

## European Geosciences Union General Assembly

19–24 April 2009, Vienna, Austria



IODP/  
ECORD  
Booth  
No. 54–55  
will be  
opened  
Monday to

Friday, 20–24 April 2009 as a meeting point for the scientific drilling community. A joint ICDP–IODP Townhall meeting will also be held on Thursday, 23 April 2009, Room 1.

Detailed information will be regularly posted on the ECORD web site at: <http://www.ecord.org/pi/egu09.html>. Contact: [ema@jussieu.ipgp.fr](mailto:ema@jussieu.ipgp.fr).

## Beyond 2013—The Future of European Scientific Drilling Research



A session  
“Beyond  
2013—The  
Future of

European Scientific Drilling Research” will be held at the EGU General Assembly 2009 in Vienna, Austria. The session, convened by G. Camoin and R. Stein, will be followed by a two-day workshop April 24–25 specifically addressing the future of European scientific drilling research. Its main objectives are to define and document the European interests in IODP beyond 2013, and to prepare for the IODP renewal conference INVEST (p. 66, this volume). More details at: <http://www.essac.ecord.org/index.php?mod=workshop&page=euroforum>.

**Session:** 23 April 2009, Vienna  
**Workshop:** 24–25 April 2009  
At the University of Vienna, Geocenter



## NERC UK IODP Directed Program: Two-Day Conference

18–19 May 2009, Royal Society, London, U.K.



The aim of this conference is to highlight important scientific achievements from the current IODP phase, and to solicit contributions and challenges that will take Ocean Research Drilling forward post-2013, when the existing IODP program ends. It is envisaged that the two-day conference will cover a range of scientific themes from the evolution of the planet through climate change and the deep biosphere. We also hope to showcase post-graduate, PhD and post-doctorate research, which has made use of the extensive wealth of data collected during the varied IODP expeditions. A session of the conference will be an open discussion on the future IODP program beyond 2013.

Information on the event will be available at the UKIODP website ([www.ukiodp.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.ukiodp.bgs.ac.uk)). For enquiries please contact the UKIODP Science Coordinator at [ukiodp@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:ukiodp@bgs.ac.uk).

## Continental Scientific Drilling Workshop

4–5 June 2009, Denver, Colorado  
Application Deadline: 15 April 2009



A forward-looking workshop will identify areas where significant scientific advances in the understanding of continental or whole Earth processes and history require samples or data that can only be obtained by continental drilling or coupled continental-ocean drilling. The workshop will also stress developing collaborations with parallel communities, such as those that participate in IRIS, IODP, NCAR, MARGINS, and EarthScope. The aim of the workshop will be to produce a brief document, with supplementary information, that will inform the geologic community, support planning of future funding,

and supply a template for future continental scientific drilling. This workshop is the first step in developing a general science plan for continental drilling. Topics to be addressed range broadly: global climate and environmental change at all time scales, geodynamics of faults and hotspots, magmatic and volcanic processes, impacts, natural resources, the deep biosphere, and the facilities necessary to optimize return on investment in drilling projects. The organizers hope that other topics will emerge during the planning process or at the workshop itself.

The organizers seek participation of a diverse group of active investigators. International applications are welcome. For further information, to apply to participate, or for others, please contact Tony Walton at [twalton@ku.edu](mailto:twalton@ku.edu) or call at 1-785-864-2726. Related web links at DOSECC (<http://www.dosecc.org>) or the University of Kansas (<http://www.geo.ku.edu/>).

## 4th International Symposium in Okinawa, Japan

29 June–3 July 2009, Okinawa, Japan



Seven other  
sponsors are  
also supporting  
this event.

The 4th International Symposium on “Chemosynthesis-Based Ecosystems” will be held on 29 June–3 July 2009 in Okinawa, Japan. This symposium highlights the recent achievements in the field of unique ecosystems driven by chemosynthesis rather than photosynthesis. Major topics include biogeography, biodiversity, evolution, symbiosis, ecology, physiology, geochemistry, microbiology, and research technology & methods. Venue is the Bankoku Shinryokan (<http://www.shinryokan.com>) in Nago City, Okinawa, Japan, which is set next to beautiful sandy beaches. Coral reefs and subtropical forests with exotic wildlife surround the venue. For updated information, visit the website: [http://www.jamstec.go.jp/xbr/4th\\_CBE/](http://www.jamstec.go.jp/xbr/4th_CBE/). Contact: Yoshihiro Fujiwara or Yoshiko Takeoka, E-mail: [4th\\_CBE\\_office@jamstec.go.jp](mailto:4th_CBE_office@jamstec.go.jp).

## ECORD Summer School

31 August–11 September 2009, Bremen, Germany



ECORD  
Summer  
School on

“Geodynamics of mid-ocean ridges” will be held at the Center for Marine Environmental Sciences (MARUM), University of Bremen. Lecture topics range from mantle melting to tectonic exhumation of mantle to hydrothermal/microbial interactions. Participants will be introduced to a full range of IODP related topics from general introduction to the program to writing IODP proposals. In The Virtual Ship, ocean drilling cores from the Mid-Atlantic Ridge stored at the IODP Bremen Core Repository (BCR) will be used to teach “shipboard” methodologies applied on the drilling vessels of the program. These include core curation, visual core description, physical properties measurements, and petrographic observations. Also, planned is a field trip to a Devonian submarine volcanic province. A registration form will be circulated in spring 2009. For further information, see [http://www.glomar.uni-bremen.de/ECORD\\_Summer\\_School\\_2009.html](http://www.glomar.uni-bremen.de/ECORD_Summer_School_2009.html).



Photo Credit: Wolfgang Bach, MARUM, Bremen University, Germany

## Conference Call: IODP New Ventures in Exploring Scientific Targets–INVEST

23–25 September 2009, Bremen, Germany



The IODP conference, INVEST, is planned as a large, multidisciplinary, international, scientific meeting to



Now stepping forward to future scientific drilling program.

define the scientific research goals of the second phase of IODP scheduled to begin in late 2013. INVEST will take place at the University of Bremen in Germany on 23–25 September 2009. The meeting, open to all interested scientists and students, provides the principal opportunity for science community members from everywhere to influence the future of scientific ocean drilling. The goal of INVEST is to build the framework for the next tier of success in scientific ocean drilling. Input from a broad swath of scientists actively working in or having a future interest in IODP is solicited. INVEST will seek to summarize the state of knowledge across interdisciplinary geoscience themes, identify emerging science, new re-search initiatives, and implementation strategies. Also, identifying technological and fiscal needs will be pursued.

For more information on INVEST steering committee and meeting program, please see [www.marum.de/en/iodp-invest.html](http://www.marum.de/en/iodp-invest.html) or [www.iodp.org](http://www.iodp.org). Registration opens 4 April 2009. Travel support programs are being organized by all current IODP members.

## ICDP Training 2009 Goes to the Projects



The Operational Support Group of ICDP is in preparation for two training sessions for 2009. The first one is in cooperation with and hosted by the Swedish Deep Drilling Program (SDDP). The SDDP working group is planning a drilling program for four world-class deep boreholes over a

ten-year period. Accordingly, an adapted training program in Sweden in early summer 2009 will comprise the modules *Planning of Scientific Drilling Projects* and *Writing of an ICDP Proposal* in addition to the basic module *Fundamentals of Scientific Drilling*. A second training program in fall 2009 will be held in conjunction with the envisaged Campi Flegrei Drilling Project in southern Italy and will address high-temperature drilling issues in addition to the basic element on fundamentals of drilling. A limited number of places in these courses is open to scientists from ICDP member countries with preference for those involved in planned ICDP projects. Further information: <http://www.sddp.se> and <http://www.icdp-online.org>.

## GESEP: German Scientific Earth Probing Consortium



German  
Scientific  
Earth Probing  
Consortium  
GESEP e.V.

German  
funding  
agencies  
and insti-

tutes invested significantly in infrastructure and know-how for scientific drilling for many decades. But, until now there was only limited coordination for exchange or joint use of facilities and industry cooperation. To overcome this weakness the “Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft” (DFG) has supported the formation of GESEP, an alliance founded by university and non-university earth science institutes. Its major goal is focusing interests of researchers and engineers in scientific drilling. GESEP opens with a short course for postgraduates (Earth Drilling School) in Potsdam on 18–19 March 2009. Current plans are to establish GESEP as a knowledge center on scientific drilling. First milestones envisaged are establishment of a core repository for continental drill cores and related samples to complement the Bremen Core Repository, plus design and set-up of a related data bank and information platform. GESEP will also act as a contact to ensure that long-term partnerships are generated for adaptation of energy service industry tools and methods for scientific drilling and monitoring tools. GESEP will organize



meetings, provide a contact point for questions on scientific drilling and coordinate public relations and outreach. Advanced training courses and schools will be based on various expertise in participating institutes. URL: <http://www.gesep.org>.

#### GESEP members already include:

- Alfred-Wegener-Institute, Bremerhaven
- German Research Centre for Geosciences, GFZ, Potsdam
- Institut für Geologische Wissenschaften, Free University Berlin
- Leibniz Institute for Applied Geophysics, Hannover
- Leibniz Institute for Marine Sciences, IFM-GEOMAR, Kiel
- MARUM, Centre for Marine Environmental Sciences, Bremen University
- Institute for Earth Sciences, Frankfurt University
- Institute for Geology and Mineralogy, Cologne University
- Institut for Chemistry and Biology of the Marine Environment, Oldenburg University
- Institute for Earth Sciences, Potsdam University
- Institute of Environmental Geology, Technical University Braunschweig

## New Drill Site on the Ross Ice Shelf



The  
ANTarctic  
geological  
DRILLing

(ANDRILL) Program is developing new drill sites for the Coulman High (CH) Project in the western Ross Sea (<http://www.andrill.org/science/ch>). The CH Project will target an early Miocene and Paleogene section to address evolution and stability of the cryosphere; warm climate periods in the Early Tertiary; orbital variability controls on climate; and tectonics within the West Antarctic Rift System. Drill sites are on the CH at the former C-19 giant iceberg calving site (Fig. 1) located on a seismic profile completed at the Ross Ice Shelf edge in 2003, now covered by the advancing ice shelf. The stratigraphic record here would extend the Miocene and younger data obtained from ANDRILL sites MIS and SMS (*Sci. Drill.*, 2006, 3:43–45; *Sci. Drill.*, 2008, 6:29–31) and recover underlying sediments representing the Early Tertiary greenhouse world. Technical challenges include drilling

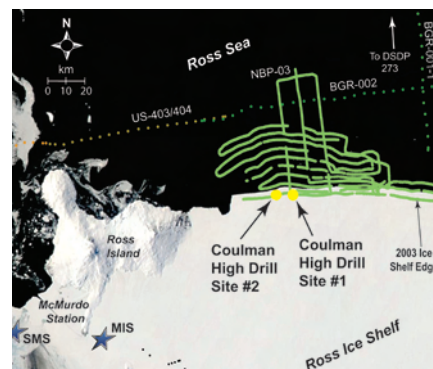


Fig. 1. Coulman High Drilling Project site location map. Proposed drill sites (yellow dots) are 125 km from McMurdo Station. Prior successful ANDRILL drill sites SMS and MIS are shown (stars).

into the seabed while the ice is moving north at more than two meter per day and maintaining an open hole through the nearly 250-m-thick ice shelf. A U.S. proposal is under review, and proposals for New Zealand and Europe are under development. ANDRILL ([www.andrill.org](http://www.andrill.org)) is currently seeking international partners in developing a multinational collaboration for this exciting new effort. For more information please contact the ANDRILL Science Management Office at [ch@andrill.org](mailto:ch@andrill.org).

## Modernized JOIDES Resolution is Tested and Ready for IODP Science Operations



The *JOIDES Resolution*—a 20-year workhorse on behalf of scientific ocean drilling—sailed away from a Singapore shipyard on 25 January after a complete transformation to modernize and upgrade the ship. To get the *JR* into the shape she's in now has taken years of diligent effort by a talented team of project managers, dozens of IODP-USIO staffers, thousands of skilled shipyard laborers (averaging roughly 350 per day), and more.



Restored *JOIDES Resolution* ready for sailing. (Departing from Singapore)

The renovation, funded mostly by the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and partly by Overseas Drilling Limited, includes state-of-the-art upgrades to the ship's science laboratories and facilities, all-new, expanded and refined accommodations, refurbishment and renewal of ship equipment and infrastructure, advanced safety and environment safeguards, and augmented logging and drilling capabilities.

An external scientific assessment team boarded the ship in Guam on 7 February. Sea trials took place at Ontong Java Plateau, ODP Site 807, and transit to Honolulu followed, making the ship ready again for IODP expeditions in early March. The *JR* is now poised to help IODP continue to push the edge of science. A multimedia overview of the “new” *JR*, including daily reports, is available online from <http://oceanleadership.org/node/2000>.

In early March 2009, the *JR* will set sail from Honolulu for the equatorial Pacific for the first of two nine-week expeditions. The second expedition will follow immediately, commencing in May 2009, and both are grouped into one science program. This science program, known as the Pacific Equatorial Age Transect, will investigate how the equatorial Pacific is intricately linked to major changes in the global climate system. [http://iodp.tamu.edu/science-ops/expeditions/equatorial\\_pacific.html](http://iodp.tamu.edu/science-ops/expeditions/equatorial_pacific.html).