

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

**24-26 July, 2018**

**American Museum of Natural History**

**New York, NY**

**U.S. Advisory Committee for  
Scientific Ocean Drilling (USAC) Meeting  
July 24-26, 2018  
American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY**

Meeting Roster

Committee Members

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Jim Wright (Chair)	Rutgers University
Beth Christensen	Rowan University
Susan DeBari	Western Washington University
Eric Ferré	Southern Illinois University
Jessica Labonté	Texas A&M University, Galveston
David Mallinson	East Carolina University
Natascha Riedinger	Oklahoma State University
Will Sager	University of Houston
Amelia Shevenell	University of South Florida
Marta Torres	Oregon State University

Liaisons, Observers & Guests

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Jamie Allan	NSF
Carl Brenner	USSSP – LDEO
Sharon Cooper	USSSP – LDEO
Laura Haynes	Schlanger Fellow, LDEO
Tom Janecek	NSF
Heather Jones	Schlanger Fellow, Penn State University
Adam Klaus	JRSO
Nicole Kurtz	USSSP – LDEO
Ken Miller	SEP
Angela Slagle	USSSP – LDEO
James Spencer	USSSP – LDEO
Sarah White	Schlanger Fellow, UC Santa Cruz
Anthony Koppers (remote)	JRFB
Candace Major (remote)	NSF
Debbie Smith (remote)	NSF

## **Action Items and Consensus Statements: USAC Summer Meeting, 2018 American Museum of Natural History**

**Consensus Statement 1807-01:** USAC thanks Beth Christensen and Amelia Shevenell for their distinguished service to USAC and the greater US ocean drilling community. We hope that they continue to contribute to the community with the same selfless enthusiasm they displayed on USAC.

**Consensus Statement 1807-02:** USAC recognizes the service and contributions to ocean drilling by Tom Janecek of NSF, who is retiring at the end of July 2018. We wish to thank him for his support and guidance to the US ocean drilling community for over three decades in several different roles.

**Consensus Statement 1807-03:** USAC thanks the American Museum of Natural History for hosting our summer meeting. We note specifically the behind-the-scenes work of Eric Hamilton and his staff to make our meeting successful. We also thank Rosamond (Ro) Kinzler for taking time to talk to us about ocean drilling connections and outreach at AMNH, and Adriana Aquino for graciously leading a tour of the “Unseen Oceans” exhibit.

**Consensus Statement 1807-04:** USAC extends hearty kudos to USSSP for their work on education and outreach. The Education and Outreach White Paper summarizes and clarifies the goals of the wide range of E&O activities that are currently used to introduce the US public to ocean drilling. We commend the efforts of Sharon Cooper, Nicole Kurtz, and Carl Brenner for implementing the suggestions and recommendations from USAC.

**Consensus Statement 1807-05:** USAC recognizes that planning for a post-2023 phase in ocean drilling should start soon (tentatively called IODP-3). USAC supports moving the discussion about IODP-3 forward and notes the importance of assembling a steering committee. This steering committee will work towards organizing a US community workshop. We see two goals that must be developed—scientific justification of the new program (IODP-3) and facility needs.

**Consensus Statement 1807-06:** USAC recommends that future IODP-3 workshops use the results of JRAW to develop a set of drilling/technology needs and an associated set of prioritizations based on cost-benefit balance. These data should guide the science plan development as technology changes and opens new avenues of science. But equally important is that the JRAW data provide the foundation for the development of IODP-3, recognizing that the overall costs at the time of implementation will be much higher than at present.

**Action Item 1807-01:** USAC encourages USSSP to grow the JR Outreach Network (JRON) and strive to include >50% of the US IODP scientific community by the summer 2019. All USAC members should be signed up.

**Action Item 1807-02:** USAC recognizes the importance of making our science known to scientific groups beyond the ocean drilling community. We ask that one of the products that originate from USSSP-funded workshop be summaries that are appropriate for publication in newsletters or other outreach venues, including media of other scientific societies.

**Action Item 1807-03:** USAC recognizes the importance of introducing and involving young scientists in the ocean drilling community. We will institute a networking program for the Schlanger Fellowship recipients, who are linked with a USAC member. The overall goal is to make sure that each Fellow is aware of opportunities to participate in various ocean drilling activities.

**Action Item 1807-04:** USAC recognizes uncertainty and confusion within the community over NSF's Dear Colleague Letter issued this spring concerning active source multi-channel seismic data acquisition. The USAC Chair should work with MG&G head Candace Major and MSROC chair Pat Hart to issue a statement to better inform the US ocean drilling community of the current funding opportunities/pathways for MCS data acquisition.

**Action Item 1807-05:** The US effort to consider ocean drilling in the post-2023 era must originate from and be led by USAC. A steering committee composed of USAC members as well as other leaders in the US ocean drilling community should be formed to spearhead the US effort.