The University of New Hampshire ranks nationally among the top 10 universities in ocean related research funding. UNH is in a prime position to increase its current research funding capacity, while enhancing its present reputation through growth in the SMSOE. The Research Committee of the School of Marine Science and Ocean Engineering (SMSOE) has as its mission the formation of interdisciplinary research teams targeting fundable problems of regional and national significance in marine science and ocean engineering. The Associate Director of Research and the Research Committee members will work to identify and inform the SMSOE research community of funding opportunities. Based on the recommendation of the Research Committee, the Executive Committee of SMSOE will provide the necessary resources to these groups or to individuals, so that proposals can be developed and submitted to the State, the Federal Government and/or the private sector responding to interdisciplinary funding opportunities and addressing solutions to identified problems.

Roles and Responsibilities of the SMSOE Research Committee

**SMSOE Infrastructure and Process**

1. Annually review research expertise within the SMSOE to identify thematic research strengths, gaps, and needs. Results will then be reported to the SMSOE Executive Committee for consideration of strategic hires and advancing the SMSOE mission.
2. A) Develop a formal process for SMSOE faculty to apply for SMSOE research seed grants that will lead to follow-on, interdisciplinary research funding from external sponsors.
   B) Evaluate SMSOE seed grant proposals and make funding recommendations to the SMSOE Executive Committee.
3. A) Develop a formal process for SMSOE faculty to apply for short-term salary to support strategic business and proposal development that will lead to follow-on, interdisciplinary research funding from external sponsors.
   B) Evaluate SMSOE B&P requests and make funding recommendations to the SMSOE Executive Committee.

**SMSOE Strategic Long-Term Actions**

4. Identify and promote the development of research centers within SMSOE that capitalize on current or developing interdisciplinary research themes by coordinating and providing the rationale to support strategic hires.
5. Collaborate with the SMSOE Education Committee to develop a mechanism to enhance strategic research investments geared towards increasing the number of SMSOE graduate students.