

## **Research Vessel Mate/Relief Captain \***

### **Function:**

Under general supervision of ship's captain, perform various functions pertaining to operation and maintenance of the vessel, assist with field work and vessel-related research and educational projects and serve as relief captain as needed.

### **Characteristic Duties and Responsibilities:**

1. Assist captain in operation of the vessel including: handling lines, docking and undocking, operation of deck machinery, cargo handling and storage, and launching and operation of the ship's boat.
2. Perform the duties of the Captain when the Captain is absent, including navigating and piloting the vessel.
3. Insure the safety of crew members and passengers by providing safety instruction, conducting drills and monitoring activities, and insuring all safety systems are operable.
4. Operate ship's navigation and communication electronics when required.
5. Perform various vessel maintenance activities (e.g. changing lube oil and filters; equipment repairs; cleaning, painting, and lubricating deck machinery, keeping bilges clean and pumped).
6. Oversee vessel related responsibilities during diving operations, including live boating activities.
7. Assist in sampling activities conducted from the vessel, including oceanographic buoy and mooring installation.
8. Assist in preparing for and conducting annual U.S. Coast Guard inspection, and periodic FCC inspections.
9. Identify and recommend vessel and operations improvement opportunities.
10. Keep vessel's dock and storage areas neat and organized.
11. Repair and maintain vessel's sampling equipment.
12. Assist with marketing and public relations ideas and follow through on activities.
13. Perform related duties, as assigned.

### **Minimum Qualifications:**

1. Five years or more of research vessel experience and Formal Seamanship Training (e.g. Associates degree, two-year certificate in Nautical Science, or equivalent programs).
2. 100 Ton Ocean Operator's License, Master/Near Coastal (up to 100 miles offshore).
3. Certification in First Aid, CPR, and DAN Oxygen First Aid.
4. Experience maintaining, repairing, and troubleshooting major research vessel mechanical systems including marine engines, transmissions, generators, hydraulic systems, cranes and winches.
5. Experience with research diving operations.
6. Ability to react to emergency situations at sea.
7. Supervisory skills.
8. Familiarity with Federal and State rules, regulations, and requirements pertaining to university vessel operations.
9. Ability to clearly communicate information concerning marine educational and research operations.
10. Sufficient strength and physical dexterity to perform duties and responsibilities of this job including exposure to inclement weather conditions for prolonged periods of time.
11. Ability to pass drug and alcohol screening tests as mandated by the university and appropriate licensing authorities.

12. Ability to wear and use appropriate personal protective equipment, as necessary.
13. Willingness to work the required hours (occasional long days, holidays and weekends) complete assigned research and educational missions.

**Additional Desirable Qualifications:**

1. Bachelor's Degree.
2. SCUBA certification with ability to become a UNH certified diver.
3. Experience in and knowledge of coastal waters of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts.
4. Familiarity with Detroit Diesel engines, and Lugger, and Northern Lights Generators similar to those on the R/V Gulf Challenger.
5. Courses or degree in Marine Sciences or related field, or equivalent experience, such as marine-related lab experience.
6. Computer skills, including digital photography, basic desktop publishing, and familiarity with navigation and data acquisition software.

3/14/08  
System Approval

3/14/08  
Effective Date

**This document is a generic classification specification of the University System of New Hampshire. Its purpose is to describe the representative responsibilities and general level of complexity and it is not a substitute for the specific job description of the individual position.**

\* Revised – original approved 10/21/77, revised 4/12/94 and 4/3/00 as Ship's Mate, and 12/6/04 as First Mate/Relief Captain