

**Meeting Report of the  
U.S. Advisory Committee for Scientific Ocean Drilling (USAC)**

**August 18-19, 2015**

**Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of  
Columbia University  
Palisades, NY**

**U.S. Advisory Committee for Scientific Ocean Drilling (USAC)**  
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**Meeting Report**

**USAC Members**

John Jaeger (Chair)	University of Florida
Hugh Daigle	University of Texas at Austin
Matt Hornbach	Southern Methodist University
Liviu Giosan	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Barbara John	University of Wyoming
Larry Krissek	Ohio State University
Beth Orcutt**	Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences
Sandra Passchier	Montclair State University
Peter Sak**	Dickinson College
Amelia Shevenell**	University of South Florida
Evan Solomon	University of Washington
Joe Stoner**	Oregon State University

**Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University**

Carl Brenner	U.S. Science Support Program
Angela Slagle	U.S. Science Support Program
Maureen Raymo	LDEO
David Golberg	LDEO

**Guests**

James Allan	National Science Foundation
Brad Clement	Texas A&M University

\*\*Unable to attend

## USAC BUSINESS

1. USAC unanimously approved the agenda for the August 2015 USAC meeting.
2. The USAC Terms of Reference were reviewed and there are no changes to be made.
3. USAC reviewed a draft Conflict of Interest Policy for LDEO.

## PRESENTATIONS

The following presentations were given at the August 2015 USAC Meeting:

- U.S. Science Support Program (Brenner)
- National Science Foundation Report (Allan)
- USAC Chair Report (Jaeger)

## SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

### Workshops, Pre-drilling, and Nominations Subcommittee Report

1. The subcommittee did not review any workshop proposals at this meeting. The subcommittee was briefed on how proposals would be reviewed using the Fluid Review portal during an upcoming teleconference where eight proposals would be reviewed.
2. The subcommittee recommended nominations for new members of the following committees. The nominees will begin serving their three-year terms on October 1, 2015. After deliberation with the entire committee, USAC recommend nominations for the following:
  - *JOIDES Resolution* Facility Board
  - Science Evaluation Panel
3. The subcommittee recommended nominations for the 2016-2017 Ocean Discovery Lecture Series. After deliberation with the entire committee, USAC approved the nominations.

## STAFFING SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

1. The subcommittee did not review any applications to sail during this meeting. Staffing exercises for upcoming expeditions were accomplished after the meeting via teleconference.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**Action Item 1508-01:** USAC asks USSSP to provide clarification of USAC's role as stated in the Terms of Reference in assigning priorities within the Program Plan to allocate resources or advising on the use of USSSP funds.

**Action item 1508-02:** USAC asks USSSP to provide a policy draft to USAC for review prior to Winter 2016 meeting regarding the staffing of applicants whose affiliation is unclear and the potential for retired applicants to sail.

## **CONSENSUS STATEMENTS**

**Consensus Statement 1508-01.** USAC compliments the USSSP staff in working towards an effective start-up of the program at Columbia/LDEO.

**Consensus Statement 1508-02-** USAC recommends that USSSP hold a winter 2016 USAC meeting to assist in the implementation of the new USSSP Program Plan.

**Consensus Statement 1508-03:** USAC encourages that future program development be guided by the suggestions made by USAC in the report "USAC Best Practices Recommendations for U.S. Science Support of the International Ocean Discovery Program" created in 2015.

**Consensus Statement 1508-04:** USAC encourages that USSSP consult the implementing organizations to request that they develop expedition advertisements that emphasize the unique staffing needs and scientific opportunities for each expedition.

**Consensus Statement 1508-05:** USAC recommends that USSSP provide guidance to students as to the appropriate time window within their graduate studies to apply and qualifications for applying to sail.

**Consensus Statement 1508-06:** USAC recommends that USSSP explore opportunities for increased graduate student involvement in summer institutes that prepare them for full participation in the program.

**Consensus Statement 1508-07:** USAC recommends that USSSP explore prioritizing increased PEA support for students if additional financial resources are available.

**Consensus Statement 1508-08:** USAC recommends that Schlanger Fellowships remain one year in duration to encourage a broader dissemination of support to community.