

National Oceanographic Partnership Program 2015 Award for Excellence in Partnering

One of the stated objectives of the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) is to identify and carry out partnerships among Federal agencies, academia, industry, NGOs and other members of the ocean sciences community in the areas of data, resources, and education. The purpose of these partnerships, as specified in the National Oceanographic Partnership Act, is “to promote the national goals of assuring national security, advancing economic development, protecting quality of life and strengthening science education and communication through improved knowledge of the ocean.”

The *NOPP Award for Excellence in Partnering* has two purposes: 1) to recognize the successful efforts of the partners in conducting a superior project and 2) to identify to the ocean sciences community and its supporters what constitutes a successful NOPP effort. The award will be given annually* to a NOPP-funded project that best exemplifies the partnership objectives of NOPP.

Although there is no eligibility requirement based on the stage of the grant period the NOPP project is in, the closer a project is to its completion the higher success rate the project has of being an award recipient. The *NOPP Award for Excellence in Partnering* is meant to recognize the strong partnerships that have been built over time and their impact on the oceanographic community. Prior award recipients are not eligible to receive the *Excellence in Partnering* award for the same NOPP project. Any Principal Investigator with an ongoing NOPP Project can nominate their NOPP-funded project to be considered for the award. Federal Program Managers can also nominate a project for consideration.

The NOPP Program Office and the Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology’s Interagency Working Group on Ocean Partnerships (IWG-OP) will evaluate nominated projects and select an award recipient based on the degree of and commitment to partnering, the success of the partnership effort, and the impact of the partnership on ocean research or education. The evaluation criteria are:

- 1) Ocean sector diversity among the partners;
- 2) Level of effort/involvement by partners (Are the partners actively and equally involved in the research and/or development of the project?);
- 3) Long-term commitment of the partners beyond the NOPP-funding period;
- 4) The success of the partnership in meeting its project objectives;
- 5) Impact of the effort on ocean research and/or education; and
- 6) Distinguishing characteristics of the partnership that contributed to its success.

*Awards do not have to be made annually if it is judged that there are no suitable candidates.

DEADLINE:

For full consideration, please return your nomination with the following information to the NOPP Office (info@nopp.org) by **02 October 2015** with the subject-heading **EiP Nomination**.