

Minutes

AGM for CNC/SCOR Sunday, May 28, 2006, at the CMOS Congress, Toronto Sheraton Centre Hotel, Elgin Room

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. EDT

1. Welcome and Introductions

Attending: Gordon McBean, Allyn Clarke, Bjorn Sundby, Dick Stoddart, Jinyu Sheng, Rob Macdonald, Paul Myers, Leah Braithwaite, Bob Jones (part time), Christine Michel, Jennifer Lukovich (by conference call, replacing Dave Barber), Savi Narayanan, Janelle Kennedy-Teale (by conference call), Dany Dumont, Romain Lanos, Caroline Sévigny, Marie-Emmanuelle Rail

Regrets: Ian Rutherford, Susan Allen, Ian Perry, Brad de Young, Mike Stacey, Suzanne Roy, Maurice Levasseur

A comprehensive annotated agenda was provided to all members prior to the meeting, on May 19, 2006.

2. Approval of 2006 Agenda

The draft agenda was sent to members on May 1, 2006. Two additional agenda items were added at the meeting, namely:

8 (iv) Is there a need for a Canadian Marine Science Association?

10 (i) Letters to the Prime Minister

3. Approval of May 30, 2005 Draft Minutes

The last CNC/SCOR AGM was held on May 30, 2005 in Vancouver. The minutes of that meeting were distributed to members on June 2, 2005. Two minor editorial changes to those draft minutes were provided in June 2005, neither of which affected identified action items. It was **moved** by Allyn Clarke, **seconded** by Bjorn Sundby, that the amended minutes, as posted on the web site www.cncscor.ca under a protected page located at item #D4, be approved. **Carried.**

4. Review of 2005/2006 Actions

Most actions from the May 30, 2005 meeting were covered within the appropriate agenda items of this meeting. A status report on all the May 30th action items was included in the annotated agenda. There were no queries regarding the results of any of the listed action items.

5. CNC SCOR Finances

- (i) **CNC/SCOR revenues and expenses.** The CNC/SCOR surplus stands at \$32.4K. Expenses for CNC/SCOR for 2005/2006 were:

- Travel	\$ 5.8K
- Scholarship	\$ 10.0K
- Secretariat Services	\$ 2.8K
- Web support	<u>\$ 1.0K</u>

Total \$ 19.6K

Some increased expenditures are expected for the present year (2006/2007) with Gordon McBean's travel to Chile for the international SCOR annual meeting, support for 4 tour speakers (none in last fiscal year), and enhanced pre-travel costs for the CNC/SCOR AGM which will be in St. John's next year. The amount for secretariat services will decrease somewhat in 2006/2007, as will the amount for web services. Overall, it is expected that our surplus funds will be drawn down in 2006/2007. Once our tour speakers settle down to 2/year we should have a more stable year-to-year budget. Savi Narayanan noted that she expected to be able to provide traditional levels of funding to CMOS to support the expanded work of CNC/SCOR. She queried the "visibility" of DFO financial support in various CNC/SCOR endeavors. It was noted that significant "profile" is given to DFO support in several instances, such as the presentation on CNC/SCOR by Gordon McBean to the DFO Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC), as well as the upcoming presentation by Wendy Watson-Wright of the CNC/SCOR award of the NSERC Scholarship Supplement. It was agreed that the Secretary, with the help of DFO, would investigate additional means of ensuring recognition of DFO support to CNC/SCOR programs. **Action: Dick Stoddart.**

- (ii) **Agreement with DFO.** The agreement between DFO and CMOS for continuing funding support through 2006/2007 is under review by DFO. The agreement will likely remain as a contract, rather than the former "grants and contribution" agreement.
- (iii) **Agreement with NRC.** The agreement between NRC and DFO, for NRC to pay the international SCOR fees (currently at \$US 18.6K), was in effect through mid 2005. NRC undertakes a formal evaluation every 4 years to determine if they will extend such support into the future. The NRC evaluation of CNC/SCOR and the benefits of continued Canadian participation in international SCOR was completed in April 2005 through the submission of a favorable report by DFO to NRC. NRC has reported that they will be paying the 2006 fees to SCOR thereby inferring that the Agreement has been extended for another four years. In recent years NRC has expressed the opinion that SCOR is one of its flagship programs.

6. CNC/SCOR Issues and Activities

- (i) **Remarks from CNC/SCOR Chair.** Gordon McBean gave a few brief remarks relative to his first few months as Chair of CNC/SCOR, including:
- a. his opinion that CNC/SCOR was undertaking important work and meetings relative to the ocean science, both nationally and international.
 - b. his thanks to DFO and NRC for providing tangible financial support to CNC/SCOR. He noted in passing that support had been precipitously removed from at least one other like-minded committee that was seen to be inactive; a case in point being the CNC/WCRP which had not provided annual reports.
 - c. his thanks to the CNC/SCOR Secretary for the quality notes that were prepared in the way of the annotated agenda for the meeting.
 - d. his participation in the recent DFO Strategic Advisory Committee meeting in which he provided a comprehensive presentation on the mandate and activities of CNC/SCOR.
 - e. his agreement, in his capacity as Chair of CNC/SCOR, to participate on the Canadian delegation to the upcoming meeting of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Committee.

The Chair also noted that in his view that there was a lack of an integrated science plan in Canada, a fact that hinders Canada's participation in interdisciplinary and international science to a considerable degree. He noted that this might be alleviated to some degree in the future once the programs of the newly created Canadian Academies of Science become more fully operational; their budget is in the range of \$3 million/year for 10 years; e.g. \$30 million in total. This umbrella organization, under the leadership of Peter Nicholson, will be undertaking two science assessments/year. The best way to have an assessment undertaken by them, for instance on the health of marine sciences in Canada, would be at the request from a government agency, thereby ensuring that the assessment would be paid for out of their \$30 million budget. The Chair will investigate, with other like-minded groups such as CMOS, the means of getting on the radar screen of the their Scientific Advisory Board to have oceanography put on the list of potential assessments.

Action: Gordon McBean. It was noted that Canada's involvement in international ocean science is fragmented (also discussed under agenda item #8 (iv) below), and that one way to give some profile to international ocean science programs of importance to Canada was to write a short article in the Newsletter outlining the key international programs in which Canada must be included as a fundamental partner. Allyn Clarke agreed to author such an article. **Action: Allyn Clarke.** The article could then also be used as one of several resource materials in outlining to the Canadian Academies of Science the need to undertake an assessment on how well (or not) Canada was contributing to, and taking advantage of, international marine science programs.

(ii) **Web site.** The CNC/SCOR web site (www.cncscor.ca) has been kept up to date and checked periodically for dead links. Major items added since last year include: all CNC/SCOR Canadian Ocean Science Newsletters, international news, results from the Australia international SCOR meeting, summaries of all SCOR related programs, an archive of oceanography photos, and ocean science theses titles/authors from various Canadian universities. Bob Jones, the webmaster for the CNC/SCOR site, joined the meeting briefly and provided some hit statistics on the CMOS and CNC/SCOR web pages as follows:

For the 5 month period of Jan. 1, 2006 to May 24, 2006

For the CMOS site:

551,306 overall page hits

Of which there were hits for:

- A/O 86,343 or 15.7%
- Meteorological Photos 77,179 or 14.0%
- Private Sector 59,799 or 10.8%
- CNC/SCOR 46,034 or 8.3%
- etc.

That is, CNC/SCOR is the 4th most accessed on the CMOS site.

For the CNC/SCOR site:

46,034 overall page hits

Of which there were hits for:

- SCOR index page 1,713 or 3.7%
- International news 1,554 or 3.4%
- Newsletters 1,078 or 2.3%
- Quebec theses 814 or 1.8%
- Large ocean programs 730 or 1.6%
- etc.

(iii) **Newsletter.** The electronic Canadian Ocean Science Newsletter was implemented on July 20, 2003. Seven were distributed in the first year, and 8 each in subsequent years. Number 22 was distributed on May 4, 2006. Currently there are 409 subscribers. Up until the last two issues the Newsletter had sufficient coverage and content, with:

- publication approximately every 6-7 weeks,
- approximately 10 pages in length,
- about 10-12 articles per issue,
- contributors from DFO, universities and the private sector, and
- feedback from subscribers that the Newsletter was welcome and interesting.

For the last two issues interest from potential contributors has dwindled to the point that there were only 5 articles in the last issue. In spite of the concern of lack of content, there was strong support from members for continuation of the Newsletter. Jennifer Lukovich provided to members a comprehensive list of potential initiatives

for the CNC/SCOR Newsletter. These and several additional suggestions will be followed up in due course, including:

- exchange of information and appropriate URL pointers with student newsletters and the ArcticNet newsletter. **Action: Dick Stoddart, Dany Dumont**
- include an article on the DFO SAC meeting. **Action: Gordon McBean**
- include an article of key international ocean science programs. **Action: Allyn Clarke.**
- target articles which would profile ongoing research efforts of groups. A trial article would start with a short profile of the programs of Jinyu Sheng at Dalhousie. **Action: Jinyu Sheng.**
- expand the subscriptions to ocean policy makers, and solicit appropriate articles from this group. Leah Braithwaite agreed to help kick start this effort. **Action: Leah Braithwaite.**
- solicit an article from Bob Keeley on the biogeochemical data base. **Action: Leah Braithwaite.**
- solicit an article from John Loder on the newly created centre for ocean modeling. **Action: Dick Stoddart.**
- solicit an article from Jay Cullen regarding potential Canadian contributions to IMBER. **Action: Rob Macdonald.**

Members were strongly encouraged to contact their colleagues, on occasion, to solicit appropriate articles from them for the Newsletter. **Action: All Members.**

Access to, and exchange of information with, students was seen to be a major deficiency in the CNC/SCOR make-up. It was agreed that a small *ad hoc* group should be formed to discuss how best to include the interests of students in the various aspects of CNC/SCOR initiatives, including the Newsletter. The initial group would be composed of Leah Braithwaite (Chair), Dany Dumont, Paul Myers, Christine Michel, Jennifer Lukovich and Janelle Kennedy-Teale. **Action: Leah Braithwaite.**

- (iv) **Ocean Science Thesis.** Canadian university contacts were approached in early 2006 to update their listings of university PhD and MSc ocean science theses. The CNC/SCOR web site now contains all listings received from this canvas. The Secretary will follow up with delinquent responders in an attempt to have as complete a listing as possible. **Action: Dick Stoddart.**
- (v) **Lecture Tour.** The May 30, 2004 CNC/SCOR AGM gave formal approval for the CNC/SCOR sponsored lecture tour with emphasis in the selection process being on: (i) interesting and topical issues, (ii) dynamic speakers able to provide clear messages understandable to a multidisciplinary audience, and (iii) topics sufficiently different from the national CMOS tour in the present year. Marlon Lewis was selected as the west coast tour speaker, and Philippe Tortell was selected as the east coast tour speaker, in the first year of the program

Dr. Kevin Lamb, University of Waterloo will undertake the Western tour in the Fall of 2006, likely in October/November. Dr. Erica Head, Research Scientist, Biological Oceanography, Bedford Institute of Oceanography will undertake a Western tour in early 2007, likely in February/March.

Dr. Andy Bush, University of Alberta will undertake an Eastern tour in the Fall of 2006, likely in November. Dr. Rob MacDonald, Institute of Ocean Sciences will undertake an Eastern tour in early 2007, likely in February.

Since the “attribution” of the lecture tour program “to CNC/SCOR” was not readily apparent to many attending the previous lectures, the next lecturers have all been supplied with an introductory slide for their talk in the hopes that CNC/SCOR will gain some visibility and profile for their efforts in establishing this program.

It was suggested that, while it often convenient to co-locate with CMOS events, the lecture tour organizers might also consider having some its functions in non-traditional locations that might attract additional or different attendees, thereby broadening the client base. Also, when appropriate, organizers should consider targeting politicians and policy makers as part of the potential audience.

- (vi) **Oceanographic Photos.** The May 2005 CNC/SCOR AGM agreed to initiate a project aimed at establishing an on-line archive of Canadian oceanographic photographs. The intent was to create a library of historical photos that would parallel those of the Canadian meteorological community. The emphasis in the early activities of this project was aimed at obtaining “group” photos; photos which were reasonably clear so as to be able to identify individuals in the photo, and have a caption that would explain the event (a cruise, conference, university faculty, etc.), a date (year) of the event, and an organized list of (many) of those in the photo. Photos of oceanographic research vessels are also welcome. While the initiative was advertised in two separate articles in the Newsletter, the response has been rather limited to date. There are 31 photos currently (May 2006) in the archive; see www.cncscor.ca, the third entry listed as “Historical Oceanographic Photos”. The site has a dedicated search engine to better help find individuals. Members agreed to investigate further the possible additions to the archive from their own collections and those of their colleagues. **Action: All Members.**

- (vii) **Scholarship Supplement.** CNC/SCOR, in partnership with DFO and CMOS, established in 2006 a new NSERC Scholarship Supplement for Ocean Sciences in the amount of \$5,000/year to a deserving student for a period of two years. Only those students who have succeeded in winning an NSERC Postgraduate Scholarship or a Canada Graduate Scholarship are eligible. The initial award of \$5,000 is renewable for the second year provided that the student continues to hold the NSERC postgraduate scholarship. The winning student was selected by the CMOS Scientific Committee. For the competition just completed there were 7 submissions in ocean sciences, one of which was considered off topic. The Supplement will be awarded at the annual banquet of the CMOS Congress. Since the student is unable to be present the award will be accepted by his supervisor.

There was some discussion on whether or not some consideration should be given as to the amount of scholarship support a student was already receiving from other sources. That is, while “merit” is always an over riding consideration, should we be trying spread the wealth to deserving students who were receiving support in the \$17K - \$21K range (more or less), rather than supporting students already receiving grants in excess of \$35K. It was agreed that as a guiding principal we should be

providing financial support, tied to merit, to MSc students who were awarded PGS or CGS scholarships and PhD students who received PGS scholarships. PhD students who were awarded CGS scholarships will be considered, but only if no other candidates are suitable. Paul Myers will draft a short statement along these lines that may be used by reviewers in next year's adjudication process with respect to the CNC/SCOR award. **Action: Paul Myers.**

(viii) Membership. CNC/SCOR membership is currently as follows:

Gordon McBean, Chair, UWO, 2006, 2007, 2008
Bjorn Sundby, Past Chair, UQAR 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008
Susan Allen, UBC, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007
Rob Macdonald, DFO/IOS, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007
Jinyu Sheng, Dalhousie, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008
Maurice Levasseur, Laval, 2004, 2005, 2006
Christine Michel, DFO/FWI, 2004, 2005, 2006
Brad de Young, Memorial, 2004, 2005, 2006
David Barber, Manitoba, 2004, 2005, 2006
Allyn Clarke, DFO/BIO, 2004, 2005, 2006
Dick Stoddart, Secretary, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007
Ian Rutherford, *ex-officio*, (CMOS)
Suzanne Roy, *ex-officio*, UQAR (GEOHAB)
Ian Perry, *ex-officio*, DFO/PBS, (GLOBEC)
Mike Stacey, *ex-officio*, RMC (IAPSO)
Paul Myers, *ex-officio*, UofA (CMOS Scientific Committee)
Leah Braithwaite, *ex-officio*, DFO/HQ

“Nominated Members” to international SCOR from Canada are Bjorn Sundby, Rob Macdonald and Allyn Clarke. It was **agreed** that Allyn Clarke would be replaced by Gordon McBean, thereby ensuring that Gordon McBean would be able to fill the role as principle delegate and voting member for Canada at the upcoming SCOR meeting in Chile in October 2006. **Action: Dick Stoddart.**

The CNC/SCOR Executive Committee is composed of Gordon McBean, Bjorn Sundby, and Dick Stoddart.

Current members due to be replaced, or extended, at the end of 2006 are: Maurice Levasseur (Laval), Christine Michel (DFO/FWI), Brad de Young (Memorial), David Barber (Manitoba), and Allyn Clarke (DFO/BIO). Members were asked to provide suggestions for replacements to ensure the committee remains fully populated into the future. Areas where we are deemed somewhat under-represented include marine geosciences and hydrography. Several names were suggested as possible new members, including: Peter Smith (DFO/BIO), Denis Gilbert (DFO/IML), and Steve Solomon (NRCan/GSC). Members were asked to provide, over the coming few weeks, any additional names they wish to suggest for possible membership. **Action: All Members.** The CNC/SCOR Executive Committee will then approach potential new members this Fall, taking into account disciplinary and geographic balance where possible, to gauge their interest in becoming a member of CNC/SCOR. The Executive Committee will also examine the list of *ex-officio members* to see if additions or changes are needed to

include, for example, such programs as GEOTRACES, IMBER and SOLAS.
Action: Gordon McBean, Bjorn Sundby, Dick Stoddart.

7. SCOR International

- i. **Remarks from SCOR President.** Bjorn Sundby, international SCOR President since September 2004, outlined to CNC/SCOR a few highlights of his second year in office, including:
 - a) his work with respect to transfer of co-sponsorship of GOOS to IOC and SCOR.
 - b) developing more harmonious relationships between IOC and SCOR.
 - c) his efforts to enhance liaisons between SCOR and SCAR.
 - d) plans for follow-up activities to the successful first symposium on The Ocean in a High-CO₂ World. SCOR and IOC have begun seeking funding for a second symposium, tentatively planned for 2008.
 - e) capacity building efforts, helped in large part by the efforts of DFO, in the area of building regional graduate schools; Sri Lanka being a case in point.
 - f) planning for the SCOR 50th anniversary meeting in 2007 at Woods Hole, which will include the hosting of a symposium devoted to the interests of young scientists.
- ii. **Existing SCOR Working Groups** It was noted that the following are the current active international SCOR Working Groups (WG); the annotated agenda provided reference to Canadian representation on the WGs:

WG 111 on Coupling Winds, Waves and Currents in Coastal Models

WG 115 on Standards for the Survey and Analysis of Plankton.

WG 116 on Sediment Traps and ²³⁴Th Methods for Carbon Export Flux Determination

WG 119 on Quantitative Ecosystems Indicators for Fisheries Management.

WG 120 on Marine Phytoplankton and Global Climate Regulation: The Phaeocystis Species Cluster As Model.

WG 121 on Ocean Mixing.

WG 122 on Estuarine Sediment Dynamics.

WG 123 on Reconstruction of Past Ocean Circulation (PACE).

WG 124 on Analyzing the Links Between Present Oceanic Processes and Paleo-records (LINKS).

WG 125 on Global Comparisons of Zooplankton Time Series

WG 126 to Investigate the Role of Viruses in Marine Ecosystems

WG 127 on Thermodynamics and Equation of State of Seawater.

WG 128 on Natural and Human-Induced Hypoxia and Consequences for Coastal Areas.

The membership and terms of reference of these SCOR Working Groups may be found at: <http://www.jhu.edu/~scor/wkgroups.htm>

- iii. **SCOR Scientific Committees; e.g. GLOBEC, GEOHAB, etc** SCOR has been instrumental in the planning and coordination of large-scale ocean research projects for long-term, complex activities. SCOR provides a mechanism to bring together international scientists for this purpose. Details on each of these programs (GEOHAB, GEOTRACES, GLOBEC, JGOFS, IMBER, SOLAS) may be found at <http://www.jhu.edu/~scor/lgscale.htm>, including details on membership, sponsors and terms of reference. The annotated agenda provided references to all Canadian scientists on each of the scientific steering committees for these programs. A comprehensive status report was provided to CNC/SCOR by Ian Perry (DFO/PBS), prior to the AGM, on the international GLOBEC (Global Ocean Ecosystem Dynamics) program on its move into the integration and synthesis phase.
- iv. **SCOR Affiliated Programs; e.g. IMAGES, IOCCG, etc.** SCOR has developed a process for affiliation of research programs and long-term study committees with SCOR. SCOR does not provide financial support to these programs, but affiliation may increase a program's international visibility and access to scientists in SCOR member nations, as well as providing the benefit of SCOR advice on program committees and activities. Each affiliated program is reviewed for continued affiliation at each SCOR General Meeting and affiliation is automatically terminated at the end of 10 years. Details on the current affiliated programs (CoML, iAnZone, IMAGES, IOCCG, InterRidge) may be found at <http://www.jhu.edu/~scor/coop.htm>.
- v. **2005 SCOR Executive Meeting.** The 2005 SCOR Executive Meeting was held in Cairns, Australia on August 29 – September 1, 2005. Bjorn Sundby represented CNC/SCOR at this meeting. His full report on the meeting was provided to members via the October 2005 CNC/SCOR electronic Newsletter.
- vi. **2006 SCOR Annual Meeting.** The 2006 SCOR Annual Meeting will be held in Concepción, Chile on October 23-26, 2006. Gordon McBean will represent CNC/SCOR at the meeting. Bjorn Sundby will also be present in his capacity as SCOR President.
- vii. **New SCOR Working Groups.** The deadline for new SCOR Working Group proposals is May 31, 2006. It was noted that the SCOR WG solicitation process was still one of grass roots bottom-up submission of proposals, rather than solicitation on topics from the top down from SCOR itself. Ed Urban of the SCOR Secretariat provided some informal information already in-hand on possible new WG proposals, including references to possible Canadian content. Once the formal proposals have been received from international SCOR they will be sent to appropriate scientific reviewers in Canada. **Action: Dick Stoddart, Gordon McBean, Bjorn Sundby.**
- viii. **ICSU and SCOR.** Gordon McBean previously reported on his personal observations of the very favourable review by ICSU on SCOR as part of the ICSU

strategy development and assessment. It was noted that ICSU has agreed to send a representative to the SCOR annual Meeting in Chile.

8. Inter-Relationships Between SCOR and CMOS

(i) Accounting, Secretariat, Web Site, Annual Report

- The CMOS office looks after revenues and expenses for CNC/SCOR. While this is not too onerous a task, a dozen or so transactions per year, the service is very much appreciated, particularly since the CNC/SCOR accounts are included in the formal annual audit of CMOS.
- While most secretariat functions are handled by the CNC/SCOR Secretary, the CMOS office helps significantly in several areas, such as the receipt of invoices, arrangements for conference calls, and liaison with DFO and NRC on the renegotiation of formal agreements.
- CMOS, through the very reliable and proactive efforts of Bob Jones, hosts the CNC/SCOR web site.
- CMOS, through their Annual Review, publishes the annual CNC/SCOR report.
- CNC/SCOR attracts members to CMOS and Congresses through co-location of meetings, publication of CMOS activities events through its electronic Newsletter, and promotes ocean science nationally and internationally through channels not normally within the CMOS mainstream.

- (ii) **CMOS Awards.** In some previous years CMOS awards for eligible Canadian oceanographers have gone un-awarded due to lack of nominations. CNC/SCOR members have in the past been encouraged to ensure that one or more names were put forward in categories for eligible oceanographers. It was suggested that the CNC/SCOR put in place, on a trial basis, a practice of members ensuring that nominations are put forward to ensure recognition of deserving oceanographers in the eligible categories of CMOS eligible ocean science awards. It was also suggested that the trial practice be extended to the DFO Parsons medal for excellence in interdisciplinary ocean science. It was agreed that CNC/SCOR should exchange emails, well before the submission deadline for these nominations with the view to putting forward at least one nomination in each category to ensure due consideration, and competition, for these awards. The Secretary will ensure such a process is initiated each year, and the Chair will ensure that nominations are subsequently put forward each year for the J.P. Tully Medal, the Prize in Applied Oceanography, and the Parsons Medal, and any other awards for which oceanographers would be eligible. **Action: Dick Stoddart, Gordon McBean.**

This year (2006) has seen the initiation of a CNC/SCOR-sponsored scholarship supplement award valued at \$5K/year (see item 6vii above). The selection process for this award has been integrated into the CMOS awards process, with the CMOS Scientific Committee overseeing the adjudication process and selecting a successful candidate. Discussion of the modus operandi of providing CNC/SCOR guidance to the adjudication committee is described under agenda item # 6 (vii) above.

- (iii) **Congresses.** CNC/SCOR participated on the Scientific Planning Committee for the 2003 Ottawa Congress and the 2004 Congress in Edmonton, primarily in an effort to ensure an enhanced oceanographic presence in these land-locked locations. There was no need for CNC/SCOR to participate in the same way in planning for the 2005 Vancouver Congress, primarily because Susan Allen of CNC/SCOR was already a member of the Congress Scientific Committee. Paul Myers is on the 2006 Toronto Congress Scientific Committee. CNC/SCOR members noted that the success of entraining oceanographers into the Toronto scientific program had only limited success. There is some thought that the marine science community is not being well served by CMOS congresses in terms of participation within the scientific program, particularly in years when congresses are held in centres which do not have a strong ocean science presence. This subject was discussed further under agenda item #8 (iv) below. CNC/SCOR should consider any appropriate means to assist the future Scientific Committees for congresses so as to ensure interesting and comprehensive oceanographic coverage in the program.
- (iv) **Is there a need for a Canadian Marine Science Association?** Bjorn Sundby introduced this topic by noting that the ocean science community is fragmented to a large degree in Canada. Oceanographers meet under a variety of banners in Canada, **but** are in the minority everywhere. Examples of sub-disciplines of Canadian ocean science that meet regularly were given, such as at meetings of ACZISC (Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee), GAC-MAC (Geological Association of Canada and the Mineralogical Association of Canada), CGU (Canadian Geophysical Union), CMOS (Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society), ASLO (American Society of Limnology and Oceanography) and other periodic *ad hoc* meetings that are generated because of a perceived lack of an appropriate home for discussion of important issues. Examples of such meetings were given such as the recent meetings with NSERC to discuss ways to enhance the support for Canadian marine science, and meetings to discuss ship time allocations. Several possible models, or variations thereof, were proposed to provide focus and an umbrella for the marine science community in Canada, including (a) expanding the SCOR mandate to that of a society, (b) create a separate marine science society altogether, (c) effectively split CMOS into two groups, but still maintain a common head, shared secretariat and joint meeting locations. This latter model could have two separate executives to plan meetings, etc., with the two executives coming together under a common President to plan joint programs and ensure integration of efforts such as congress programs. Bjorn suggested that such an association might cover all appropriate marine, aquatic and environmental issues. He proposed that further discussion on the need for a marine science association in Canada might be best through the mechanism of the Newsletter thereby entraining the views of the broad ocean science community.

There was a brief discussion of the comments and proposals by Bjorn Sundby. On one hand there was some agreement that the issue of a fragmented ocean science committee was real and deserved serious discussion. Examples of why many of the oceanographic disciplines had little level of comfort within CMOS included the lack of a broad ocean science program at congresses, never an oceans CMOS President outside of the area of physical oceanography, and a perception

that CMOS awards and other programs (lecture tours, Bulletin) that are only serving the physical oceanographic community. On the other hand there was not significant support for an actual split (comments such as it didn't work in the USA) that would generate competing efforts within a rather small community. There was support to continue discussion on how to fix ocean fragmentation in Canada, including such issues as how best to attract ocean scientists to meetings in land-locked areas such as Toronto. It was agreed that Bjorn Sundby should further develop a proposal(s) on how best to address ocean science fragmentation in Canada and bring the issue back to CNC/SCOR at an early date for discussion and action. **Action: Bjorn Sundby.**

9. Timing and Location of Future Meetings of CNC/SCOR

It was agreed that the next CNC/SCOR AGM will be co-located with the CMOS Congress in St. John's in 2007. A conference call of CNC/SCOR has been held occasionally in the past at the mid way point between congresses; the CNC/SCOR Executive Committee will assess the need for such a conference call sometime in early 2007. **Action: Gordon McBean, Bjorn Sundby, Dick Stoddart.**

10. Other Business

- (i) **Letters to the Prime Minister.** Jennifer Lukovich indicated that she had received, from the Secretary, letters from CMOS to the PM and from the suite of 90 to the PM. She queried, given the large number of delegates to the CMOS Congress, whether or not it might be appropriate to circulate a petition at Congress that could subsequently be submitted to the PM to further endorse scientific concern and inaction relative to climate change.

Gordon McBean noted that the letter to the PM had been posted on the CFCAS web site, www.cfcas.org, and that subsequent to its transmittal to the PM the list of 90 that had originally signed the letter had been augmented by more than 30 additional climate experts. He welcomed any additional signatures from concerned scientists to this site in the coming days. Members thought CMOS Congress was not a particularly appropriate place to generate a petition, and in any case, thought that the efforts already taken were sufficient for the time being; e.g. the development a list of climate scientists to support the concerns already expressed in writing to the PM.

- (ii) **Ocean Action Plans.** Jennifer Lukovich enquired as to the status of the Oceans Action Plan developed in May 2005. Savi Narayanan noted that the Oceans Action Plan 1 is well underway while Oceans Action Plan 2 is still in the discussion phase. The discussions are still at the regional level; no document has yet been prepared as they are at very preliminary stage at this point in time.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 13:10 EDT.