

# Current COOS Activities & Opportunities Discussion

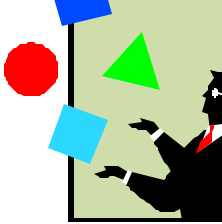
## Overview Review of Florida COOS Caucus (FCC) Activities Related to: FOCRC Science Research Plan FY 2006-2007



FCC6 meeting June 19, 2006

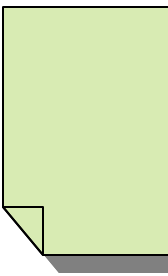
Dick Dodge, Nova Southeastern University 1

# FCC has suggested FOCRC adopt interdisciplinary observing system as research priority



- Fall 05: Initial **FL-PCOOS** proposal developed
- Nov 17, 2005 FOCRC meeting in West Palm Beach: Presentation by Dr. Ellen Prager on behalf of FL COOS Caucus
- **FCC subsequently reviewed and revised**

# Florida COOS Whitepaper



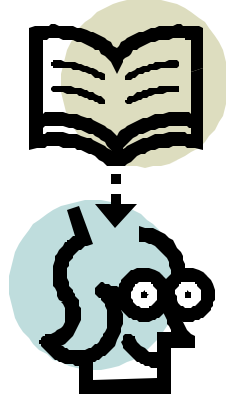
- **Outcome: FCC crafted a Florida COOS Whitepaper proposal**
- **By the major Florida oceanographic institutions:** UM RSMAS, NSU OC, USF CMS, HBOI, MML, FIT DMES, FSU DO, FAU OE, and UF CCE
- **Dec 13, 2005 FCC4 Meeting at HBOI: Finalized Whitepaper**
- **Jan 9, 2006 emailed to FOCRC Steve Wolfe**

# Florida COOS Whitepaper



- Hope FOCRC embrace Whitepaper
- **Although** FOCRC continued to develop research components of their own research plan,
- **FCC identified FOCRC RC 3.2 as the research component most directly related to the Florida COOS Whitepaper proposal.**

# Florida COOS Whitepaper



- **Jan 17-18, 2006 FOCRC meeting:** FL COOS Caucus participants (NSU, USF, HBOI, MML, FIT, FSU, FAU, UF, ROFFS, and UNF) argued for FCC Whitepaper proposal
- **FOCRC asked FCC questions and eventually made RC 3.2 as their top priority!**
- FOCRC asked staff to identify a budget for the FOCRC Annual Science Research Plan FY 2006-2007

# FOCRC's Research Plan



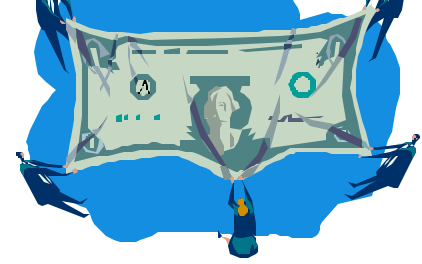
- Published FOCRC's Research Plan contained staff budget of \$7.72M for RC 3.2
- Note: FCC Whitepaper proposal was \$16.2M. (FROCRC staff picked and chose relative to RC 3.2)
- **BUT: Research Plan budget not approved by the FOCRC**
- FOCRC scheduled video conference for **Feb 21, 2006** to review, revise, and approve budget. (Canceled due to technical and attendance)

# FCC Budget for RC 3.2



- FCC then developed budget of \$19.6M for RC 3.2 based on:
- 8 regional projects to establish real-time interdisciplinary observing systems pilot prototype projects over 10 years into state-wide coastal ocean observing system
- 3 coastal regions (NW Florida Coast, the Dry Tortugas, and the east Florida coast)
- 5 major estuary regions: Apalachicola / Apalachee Bays region; Tampa Bay region; Charlotte Harbor region; Indian River region; and St. Johns region

# Reaffirmed FCC Budget



- Mar 6, 2006 FCC Institutional Hosts telecon determined:
- RC 3.2 budget of \$19.6M for the 8 prototype projects was the most appropriate and science-based approach
- **Letter drafted thanking the FOCRC for their support of RC 3.2 and recommending the \$19.6M budget**
- FCC Delegation to attend the March 13-14 FOCRC Tallahassee meeting to support

# FCC Opportunities & Consortium



- **March 6, 2006 FCC I Hs telecon discussed a Florida COOS MOU/MOA with FIO**
- **Draft (by Gustafson, Vargo, and Milliken)** circulated to I Hs to determine if FCC Research Consortium would pursue state Research Plan and federal possibilities.
- FCC I Hs saw opportunity for federal funding to extend the FOCRC efforts (coastal ocean and major estuaries 3 nm off the Atlantic coast and 9 nm off of the Gulf coast) into the U.S. EEZ

# FOCRC Budget



- Mar 13-14, 2006 Tallahassee meeting: FOCRC reviewed Annual Science Research Plan submitted to Legislature in Feb 1, 2006
- **Top 20 (of 51) research components of Plan identified as the FOCRC priorities** (Each with a FOCRC approved budget)
- **Real-time interdisciplinary observing system at \$7.72 as top priority**
- FDEP Secretary indicated that \$5 million FOCRC budget likely to be supported by the executive branch,
- Unlikely to be higher, but could try

# FOCRC Budget



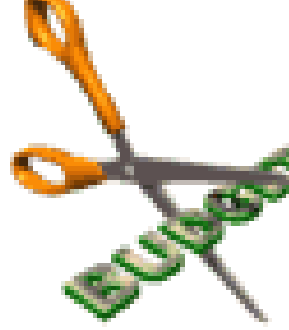
- Mar FOCRC meeting, FCC IHs present (Dodge, Dewar, Gustafson) Revised its \$19M budget to \$7.72 M for top FOCRC priority (interdisciplinary observing system)
  - 6 mos period for RFP selection
  - 6 mos work in FY 2006-2007
- 8 pilot prototype projects with integrated data management
- 3 Research Plan coastal regions (NW Florida Coast, Dry Tortugas, and Florida East coast)
- 5 major estuary regions (Apalachicola/Apalachee Bays, Tampa Bay, Charlotte Harbor, Indian River, and St. Johns)

# FCC to 14, FCC Brochure



- Apr 3, 2006 FCC5, Mote Marine Lab Meeting: **FCC IHs to 14**, adding FGCU, FI O, UNF, & FI U
- April 18-20, 2006 FOCRC meeting & Ocean Day Tallahassee: FCC presented **FCC brochure**, well received by the FOCRC and widely distributed.
- **Brochure: state funding for the real-time interdisciplinary observing system** for \$7.72M first year of a longer effort to develop pilot prototype projects for the coastal ocean observing system

# Final Legislative Budget



- Legislative session concluded May 2006
- House established \$1 M for integrated data management improvements Resource Assessment.
- Senate provided \$6 M but relegated real-time interdisciplinary observing system to a \$100,000 year 1 planning grant.
- **Final approved appropriations for FOCRC provided \$3 M budget BUT limited the Top Priority to \$100 K planning.**

# FOCRC informed of FCC RC



- May 18-19, 2006 FOCRC meeting in St, Petersburg: FCC reaffirmed interests in the real-time interdisciplinary observing system.
- PPT (developed by Gustafson, Luther, Vargo, and Betzer) **congratulated** FOCRC on their achievements and informed the **FCC intended to form a research consortium:**
  - to combine expertise
  - to undertake funded COOS related research projects of the FOCRC Research Plan.

# Veto

## and the Election of Gov. Who?



- May 25, 2005, FOCRC Research Plan appropriations item # 1933 for \$3 M vetoed by Governor Bush.
- Governor Bush explained while he would “encourage’ the continuation of the FOCRC (“I think the work is important”),
- he was unwilling to support the FOCRC “ongoing expenditures”. (read recurring!)

# Phoenix Rising from The Ashes



- May 31, and Jun 8, 2006 FCC held related discussions
- **Letter to the Gov sent June 8, 2006:**
- Supported continuation of FOCRC funds to maintain minimum FOCRC functions and better prepare for the next administration.
- Gov Bush emailed in response: June 9, 2006 (“**I will encourage the continuation of the council. I think the work is important but want to make sure that ongoing expenditures are done by the next governor and legislature.**”).

# FOCRC MEETING and FCRC FIO



- Jun 22-23, 2005 FOCRC Miami meeting: FCC I Hs will support FOCRC to re-adopt the Research Plan and related budget.
- Responded to Wolfe Questions (in packet)
- **Florida COOS Research Consortium administered by the FIO (FCRC FIO) to be created by FIO and the various FCC Host Institutions**
- Assuming adoption of the FOCRC Research Plan (FY 2007-2008), **FCC and FCRC FIO** would pursue **non-recurring** funds.

# Proposed FCC Position

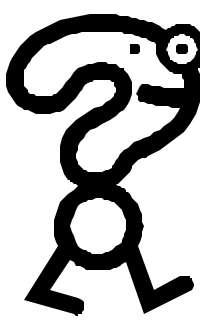


- Request \$100K grant for feasibility / plan development for the top ranked real-time interdisciplinary observing system
- From FDEP, FFWCC, & FDACS
- FY 2007-2008 as the initial year
- Use of related federal programs or other sources to leverage funding and coordinate (i.e., IOOS, Orion/OOI, hurricane intensity forecasting improvements, etc.)
- Efforts undertaken by a creative FCRC FIO public-private partnership and as intended by Florida law

# A FCC Future



- The FL COOS Caucus I Hs continue to act for FL COOS Caucus matters (advocating what is in Florida's best COOS interests)
- **FCRC FIO Research Consortium will function as a group of institutions within the administrative control of the agreed upon FIO administration who undertake specified Florida COOS related projects.**



Thank you!

Questions?