



Experiential Learning and Research Cruise Opportunities for USG Faculty and Students

The University of Georgia Skidaway Institute of Oceanography offers USG faculty and students the opportunity to go to sea aboard the Institute's 104-foot ocean-going research vessel, the R/V *Savannah*. The vessel was custom-built to conduct biological, chemical, physical and geological oceanographic studies in estuarine and oceanic waters. In addition to a ship crew of seven, which allows for round-the-clock operations, the ship accommodates groups up to 26 for day cruises and 16 for overnight cruises, making it an excellent platform for faculty and students (both graduate and undergraduate) to conduct oceanographic research, interact with the marine environment, and gain experience at sea.

For additional information and to apply, interested faculty or students should visit www.skio.uga.edu/erco/.

Applications should be submitted no later than **30 January 2026** for cruises to be run during the 2026 calendar year. Successful applications will be selected based on educational and research merits and diversity in disciplines across the university system.

- Cruise requests of 1 to 3 days are accepted. Note that one-day cruises are limited to sampling estuarine and nearshore ocean waters and two days or more are required to sample the mid to outer slope waters.
- Faculty from all USG departments, centers and institutes are eligible to apply to lead a cruise.
- Individual students may apply to join scheduled educational cruises. These student berths will be awarded on a space-available basis. Students should submit their requests directly to the SKIO Marine Superintendent at the contact email below.
- Cruises are funded through a special appropriation from the Georgia General Assembly. All costs are covered while onboard.
- The cruises will depart from and return to the vessel's home port at the UGA Skidaway Institute of Oceanography in Savannah, Ga.
- Transportation to the vessel's home port, and pre- and post-cruise lodging and meals, are the responsibility of the applicant.
- The ship's current schedule and the cruise manual, which includes vessel capabilities and a list of shared-use equipment, can be accessed at www.skio.uga.edu/marine-ops-2/rv-savannah-2/.

For questions, contact UGA Skidaway Institute of Oceanography Marine Superintendent John Bichy at jbichy@uga.edu or (912) 598-2456.