



Announcement GEOTRACES Arctic cruise planning workshop

December, 2008

Dear Colleague,

GEOTRACES will host a planning workshop to define the scientific objectives, and to develop a strategy to achieve those objectives, for the Arctic Ocean. The workshop will be held at the Hanse Institute for Advanced Study, Delmenhorst (near Bremen), Germany, on 8-10 June, 2009.

The goal of the workshop is to refine the scientific objectives developed in the GEOTRACES science plan (available from www.geotraces.org), and place those objectives into a framework of specific ocean sections and process studies. An important aspect of the workshop is to identify nations that are prepared to take the lead in carrying out specific cruises as elements of the broader basin-scale plan. Individuals who are prepared to organize research cruises and to secure funding to support those cruises are particularly encouraged to participate.

Workshops focusing on the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian basins were held in 2007. Reports are available from www.geotraces.org/GEOTRACESPlanningWorkshops.html. By then the international polar year (IPY) had started already and several expeditions with GEOTRACES programs were already underway. It was therefore decided to organize a similar workshop for the polar oceans after the completion of the IPY. We now plan to hold an Arctic GEOTRACES Workshop in Bremen in June 2009. The emphasis of this workshop will be on the planning of Arctic expeditions, but ideas on future expeditions in the Southern Ocean can also be discussed.

This workshop will produce a set of recommendations that will be used by the GEOTRACES Scientific Steering Committee, in conjunction with other input, to develop a coherent global plan for the GEOTRACES program.

The Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research can offer funds to assist with travel expenses of participants coming from developing nations. We also expect that the travel expenses of a fair number of participants from countries that have signed [COST Action ES0801](#) ("The ocean chemistry of bioactive trace elements and paleoclimate proxies") and of a few participants from other countries can be covered from the COST Action.

If you wish to participate in the Arctic planning workshop or would like additional information about it, send an e-mail to mloeff@awi.de. If you wish to be kept informed about general GEOTRACES planning activities, then send an e-mail to geotraces@ldeo.columbia.edu indicating your interest.

Best wishes,

Michiel Rutgers van der Loeff, AWI, local organizer

Bob Anderson and Gideon Henderson, Co-chairs, GEOTRACES SSC