Since 9 April 2001, **Bernard Avril** is the new Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) at the International Project Office (IPO) of the Joint Global Ocean Flux Study (JGOFS). Bernard replaces Beatriz Balino who accepted a position earlier this year as programme coordinator at the University of Bergen's Bjerknes Centre of Climate Research. Bernard is a marine biogeochemist who received his doctorate from the Université Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris, France) in 1995, while at the Laboratoire de Physique et Chimie Marines in Villefranche-sur-mer. After his doctoral work, which was mainly relevant to France-JGOFS programmes, he held a post-doctoral position at the Marine Science Department of the University of South Florida (Saint-Petersburg, USA, 1995-1997), mainly focusing on the US-JGOFS Arabian Sea process study and then came back to Europe to become the Assistant Project Manager of the OMEX project (EU-MAST3) at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium, 1998-2000).

*as of 9 April 2001*