

JGOFS Executives Committee Meeting
Bergen, Norway
12-13 September 1996

Present: John Field (Chair), Liliane Merlivat (Vice-Chair), Egil Sakshaug (Member) and Roger Hanson (Executive Officer).

Observers from the Core Project Office: Beatriz Baliño, Assistant Executive Officer, and Judith Stokke, Administrative Secretary.

Field opened the Executive Committee Meeting on Thursday 12 September 1996 at 09:00. He welcomed all participants and observers, and then thanked the Bergen Core Project Office for making the Executive Committee Meeting arrangements.

Old Business

Villefranche Volume

Field informed the participants on status of papers for the Villefranche Volume, a product of the 1995 Scientific Symposium. Field and Hugh Ducklow, co-editors of the book, are working in co-operation with Phil Williamson, Editor. The book is one in a series, which IGBP will be publishing through Cambridge University Press. The work is not yet complete as there are still topic areas which are still not covered and a few symposium authors are still being approached. A cut off date for the first draft is set for December.

IGFA (International Group of Funding Agencies) Resources Assessment (pilot project)

Initially, this project was to be an assessment of all programs to do with Global Change, but the job proved to be too big of a task to be done well. Therefore, there was a decision to do a smaller study. Helmut Kühr had prepared a document on all IGBP programs in Germany, including JGOFS. Upon review of the German JGOFS projects, the Office found that there were many German projects missing from the list and/or incorrectly categorized. Baliño and Hanson have been giving what assistance they could from the CPO in an attempt to bring Germany up to correctly coded projects. Field suggested that letters be copied to Zeitzschel and Lochte, requesting further information. While this will be a continuing activity, Field cautioned against spending too much time with this type of activity.

Letter of appreciation (Bernt Zeitzschel)

It was agreed that Field and Hanson would write a letter of appreciation to Professor Bernt Zeitzschel. This letter of appreciation acknowledges his dedicated years of service as Chair of the Indian Ocean Planning Group (IOPG). A copy would be sent to Peter Burkill.

Letter of appreciation (Truls Johannessen)

Hanson prepared a letter of appreciation for Field and his signature. The letter is in recognition for Truls Johannessen's role in planning the way for the relocation of JGOFS CPO in Bergen. The letter was sent to Professor Jan Fridthjof Bernt, Rector of the University of Bergen as well as copies to the Director of the Geophysical Institute, Director of the Center for Studies of the Environment and Resources, and Director of the University of Bergen.

New Business

Scientific Steering Committee: Restructuring, Nominations, and Recommendations

A restructuring plan was presented and discussed. The Executives drafted a restructuring plan and after a few minor changes, the Committee unanimously agreed on the restructuring plan (attachment). Field will present it to SCOR in September and Hanson will prepare a full JGOFS proposal for IGBP (October) for approval. In order to achieve a staggered rotation of members, it will be necessary to extend the present term of Task Team and Planning Group Chairs by one year in order to get into the next phase. It was also recommended that in the future the Chair and Vice-Chair come from the at-large group. A discussion also focused on national balance and the lack of representatives from Asia. It was mentioned that one possibility would be to have a scientist from Asia chair or co-chair the North Pacific Task Team. Another discussion centered around the rotation of Liliane Merlivat and representation of the IOC- CO2 Panel on the SSC. It was recommended that Hanson should write Andy Watson, Chair of JGOFS/IOC-CO2 Panel (**Task** Hanson enquire of Watson concerning his availability for nomination to the SSC or if he would prefer delegate the representation to someone from the IOC- CO2 Panel to be recommended by the Executive Committee for appointment by IGBP and SCOR.)

Nomination of JGOFS Chairperson

Field turned the meeting over to Vice-Chair Merlivat and left the meeting room, while the discussion and nominations for Chair progressed. Hanson reported on the results from the call for candidates which had been issued to SSC members, National Program chairs, and JGOFS framework activity chairs. All candidates who were nominated declined their nominations which left the Executive Committee with a difficult situation. Therefore, one option was to ask John Field to remain as Chair for one more year (1997) while new candidates were sought for 1998. From the survey of SSC and EC members, they agreed this was the best option and also to retain continuity. Field accepted the nomination to Chair for up to one more year, pending IGBP and SCOR approval. Field then discussed the composition of the 1997 Executive Committee. He expressed a desire to appoint Hugh Ducklow, Karin Lochte and Egil Sakshaug to the 1997 Executive Committee. Merlivat expressed concern that they were all biologists. It was, therefore, decided that James Murray would be asked to join the Executive Committee for 1997.

Task Teams and Planning Groups

Field briefed the group on the qualifications criteria for choosing members for Task Teams and Planning Groups: each activity should retain its multi-disciplinarity, show good geographical representation and spread, and they must continue in the JGOFS historical tradition. It was noted that although Task Teams are allowed to have other participants included in their meetings, JGOFS is responsible for financing only Task Team and Planning Group members, who are appointed by the JGOFS Executive Committee; and that these teams usually meet every other year; and that any expected changes in member status, e.g., rotation due to resignation, etc., must be sent to the Executive Committee for approval.

1. North Pacific Task Team: The Executive Committee approved the Terms of Reference, with minor modifications, and members of the new North Pacific Task Team.
2. Photosynthesis Measurement Task Team: Sakshaug informed the Committee on the status of the Photosynthesis Measurement Task Team Report. He mentioned that the report might be published in the Journal of Plankton Research, in two parts as recommended by the Editor.

Field expressed the desire that possibly JGOFS could distribute a limited number of the publications under its own Logo as a JGOFS Report. Sakshaug will discuss this issue with the editor of JPR. There are still some concerns over the terminology and use of some symbols. Consequently, there are still decisions to be made before the finalized version. On the question of the continuance of the PMTT, Sakshaug announced that the Terms of Reference remain unchanged. The Executive Committee approved the change in the Task Team members: Yves Dandonneau, Louis Legendre, André Morel, Paul Falkowski, Masayuki Takahashi, and Peter Williams. (**Task:** Egil will write letters to those leaving the team, thanking them for their participation.) Egil also reported that a mini-symposium is tentatively planned for Spitzbergen, Svalbard (August 1997). Norwegian funding is almost secure for participant travel inside Norway and to Spitzbergen. SCOR has budgeted for the 10 participants travel expenses to Oslo. These funds will be subsidized with funds from the Norwegian Research Council (i.e., Oslo to Spitzbergen). Field emphasized that JGOFS would only cover the cost of 10 participants.

3. Data Management Task Team: Hanson and Baliño mentioned that they plan to meet Roy Lowry (16-20 September) to discuss questions about national data management, nominations for 1997 team, and possibly planning a workshop on JGOFS Data Management. Baliño is setting up a list of national contacts. Most of the contact with members will be done through E-mail. At a later date, there might be a need for a workshop at which time the JGOFS budget will have to accommodate such a meeting.
4. Synthesis and Modelling Task Team: The Toulouse Workshop Report is still not complete, according to the latest from Geoff Evans. This has been a long-term project for him. But, the Committee agreed that it is most **urgent** that this report be completed as early as possible. Without the report, seeking outside funding is going to be difficult for the upcoming JGOFS Modelling Symposium. The symposium that is planned for 20-26 May 1997 will have several themes. It is anticipated that there will be approximately 50 participants. Hanson mentioned that an announcement needs to be prepared as soon as possible to allow adequate time for the JGOFS community to participate fully. A training course and a workshop are still planned for 1998-99.
5. Continental Margins Task Team: There is strong concern about the political stability of the region and safety of the participants for the planned Nigerian CMTT workshop. Dr. Larry Awosika (LOICZ-SSC) has made arrangements to handle all the transportation of participants from the airport to Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research. LOICZ has an alternative plan if any major incidents should occur in the immediate future. In the event, the meeting would then be moved to the Netherlands. Because START is lobbying support for their African section, there is some hesitation on part of the LOICZ, the CMTT organizing committee, and Workshop chairs Julie Hall and Stephen Smith in moving the workshop out of the region. Another workshop is being planned for the Netherlands (LOICZ Open Science Meeting, April 1997). This workshop will also be a joint JGOFS-LOICZ CMTT workshop.
6. Equatorial Pacific Planning Group: The Committee emphasized that the Planning Group needs to report on status of the group and activities planned for the 1997-98 to the SSC in Scotland.

JGOFS Legacy (Report)

A discussion developed on whether an article should be prepared for publication by the JGOFS CPO on "What has JGOFS learned since 1988? ", as was prepared for WOCE in the most recent

WOCE Newsletter by the WOCE Office. The Committee agreed it should and that this would also be a good time to highlight JGOFS Achievements (attachment) that have been received thus far from the activity chairs. (**Task:** Field and Hanson would map out JGOFS scientific achievements over the past 10 years.)

Core Project Office Report

Hanson brought the Executives up to date on the larger Office projects, which it has been involved in since February 1996:

- **Data Management.** The construction of the Home Page has been a high-priority project, which appeared on-line in an incredibly short time after Baliño came on board. Hanson informed the Committee that she has organized a very professional JGOFS Home Page. He also mentioned that one difficulty the CPO has is getting people to contribute highlights and information. Possible ways to deal with this difficulty was discussed. Hanson also repeated that he and Baliño are scheduled to meet with Roy Lowry and to hopefully bring more clarity to the direction of data management and the Office. Field emphasized the excellent support capability of the Office. Baliño has prepared in a short time some marvelous scans of satellite images and drawings for Field's and Fasham's JGOFS presentations at the ICES Annual Science meeting in Iceland. It is suggested that such images and drawings be made available with a list of products on the JGOFS Home Page.
- **Administrative Business.** Hanson reported that Stokke has concentrated her efforts over the past months on getting JGOFS Reports published and distributed, running the office accounts, and maintaining Office communication with the community. A reprint of 100 copies of the JGOFS Report #19 , *Protocols of JGOFS Core Measurements*, is nearly exhausted. JGOFS Report #20, *Remote Sensing in the JGOFS Program*, with 300 copies is now printed and ready for distribution.
- **Public Relations.** Hanson reported that Bergen is being considered as a possible host city for the 2nd European Conference for The Oceanographic Society in 1998. Stokke has been instrumental in obtaining convention information from the Chamber of Congress as well as the Grieg Conference Center. No decision has yet been taken from TOS. No matter who hosts this convention, the meeting agreed that this would be an opportunity for the CMTT to get involved.
- **Budget.** There is still uncertainty about the budget for the coming year. Although the University funds are committed, funds from IGBP and SCOR have not been settled. Field has been asked to discuss the minimum requirements with SCOR (Liz Gross).

Other Business

It has been customary that JGOFS invites National JGOFS Chairs to Annual SSC Meeting at their expense. It is important that this practice continue. In this way countries who are not otherwise represented are still able to keep in touch with JGOFS activities. (**Task:** Invitations to be sent to all National JGOFS Program Chairs). The Committee agreed that the minutes from 1996 SSC meetings be distributed to all National Chairs and placed on the JGOFS Home Page. Field asked the Committee to review the 1996 SSC Minutes and send their comments on the Minutes to the CPO.

Adjourn

Field adjourned the meeting on Friday 13 September 1996 at 11:45.