

# Project Update

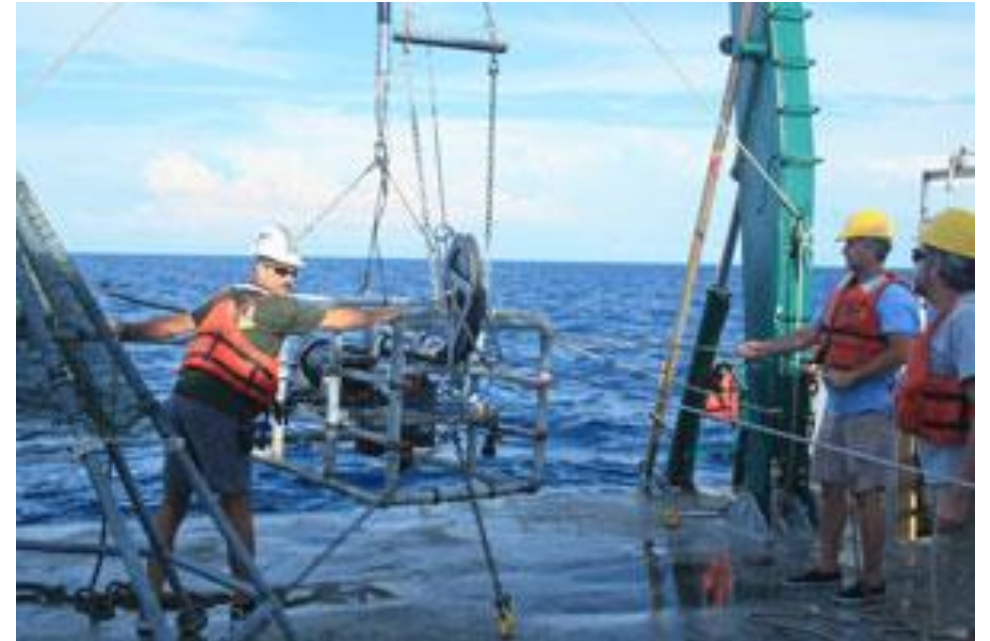
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GROUP 21: NEW HOUSING STRUCTURE FOR DEEP SEA EQUIPMENT  
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SPONSOR: FSU OCEANOGRAPHY

# Introduction

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- Tether Operated Vehicle (TOV)
  - Purpose is for surveying and exploring
  - Vehicle is dragged behind ship using tether
  - Holds data collecting equipment
  - Winch and pulley system control TOV altitude
- Florida State's TOV
  - 3 feet x 3 feet x 3 feet galvanized steel frame
  - Cruises very slowly at about 2000 meters under water
  - Currently has 17 pieces of data collecting equipment
  - Weighs approximately 900 pounds with all equipment



**Figure 1: FSU TOV being loaded into water**

# Review Scope

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**Problem Statement:** Florida State University's (FSU) current tether operated vehicle (TOV) (seen in Figure 2) has too much empty space, is too heavy, is difficult to move around, and does not tow parallel to ocean floor.

**Project Scope:** Update FSU's current TOV to address above issues.



**Figure 2: FSU's current TOV**

# Objectives and Constraints

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## Project Objectives

- Maximize footprint area
- Reduce weight
- Increase modularity
- Maintain level towing angle, passively
- Minimize height of new frame

## Project Constraints

- \$2,000 budget, flexible if absolutely necessary
- Corrosion resistant
- Hold all necessary equipment
- No extra power consumption
- Modular - Components can move around the frame
- Impact resistant

# Accomplished Last Semester

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Background Research

Decided experimental analysis technique

Designed 4 possible designs

Narrowed down to 2 designs

Built the 2 scaled models

Material Selection

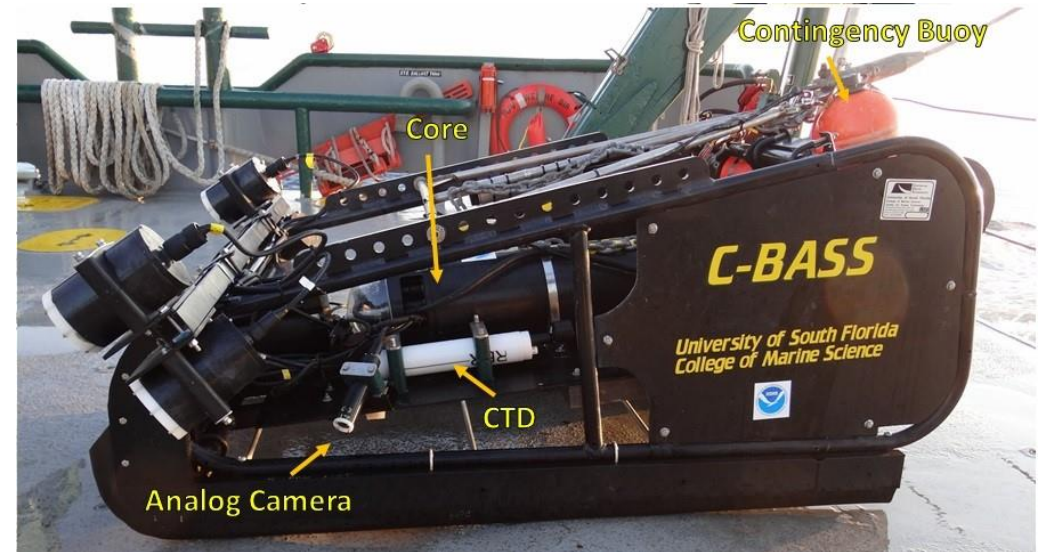
Began testing models

# Background Research

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## University of South Florida Design

- C-BASS (The Camera-Based Assessment Survey System), seen in Figure 3
- Operating Depth: 250 meters
- Surfaces on sides and bottom promotes a straighter tow
- Taper and smooth edges
- Modular Design



**Figure 3: USF's vehicle, the C-BASS**



# Background Research

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## University of Mississippi Design

- Cylindrical design with inside support, seen in Figure 4
- Operating depth: 2000 meters
- Single connection point raises concerns with consistent orientation and footprint
- Would require much more volume for oceanography equipment



**Figure 4: UM's vehicle, cylindrical shape**

# Design Concept 1

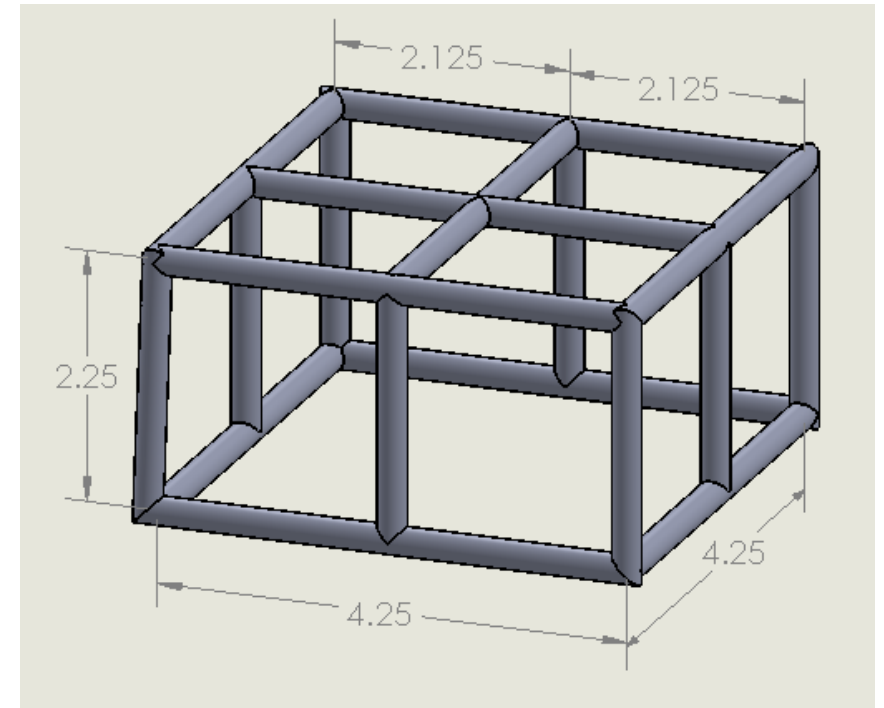
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## Advantages

- Square footprint maximizes area
- Allows all equipment to have a clear line of sight to ocean floor
- Low height will promote ease in deployment and retrieval

## Disadvantages

- Increase in footprint will lead to an increase in volume



**Figure 5: Design concept #1, units in feet**



# Design Concept 2

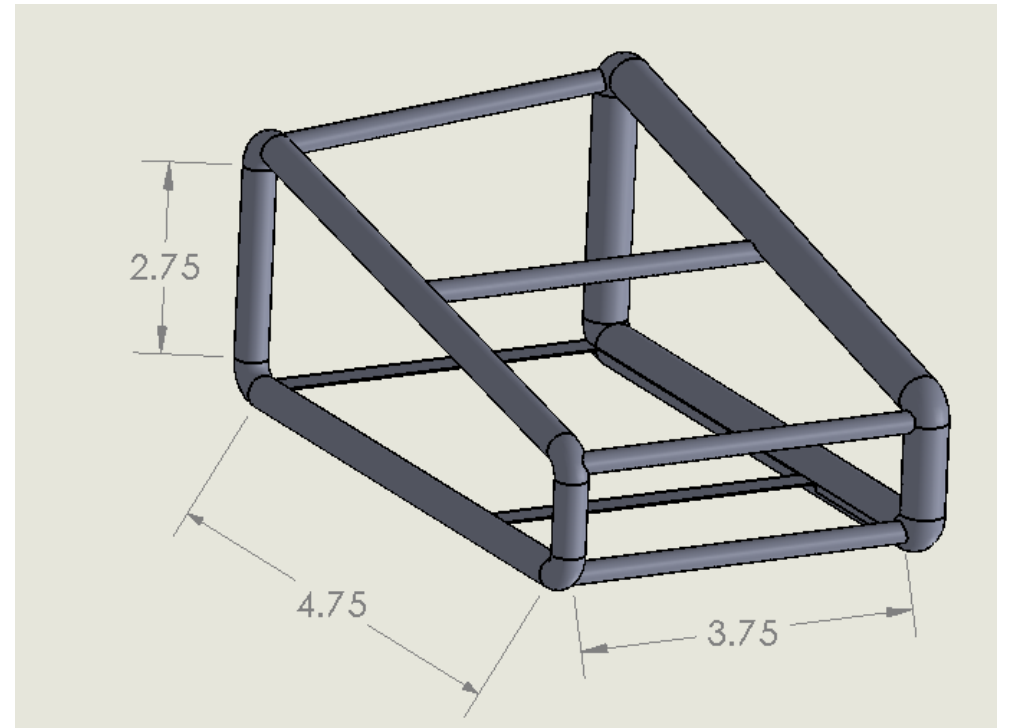
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## Advantages

- Footprint area larger than current TOV
- Allows all equipment to have clear view of ocean floor

## Disadvantages

- Weight distribution could be uneven
- Smaller footprint area than design concept 1



**Figure 6: Design concept 2, units in feet**

# Analysis Techniques

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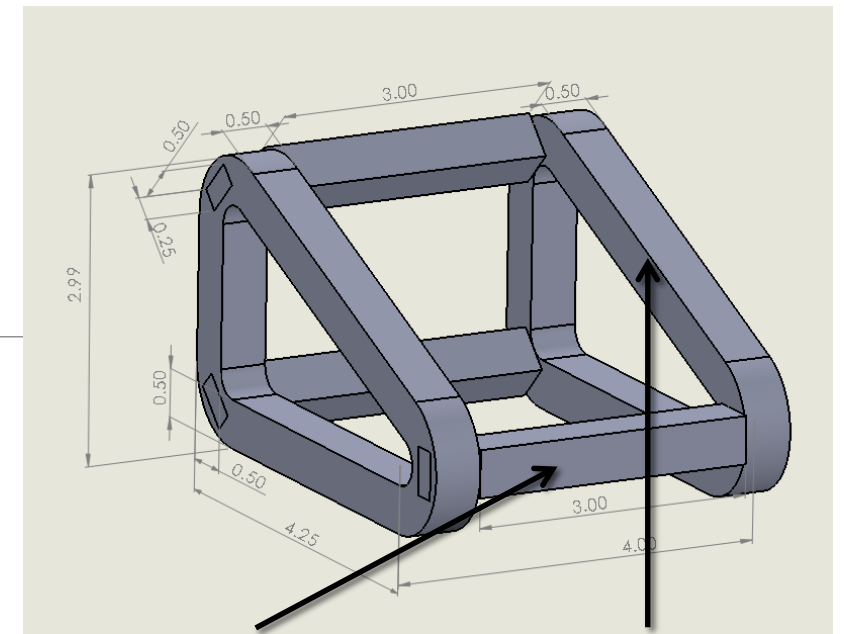
- Computer Simulation
  - Advised by professor that simulation would be too complicated
- Experimental Models
  - Vehicle Behavior
  - Water Effect
  - Tether Location
  - Geometry Effect



**Figure 7: Flow Flume in physics building**

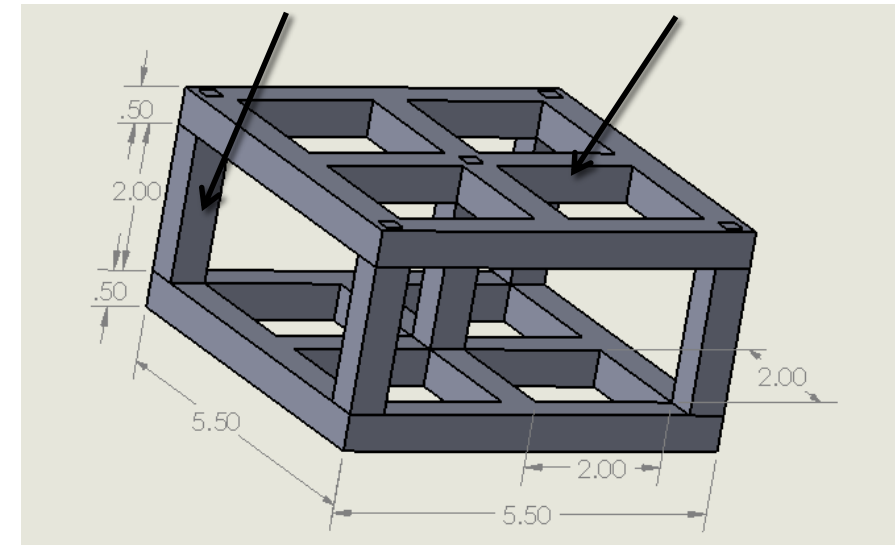
# Models

- Base Design
  - Features such as side surfaces and holes will be added to the model throughout testing to determine the best way to keep constant orientation
  - The connectors and main surfaces are made from aluminum and press fitted together
  - Holes added for varying cable placement
- Cable for model: fluorocarbon line for ease of placement and attachment. Steel cable attached



Connector

Main Surface



**Figure 8: Square and triangular models, units in inches**

# Testing Models

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What are we testing for?

- System Stability
- Bottom surface parallel to ocean floor
- Roll, yaw, and pitch of the structure

Optimal connection sites for tether connection

- Significant influence on rotational tendencies

# Testing Models

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- Model testing was successful
- Unfortunately, these models do not give completely accurate information
- New models are being made
  - Circular cross section hollow piping

# Video

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# Material Selection

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- Thorough analysis was conducted to determine adequate set of materials to choose from
- Materials were excluded based on constraints of mass, ability to withstand impact, as well as hold the weight of the components and the tethered force
- Additional limitations included the isolated consideration of nonferrous materials
- Finally, a cost analysis was performed based on sizing
- This resulted in the selection of Aluminum as our structure's material

# Potential Challenges

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- Time
  - Ordering materials, variable shipping time
- Location of cable attachment
- Possible Risks
  - Safety concerns during machining and assembly
  - Risk during deployment and retrieval while hanging from cable
  - Wheels: risk having large weight on wheels, could be uncontrollable on unstable boat

# Current Estimated Budget

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**Table 1: Table showing various expenses for project**

Expenses	
Current Models	Out of Pocket
New Models	\$100 - \$ 250
Full Scale Materials	\$900 - \$ 1,100
Fabrication	\$200 - \$ 300
Total Cost	~\$1,650
Budget	\$2000
Remaining Budget	~\$350

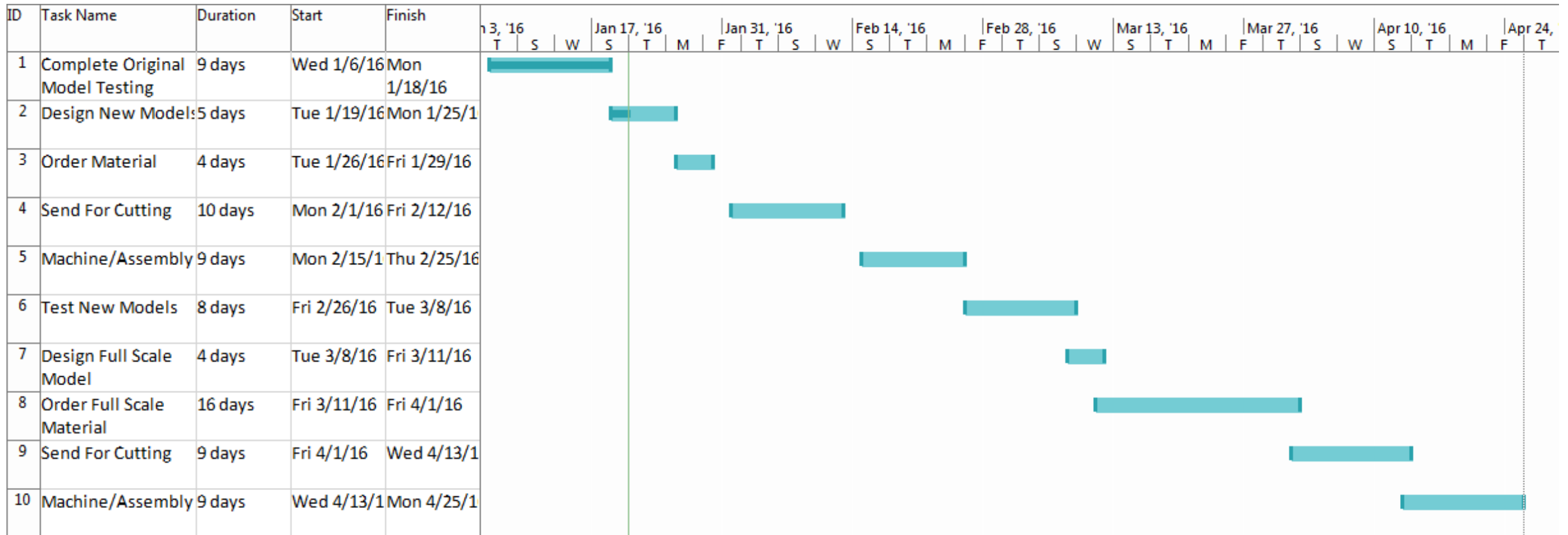
# Future Plans

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- Machine new cylindrical hollow models
- Test new models
- Choose best design
- Machine full scale design
- Attach data collecting equipment
- In water submersion test
- Application in cruise

# Gantt Chart

**Table 2: Gantt chart outlining the upcoming plans for the project**



# Conclusion

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- Project Overview
  - Design new TOV
- What was accomplished last semester
  - Material selection
  - Design concept selection
  - Model design/build/test
- What has been done since last semester
  - Completion of model testing
- Upcoming plans
  - New hollow circular models
  - New tests
  - Final Design



# References

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- [1] *"The Camera-Based Assessment Survey System (C-BASS) - USF College of Marine Science."* *The Camera-Based Assessment Survey System (C-BASS) - USF College of Marine Science*. N.p., n.d. Web. 24 Sept. 2015.
- [2] *"UM Scientists Help save the Day with I-Spider."* *The Daily Mississippian*. 10 Oct. 2013. Web. 24 Sept. 2015.
- [3] *"Deep-C Consortium: Voices from the Field: Geomorphology Cruise aboard the RV Weatherbird II."* *Deep-C Consortium: Voices from the Field: Geomorphology Cruise aboard the RV Weatherbird II*. N.p., n.d. Web. 24 Sept. 2015.
- [4] *Macdonald, Ian. "Asphalt in the Seep Ecosystem."* *Deep-C Consortium*. Deep-C Consortium, 2004. Web. 15 Nov. 2015. <<https://deep-c.org/news-and-multimedia/in-the-news/asphalt-in-the-seep-ecosystem>>.

# Questions, Comments, or Concerns?

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