

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

**1-3 August 2017**

**American Museum of Natural History**

**U.S. Advisory Committee for  
Scientific Ocean Drilling (USAC) Meeting  
August 1-3, 2017  
American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY**

Meeting Roster

**Committee Members**

---

Beth Christensen (Chair)	Adelphi University
Hugh Daigle	University of Texas at Austin
Susan DeBari	Western Washington University
Liviu Giosan	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Matt Hornbach	Southern Methodist University
Lawrence Krissek	Ohio State University
Natascha Riedinger	Oklahoma State University
Amelia Shevenell	University of South Florida
Marta Torres	Oregon State University
Jim Wright	Rutgers University

**Liaisons, Observers & Guests**

---

Richard Berg	Schlanger Fellow (U. of Washington)
Carl Brenner	USSSP – LDEO
Sharon Cooper*	USSSP – LDEO
Dave Goldberg*	USSSP – LDEO
Tom Janecek	National Science Foundation
Nicole Kurtz	USSSP – LDEO
Robert Poirier	Schlanger Fellow (Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst.)
Angela Slagle	USSSP – LDEO
James Spencer	USSSP – LDEO
Philip Staudigel	Schlanger Fellow (U. of Miami)
Jody Wycech	Schlanger Fellow (U. of Wisconsin-Madison)
Anthony Koppers (remote)	JRFB Chair – Oregon State University
Kenneth Miller (remote)	SEP Chair – Rutgers
Debbie Smith (remote)	National Science Foundation

\*Regrets

**Action Items and Consensus Statements: USAC Summer Meeting, 2017**  
**American Museum of Natural History**

**Consensus Statement 1708-01:** USAC is pleased to learn that the LWG have evaluated the Paleomagnetics laboratory, with assistance from the community. We encourage the JRSO to continue evaluation for efficiency and greatest quality of data for the additional laboratories.

**Consensus Statement 1708-02:** USAC supports the concept of celebrating our regional planning efforts with “umbrella” Missions. Such an approach allows for better coordination regarding outreach, education, pre-drilling planning, and post-cruise research, and provides a valuable platform for showcasing the contributions of the program under a larger theme/ region.

**Consensus Statement 1708-03:** USAC supports celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ocean drilling with JRSO’s plans for a community logo contest, and highlights of the very highest impact papers. USAC encourages USSSP to consider outreach activities that support these efforts, particularly in 2018.

**Consensus Statement 1708-04:** The USSSP budget for Year 4 requires difficult reductions in funding to support the expedition-related science. USAC recommends reducing the overall pool for PEAs for shore-based scientists, eliminating the School of Rock for one year, and eliminating \$80,000 in pre-drilling expenses. In addition, we reluctantly recommend reducing the number of Schlanger Fellowships to no fewer than two.

**Consensus Statement 1708-05:** USAC thanks USSSP for their continued hard work even as their work load has increased due to staffing an additional expedition, and development, planning and implementation of a major national workshop (JRAW).

**Consensus Statement 1708-06:** USAC thanks Hugh Daigle for his service to USAC and commitment as chair of the E&O sub-committee during an important period of change during the E&O program. We are relieved that he is willing to continue to review Onboard Outreach applications for one more cycle and pledge not to take advantage of his good nature. USAC thanks Larry “Still Not Out The Door” Krissek for his service to USAC, which at this point spans all of IODP-2. We promise not to call again without explicit permission (although we do have some swampland to discuss ...) USAC thanks Matt Hornbach for his always insightful comments and in particular for his stewardship as Chair of the Subcommittee for Workshops, PDAs and Panel Nominations. His infectious exuberance and passion will be sorely missed. USAC thanks Liviu Giosan for his conscientious service to USAC as a member of two different subcommittees. We appreciate his willingness to play devil’s advocate and assume the sometimes thankless role of asking the hard questions, as well as his willingness to take on a leadership role as a champion of the monsoon system. USAC thanks Beth Christensen for her service as chair, where she was able to show off her commitment to the U.S. IODP community as well as her prodigious cat herding skills.

**Consensus Statement 1708-07:** USAC is concerned that the number of applications for some expeditions has been surprisingly limited in number and range of expertise. USAC asks the

community to reach out to potential applicants, and will be exploring the issue in more depth in the future.

**Action Item 1708-01:** USAC asks NSF to track the proposals submitted to MGG within the moratorium by expedition, to determine if there is an average length of time that it takes for an expedition to submit proposals. We also ask for a review of funding by expedition, and a report on the percentage funded, if it falls within confidentiality concerns.

**Action Item 1708-02:** USAC asks USSSP to explore resources/ best practices for providing formal, professional training and guidance for developing and leading workshops.

**Action Item 1708-03:** USAC asks that workshop funding should include a small amount of money for logistical support. Many institutions do not have conference support infrastructure and much of the work falls to the P.I. This potentially restricts the efficiency of the workshop, and we hope there is a way to thus enhance efficiency within the constraints of university budget requirements. Furthermore, for internationally-led workshops, we suggest that USSSP consider a way to enhance communication about workshop planning, timeline requirements and implementation between PMOs and scientists.

**Consensus Statement 1708-08:** The panel is impressed with the effort put forward by E&O since the last USAC meeting. USAC applauds the outstanding effort involved in the production of the Onboard Outreach Program Training Manual, and the new *joidesresolution.org* website. USAC applauds the improved communication between E&O and the panel, and looks forward to a continued close interaction while moving towards the goals listed above.

**Consensus Statement 1708-09:** USAC supports the idea of an E&O workshop to explore target audiences, best practices, available metrics, how best to highlight the science resulting from drilling. We suggest that a survey of the community to identify needs and priorities would be a helpful first step.

**Consensus Statement 1708-10:** USAC is pleased with the development of the evaluation rubric for E&O applicants, and the deeper involvement of USAC in selection. The panel applauds the move to mirror scientific party staffing procedures, and hopes the other PMO's will follow a similar standardization of staffing procedures.

**Action Item 1708-04:** Since E&O officers are now treated as member of the shipboard party, and receive a substantial stipend for both their participation and their products, USAC would like to extend the expectation that E&O officers share their products with the scientific party within the moratorium period for comment.

**Action Item 1708-05:** SERC (Carleton College) has become the primary repository for Earth science-related teaching materials at the university level and now K-12. USAC suggests E&O investigate the possibility of housing education products at SERC since they reach a broader audience of university faculty and the long-term goal is for these products to be peer-reviewed. Involvement with SERC could also enhance E&O recruiting from faculty at the 2- and 4-year

college level. Furthermore, SERC may be a good partner for workshops, School of Rock and other activities geared toward our university-level target.

**Action Item 1708-06:** USAC is pleased that E&O has shifted some attention to the university community needs but is still concerned that the messaging for USSSP E&O is too broad. USAC would like the primary E&O messaging to be focused on the science outcomes rather than the ship. USAC suggests that E&O reach out to the US IODP drilling community to learn more about their E&O needs. This would be accomplished first as a survey and later as a workshop (see Consensus Statement 1708-09) for the community. Furthermore, queries to museums, high school teachers, etc. about which materials are best suited to their needs would be valuable in ensuring limited budget dollars go as far as possible. In the interim, USAC suggests that a prompt on the E&O officer application as to how the product will relate to one of the 4 IODP science themes be added immediately.

**Action Item 1708-07:** Given the multiple goals of E&O (cultivating support from the public for ocean drilling; sharing research outcomes with the public; developing educational materials suitable for university instruction; and attracting the next generation of ocean researchers), coupled with decreasing budget resources, USAC suggests USSSP explore external evaluation of its E&O program. Such evaluation should include: 1) researching metrics for reaching target audiences of different age groups; combined with 2) external advice on the best way to reach the respective target audiences and focus resources. For example, products should be age and gender neutral. We recommend that any plan maintains external evaluation for all stages of development and implementation. We also recommend that targets be defined first with a broad community survey followed by a more focused workshop.

**Consensus Statement 1708-11:** USAC suggests that a USAC member participate in the ECORD E&O meeting in October, 2017.