/94	6.75
7/1/94 - 9/30/94	6.25
1/1/93 - 6/30/94	6.00
1/1/91 - 12/31/92	6.90

### VANGUARD

- \* Vanguard is available on America Online. To order a free copy of the software, call 1-800-238-6336. You'll receive ten free hours of initial use. Thereafter, America Online will charge regular usage fees.

### WHOI's United Way Campaign Underway

The 1995 United Way Campaign at WHOI is underway. Director Bob Gagosian and Senior News Officer Shelley Lauzon are campaign co-chairs once again this year. Information about the 26 member agencies served by the United Way on Cape Cod and the Islands has been sent to each employee, along with a donation form. Contributions may be made through payroll deduction or by cash or check. The annual campaign will conclude at the end of December. For further information contact Shelley Lauzon at ext. 2270.

*The fantail of R/V Oceanus was loaded with equipment for a physical oceanography cruise earlier this year off Brazil.*



Photo by Chris Griner

## Working With Washington *Continued from page 2*

not long ago. Physical Oceanographer Mel Briscoe left WHOI in the late 1980s to serve as a program manager at ONR and later at NOAA; he is back at ONR as Director of the Modelling and Predictions Division.

In addition, Department Chairs are taking a more active role in working with key agency staff, and individual scientists are encouraged to visit their program managers and to keep in regular contact with them.

While WHOI's strategy at NSF is to increase total research funding, the strategy at ONR is more focused to specifically support oceanography. Bob Gagosian and others have worked directly with the Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of Naval Research, the two positions that control the Navy's research effort, to encourage them to support oceanography as a core requirement of the Navy and to be supportive of naval research in general. The Director and Associate Directors work closely with Fred Saalfeld, Deputy Chief of Naval Research at ONR, and with division heads like Steve Ramberg of the Sensing and Systems Division and Mel Briscoe.

"We want to be supportive of them so that they can make the case for oceanography and naval research within ONR," Bob Gagosian says. "For example, they were very helpful with the research fleet, particularly in the construction of the new AGOR vessels, the AGOR-25 (*Atlantis*) being one."

WHOI's strategy with NOAA and DOE is further focused to work on specific agency programs like Coastal Oceans, Global Climate Change, Sea Grant, and the National Underwater Research Program (which helps support *Alvin*) at NOAA and the Ocean Margins and Global CO<sub>2</sub> programs at DOE by supporting these initiatives on Capitol Hill.

"At NOAA and DOE we focus on the major programs our scientists are involved in by trying to protect their survival and increase them if we can. These two agencies have suffered major cutbacks, so right now we are trying to save programs we feel are important to the country."

The third component of the Institution's Washington strategy is the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), which is part of the Executive Branch under the President. OMB's 1997 federal budget is being put together now, and Bob Gagosian, Jim Luyten and others are working to support funding for NSF, ONR and other federal agencies in that budget. Contact with the Office of the President's Science Advisor, Jack Gibbons, is part of that process.

Another piece of WHOI's Washington strategy involves taking a leadership role within the oceanographic community through the Joint Oceanographic Institutions (JOI, Inc.) and the Consortium for Oceanographic Research

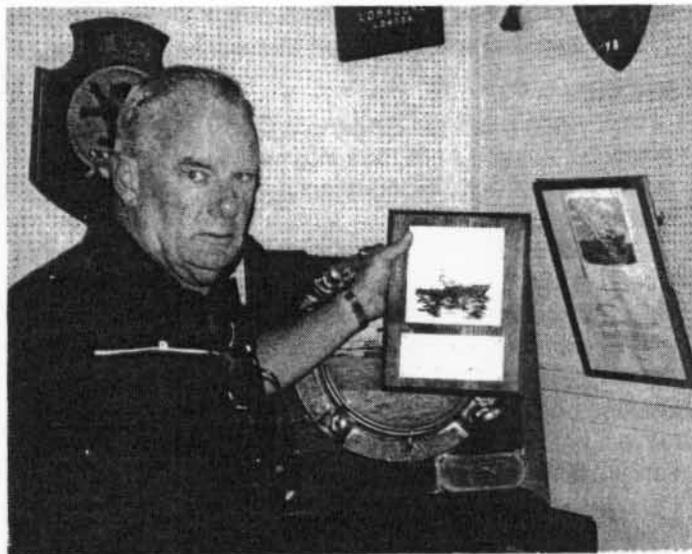
and Education (CORE), both headed by the former Chief of Naval Operations Admiral James Watkins. Bob Gagosian serves on the JOI Board of Governors; Admiral Watkins was at WHOI for the visit of Congressman Lewis in September.

WHOI also uses people in Washington to make contacts for Institution staff and to provide guidance on specific projects. Trustees and Members of the Corporation have been helpful, through their contacts and experience, in aiding the Institution with specific projects.

The Massachusetts Congressional delegation is also part of the strategy. "They helped us restore most of the Department of Defense's \$900 million cut last year, which would have been devastating for the oceanographic research community, including restoring the funding for the new *Atlantis* in the fall of 1994." Bob Gagosian says. "We keep them informed of issues and concerns."

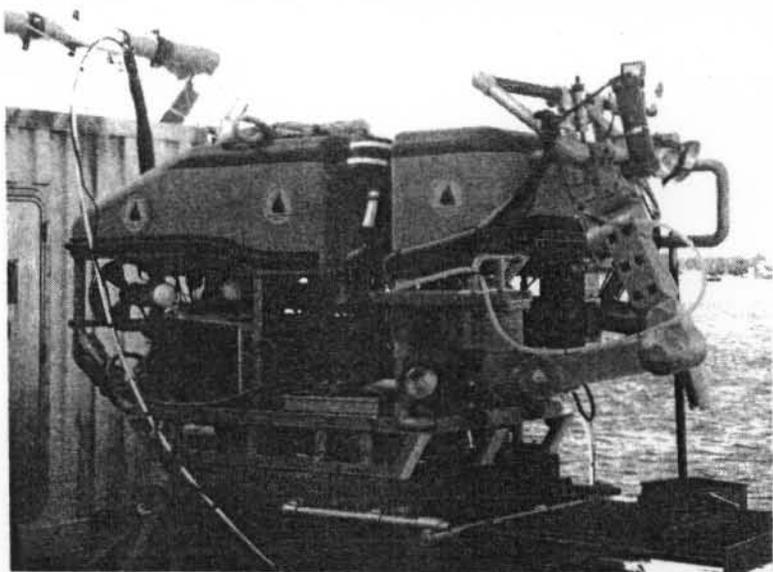
The Institution is also looking at partnerships with other organizations in the state. "We are formulating strategies to work with other scientific and educational organizations in Massachusetts." Bob Gagosian adds. "We want to raise the visibility of oceanography and its importance to the state. While WHOI currently has very little state funding, there may be appropriate programs and activities that would benefit WHOI and other state institutions so it would be a win-win situation. We should explore those opportunities."

Photo by Janet Costello



### It's a Small World

*R/V Knorr Second Mate Jack Sweet holds a plaque of the Knorr along one of Research Vessel Atlantis II on display at the Merchant Navy Club in Port Louis, Mauritius. Scientists and members of the Knorr crew visited the club during port calls at Port Louis in May, June and July 1995. The plaque of Atlantis II (on the wall at right) was presented to the club during a visit by that ship in October 1964.*



The Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) Jason, developed and operated by the Deep Submergence Laboratory in the Applied Ocean Physics and Engineering Department, has been a temporary resident on the WHOI dock since late summer. DSL engineers have been upgrading the vehicle and conducting a variety of engineering tests. Several major cruises are planned in 1996 in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

### Thanksgiving at Sea

Thanksgiving aboard R/V *Knorr* in the Indian Ocean was celebrated with lunch and dinner menus prepared by Steward Mitchell Barrows and colleagues.

Lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. featured cheese and vegetable trays, chips and dip, smoked salmon and bluefish, scallops and bacon, shrimp cocktail, oysters casino, egg rolls, dim sum, deviled eggs, cold meats, meat and cheese pies, breads and a fruit tray.

Dinner was served from 3 to 5 p.m. with a menu featuring roast turkey and gravy, baked ham, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, carrots, peas, turnips, and stuffing. Cranberry, corn and banana breads and rolls and a variety of pies and ice cream completed the meal.

### Ship Notes

#### ATLANTIS II/ALVIN

R/V *Atlantis II* and DSV *Alvin* arrived in Manzanillo, Mexico, December 3 and sailed December 6 on Leg XIX of extended Voyage #132. Eleven *Alvin* dives are scheduled during this third and final cruise to hydrothermal vents at 10°N on the East Pacific Rise. Scientists are conducting a biological program exploring how organisms interact with each other and their environment during colonization of new and established hydrothermal vent habitats.

The ship and sub are due at Manzanillo December 21.

#### KNORR

R/V *Knorr* departed Singapore December 2 on Leg XIV of extended Voyage #145, heading west to conduct a high resolution hydrographic transect across the Indian Ocean toward Africa.

The 55-day leg across the northern and central Indian Ocean is part of the Indian Ocean component of the World Ocean Circulation Experiment (WOCE). CTD (conductivity/temperature/density)/rosette stations from the sea surface to the ocean bottom will be conducted at 30-nautical-mile spacing. Routine underway collection of surface water, meteorology, current profiler and bathymetry data will also be conducted, and surface drifters and subsurface floats will be deployed along the cruise track, designated I2.

An intermediate port call will be made December 28-30 at Diego Garcia to embark foreign observers, to change some science personnel and to refuel.

*Knorr* is due at Mombasa, Kenya, January 23, 1996.

#### OCEANUS

R/V *Oceanus* remains at the WHOI dock for repairs and maintenance through the end of the year. The vessel's engines are being overhauled by the crew and the stern A-frame is being enlarged.

Photo by Kathy Patterson



Volunteers from the Falmouth Service Center and WHOI's Marine Operations Department unloaded stores from R/V *Oceanus* in October shortly after the ship was layed up for the remainder of the year. The remaining unused food aboard ship was donated to the local foodbank for distribution to needy families in the area.