In February 2015, during a cruise of the NOAA ship Okeanos Explorer, Dr. Randy Holt and his team located and filmed a giant xenophyophore, the largest known species of single-celled animal. The organism is 20 centimeters wide and appears to be in a feeding phase as it travels above the seafloor. The xenophyophore's body is made up of a dense mass of small, multinucleate single-celled organisms that form a kind of exoskeleton, giving the organism its shape and allowing it to move through the water. These organisms are thought to be one of the oldest and most primitive forms of life on Earth. In the image, you can see the xenophyophore's tentacles and feeding appendages as it moves through the water. The xenophyophore is one of the most intriguing and mysterious organisms in the deep sea, and its discovery adds to our understanding of the diversity of life in the ocean. The xenophyophore's discovery is just one example of the exciting research and exploration taking place aboard the Okeanos Explorer. For more information, please visit our website.