



**Figure 2.3.** The USGS SeaBed Observation and Sampling System (SEABOSS) used to obtain still photographs, videos and obtain samples of the sea floor sediments. These observations are used to help interpret the backscatter intensity obtained in the multibeam surveys. The SEABOSS is lowered to within about a meter of the sea floor and obtains photographs and videos as the ship drifts over selected features. A single sample of the bottom sediments may be obtained during the photographic transect. **Top:** A view of the SEABOSS from below (with base plates removed). The instruments are as labeled: A, forward-looking video camera; B, lights for forward-looking video camera; C, downward-looking video camera; D, lights for downward-looking video camera; E, 35-millimeter still camera; F, strobe light for still camera; G, modified Van Veen grab sampler; H, depth sensor; I, junction box; J, parallel lasers for scale; K, angled laser for range. **Right:** SEABOSS on deck.

