

## FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

### **International JGOFS Workshop Biogeochemical Cycles: German contributions to the International Joint Global Ocean Flux Study**

18 - 21 September 2000, Bremen, Germany

#### **Objective**

To bring together scientists from all over the world in order to present and discuss the results of 10 years of JGOFS

#### **Background**

The oceans contain some 50 times as much carbon dioxide as the atmosphere, and small changes in the ocean carbon cycle can therefore have large atmospheric consequences. Such changes are believed to have had important feedback effects on climate during the transitions to and from ice ages; they may also have important consequences during the climate changes that are predicted to occur in the next 50-100 years, as a result of rapidly rising levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. Models indicate that the oceans are currently taking up at least a third of the anthropogenic carbon dioxide, by dissolving it in water that then loses contact with the atmosphere because of sinking or vertical mixing. Biological processes complicate the oceanic carbon cycle; although they probably do not affect the present uptake of anthropogenic carbon dioxide, they are important (1) as a determinant of the natural background distribution of carbon; (2) because seasonal variation in biological processes complicates the effort to measure the background distribution; and (3) because biological feedbacks have the potential to amplify chemical and physical effects. Many scientists world-wide are addressing aspects of the ocean carbon cycle, but to determine overall net fluxes and the processes controlling them is beyond the capability of any one nation. Therefore the Joint Global Ocean Flux Study (JGOFS) has been established under the auspices of the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) and as a Core Project of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP). Its purpose is to plan and execute the research that requires international cooperation. About twenty countries are contributing to JGOFS planning or field work. The scientific goals of JGOFS were published in its Science Plan:

#### **JGOFS goals**

- To determine and understand on a global scale the processes controlling the time-varying fluxes of carbon and associated biogenic elements in the ocean, and to evaluate the related exchanges with the atmosphere, sea floor and continental boundaries
- To develop a capacity to predict on a global scale the response to anthropogenic perturbations, in particular those related to climate change

## **Programme**

It is planned to have overview talks (invited speakers) during the mornings (duration of 30 minutes including discussion) and the afternoons will be free for poster presentations and discussions. It is furthermore intended to conclude the day with an evening lecture or a social event.

## **Poster Session**

There will be a poster session every afternoon. All participants are invited to present poster about their work. Poster walls will be available.

Registration date and fee

Deadline for registration will be August 18th, 2000

There will be a registration fee of DM 50,-.

## **Venue**

The workshop will take place in the new "Universum Konferenzraum" on the campus of the University of Bremen. Bremen University is located directly at the highway A27 from Bremerhaven to Hannover. The nearest highway exit is Bremen Horn-Lehe, which is directly in the upper right corner of the map. If you reach Bremen by train or by plane, you can use the tram line No. 6, which runs from the airport via the train station to the university (tram stop "Naturwissenschaften 1 + five minutes walk).

For further information please have a look on the conference web page <http://www.marum.de/jgofs/Symposium2000.htm>

(note that this page is preliminary until now and will change from time to time)

Please also contact:

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*(As of August 2000)*