



NOTICE OF Graduate Seminar Presentation

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Thursday, August 30, 2007

Room E-11 @ 12:00 pm

Assessing “SmartBay” Ocean Observation System User Requirements

ABSTRACT

While there are no formal definitions for ocean observation systems, there is a common understanding that they primarily collect data on ocean and coastal parameters. Information derived from such systems provide short and long term benefits to several ocean sectors that include shipping and marine transportation, search and rescue operations, ocean and coastal management, and fisheries and aquaculture.

The Placentia Bay Demonstration Project, otherwise known as ‘SmartBay’ is a new ocean observation initiative in Eastern Canada that is halfway through its two year demonstration phase. Its objective is to provide *“simple access by all stakeholders to data and information in support of effective management and sustainable development of coastal and ocean areas and the safety and security of life at sea”*. To accomplish this SmartBay is being implemented as pilot project with the intent for future expansion as the user needs grow. This is in keeping with the philosophy behind the design and implementation of ocean observation systems, which is that they should be “user driven, end-to-end” systems geared towards sustained observation of ocean variables.

This paper analyses user requirements and implementation strategy being employed for SmartBay. It is well recognized that the success of large scale information systems depends on active user participation and support, as well as efficient implementation strategies. The purpose of this research therefore is to highlight what is being done in this project, why, and what can be learned for future initiatives.

Faculty Members and Graduate Students are invited to attend this presentation.