



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
ACQUISITION AND GRANTS OFFICE

May 18, 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Hands

FROM: Mitchell J. Ross
Director, Acquisition and Grants Office

SUBJECT: Retirement

My almost forty years in federal acquisition and management, both in and out of government, have been challenging and fulfilling, due in large part to the talented, dedicated people I have served with - people like you. It is with a sense of accomplishment and pride that I announce my retirement from public service.

Today, AGO is a more effective, more efficient, and more integrated organization than it was in the past. Our guiding principles of improving communication, increasing cooperation, and improved workforce have become ingrained in our concept of operations. We are delivering service characterized by responsiveness, borne of deliberate closeness to our clients. Our talented, experienced people, operating within our competitive pricing model, are adding value every day in all we do. We are fast becoming a core competency of NOAA.

It has been almost nine years since I began my service as Director. As we began to move AGO forward in early 2009, we saw the inauguration of a new President and new leadership at NOAA. They came with new ideas and bold initiatives. They expected and received our expertise and cooperation. Today we have a new President and will shortly have new leadership at NOAA. Once again, they will come with new ideas and bold initiatives. And, once again, we will provide our expertise and cooperation. That is what we do, we who have taken an oath and made a career of public service.

It has been my privilege and honor to serve as the Director of the Acquisition and Grants Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. My last day with NOAA will be August 2, 2017. I thank you for your service and wish each of you well.