

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

8-10 February 2016

**University of South Florida,
St. Petersburg, FL**

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Meeting Roster

Committee Members

Beth Christensen (Chair)	Adelphi University
Hugh Daigle	University of Texas at Austin
Liviu Giosan	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Matt Hornbach	Southern Methodist University
Barbara John*	University of Wyoming
Lawrence Krissek	Ohio State University
Sandra Passchier	Montclair State University
Amelia Shevenell	University of South Florida
Evan Solomon	University of Washington
Joseph Stoner	Oregon State University

Liaisons, Observers & Guests

Jamie Austin	IODP Forum Chair- University of Texas at Austin
Carl Brenner	USSSP – LDEO
Sharon Cooper	USSSP – LDEO
Dave Goldberg	USSSP – LDEO
Tom Janecek	National Science Foundation
Mitch Malone	JRSO- TAMU
Angela Slagle	USSSP – LDEO
James Spencer	USSSP – LDEO

Anthony Koppers**	<i>JR</i> Facility Board Chair – Oregon State Univ.
Ken Miller**	Science Evaluation Panel Chair – Rutgers Univ.

*Unable to attend

** Participating remotely in Day 1

Action Item 1602-01: USSSP will ask NSF to determine funding success on IODP- related proposals in programs other than MGG, such as EAR, Polar, etc., and how the ratio of post-cruise funding (e.g., USSSP vs. PEA) to facilities costs has changed through time.

Consensus Statement 1602-01: USAC agrees that USSSP should consider a formal notification of travel policy including a signature, rather than rely on links to the policy.

Action Item 1602-02: USSSP should consider reorganizing education and outreach materials to optimize searches, and we encourage working in conjunction with other PMOs.

Consensus Statement 1602-02: USAC encourages USSSP to better link Education/Outreach Officer products with expedition goals, and to integrate those E&O products tightly with expedition goals on the JRSO expedition webpage.

Consensus Statement 1602-03: USAC encourages USSSP to explore reaching out to faculty in community colleges and other unexplored pools as potential education officers with a goal of enhancing the relationship to upper-level high school and higher education.

Consensus Statement 1602-04: USAC encourages USSSP to investigate ways to improve media outreach and communication—for example, by placing an embedded science writer on the ship.

Action Item 1602-03: USAC asks NSF to reach out to the GK-12 program to explore that program as a potential recruitment tool for Education/Outreach Officers.

Consensus Statement 1602-05: USAC supports the inclusion of a staffing or education subcommittee member on the selection committee for the onboard outreach program, and encourages the inclusion of a description of staffing processes on the web page.

Action item 1602-04: USSSP should work with the JRSO to 1) develop a mechanism for Education/Outreach officers to develop a short cruise report of their own for publication in the preliminary report (in addition to weekly reports) and 2) include a report of the onboard education/outreach activities for publication in the preliminary report. USAC feels this is appropriate in recognition of the new role of the Education/Outreach Officer as part of the science party, and by naming schools and organizations involved in outreach, encourage a continued relationship to the expedition science.

Consensus Statement 1602-06: USAC encourages USSSP to re-focus education and outreach efforts towards student groups that will be sailing in the near future (e.g., high school through graduate school). At least some outreach to the ship should be confirmed in advance to facilitate scheduling by faculty (e.g., inclusion in syllabi, conference room scheduling) and will also help shipboard scientists plan for their role in outreach. This should extend to opportunities on other platforms.

Action item 1602-05: USSSP should explore how to best use social media, including developing new Twitter handles, for communicating outreach for and publicity about the program; this should extend to other platforms, and reach a target audience spanning high school to scientist. USSSP should investigate

developing different messages and communication pathways for outreach to scientists and to the general public.

Action Item 1602-06: USAC asks USSSP to prepare a report on the details of ship to shore communications, by age, number and geography, and platform. USAC would also like to see a summary of survey response data. This metric will aid in discussions concerning renewal, especially if published in a journal, and we anticipate requesting similar reports for Ocean Discovery Lecturers.

Action Item 1602-07: USSSP to develop an event to create and enhance mentoring, particularly of early career faculty (e.g., speed-dating style).

Action Item 1602-08: USSSP should develop a training course based on the Joel Johnson sedimentary workshop model. The goal of the course would be to provide pre-sailing exposure to drill ship methods and routines for those who have already applied, or are interested in applying to sail. Ideally the course will be run before the Fall 2016 expeditions.

Action Item 1602-09: USSSP should develop workshops for 1) expanding the in-house pre-sailing course to other disciplines, and 2) developing both an online version of the training, coupled to development of teaching tools.

Action Item 1602-10. USAC applauds the streamlining of the PEA proposals to a short, 2-page model. We ask USSSP to tighten online instructions for PEA proposals, including providing a suggested structure, so that the elements of the proposal are clearly defined. USSSP should also provide a document with context for the proposed work within the leg objectives to aid in evaluation of the proposals.

Consensus Statement 1602-07: USAC is concerned that there is a need for a re-evaluation of post-cruise funding and coordination. We encourage USSSP to investigate mechanisms for increasing PEA funding to individual scientists or to a collective, and provide insights into the possible choices and philosophy behind increasing PEA funds.

Action Item 1602-11: USAC is concerned about reduced proposal pressure particularly in areas of the planned ship track. USSSP should put out a call asking for workshop proposals focused on specific regions that will be drilled in the 2019 and beyond. USSSP should consult with Anthony Koppers and the JRFB for advice on the track and scheduling.

Action Item 1602-12: USAC notes that proposals that are less than a full leg, while a good idea, are not making their way through the system. USSSP should investigate, in concert with SEP and the JRFB, the ideal way to implement proposals that are less than 8 weeks in length and longer than an APL.

Consensus Statement 1602-08: USAC believes the best approach to seeking funding for renewal of the facility is a 4-pronged approach that involves significant community input: 1) Science Plan Review (Denver II), 2) Challenges Accomplished (Becker's PowerPoint); 3) Challenges Remaining (Denver II; Science Plan); and 4) Regional Syntheses (workshop; monographs). The regional integration and syntheses is novel and is a hallmark of the new program. The first workshop will provide a road map for future regional syntheses and we encourage publication in a special synthesis volume. As part of the

preparation for Denver, USAC encourages discussion and preparation by the community of a 5-year status report.

Action Item 1602-13: USAC requests the Publications Office investigate the status of DSDP and ODP volumes, including registering ODP and earlier volumes on Google Scholar.

Consensus Statement 1602-09: USAC is encouraged by the strong start that USSSP has shown. USAC encourages USSSP to better define the roles within USSSP Office, and provide clear budgets and planning well in advance of workshops and meetings.

Consensus Statement 1602-10: USAC supports a 2 meeting-per year schedule with active conference calls in between, ideally meeting in January and July.

Consensus Statement 1602-11:

USAC extends thanks to Amelia Shevenell for hosting the meeting, and providing such a rich set of social opportunities and excellent views.

Consensus Statement 1602-12:

USAC extends thanks to John Jaeger, the previous chair of USAC, for his leadership and dedication to the scientific ocean drilling community. In particular, USAC recognizes: 1) John's efforts to improve the efficiency of interactions between the Ocean Leadership USSSP and the U.S. drilling community; and 2) John's contributions to the smooth transition of the USSSP office from Ocean Leadership to LDEO.