



## 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AOSB

The 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the AOSB was held March 18 in Hanover, New Hampshire on the campus of Dartmouth College. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Naja Mikkelsen with over 40 people in attendance, including the 15 Board members. The results of the meeting are summarized here.

The full AOSB report is available on the AOSB web site at [www.aosb.org](http://www.aosb.org).

### Integrated Arctic Ocean Observing System (iAOOS) for IPY

The Integrated Arctic Ocean Observing System (iAOOS) is a joint AOSB-CLiC initiative for the IPY. Its focus is on Arctic change, including the fate of perennial sea ice and the climatic and social effects of its disappearance. iAOOS intends to observe the Arctic Ocean from satellites to seabed, and observe the changes imposed on the Arctic from subarctic seas.

The AOSB, in collaboration with Search for Damocles (S4D), held a workshop on the day preceding the AOSB meeting to provide a current assessment of the state of iAOOS in light of recent IPY funding decisions. In addition, the workshop was designed to reach agreement on a good representation of the experimental design for iAOOS.

The workshop was extremely well attended with representation from most countries within the iAOOS network. Many of the pieces of the puzzle are now beginning to fall into place. Figure 1 shows much of what the iAOOS network will look like for the IPY in 2007 and 08. Participants agreed that the major issues facing iAOOS are data management and inclusiveness of all interested parties.

Currently, two major components of iAOOS, the US SEARCH program and the EC DAMOCLES program have signed an MoU for cooperation called SEARCH for DAMOCLES. This may serve as a model for other parties to join the iAOOS program.

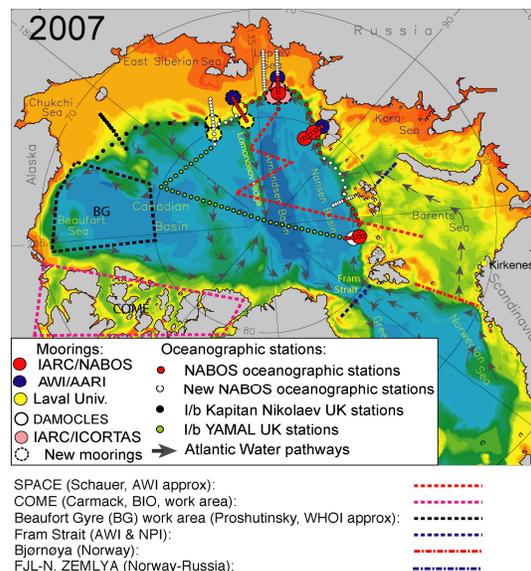


Figure 1: Partial overview of planned iAOOS activities. (Note COME is now the Canadian 3 Oceans IPY program.)

It was agreed that the AOSB SG will organize a small group of iAOOS supporters to determine the best platform for discussions, in particular how iAOOS will organize itself as an integrated program with integrated data management.

**PI's and RV managers should post information about ship cruises during the IPY at <http://www.asci-ipy.de/>.**

## International Conference on Arctic Research Planning

As a result of coordinated follow-up work of the three ICARP II marine working groups (WG on deep basin, WG on shelves, and WG on margins and gateways), the AOSB decided to undertake three actions to promote the marine recommendations of ICARP II.

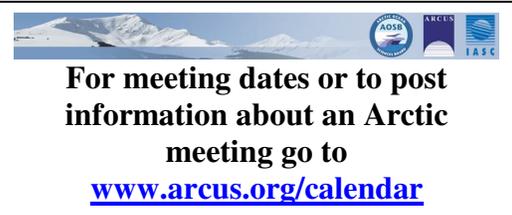
First, the Board agreed to support an ongoing roundtable discussion to continue dialog between the various working groups and to track developments as they relate to ICARP II objectives.

Second the AOSB members agreed to support a new initiative to harness the energy of young scientists by the creation of a New Research Generation (NRG) fund to promote their inclusion in planning meetings and on research cruises during the IPY.

Finally, the AOSB endorsed a plan for a series of IODP workshops to develop a drilling mission to the Arctic Ocean.

### Other Issues:

Board members also heard reports from various AOSB initiated programs, such as the International Arctic Polynya Program, Arctic and Subarctic Ocean Fluxes program and the Shelf Basin Exchanges program. A report from the International Study on Arctic Change was also delivered and the Board agreed to continue to assist in the short term with the establishment of the program office in Stockholm, and over the long term with the development of its science plan. In addition, the Board considered its role in the new Sustained Arctic Observing Network and agreed to participate in the SAON "Initiating Group." Finally, the Board was informed about the new Arctic calendar which is being coordinated by AOSB and IASC on the ARCUS web site.



**For meeting dates or to post information about an Arctic meeting go to [www.arcus.org/calendar](http://www.arcus.org/calendar)**

### Future of AOSB

The Board tackled a number of difficult internal issues during its 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. AOSB has accomplished much over the past two decades with the financial support for the secretariat coming from the US National Science Foundation. Members now are looking to alternative sources of funding and new linkages to maintain the strength of the organization.

At the same time as the Board is looking to expand its financial base, the international science community for the Arctic is also undergoing significant change. The International Arctic Science Committee is looking to broaden its role to include the marine component and to take a more proactive role to represent science of the North. AOSB is anxious to work with them. At the same time, the Board is interested in expanding its role in the global oceans programs and will be looking to new linkages with various international marine science organizations such as SCOR and GOOS.

The Board agreed to develop plans for the future of AOSB over the remainder of 2007 with the view to presenting a plan at the 2008 meeting.

The Board elected Harald Loeng, Norway, and Savi Narayanan, Canada, as Chair and Vice Chair. Naja Mikkelsen, Denmark, will serve on the Steering Group as Past Chair and Sung-Ho Kang, Korea, will remain on the Steering Group for one additional year.

**The Arctic Ocean Sciences Board (AOSB) was established in May 1984 to coordinate the priorities and programs of countries and institutions engaged research in the Arctic. It is a non-governmental body that includes members from research and government institutions from 15 countries. The mission of AOSB is to facilitate Arctic Ocean research by supporting multinational and cross-disciplinary natural science and engineering programs in marine research in the Arctic Ocean and adjacent seas.**

For more information please go to [www.aosb.org](http://www.aosb.org) or contact the AOSB secretariat at [sbowden@ucar.edu](mailto:sbowden@ucar.edu).

