



## Report on Activities During 2016

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of SCOR is to further international scientific activity in all branches of oceanic research. The Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) is a non-governmental organization, created in 1957 by the International Council of Science (ICSU). SCOR promotes international cooperation in planning and conducting interdisciplinary oceanographic research programs and solving methodological and conceptual problems that hinder research. SCOR promotes scientific excellence and integrity and has direct access to the international ocean science community. The primary purpose of CNC-SCOR is to provide communication between the Canadian Ocean Science community and the international activities that come under SCOR's umbrella. Under the auspices of CMOS, CNC-SCOR brings together the Canadian Ocean Science community across disciplinary boundaries and the boundaries of universities, government and private sector organizations.

### **CNC-SCOR Highlights for 2016**

CNC-SCOR's Annual Meeting was held 29 May 2016 in conjunction with the 2016 Scientific Congress of the CMOS, in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Small international Working Groups (WGs) are the core of SCOR's activities. These WGs -- typically with no more than 10 members -- are established in response to proposals submitted to SCOR by the international ocean science community. In general, they are established to address well-defined topics of emerging importance that would benefit from coordinated international attention. WGs are expected to provide a final report, organize a workshop or symposium, or otherwise make significant contributions to advancing the topic at hand within a 3 - 4 year period. Canadian participation on SCOR Working Groups has remained about the same compared to 2015. There are currently 14 Canadians serving on 8 of the 11 active WGs.

In 2016, CNC-SCOR reviewed the proposals for eleven new international working groups. CNC-SCOR provided detailed written comments and a prioritized list to SCOR's Executive Director. Among the elements reviewed, the CNC-SCOR examination looked for Canadian Content and opportunities for Canadian involvement. These proposals, one of which partially originated in Canada, were discussed

during the Executive Meeting of SCOR in Sopot, Poland. The International Committee approved two new initiatives as in 2014. The two approved working groups are:

- Iron Model Intercomparison Project (FeMIP)
- Measuring Essential Climate Variables in Sea Ice (ECV-Ice)

The proposals for the two new working groups were strongly supported by CNC-SCOR, in either or must fund or should fund categories. Canadian scientists will be members of one of the new Working Groups, including the co-chair of ECV-Ice.

CNC-SCOR published six bi-monthly electronic issues of the Canadian Ocean Science Newsletter during 2016. The subscriber database is dynamic and is continually reviewed to eliminate non-functioning addresses and currently stands at 385. In addition to articles on ocean science and updates in ocean science programs, the newsletter reports milestones in the careers of Canadian ocean scientists, includes job postings and training opportunities for graduate students, young scientists and teachers and communicates news of numerous prestigious awards presented to Canadian scientists. The newsletter also provided status reports on the work of SCOR's international Working Groups.

CNC-SCOR annually supports a national lecture tour to foster cross-Canada communication in ocean science. Two prominent Canadian scientists are selected to travel and speak in oceanographic centres on the opposite side of the country. These tours promote ocean science, support student education through the talks at universities, and help the speakers build professional networks. As in the past year, this year's speakers will be presenting in both 2016 and 2017. Dr. Roberta Hamme, a Canada Research Chair in Ocean Carbon Dynamics from the University of Victoria in Victoria BC is the speaker from the west making presentations at eastern venues. Her presentations were entitled *Using dissolved gases to diagnose the ocean's carbon pumps*. In November she spoke to enthusiastic audiences at Memorial University of Newfoundland, The Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dalhousie University, the University of Quebec at Rimouski and in Ottawa. Dr CH Mundy from the University of Manitoba is the speaker from the east making presentations at western venues. He will be speaking on his research on sea-ice and ecosystems. Tentatively, Dr. Mundy is scheduled to speak in March at the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, the University of British Columbia and the University of Victoria.

For a seventh year, CNC-SCOR provided travel support to a school teacher to participate in Project Maury, which involves training at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Project Maury promotes understanding of the physical foundations of oceanography through a dedicated training course directed at school teachers. In 2016, CNC-SCOR and CMOS jointly sponsored David Summerhays, teaching in Clarendon, Ontario, for this course. The workshop included a wide range of oceanographic topics and activities on-site (classroom and lab) and off-site, including a field trip on a research vessel.

SCOR-International partners with other organizations to sponsor several large scale international science programs. Of these, Canadian scientists serve on the committees for GEOHAB, IMBER, GEOTRACES,

SOLAS, and IMAGES. CNC-SCOR provides another way for these programs to communicate updates to the Canadian community through the Canadian Ocean Science Newsletter.

The CNC-SCOR chair Paul Myers was elected to the international SCOR finance committee in Bremen in 2014 for a 3 year term. Thus he continues to be involved in scrutinizing the organization's finances and auditor's reports, as well as proposing efficient ways to utilize those funds.

CNC-SCOR maintains an internally circulated file showing actions agreed to and milestones reached for each year. A mid-term meeting was held by conference call on 16 December 2016 to discuss progress and take decisions on outstanding items.

CNC-SCOR created a new award for Early Career Scientists that was first awarded at the CMOS Congress in Fredericton at the start of June, 2016. The recipient for 2016 was Stephanie Watermann from the University of British Columbia. CNC-SCOR funded her travel to present a paper at the CMOS congress and receive the award. She also agreed to serve on the CNC-SCOR committee for a minimum of 1 year as a condition for receipt of the award.

Other CNC-SCOR activities included: working with sister organizations in Canada and abroad on ocean research initiatives; assisting IAPSO representatives in obtaining input from the Canadian ocean science community for the compilations of required annual reports; and maintaining its web site (<http://cncscor.ca>). CNC-SCOR's pages on the CMOS website are maintained by the CMOS\_webmaster. Among the various pages are background information on CNC-SCOR, a membership list, information about and links to ocean science activities, and historical photos of Canadian oceanographers and vessels. All material stored on the site is searchable, and past copies of the newsletter can be retrieved. We have initiated the process of updating and modernizing our website.

## **CNC-SCOR Members Active in 2016**

Paul Myers, U Alberta (Chair)

Rob Macdonald (past Chair), DFO/IOS

Paul Snelgrove, Memorial

Martin Taillefer, Maritime Way Scientific Ltd., and CMOS President until June 2017

Markus Kienast, Dalhousie

Ian Perry, DFO/PBS

Stephanie Watermann UBC

Keith Lennon (ex-officio DFO)

David Greenberg (Secretary), DFO retired

Jody Klymak (ex-officio), IAPSO

Gordon Griffith (ex-officio CMOS), CMOS Executive Director

Martha Anderson (ex-officio CMOS President to 2016)

Michael Scarratt (ex-officio), SOLAS

Jean-Éric Tremblay (ex-officio Québec-Océan)

David Beauchesne (Québec-Océan étudiants)  
Laura Gillard (CMOS students)