

## IODP Site Survey Data Bank Moves to Scripps

Following a competitive request for proposals, the new IODP Site Survey Data Bank (SSDB) will be located at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The current SSDB at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO) officially closed at the end of May 2005. Personnel at the LDEO SSDB have kindly offered to help in the transition phase to a new electronic data bank, but new data submissions to the LDEO data bank will not be accepted.

The IODP-MI would like to take this opportunity to thank the SSDB people at the LDEO for many years of legendary service to the community and their continued commitment to help with the transition to a new-generation data bank. On behalf of the entire user community: THANKS!

The new IODP Site Survey Data Bank will be fully electronic and web-based. The full announcement can be found on the IODP Web page ([http://www.iodp.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=160&Itemid=170](http://www.iodp.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=160&Itemid=170)). Questions about the new site survey data bank can be sent to: [science@iodp-mi-sapporo.org](mailto:science@iodp-mi-sapporo.org).

## IODP Web Portal Relunched

Besides a completely new look and feel, the newly designed IODP homepage includes many notable new features. Among them are links to numerous IODP national offices and program partners, a news and media center, a subscription page for the IODP-MI newsletter, access to program information generated in Japan, Europe, and the United States, and an integrated, hyperlinked calendar for IODP events, meetings, expeditions, and other program elements. Ongoing Web development will result in a powerful search engine that will enable visitors to locate IODP scientific papers, scientists, and program elements globally. For more information on the IODP Web portal contact: Nancy Light, IODP-MI Director of Communications ([nlight@iodp.org](mailto:nlight@iodp.org)) or go directly to <http://www.iodp.org>.

## ICDP Training Course 2005 in Iceland

The ICDP Training Course 2005 will take place in Iceland in cooperation with the Iceland Deep Drilling Project (<http://www.icdp-online.org>, <http://www.iddp.is>). The main emphasis this year will be "Hard Rock Drilling" and "Drilling of Geothermal Wells." ICDP's Operational Support Group conducts annual training on scientific drilling at an active drilling site. The Training Course 2005 is scheduled for 15–19 August 2005.



InterMARGINS is an international and interdisciplinary initiative concerned with all aspects of continental margin research. The main purpose is to encourage scientific and logistical coordination, with particular focus on problems that cannot be addressed as efficiently by nations or institutions acting alone or in limited partnerships. During the last months, InterMARGINS paid much attention to the Sumatra Earthquake and Indian Tsunami issues. InterMARGINS recognizes that tsunami research is very important not only for international science communities, but also for the general public. International collaborations in this field should be promoted proactively. In the future, InterMARGINS is going to tighten its links with the international community to promote research in the field of continental margins and collaborations with international science programs such as the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP) and International Continental Scientific Drilling Program (ICDP). InterMARGINS's activities, latest initiative information such as cruise and workshop reports, and the direction of continental margin-related science are now available on the Web. Please visit <http://www.intermargins.org> for more information about InterMARGINS.

**Important:** The InterMARGINS secretariat has rotated from the Southampton Oceanography Centre, Southampton, U.K. to the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC), Yokosuka, Japan. The new chair of the InterMARGINS Steering Committee is Dr. Wonn Soh. The new contact address is:

Dr. Wonn Soh

Institute for Research on Earth Evolution (IFREE).  
Independent Administrative Institution,  
Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC)  
2-15, Natsushima-cho, Yokosuka 237-0061, Japan

## *Current and Upcoming ICDP Drilling Projects*

### **Lake Malawi, Africa**



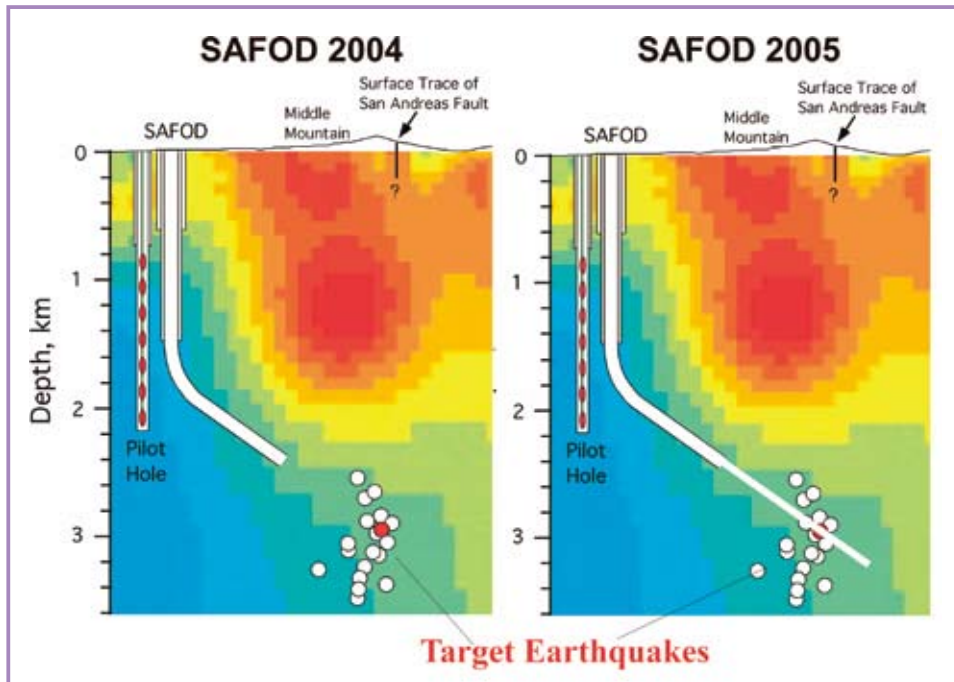
ICDP began NSF funded lake drilling operations on Lake Malawi, Africa, in March 2005. A modified local barge with mounted heave-compensated drill rig and four 360° outboard thrusters for station-keeping was used to drill up to 380 m sediment core with >95% core recovery in almost 600 m water depth (<http://www.icdp-online.org>).

### **Lake Qinghai Scientific Drilling Project**



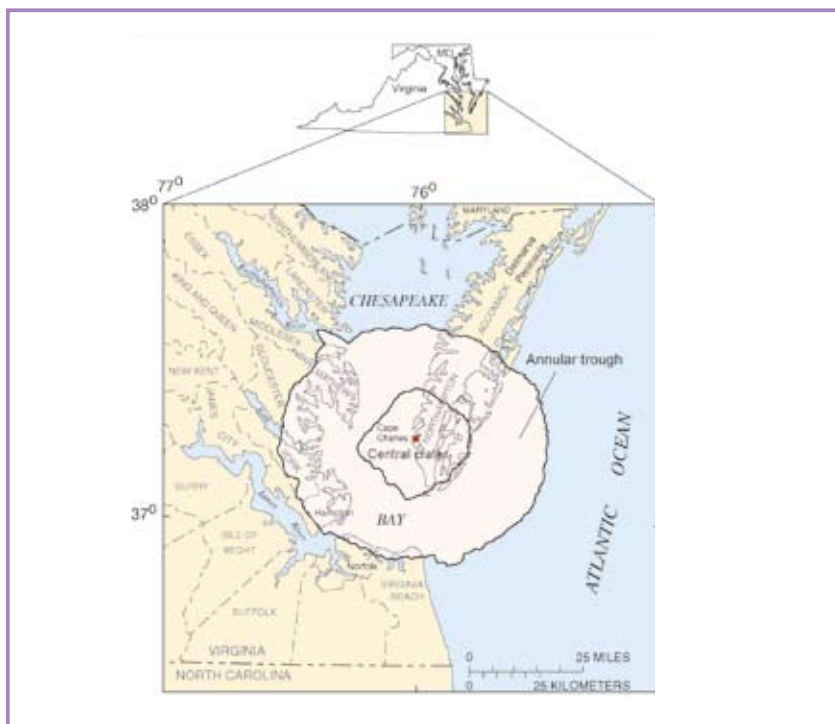
The Lake Qinghai Scientific Drilling Project began operations in May 2005 in China. The Satellite Image shows Lake Qinghai and the surrounding mountain ranges of the northeastern Tibetan Plateau with the planned drilling sites (<http://qinghai.icdp-online.org>).

## San Andreas Fault Observatory at Depth



Testing Fundamental Theories of Earthquakes and Faulting: The San Andreas Fault Observatory at Depth (SAFOD) in Parkfield, Calif., U.S.A. moves into Phase 2 with directional drilling into the fault zone. During the summer of 2005 the borehole is expected to pass through the entire fault zone (<http://safod.icdp-online.org>).

## Chesapeake Bay Drilling Project



With a 2.2-km-deep drillhole, the Chesapeake Bay Drilling Project aims to penetrate the central crater of a 35-My old impact structure in the eastern United States during August to November 2005 (<http://chesapeake.icdp-online.org>).