

**U.S. Advisory Committee for Scientific Ocean Drilling (USAC)  
January 21-23, 2014; Monterey, California**

**Draft Meeting Report**

**MEETING PARTICIPANTS**

**USAC Members**

Ivano Aiello	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
Gail Christeson	University of Texas at Austin
John Jaeger	University of Florida
Bobbie John	University of Wyoming
Larry Krissek	Ohio State University
Beth Orcutt	Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences
Sandra Passchier*	Montclair State University
Yair Rosenthal*	Rutgers University
Peter Sak	Dickinson College
Anja Schleicher	University of Michigan
Evan Solomon	University of Washington
Joe Stoner	Oregon State University

\*unable to attend

**Consortium for Ocean Leadership Staff**

Julie Farver	Manager, Meetings & Travel, Consortium for Ocean Leadership
Jeff Schuffert	Director, U.S. Science Support Program
Charna Meth	Associate Director, U.S. Science Support Program
Jen Collins	Teacher & School Program Specialist, Deep Earth Academy
Katie Fillingham	Program Specialist, U.S. Science Support Program
Matt Wright	Communications Manager, IODP

**Guests**

Tom Janecek	National Science Foundation
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## **USAC BUSINESS**

1. USAC unanimously approved the report from the June 2013 USAC meeting.
2. USAC unanimously approved the agenda for the January 2014 USAC meeting.
3. Action Item 1306-01 from the June 2013 USAC meeting was reviewed and has been completed.
4. USAC approved the updates to the Terms of Reference and recommended the following edits: change IODP Advisory Panels to *JOIDES Resolution* Advisory Panels and combine the two bullets referencing nominations to the *JOIDES Resolution* Facility Boards and Advisory Panels.
5. The summer 2014 USAC meeting is scheduled to take place in Washington, D.C. on 30 June to 2 July 2014. USSSP will schedule two conference calls before the summer meeting.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Seven presentations were given at the January 2014 USAC Meeting:

- U.S. Science Support Program Update (USSSP) and Year 11 Program Plan (Schuffert)
- U.S. Implementing Organization and Facility Boards Update (Schuffert)
- National Science Foundation (NSF) Report (Janecek)
- NSF/ODP Grants Modifications (Janecek)
- Expedition 341 Southern Alaska Margin Tectonics, Climate, and Sedimentation (Stoner)
- Expedition 348 Nankai Trough Seismogenic Zone Experiment Stage 3, Plate Boundary Deep Riser (Schleicher)
- Education & Outreach and Communications (Wright, Collins)

### **U.S. Science Support Program Update and Year 11 Program Plan**

Jeff Schuffert provided an update on the U.S. Science Support Program and presented the draft Year 11 Program Plan for review. Topics included platform participation activities for the expeditions that have occurred or are ongoing since the last meeting, an update on post-expedition activity awards, discussion of the Year 11 Program Plan and budget, and information on the various facility boards and advisory panels.

### **Education and Outreach**

Jen Collins and Matt Wright provided an update on education, outreach, and communications activities since the last meeting. Topics included an overview of a proposal that was recently submitted in response to NSF's Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL) solicitation to fund the generation of a "pop up" science classroom, School of Rock and Regional Rocks activities, recent port calls, and new promotional videos.

### **National Science Foundation Report and NSF/ODP Grants Modifications**

Tom Janecek from NSF provided an update on NSF/ODP activities. In November, the National Science Board authorized the continued operations of the *JOIDES Resolution*. Currently, NSF is

planning for \$249.7M from the U.S. and \$87.5M from international partners over the next five years. NSF expects to release the solicitation for the new USSSP in late February or early March 2014. NSF is considering modifying its small grants program. Janecek outlined possible changes and requested feedback from USAC members to help guide the process.

Janecek encouraged the community to submit comments on the National Research Council's Decadal Survey of Ocean Sciences. Comments can be submitted via the following website: <http://nas-sites.org/dsos2015/>. The deadline is 15 March 2014. Janecek also provided a brief overview of topics covered at the August 2013 *JOIDES Resolution* Facility Board meeting; these included guidelines for scheduling commercial work on the *JOIDES Resolution*, possible transfers of riserless proposals from the *JOIDES Resolution* to the *Chikyu*, and an upcoming call for proposals along the expected ship track for the *JOIDES Resolution* for 2016-2019.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

1. The subcommittee reviewed and provided funding recommendations for three workshop proposals:
  - Drilling the Lower Crust and Mantle at a Slow Spreading Ocean Ridge (SloMo): Proponent is Henry Dick (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution).
  - Developing Drilling Proposals for the Reunion-Deccan Traps Large Igneous Province: Proponent is Clive Neal (University of Notre Dame).
  - Scientific Ocean Drilling in the South Atlantic: Rio Grande Rise, Walvis Ridge and Surrounding Areas: Proponent is William Sager (University of Houston).
2. The subcommittee reviewed and provided funding recommendations for one pre-drilling proposal:
  - Mexican-Hosted Workshop and Community Outreach in Preparation for Chixulub Impact Structure Drilling: Proponent is Sean Gulick (University of Texas at Austin).

### **Staffing Subcommittee Report**

The staffing subcommittee did not meet during this meeting; members of the staffing subcommittee participated in other subcommittee exercises.

### **Education and Outreach Subcommittee Report**

1. The subcommittee strategized ways in which USSSP can better promote the program, especially at conferences. The following activities were discussed by the subcommittee as potential options:
  - Schedule times for former Distinguished Lecturers or Schlanger Fellows to sit at the IODP booth at AGU to raise awareness and increase participation in these programs.

- Organize a session at AGU that features former Schlanger Fellows.
  - Have USAC members participate in a community outreach event during the bi-annual USAC meetings. USSSP will work on organizing a trial event at the Smithsonian during the June 2014 USAC meeting in Washington, D.C.
2. The subcommittee discussed potential topics for USSSP to focus on when applying for external funding. USSSP plans to submit a proposal in response to NSF's recent Dear Colleague letters.
  3. The subcommittee reviewed the draft education and outreach budget for the Year 11 Program Plan and identified the highest priority activities in the event that a reduced budget would limit the overall scope of the plan.

### **Schlanger Fellowship Review Committee Report**

The review committee met on 20 January 2014, the day before the USAC meeting, to review the applications received for the 2014-2015 Schlanger Ocean Drilling Fellowships. The twenty-six applicants represented twenty-three institutions and included four pursuing Master's Degrees and seven who had applied previously. After careful deliberation, the committee recommended the top five candidates to receive fellowships for the 2014-2015 academic year.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

**Action Item 1401-01:** USAC recommends revising the website and application for shipboard participation in light of the potential change to support packages. USAC requests the opportunity to review the revisions before public release.

**Action Item 1401-02:** USAC recommends that the Consortium for Ocean Leadership send out another announcement on its listserv reminding the community to participate in the NRC Decadal Survey of Ocean Sciences.

### **CONSENSUS STATEMENTS**

**Consensus Statement 1401-03:** In light of the recent changes in the scientific ocean drilling program, USAC compliments the USSSP staff for maintaining a professional working relationship with the community.

**Consensus Statement 1401-04:** USAC has become aware of community concerns regarding the reduced efficiency of grant management at COL and recommends that USSSP explore ways with COL of improving the timeliness of grants administration.

**Consensus Statement 1401-05:** USAC was pleased to see the Year 11 program plan that reflects the suggestions presented by USAC in Consensus Statement 1306-01. We would encourage that

budgeting be guided by the suggestions made by USAC in Consensus Statement 1306-01.

**Consensus Statement 1401-06:** USAC supports the E&O Subcommittee recommendation that the School of Rock program costs and education officer support remain the highest priorities within the education coordination budget for special projects.