

## **5.0 CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES**

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## 5.0 CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES

### 5.1 SCOR Committee on Capacity Building

*Ittekkot*

The 2006 SCOR meeting approved terms of reference for a SCOR Committee on Capacity Building, whose primary purposes are to oversee all of SCOR's capacity-building activities and to help the SCOR Secretariat manage these activities. The approved terms of reference follow:

- Provide direction for all of SCOR's existing capacity-building activities: participation of scientists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in SCOR activities, POGO-SCOR Fellowship Program, travel grants, and provision of reports to libraries in developing countries.
- Guide and assist SCOR Executive Director in development of new capacity-building activities, particularly the Regional Graduate Schools of Oceanography activity.
- Assist SCOR-sponsored projects in developing their capacity-building activities.
- Help SCOR arrange funding for existing and new capacity-building activities.
- Assist SCOR in interacting with regional and international groups related to capacity building in ocean sciences, such as the ICSU regional centers, START, IOC regional programs, etc.

**Chair:**

Venu Ittekkot (Germany)

**Other Members:**

Hal Batchelder (PICES)

Sükrü Besiktepe (Turkey)

Missy Feeley (USA and SCOR Executive Committee)

Mike Lucas (South Africa)

Wajih Naqvi (India)

Ilana Wainer (Brazil)

Jing Zhang (China and IMBER)

The membership of the committee is designed to create a tight linkage with the SCOR Executive Committee. A subgroup of the committee can now meet in conjunction with annual SCOR meetings at little extra cost to SCOR, making it possible for any committee recommendations to SCOR to be acted on immediately. The committee will meet on 14 September in Bremen, just prior to the SCOR annual meeting, to review all SCOR capacity building activities. The committee will also discuss new activities, both SCOR-led and cooperative with other organizations.

### 5.2 SCOR Visiting Scholars

*Ittekkot*

SCOR began a program in 2009 to enlist the services of ocean scientists from the SCOR community, from both developed countries and developing countries, both recently retired and active, to teach short courses and to provide more extended on-site education and mentorship at developing country institutions. Some countries and/or individual institutions have requirements

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for their scientists to retire at a given age, sometimes as early as 60 years of age. Many retired ocean scientists are still interested in teaching and mentoring, and are supported by pensions after their retirement, so do not need salary support. Some active scientists can also use some of their already-supported work time to work in a developing country.

Hosting visiting scientists, whether retired or active, can have many benefits to host institutions also, such as inspiring, motivating, and informing students and faculty, and leading to future collaborations between the visiting scientist and the host institution.

The idea of this program is to regularly send ocean scientists interested in short-term visits to developing countries. The program is a partnership, with the host institution providing local accommodation and SCOR finding resources to pay for airfares and other local expenses, as necessary. The participating scientists donate their time. The participating scientists might be onsite for as little as two weeks to as long as visa requirements would allow. Applicants may already have selected a host institution or SCOR will help identify hosts. Information about the program is available at [http://www.scor-int.org/SCOR\\_Visiting\\_Scholars.pdf](http://www.scor-int.org/SCOR_Visiting_Scholars.pdf). The call for applications for 2015 Visiting Scholars will be issued around 1 October 2014. The SCOR Visiting Scholars who are making their visits in 2014 are shown below.

### 2014 SCOR Visiting Scholars

Name	Home Country	Host Country	Purpose	Status
Halima Kiwango	Tanzania	South Africa/ Kwazulu Natal	Eco-hydrology and bio-hydrodynamics of coastal ecosystems	Fall 2014
Prasanna Kumar	India	Bangladesh	Physical oceanography	August and October 2014
Marcia Moreno-Baez	USA	Argentina	Participatory geographic information systems and the application of geospatial technology to collect local knowledge from fishers	Completed in June 2014

The call for 2014 SCOR Visiting Scholars was made after the 2013 meeting of the SCOR Committee on Capacity Building in late November. Five applications from potential Visiting Scholars were received and were considered by the committee in early 2014. One host request remained from previous years, from the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh. Two of the five applicants were selected as SCOR Visiting Scholars:

- Marcia Moreno-Baez is a post-doctoral fellow at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in the United States. She was invited to come to the Centro Nacional Patagónico (CENPAT) to provide support to improve the quality of CENPAT's research through mentoring and also to enhance local capacities through imparting a seminar at CENPAT on participatory geographic information systems and the application of geospatial technology to collect local knowledge from fishers. As part of this collaboration, CENPAT used Dr. Moreno-Baez's visit as a strategy to help design and implement an interactive method using GIS on-site, to collect local knowledge in the study site. Dr. Moreno-Baez completed her visit in June 2014.
- Halima Kiwango is a Ph.D. student at the Nelson Mandela - African Institute of Science and Technology in Arusha, Tanzania. She was invited to the University of KwaZulu-Natal to contribute to a workshop and/or seminar series on the eco-hydrology and bio-hydrodynamics of coastal ecosystems, interact with members of the School of Engineering at the university, and initiate research and educational collaborations for the future, which could involve joint student exchange visits and other activities. Ms. Kiwango's visit will occur later in 2014.

None of the applicants seemed appropriate for the needs of the University of Dhaka, so the SCOR Committee on Capacity Building was asked to help identify a suitable candidate. A senior scientist from the National Institute of Oceanography in Goa, India—Prasanna Kumar—offered to teach physical oceanography for two months, one month at a time.

**5.3 POGO-SCOR Visiting Fellowships for Oceanographic Observations** **Urban**  
 SCOR and the Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans (POGO) have been co-funding a program of Visiting Fellowships for Oceanographic Observations since 2001. In 2013, 9 individuals were funded through the program. SCOR provided partial support for three of these individuals. SCOR contributed about one-quarter of the total cost of the program. Evaluations were received from each fellow, host, and sending supervisor and these will be reviewed by the SCOR Committee on Capacity Building.

#### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Surname	First Name	Country of origin	Flight paid by SCOR (US\$)	Stipend paid by SCOR (US \$)
Ammamkuzhiyil	Smitha	India	888.61	99.14*
Cozzolino	Ezequiel	Argentina	1289.42	2271.00
Liu	Zhiyu	China	2065.51	3386.32
		<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>4243.54</b>	<b>5756.46</b>
		<b>Total contribution</b>		<b>10,000.00</b>

\*This was a contribution towards the total stipend of 1245.19 USD.

#### 5.4 NSF Travel Support for Developing Country Scientists

SCOR has received support from the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) since 1984 to provide funding for SCOR capacity building activities. Most of the funds are used for travel grants for scientific meetings, although a portion are used for SCOR's contribution to the POGO-SCOR Fellowship Program and the SCOR Visiting Scholars program. Travel grants are awarded to ocean scientists from developing countries and the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, and other countries with economies in transition, to enable them to attend international scientific meetings. A current three-year grant runs from 15 July 2011 to 14 July 2014. The renewal proposal will be submitted in early 2014.

The amount of the award from NSF is \$75,000 per year. Recipients of SCOR travel awards are always chosen in consultation with the organizers of meetings that SCOR has agreed to cosponsor; direct applications from individuals are not accepted by the SCOR Secretariat. Priority is given to applicants who are presenting a paper or poster at the meeting or to those who have some special expertise or regional knowledge to bring to a workshop or working group. Preference is also given to younger scientists. In general, care is taken to ensure that the recipients of SCOR/NSF funds are *active* scientists, and that they have not received similar support from SCOR in the previous two years. All travel grant recipients are informed that their support comes from SCOR and that it is made possible through NSF funding.

Requests come in throughout the year and the SCOR Committee on Capacity Building considers new requests between meetings. The following requests have been approved since the 2013 SCOR annual meeting:

Activity Name	Dates	Location	Amount granted
GRC on Interactive Effects of Multiple Global Change Variables	6-11 July 2014	Waterville Valley, NH, USA	\$4900
Margalef Colloquium	7-18 July 2014	Barcelona, Spain	\$4900
Challenger Society Conference	8-11 Sept. 2014	Plymouth, UK	\$4900
Workshop on IIOE-2 Research Plan	12-13 Sept. 2014	Bremen, Germany	\$10,000
SCOR-relevant sessions at PICES annual meeting	16-26 Oct. 2014	Yeosu, Korea	\$5000
International Conference on Harmful Algae 16	27-31 Oct. 2014	Wellington, New Zealand	\$4900
Effects of Climate Change on the World's Ocean	23-27 March 2015	Santos City, Brazil	\$5000
WG 139 Workshop	2015	Croatia	\$5000

#### 2014/2015 Requests for Travel Grants

The SCOR Committee on Capacity Building will evaluate new requests for travel support at its meeting on 14 September and will recommend amounts to devote to each of these meetings, based on amount requested (if specified), other grants to the same project/organization, the relevance of the project/organization to SCOR activities, and total amount available to disburse.