

2007 SCOR Executive Committee Meeting

The 2007 SCOR Executive Committee meeting was held on 26-28 August in Bergen, Norway. SCOR-sponsored activities were reviewed and SCOR's partner organizations presented updates on their activities. The following actions were taken.

Nominating Committee for 2008 SCOR Elections—Robert Duce (Chair, USA), Peter Haugan (Norway), Carmen Morales (Chile), and Wajih Naqvi (India) have agreed to serve as members of the SCOR Nominating Committee for 2008 elections. The call for nominations will be made by 22 April 2008.

Ad Hoc Publications Committee Formed—Laurent Labeyrie (France) and Jorma Kuparinen (Finland) volunteered to serve as an ad hoc publications committee to review and revise the current SCOR publication policy for discussion at the 2008 SCOR General Meeting. SCOR is particularly concerned about making its publications widely and freely available and is looking for new publishing arrangements to accomplish this goal.

Instrumentation of Volunteer Observing Ships—Tom Rossby (USA) presented his ideas about placing oceanographic instruments on commercial ships. The idea was received with enthusiasm. SCOR will work with the Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans (POGO) on this issue.

New SCOR Working Groups—The meeting approved initial funding for SCOR WG 131 on The Legacy of *in situ* Iron Enrichments: Data Compilation and Modeling. The funding will be dedicated to bring together data from the 10 previous iron enrichment experiments and 3 natural fertilization experiments. SCOR funding will be contingent on the co-chairs receiving written agreements from each of the previous experiments that data will be provided. SCOR will consider a proposal in the future for the second phase of the working group, to use the compiled data in modeling.

A second working group, on Land-based Nutrient Pollution and the Relationship to Harmful Algal Blooms in Coastal Marine Systems, was approved in principle, but was not funded. The group can proceed if external funds are obtained and/or the SCOR funding situation for 2008 becomes favorable for starting another group. The SCOR Secretariat is identifying external funding opportunities for the group. Meeting participants preferred to be fiscally conservative this year in view of expected expenses for the SCOR 50th Anniversary Symposium.

Other Decisions—Decisions on the locations of the 2009 and 2010 SCOR meetings, and approvals of project Scientific Steering Committee nominations will be discussed below.

Update on SCOR Secretariat Move to University of Delaware

The SCOR Secretariat has moved to the University of Delaware College of Marine and Earth Studies (<http://www.ocean.udel.edu/>). The contact information for the Secretariat is

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To reach Secretariat staff, please call the number above or send an email to Ed Urban (Ed.Urban@scor-int.org) or Elizabeth Gross (egross@scor-int.org). A new Administrative Assistant will be hired in early 2008.



SCOR Capacity-building Activities

Planning continues for the SCOR Committee on Capacity Building. A proposal was submitted to the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research to fund a meeting focused on sharing research and education resources in the southeast Asia region. SCOR is also submitting a proposal for a meeting to develop a global strategy that will combine and extend the capacity-building activities of SCOR, POGO, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and other organizations. This meeting would also bring together the SCOR Committee on Capacity Building for the first time.

POGO Cruise Database

The POGO Research Cruise Database is online at <http://www.pogo-oceancruises.org/> and is seeking data for research cruises from all nations.

Working Groups

SCOR/LOICZ/IAPSO WG 122 on Sediment Retention in Estuaries—The last meeting of this group, in Boulder, Colorado in September, discussed a series of issues regarding (a) sediment input to estuaries under human influence, (b) morphodynamics and evolution of estuaries, (c) sediment-biological interactions, (d) estuarine hydrodynamics, (e) sea level changes, (f) the physics and models of sediment budgets in estuaries, and (g) socioeconomic impacts of changes in estuarine sedimentation.

WG 128 on Natural and Human-Induced Hypoxia and Consequences for Coastal Areas—WG 128 held its second meeting, in Shanghai, China, in conjunction with the IMBER/LOICZ Continental Margins Open Science Meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to examine the status of the review papers planned for the journal *Biogeosciences*, to ensure that all the important topics are covered, and that the papers are coordinated. The working group also discussed its final meeting, which may focus on modeling and observation of hypoxia, and may have a significant capacity building component.

WG 129 on Deep Ocean Exchanges with Shelf—WG 129 held its first meeting in Perugia, Italy in conjunction with the Assembly of the International Union on Geodesy and Geophysics. The meeting discussed refinement of its bibliography, interaction with other projects, and planning of a workshop in October 2008 in Cape Town, South Africa. This workshop will address the group's terms of reference and will have a capacity building component; SCOR has allocated some travel funding for developing country scientists. A proposal has been submitted to the U.S. Office of Naval Research for this activity.

WG 130 on Automatic Plankton Visual Identification—WG 130 held its first meeting in Hiroshima, Japan, in June in conjunction with the Fourth Symposium on Zooplankton Production. The meeting discussed how to define the capabilities and standards of open-source plankton identification software, identify the capabilities of existing software, and determine which capabilities need to be added or improved. The group will write a paper that describes its vision for developing an open-source image classification software package and various component modules. The group will also recommend standards for taxonomically validated image datasets; encourage creation of expert taxonomic networks; and establish a link with the DNA barcoding initiative of the Census of Marine Life's Census of Marine Zooplankton (CMarZ) project in order to explore development of high-resolution image datasets from specimens that will subsequently be "barcoded". Finally, the group will propose a list of target species/taxa/functional groups for automatic identification of plankton.



Large-Scale Ocean Research Projects

GEOTRACES—The open planning meetings for GEOTRACES in the Atlantic and Indian oceans were held in September and October, respectively, and resulted in a set of proposed cruises and process studies to be carried out by national GEOTRACES programs. A meeting on data-model synthesis was also held in September. Reports from these meetings (and the Pacific Ocean cruise planning meeting) were presented at the GEOTRACES SSC meeting in November. An intercalibration manual is being prepared for the GEOTRACES cruises that are part of the International Polar Year.

GLOBEC—The GLOBEC SSC is implementing its plans for synthesis and integration, is preparing a

synthesis book, and is planning the Third Open Science meeting in 2009. Several individual meetings are contributing to the overall GLOBEC synthesis. GLOBEC and IMBER are together planning the post-2009 phase of IMBER that will include several GLOBEC activities. SCOR and IGBP have approved the terms of reference for a Task Team that will prepare the transition. The team will meet for the first time during the May 2008 IGBP Congress in Cape Town, South Africa.

IMBER—IMBER and LOICZ convened a joint open science meeting on continental margin science in Shanghai, China, in September 2007. The purpose of the meeting was to develop a joint research plan. IMBER is also working on preparations for its IMBIZO (a Zulu word for a gathering or meeting) in November 2008, to be held in Miami, Florida, USA. The meeting will consist of three concurrent and interacting workshops focused on (1) end-to-end food webs, (2) mesopelagic systems, and (3) bathypelagic systems.

Other Activities

SCAR/SCOR Expert Group on Oceanography Southern Ocean Observing System Workshop—SCAR and SCOR convened a meeting in Bremen, Germany in early October 2007 to develop a plan for a Southern Ocean Observing System. The draft plan will be available on the Expert Group Web site in early 2008 and the final report is expected to be released at the SCAR annual meeting in July 2008.

PACKMEDS—The SCOPE/IUGG/SCOR PACKMEDS (Dynamics and Vulnerability of Semi-enclosed Marine Systems: The Integrated Effects of Changes in Sediment and Nutrient Input from Land) project is proceeding with its book. All the draft chapters have been submitted and most have been reviewed. The book is scheduled to be released in mid-2008.

Second Symposium on The Ocean in a High-CO₂ World—Most of the invited speaker slots on the program have been filled and the registration for the symposium will be opened on 31 March 2008.

Publications

Urban, E.R. Jr. 2007. International Ocean Research: Common Opportunities and Challenges.

EOS: Transactions of the American Geophysical Union 88(25): 19 June 2007.



SCOR Annual Meetings

2008—The 2008 SCOR General Meeting and 50th Anniversary Symposium will be held in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, USA on 20-24 October 2008. The organizing committee for the symposium is chaired by Laurent Labeyrie. The program for the symposium is now available at http://www.scor-int.org/2008GM/SCOR_50th_Anniversary.htm.

2009—SCOR has accepted an offer from the Chinese SCOR Committee to hold the 2009 Executive Committee Meeting in China, with the location of the meeting still to be determined.

2010—SCOR has accepted an offer from the French SCOR Committee to hold the 2010 SCOR General Meeting in Toulouse, France.

For additional information about SCOR activities, please see the SCOR Web site: <http://www.scor-int.org>.

Acronyms:

CMES	College of Marine and Earth Studies, University of Delaware
GEOTRACES	an international study of the global marine biogeochemical cycles of trace elements and their isotopes (SCOR)
GLOBEC	Global Ocean Ecosystem Dynamics project
IGBP	International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme

IMBER	Integrated Marine Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research project
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IUGG	International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics
LOICZ	Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone project
SCAR	Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research
SCOPE	Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment
SCOR	Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research

