

Olympic Sailing in 2012

Last year, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced its selection of five Candidate Cities for the 2012 Games: London, Madrid, Moscow, New York and Paris. NYC2012, a committee started in 1994, leads New York's quest for the Olympics.

To help win the bid, NYC2012's plan for Olympic Sailing was designed to provide the best possible conditions for Olympic and Paralympic Sailors. They worked with numerous experts to acquire detailed meteorological and current data to select a preliminary location for the Olympic Regatta. A proposed Olympic Marina (modeled on the one in Sydney, Australia) would be located off Breezy Point, a short 34-minute ferry ride from the proposed site of the Olympic Village. Olympic Class racing has never been conducted in this area, so extensive

regional data regarding the proposed site was integral to winning the Olympic bid.

Among the experts sought by NYC2012 was **Dr. Alan F. Blumberg** of the Center for

Maritime Systems (CMS) and the Department of Civil, Environmental and Ocean Engineering. Dr. Blumberg is one of the world's most respected and experienced oceanographers with his own Olympic sailing experience. During the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, he assisted yachting teams by providing regional wind, current, and water level forecasting services at the Savannah, GA sailing area. Today, Dr. Blumberg leads the CMS's Urban Ocean Observatory that maintains a host of in-situ sensors and networked computers with estuarine and coastal ocean forecasting models, which automatically monitor and predict weather and water conditions in the NY/NJ Harbor and adjacent coastal areas (www.stevens.edu/maritimeforecast).

Dr. Blumberg visited the potential sailing venue off Rockaway, NY with the IOC Evaluation Commission, answering questions on wind and current patterns and variabilities. He believes that, "having the Games in the NY area will enable Stevens to shine by using the accumulated knowledge and experience of our diverse faculty in many different areas, from secure communications, to sensor development and network design, to information dissemination technology, and port security." ■



22



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On July 6, 2005, the 117 members of the IOC from 79 countries will vote on the host city for the 2012 Games. For more information please contact:

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