

What's New with CoML?  
April 2002

- **Aberdeen SSC Meeting.** The next SSC meeting is scheduled for 4-5 June 2002 in Aberdeen. For those who are able to stay after the meeting, visits are being planned to the new ocean laboratory of the University of Aberdeen (6 June) and to Oban (7 June). Oban is a large tourist destination, which means accommodations there must be secured early. Please let the Secretariat know as soon as possible if you will be attending the visits on 6-7 June so that the arrangements can be solidified. The agenda will be distributed soon for your review. Dale Kiefer will provide a demonstration of the EASy software for OBIS on 4 June. John Addy will join us on 5 June for an in-depth discussion on Oil & Gas industry participation.
- **HMAP.** The issue of International Journal of Marine History featuring the History of Marine Animal Populations CoML has been published and is en route to the Secretariat. We plan a broad distribution of the issue, and welcome names of key people who should receive complimentary copies.
- **ChEss.** Dr. Eva Ramirez-Llodra has joined the ChEss project and will be the main point of contact for ChEss when she arrives at Southampton Oceanography Centre (SOC) on 13 May. Eva is a graduate of the University of Barcelona, and received her Ph.D. from SOC where she studied the fecundity of deep-sea invertebrates. She is fluent in Spanish, French, Portuguese and English.
- **TOPP.** The TOPP project is developing a new website, which will go "live" very soon.
- **MAR-ECO.** The Mar-Eco project has established a Public Outreach Steering Group. Mar-Eco introduces this group – Jo Høyer, Morten Steffensen and Elinor Bartle – on the project web site (<http://www.mar-eco.no/>). Among the goals of this group is to build partnerships and internationally expand the reach of their efforts. The web site also presents the most up-to-date and in-depth project highlights and news, including collaboration with the Bergen Museum on sample curating and a future exhibit. We strongly encourage all of you to view their web site.
- **EU 6th Framework.** As the CoML continues to build support at the national and regional levels, we would like to express the importance of involvement of CoML participants in the EU processes, specifically the 6th Framework programme for research, technological development and demonstration activities. They will be accepting proposals for 'integrated projects' and 'networks of excellence.' Expressions of Interest are due 7 June 2002. MAR-ECO is already pursuing several proposal options. More information on the 6th Framework can be found at [http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/fp6/index\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/fp6/index_en.html)

- **United States.** The CoML is currently accepting nominations for individuals to serve on a U.S. National Committee. More information, including the text of this announcement, can be found through the News columns at [www.coml.org](http://www.coml.org). In April, Jesse Ausubel met with members of the U.S. White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Jesse and Ron O'Dor also briefed the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy about the CoML. Both OSTP and the Ocean Commission expressed support for the CoML and recognize the importance of creating interagency support for the CoML in the U.S. On 10 May, the CoML will brief the U.S. National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP), a group that has already facilitated federal funding of OBIS, and discuss potential future collaboration and the next steps for OBIS.
- **South America.** The South American biodiversity workshop is currently scheduled for 28-31 October 2002 in Concepción, Chile. In April, Victor Gallardo visited several institutions in Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina. He continues to generate support for the workshop and the CoML. National coordinators have been identified and are committed to making the South American workshop a success.
- **China.** The SSC plans to hold their October 2002 meeting in Qingdao, China, in conjunction with the GLOBEC Open Science (15-18th) and PICES Annual (21-24th) Meetings. On 26 April, Ron O'Dor and Kristen Yarincik met with Manual Barange, Director of GLOBEC International. Both CoML and GLOBEC look forward to the possibility of joint activities in Qingdao and in the future.