Working Together to Promote Marine Science, Education, and Policy

31 May 2012

Minutes of the MBCORC Executive Committee Meeting

Members present:

Name	Affiliation
Tyrus Miller	Dean of Graduate Studies, UC Santa Cruz
Leonard Ferrari	Provost, Naval Postgraduate School
Phil Durkee	Dean Graduate School Engin & Applied Sci, NPS
Paul Michel	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Jason Scorse	Monterey Institute of International Studies
Leslie Rosenfeld	Director, Central and Northern CA Ocean Obs System
James Lindholm	California State University Monterey Bay
Margaret Krebs	Center for Ocean Solutions
James Harvey	Moss Landing Marine Laboratory
Gary Griggs	UC Santa Cruz
Marsha Moroh	California State University Monterey Bay
Dennis Long	Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation
Warren Blier	National Weather Service
Mark Swenson	Fleet Numerical Meteorology & Oceanography Center
Bill Douros	NOAA West Coast Sancturaries
Chris Harrold	Monterey Bay Aquarium
Jeffrey Paduan	Naval Postgraduate School

The agenda (see Appendix) consisted of updates and discussions in three major topic areas: 1) Upcoming conferences, 2) Institutional initiatives, and 3) Multi-institutional program initiatives. A theme running through the meeting was: what activities can the group do better than as separate entities?

Monterey Bay Climate Change Adaptation Planning. *Adina Abeles* reported that C.O.S. is promoting outreach between the scientific community and local government leaders to initiate serious and informed planning to optimally adapt to the changing climate. Initial contacts with civic leaders have exposed a wide range of interest in such planning. C.O.S. is sponsoring a series of workshops to promote adaptation planning.

Action Item-All: send *Adina* the references to relevant reports on climate predictions for the U.S. west coast. Examples include the commissioned NRC study, the OPC/SAT report, others?

Oceans in a High CO_2 World Conference 2012. *George Matsumoto* reported on the background of and planning for the 24-27 September 2012 conference to be held at the Monterey Conference Center. With direct help from MBCORC members and indirect support in the form of MBCORC endorsement, the

Monterey Bay Crescent Ocean Research Consortium
MBCORC

CDFG, Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center & Marine Region
Center for Ocean Solutions
CSU Monterey Bay
Elkhorn Slough Foundation and NERR
Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center
Hopkins Marine Station, Stanford University
Institute of Marine Sciences, UC Santa Cruz
Monterey Bay Aquarium
Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation
Monterey Institute of International Studies
Monterey Peninsula College
Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
National Weather Service
Naval Postgraduate School
Naval Research Laboratory, Marine Meteorology Division
NMFS, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Fisheries Ecology Division, Santa Cruz
NMFS, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Environ-mental Research Division
NOAA, National Marine Protected Area Center & National Undersea Research Program
Seymour Center, Long Marine Laboratory, UC Santa Cruz
University of California Sea Grant
USGS, Pacific Science Center

Monterey region will host the third conference in this international series. The first conference was held in Paris in 2004 and the second conference was held in Monaco in 2008. The 2012 conference was the first competitively assigned venue. Organizers are expecting about 600 participants. At present, the schedule has the final day, 27 September 2012, focused on policy and media outreach. SCOR is the umbrella organizing group; *George* will distribute a link to the nascent conference web site hosted by SCOR.

The conference organizing grant includes 10K for K-12 teacher support, including registration, per diem, and substitute teacher salary for several local teachers. Suggested individuals or selection procedures should be forwarded on to *George*.

The scientific message that is to be promoted by the conference should be coordinated, which is something that MBCORC could facilitate. Over the course of this year and prior to the next executive board meeting, members should accumulate talking points for the topic of high CO_2/acidification.

OCEANS 2016. *Jill Zande* and *William Kirkwood* spoke to the initiative to attract the 2016 IEEE Oceans Conference to Monterey. This very large and diverse marine technology conference is a good opportunity to showcase MBCORC member institutions. The number of participants is expected to be between 1500 and 2000. An example of the conference details can be seen on the web site for this year's OCEANS 2011: http://www.oceans11mtsieeekona.org/

Initial contacts with IEEE have been made, including initial discussions with the Monterey Conference Center. The formal conference proposal will need support from MBCORC institutions through support letters and volunteers to take on some of the organizing roles, such as the very important role of exhibits chair. It was proposed that *Jill* and *William* draft a statement of support from MBCORC that can be circulated to the members for comments and approval.

It was suggested that the new unmanned systems program at NPS, the Consortium for Robotics and Unmanned Systems Education and Research (CRUSER), be enlisted to help with the project.

It was also suggested that individual institutions, CRUSER, and MBCORC plan to rent booths, or a single, large coordinated booth, to showcase Monterey Bay marine technology programs.

MIIS Ocean Policy Degree Program. *Jason Scorse* reported on the new M.S. degree program at MIIS, which is the first in California and the first international program. Last year, MBCORC provided a consensus document in support of the proposed ocean policy program at MIIS, which *Jason* reported was helpful.

Curriculum development is underway for the new program; 1-2 full-time marine policy positions will soon be advertised at MIIS.

The National Ocean Economy program, headed by Judith Kildow, has been incorporated into the MIIS program.

MIIS is planning for a workshop on International Fisheries Agreements to take place spring 2012.

MBNMS Ecosystem Based Management Initiative. Superintendent *Paul Michel* described the Sanctuary's new emphasis on EBM. Motivation for this approach includes the potential for overlap, gaps, and confusion contained in the 21 different action plans released by the Sanctuary in 2000. The question has been asked: is there a better way? The EBM approach is closely tied to NOAA's nascent Integrated Ecosystem Assessments (IEAs). Through the NMFS Science Center, NOAA is undertaking an IEA for the larger marine ecosystem of the California Current System (CCS). They are also conducting a separate IEA focused on MBNMS, which will be used to determine scoping. MBCORC members may be asked to serve as reviewers for IEA reports.

Curt Storlazzi commented California's Ocean Protection Council (OPC) was seriously considering Monterey Bay as US west coast testbed for the CMECS classification system (http://www.csc.noaa.gov/benthic/cmecs/). Many MBCORC members, including the USGS, would likely contribute to this effort. OPC funding of Marine Protected Area (MPA) monitoring should also be coordinated with the IEA.

Rick Starr commented that MBNMS could help these processes by working with the science community to establish acceptable sites for manipulation experiments.

***R/V Point Sur* Replacement**. Director *Kenneth Coale* reported that *Point Sur* was scheduled to be decommissioned in FY2011. However, the vessel was recently granted a 5-year extension and she is now in the shipyard undergoing extensive refurbishing. The vessel schedule has been kept healthy in FY2010 and FY2011 by work being conducted in the Aleutian Islands and the Bearing Sea.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has released a revised request for proposals related to regional class vessel replacement. NSF is now calling for teams of proposers that will oversee the entire process related to the construction of three, practically, identical vessels, including ship design, construction, and operation. The overall project is expected to cost roughly $270M. MLML is partnering with Duke University and a Gulf Coast consortium, including University of Southern Mississippi, Texas A&M, and University of Miami. There are two other teams expected to compete: one lead by Oregon State University

(OSU) with University of Rhode Island and Lumcon and another lead by Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

The OSU team is expected to be a strong competitor to the MLML team, particularly given the amount of research and maintenance work to be conducted off the northwest coast as part of NSF's Ocean Observing Initiative. OSU is, however, also expected to push the size of the proposed vessel up to become closer to the ocean class vessel size, which would compensate for the loss of the *R/V Wecoma* presently operated by OSU. The MLML team, however, is committed to the efficiencies and capabilities of the regional class vessels as presently defined. The proposed replacement vessels are expected to be about 150 ft long and 500 tons. The schedule for production of the new vessels has the first vessel being delivered in 2016 with one more vessel being delivered in each of the two subsequent years.

Center for Ocean Solution MARINE Program. *Adina Abeles* reported that COS is continuing to support activities of the MARINE program. This year, the program is sponsoring a seminar and workshop series on marine spatial planning (MSP) following on from its very successful seminar series last year on climate change topics. Coming up, there will be student journal club MSP sessions from 6-8 pm on April 12 (UCSC) and April 14 (CSUMB or Stanford). On Saturday April 23 there will be an all-day workshop entitled: "Negotiating a Use Plan for the Beaufort Sea, Alaska." The exercise is a negotiation training and simulated case study regarding multi-issue ocean use planning for U.S. Arctic waters. Each student will role-play representatives of state and federal governments, military, conservation groups, fishermen, energy developers, and Alaskan natives. Finally, at the end of the year COS will sponsor a two-week policy short course taught by *Meg Caldwell*, *Larry Crowder**, and *Mike Sutton*. For information on all of these events, see: http://cosmarine.stanford.edu

**Larry Crowder* is the new C.O.S. science director.

Monterey Bay Ocean Institute. This and the following topic were introduced by *Jeff Paduan* with the question: why don't we do this? In this case, MBCORC member institutions have been discussing for many years the possibility of creating a joint marine science graduate program. The impediments to creating such a program are logistical and administrative. The benefits, however, could be many in terms of recruiting new graduate students and new research funding.

There are a few examples of bi-lateral agreements or memoranda of understanding (MOUs) between pairs of MBCORC institutions. Today, the working relationship between CSUMB and MIIS is a good example. It may not be possible to create an umbrella agreement that supports a passport program for students pursuing interdisciplinary courses and thesis projects. However, it does

seem like a central institution or clearing house may provide necessary organization and visibility.

Adina pointed out that there are several examples around the country of multi-institutional degree programs, such as the MIT-WHOI Joint Program, the 5-campus program in western Massachusetts, the triangle region around the University of North Carolina, and MLML's coordination of their 7-campus CSU program. She also noted that there is even an annual conference in September devoted to the administration of these multi-institutional programs.

Jeff related that the NPS Provost, *Dr. Leonard Ferrari*, recently volunteered to host a ½ day meeting on this topic with other regional deans and provosts. *Kenneth* pointed out that the people most knowledgeable about the challenges of creating a successful joint program are the graduate coordinators from the member institutions.

Action Item-Adina: Determine where and when is the next conference of the joint program administrators.

Action Item-Jeff and Kenneth: Identify knowledgeable graduate student coordinators among the MBCORC institutions and ask them to meet in person or by teleconference soon to create a list of logistical and administrative challenges to a joint program. Examples include transportation services to and from courses, making video conferencing services available between campuses, adjusting course schedules to be aligned across campuses, developing mechanisms to share tuition resources, etc.

Action Item-Jeff: Take output from the graduate coordinator discussions and organize a meeting of willing deans and provosts from the MBCORC institutions.

NOAA Cooperative Institute. NOAA has a total of 18 cooperative institutions (see below). Why not one in Monterey Bay? Once in place, these institutions have been shown to be very effective at fostering multi-institutional programs for researchers and graduate students. To be successful in the establishment of a cooperative institute requires a NOAA sponsor and a unique focus area. One suggestion for the Monterey Bay area is a focus on EBM.

California has one cooperative institution now. It is the Cooperative Institution for Marine Ecosystems and Climate (CIMEC), which is headed up by Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego. Other UC campuses, including UC Santa Cruz are formally a part of CIMEC. *Dave Chekley* is the new CIMEC director. The CIMEC focus on the ecology of the CCS is broader than that of the previous cooperative institute headed by Scripps called JIMAR. Hence, it may be

possible for MBCORC institutions to take much more and better advantage of CIMEC.

Action Item-Steve: Discuss with *Dave Chekley* the options for MBCORC member institutions to take advantage of the agreements in place through CIMEC.

Currently NOAA supports 18 Cooperative Institutes (CI) consisting of 42 universities and research institutions in 23 states and the District of Columbia whose research portfolios range from satellite climatology and fisheries biology to atmospheric chemistry and coastal ecology. Cooperative Institutes are assigned to a NOAA Line Office, whose responsibility includes the oversight of the initial competition process, performance, funding throughout the award period, and managing the renewal and termination process, if necessary. Cooperative Institutes are located at parent institutions whose geographic expanse extends from Hawaii to Maine and from Alaska to Florida.

Miscellaneous Items. *Curt Storlazzi* noted that it is still difficult to see where all of the many seminars are taking place around the Monterey Bay region. *Adina* pointed out that the MARINE web site attempts to organize that information. It seems as though this problem might be solved by additional information gathering and IT support. If the many individual seminar web site announcement pages can be identified, a composite web page could be constructed automatically. Alternatively, an RSS news feed could be constructed.

Paul Michel described an opportunity to promote the fascinating natural history and ongoing marine science programs around Monterey Bay. Access Monterey cable programming may be interested in airing a number of programs on the topic.

Action Item-Paul: Ascertain: what is the minimum number of episodes that would need to be created to establish a recurring show on Access Monterey? At the same time, it will be important to determine what would happen to the copyright for the materials produced. The exercise will be much more valuable if the digital materials produced could be distributed for viewing in other venues in addition to the Access Monterey cable TV show.

Kenneth noted that the MLML Open House will be April 30 and May 1 from 9am to 5pm. *George* noted that the MBARI Open House will be June 25.

Appendix: MBCORC Meeting Agenda, 1 April 2011

MBCORC Annual Meeting
1 April 2011, Moss Landing Marine Laboratory

Agenda

09:00	Welcome & Announcements	Jeff Paduan, NPS all participants
Upcoming Conferences		
09:40	Monterey Bay climate change adaptation planning 2011	Adina Abeles, C.O.S.
09:55	Ocean Acidification 2012	George Matsumoto, MBARI
10:10	OCEANS 2016	Jill Zande, MPC Bill Kirkwood, MBARI
10:25	Break	
Institution Initiatives		
10:45	Center for the Blue Economy	Jason Scorse, MIIS
11:00	MBNMS Ecosystem-Based Management Initiative	Paul Michel, MBNMS Carol Bernthal, NMS
11:15	R/V Point Sur Replacement	Kenneth Coale, MLML
Multi-Institution Program Initiatives		
11:30	MARINE	Adina Abeles, C.O.S. Margaret Krebs, C.O.S.
11:45	Monterey Bay Ocean Institute	Jeff Paduan, NPS
12:00	A Monterey Bay NOAA-University Joint Institute	Jeff Paduan, NPS Steve Bograd, ERD
Other Topics; Future Plans		
12:15	Action Items and Wrap Up	Jeff Paduan, NPS
12:45	Adjourn and optional lunch together in local Moss Landing restaurants	