

Notes: Jan. 28, 2002 Meeting on CNC/SCOR Issues

Attendees: Ken Lee, Bjorn Sundby, Neil Campbell, Dick Stoddart

Taking advantage of a visit to Ottawa by the Chair of CNC/SCOR (Ken Lee) for other purposes, a meeting was convened with the new Secretary of CNC/SCOR (Dick Stoddart) to discuss outstanding issues and opportunities. The following summarizes key observations and actions.

1. CNC/SCOR Finances

- a) Approximately \$30K is presently available for CNC/SCOR business, with an additional \$12K becoming available in 2002.
- b) It was **agreed** that the Secretary be paid an honorarium for secretariat services; the amount to be determined by the Executive Director of CMOS.
- c) It was **agreed** that the Chair and the Secretary of CNC/SCOR should attend the annual meetings of SCOR International.
- d) It was **agreed** that Canadian proponents of new SCOR Working Groups should have their travel expenses paid to the SCOR international meeting at which their proposal would be presented.

2. Existing SCOR Working Groups

It was **agreed** that Canadians involved with recently completed and/or ongoing SCOR Working Groups be asked to provide a synopsis of the status and plans of the

Working Group. Such reports would be used to: (i) inform CNC/SCOR, (ii) provide Canadian researchers with current information on the CNC/SCOR web site, and (iii) provide resource material for publication of Working Group activities via the CMOS Bulletin. Additionally, presentations of the results of Working Group initiatives might be made available at a special session on SCOR at the upcoming CMOS Congress (see below, item #4). The following indicates the person who would make contact to request such a report(s):

- a) WG 106, Sea Level/Muddy Coasts, **Carl Amos**, AGC (now in South Hampton). **Contact by Ken Lee.**
- b) WG 107, Global Bathymetry, **Ron MacNab**, AGC. **Contact by Ken Lee.**
- c) WG 108, Double Diffusion, Ann Gargett (now USA), **Barry Ruddick**, Dal. **Contact by Dick Stoddart.**
- d) WG 112, Groundwater Discharge, **Leslie Smith**, UBC. **Contact by Bjorn Sundby.**
- e) WG 114, Marine Sediments, Bernard Boudreau, Dal., **Bjorn Sundby**, McGill. **Contact is Bjorn Sundby.**
- f) WG 118, Marine Life Technologies, **Dave Farmer** (now USA). **Contact by Dick Stoddart.**
- g) WG 119, Marine Ecosystem Change, Villy Christensen, UBC. **Contact is Mike Sinclair, by Ken Lee.**

3. Possible New SCOR Working Groups

The official call for new SCOR working groups will go out around March 31, 2002 and the deadline for receipt of proposals will be June 30, 2002. There is "Information for Proponents of New SCOR Working Groups" available electronically. In order to solicit as broad as interest as possible it was **agreed** to post the "call" in the CMOS Bulletin (April edition), and on the CNC/SCOR web site. As well, general information on SCOR and its working groups would be made available at the CMOS Congress Booth in

Rimouski in May 2002. While encouraging proponents for possible new working groups, care will be made to note that only one, or possibly two, new SCOR working groups are likely to be struck this year. Four possibilities were discussed, and all should be encouraged to submit proposals, namely:

- a) Ocean Modeling/Ice-infested Enclosed Seas, François Saucier, MLI (**Bjorn Sundby agreed** to contact François to provide background and encouragement)
- b) Marine Observing Platforms, Susan Allen, UBC
- c) Cumulative Effects/Oil and Gas Discharges, Ken Lee, BIO
- d) Coastal Eutrophication, Bjorn Sundby, McGill

4. Special Session for SCOR at CMOS

Ken Lee has entered into discussions with François Saucer (Chair, CMOS Congress Scientific Program Committee) on the possibility of having a special session on SCOR this year at CMOS Congress. A positive reaction was obtained from François and planning **will proceed** accordingly. Three possibilities were discussed:

- a) A contextual overview paper by Bjorn Sundby (20 minutes). **Agreed.**
- b) Session to include individual papers (20 minutes each) on the status of current Working Groups. **Pending interest** of the working group contacts noted above.
- c) Session to include submitted papers from Congress participants that are SCOR related. **Ken Lee and François Saucer to review submissions** as they become available.

It was **agreed** that CMOS would provide space for CNC/COR within the CMOS Booth at Rimouski, and that appropriate resource material should be developed for display and/or distribution. **Action: Ken Lee, Bjorn Sundby, Neil Campbell, Dick Stoddart.**

5. CMOS Bulletin Articles

An overview article on SCOR has been prepared for publication in the CMOS Bulletin. It is scheduled to appear in the February edition. The intent is to have a regular “column” in the CMOS Bulletin, rotating with CNC/ECOR, on selected activities of interest. Initially these will likely be the active SCOR working group reports noted above under item #2. It was also noted that SCOR has actively promoted several large scale projects, emanating from previous SCOR working groups, and articles should be solicited on these programs for publication in the Bulletin (and on the web) under a SCOR banner. Examples included GEOHAB, SOLAS, JGOFS, and GLOBEC. The **Secretary will work with CNC/SCOR members to identify** opportunities and likely writers; the workload to prepare such articles should not be too onerous since web material is likely already available for adaptation.

6. Relationship with CNC/ECOR

Ken Lee has entered into discussions with Charles Schafer (previous Chair of CNC/ECOR, up to Jan. 15, 2002) on several issues, namely (i) the possibility of amalgamation into a Canadian Ocean Science and Engineering Council, (ii) joint sponsorship of workshops; one initial possibility being scientific characterization and cleansing of contaminated seafloors, and (iii) exchange of *ex-officio* membership at each others Annual General Meetings. On this third point, **Charles Schafer will attend** the CNC/SCOR meeting in Rimouski to further discuss possible joint interests and concerns.

7. SCOR International

- a) Bjorn Sundby no longer serves on the SCOR international executive. However, he still maintains significant ties to SCOR international, and in fact has been co-opted to serve on an *ad-hoc* membership committee for SCOR. He remains one of three (along with Ken Lee and Raj Murthy) “nominated” Canadian members for SCOR international.
- b) Ed Urban, of The Johns Hopkins University, is the Executive Director for SCOR. He has provided valuable advice and documentation on SCOR programs and procedures. He has provided feedback on potential new working group initiatives from Canada (item #3 above) and has offered to review any proposals before the submission date in order to strengthen or fine-tune them. He has provided advice as to possible dates of when Canada might consider offering to host a future SCOR international annual meeting (not before 2005). The **Secretary was encouraged** to pay a personal visit to Ed Urban so as to effect closer contact and proactive interaction between CNC/SCOR and SCOR international.
- c) NRC provides the international fees to SCOR (\$18K US this year). NRC has provided useful information on NRC support to Canada and Canadians with respect to SCOR and ECOR international meetings. In this regard, excerpts from an email from NRC are attached as Appendix 1.
- d) Possible hosting of future international SCOR meetings in Canada was discussed. The best possibility would be in conjunction with a major international conference that has direct links to a SCOR program. By way of example, a SOLAS results conference in 2006 in Canada might be an opportunity. **Bjorn Sundby will** contact Bill Miller to sound out possibilities for such an initiative. CNC/SCOR members will be canvassed with respect to other possibilities with which they might be aware. Should Canada be prepared to host such a meeting, negotiations with PIs, DFO, NRC, etc. should be well along before the Oct. 1-5, 2002 SCOR General Meeting in Sapporo, Japan so that a formal offer, if appropriate, can be made by Canada.

8. CNC/SCOR Membership

Existing CNC/SCOR members (appointment dates in brackets) are: Susan Allen (1999), Judith Bobbitt (1994), Ken Lee, Chair (1995), Peta Mudie (1992), Raj Murthy (1994), Barry Ruddick (1994), and Bjorn Sundby, *ex-officio*. It was **agreed** that it was desirable to expand the current 6 members, and 1 *ex-officio* member, to ensure a broader participation base, to 10 members and possibly 3 *ex-officio* members.

A number of possible new members were discussed, amongst them, Jinyu Sheng (Dal.), Eddy Carmack (IOS), Peter Jones (BIO), Humfrey Melling (IOS), Robbie MacDonald (IOS), Bill Miller (Dal.), Ken Denman (IOS), François Saucer (MLI), Dan Wright (BIO), David Greenberg (BIO), Andrew Weaver (UVic), Richard Greatbatch (Dal.), Jacques Derome (McGill), William Hsieh (UBC), Dick Peletier (UofT), Anne de Vernal (UQAM), Steve Calvert (UBC), Tom Pedersen (UBC), Chris Garrett (UVic), Neil Oakey (BIO), Keith Thompson (Dal.), Bill Crawford (IOS), Jim Gower (IOS), John Cullen (Dal.), Glen Harrison (BIO), Dave Mackas (IOS), Howard Freeland (IOS), Brad de Young (Memorial). It was recognized that there were many other possible candidates to join CNC/SCOR. On the other hand, several of the names mentioned above are likely to decline membership on CNC/SCOR for a variety of reasons.

Additional *ex-officio* members (additional to Bjorn Sundby) might include a representative of the CMOS Scientific Committee, and one of the Canadian representatives to IAPSO.

It was **agreed** that it would be useful to regularize the “terms” for membership on CNC/SCOR; the model suggested was for a three-year term, once renewable. This model needs discussion, modification and acceptance from the existing CNC/SCOR membership. The **Chair will** contact existing members seeking their advice.

In the meantime, rather than wait for the Rimouski meeting, it was agreed that the **Chair and Secretary will** draft a letter to some or all of the above noted names, and any additional names suggested by CNC/SCOR members, to solicit their potential interest in serving on CNC/SCOR. This would generate a list of willing candidates from which a representative (organization, geography, discipline) group could be formally solicited. Final selection would be made by made by CNC/SCOR, or a designated sub-committee, before formal invitations are made.

9. Web Site

The meeting identified several opportunities to make the CNC/SCOR web site more useful, particularly with proactive progress reports on SCOR working groups and research projects. The **Secretary will** ensure such articles are posted as they become available.

10. Action Items from the 2001 CNC/SCOR Meeting

The draft Minutes of the May 27, 2001 CNC/SCOR meeting were distributed on Dec. 26, 2001. All members have acknowledged their receipt. Two typos have been pointed out and since corrected. Several action items remain unfinished, some have been superceded and some completed. The **Chair and the Secretary will** review all action items and follow-up appropriately over the coming weeks.

11. Future Meetings of CNC/SCOR

It was agreed that the next face-to-face meeting of CNC/SCOR would take place during the CMOS Congress in Rimouski, May 22-25, 2002. The actual date of CNC/SCOR during that time period, or on the 21st or 26th, **will be decided by Ken Lee in consultation** with the Chair of the Scientific Program Committee and Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, so as to expedite the meeting with a minimum of disruption to Congress. Once the date is determined, CNC/SCOR members will be informed asap so as to ensure adequate lead time for travel arrangements. Conference calls were also seen as a way to ensure more frequent and timely meetings of CNC/SCOR so as to ensure progress and frequent exchanges between members. The **Chair will** determine the usefulness of a conference call prior to CMOS Congress, possibly in April 2002.

It was **agreed** that the notes from the Jan. 28, 2002 meeting should be circulated to all CNC/SCOR members for information and feedback.

Appendix 1

**Excerpts from a Jan. 18, 2002 email from Anne-Marie Marquis, Project Officer,
International Relations Office, NRC**

NRC does contribute to the travel cost of official Canadian delegates (who must be university-based) attending a General Assembly of an International Union. Usually, the NRC Partner (in your case DFO) in collaboration with the CNCs, nominates the Canadian delegate(s) who will attend the

General Assembly. NRC and Ciset members review the nominations and transmits the coordinates of the final delegate(s) to the International Union . Subsequently, NRC writes to all the official delegates confirming their participation at the GA and providing them with guidelines on finances and statutes issues that will be discussed at the General Assembly.

According to the Statutes and Bylaws of ECOR (the version we have on file dates back to 1982), the General Assembly is held every 3 years. Canada has one vote at this meeting, therefore NRC contributes to the travel costs of one Canadian delegate. Our files indicate that there was a General Assembly in 1996 and 1999, therefore the next one should be held this year (2002). However, the minutes of the ECOR Council Meetings, which are held every year, indicate that issues usually associated to a General Assembly (i.e. revisions to by-laws, membership dues etc.) are also discussed at the Council Meetings.

As for SCOR, the General Assemblies is held every 2 years and is called the General Meeting. The next SCOR General Meeting will be held this year from 1-5 October 2002 in Sapporo, Japan. Since Canada has one vote at the SCOR meeting, NRC can only assist with the travel cost of one official delegate representing Canada at this meeting. DFO and the CNC-SCOR will have to provide us with the name of the delegate that will be representing Canada at that meeting.

Regarding international meetings held in Canada, the NRC does not have a specific budget to host such events. We are, however, always in support of inviting international gatherings to Canada as they are an opportunity to demonstrate Canadian expertise, increase international cooperation and encourage the development of science. For international events other than General Assemblies, any organizations (CMOS, DFO or any other organization working in your science field) can organize such events as they wish.

For General Assemblies of international organizations to which NRC adheres, it is NRC's responsibility to send the official invitation. The organizations of such events is a major undertaking and requires close collaboration between the NRC, as the adhering member, and the Canadian S&T community working in the field of the international organizations. Usually, a Canadian society with a major scientific interest in the Congress commits itself to participating in the planning and organization of the Congress through the signing of a partnership agreement with NRC. An initial Steering Committee is responsible for establishing an Organizing Committee, which, in turn, oversees the work of the various committees. As well, the

NRC Conferences Services can provide help to organize such conferences. As you may already know, over the years NRC Conference Services has successfully organized many major international events. Currently, NRC conference services is organizing two major ICSU events (i.e., the IUBMB and IUPAC General Assemblies) which will be held in Canada in 2003. If your CNCs would be interested to invite a General Assembly to Canada, we would certainly be glad to provide more information and advice.