



ICES / CIEM Information

[Issue No. 33, Contents](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

Welcome to the first ICES “Weblet”

–i.e., an ICES newsletter issued solely on the Web. We will learn as we go along how people prefer it to be served up but begin conservatively with the aim of replacing all the contents at regular intervals and thus keeping discrete numbers in being. We have no idea how many members of the community we can reach in this way but hope that for those areas still poorly served by WWW links the institute librarians will run off a few hard copies that can be passed around. After three or four numbers we will take stock by finding out, as best as we can, just what circulation is being achieved and how you think future issues should develop.



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications
-a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle
- a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttle-
butt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea Conseil International pour l'Exploration de la Mer

Issue No. 33

June 1999

Editor
John Ramster
3 Woodside Avenue
Bridge of Weir PA11 3PQ
Scotland, UK
Tel/Fax: +44 1505 615402

[E-mail: jramster@lineone.net](mailto:jramster@lineone.net)

Publisher
ICES/CIEM
Palægade 2-4
DK-1261 Copenhagen K, Denmark
Phone: +45 33 15 42 25
Fax: +45 33 93 42 15

[E-mail: ices.info@ices.dk](mailto:ices.info@ices.dk)

[ICES homepage: http://www.ices.dk](http://www.ices.dk)

[Anon.ftp: ftp.ices.dk](ftp://ftp.ices.dk)

Click on the titles to the left to access articles.





ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- The 98 ASC
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications -a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle - a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttlebutt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

A place in the sun - the 98 ASC

John Ramster, Editor

Rust-encrusted Northern Europeans bound for the 1998 Annual Science Conference in Cascais, Portugal got off their planes at Lisbon and could not believe the clear light and the steadiness and strength of the sun. Over the next four days, 16 - 19 September, as the marvellous weather kept up, the idea surfaced of locating every ASC in a Mediterranean country and just passing round Member Countries the sponsorship of the meeting!

The Conference hotel had a large lounge at ground level and leading on from the entrance with big sofas and little tables for papers. This soon became a rendezvous for many people during the meeting, especially as it doubled as a coffee-room twice a day. The meeting-rooms were on two levels, with the document room and exhibitor's vestibule on one of them and the Secretariat's office and smaller "business" rooms on another. The "house-keeping" worked well. It had to, with some 500 names on the provisional list of attendees and nearly 1000 actually registering for at least one session before the end. About half of the attendees were from Portugal: a good example of a country taking advantage of a situation that has presented itself to bring as many as possible of its marine scientists to an international gathering of experts.

Because of the numbers it had been decided to hold the opening General Assembly in the main auditorium of the biggest Casino in Europe. In the fairly early morning light the black walls and candelabra looked a little bizarre but soon became more homely as the flags of the Member Countries were put out and the Bureau took its place on the dais. The President, Dr Scott Parsons, welcomed everyone, and after the General Secretary had made his report and the Mayor of Cascais also had welcomed the Delegates and hoped that they would enjoy staying in the town for a while, the President introduced the Portuguese Secretary of State for Fisheries. He has been a practising scientist in a variety of roles during his career, and it showed. Above all he recognized the value of the kind of international cooperation and planning to overcome

the problems faced by all nations that has been the clarion call of ICES throughout its history. People said later over coffee and tea that they had been pleasantly surprised by this call from a move away from the viewpoint of the individual person, family, region and nation. It was a first sense of a swinging back of the pendulum since we were told in no uncertain terms by various people in High Places that there was no such thing as Society.

Robin Cook, Chair of the Consultative Committee, then previewed the meeting in a very spirited way and was followed by Mike Sissenwine who spent about twenty minutes going over his Working Group's outline Strategic Plan for ICES. At first one wondered if it was going to be yet another of those "management" exercises and some, it is said, played with their earphones to see if it sounded better in another language, but then it began to dawn that here was a necessary step to be taken if ICES was to re-invent itself for the present and future needs of its stakeholders. The WG had looked at similar products produced by similar organizations and, presumably, been able to cherry-pick this from that one and something else from another as it were. In any case a very coherent picture appeared for, Mike emphasised, discussion from the bottom up over the next year or so. The eventual aim is to have a version that is accepted generally in all parts and levels of the organization as part of the package to be signed up to by Member Countries at the 2002 meeting in Copenhagen.

Odd Nakken then gave this year's open lecture on "Acoustic methods in studies of fish ecology". He described the basis of the approach, the first recognition of the value to fishermen of marine acoustics in the thirties, the rapid developments of the forties and the use to which scientists have put the new and ever-changing technology since then. It was done very clearly but with the touch of fun and, at times, waspish humour that we have come to expect from Odd.

After the General Assembly the normal sessions began at the Hotel Estoril Sol and ran for the next four days. Everyone except the Delegates, who felt that they had just too much to cram into each day, seemed to think that the pace and programme was just about right. There were parallel sessions, and the comprehensiveness of the Conference Handbook allowed you to plan how to use time to the best advantage and with minimum fuss. In fact it would be funny to go back to the old regime of "the week-end break" and the "special" sessions that aimed to bring together the biologists and the hydrographers for example. Many of the theme sessions do this anyway as a matter of course, and people are already accepting it as the norm.

The really big session of the whole meeting for me was that concerned with the "Visualisation of Spatial Data." Within minutes of it opening Rob Stephenson was introducing a paper on behalf of some colleagues that featured a video he talked to with a simulated heaving ship and then a shoal in the distance in outline. The next second the shape of the shoal was filling the screen and then it was being rotated, looked at from any angle and the movements of any individual fish in it being tracked with reference to those of all the others. Stupendous! And there was so much more to come. A 3D image of the slope off Florida and the results of an ecological model of the area shown graphically, etc. etc. At some point one of the Chairs suggested that we were seeing the impossible made possible, and he was right.

I enjoyed dropping in on several of the other sessions but noted yet again that we are not making the most of this once-a-year gathering for the most basic reasons that can easily be put right. We are not alone. At another recent meeting I walked out of a presentation by an Economics Nobel Laureate when he put up an overhead with about 80 cells in a table and thought it might not be possible to see the data everywhere in the room! I did not walk out of Ken Lee's talk about a new biotest for contaminants in Theme Session P because, although the subject matter is light years away from my own field, he "lived" his own interest and excitement there and then and there was no way that you could stay and not hear the message. Rob Stephenson provides the same intrinsic interest to outsiders of a field even when he is presenting other peoples' papers and this time he also gave the proceedings a sartorial change of interest between appearances.

The social events were splendid. Breakfast at the Conference Hotel was one that could not be missed for a start. A lovely room overlooking a bay and a blue sea with good company and an array of breakfast foods to suit all tastes got each day off to a great beginning. The official Reception given by the Mayor of Cascais on the first evening was also planned to meet all tastes. It began with something of a mystery tour in the hinterland of Lisbon. The first bus faltered a little en route especially when going up hills and eventually the driver pulled into a garage, walked to the engine compartment at the back donning a pair of gloves and took something out of the engine which he then threw on the floor next to his seat. All went perfectly after that. The journey ended on a track that led through bamboo and other exotic plants to the castle of the local ruler 300 years or so ago which was built on three sides round a courtyard and fronted by a wall and a gateway. As the first ICES participants arrived gentlemen appeared with drinks and hors d'oeuvres and soon the whole courtyard was full of chatting people. At a signal which I did not see they began to move inside

where there were some five or six rooms, each with central tables set out with all manner of buffet food and side-tables with wine or soft drinks. In such circumstances spirits were high very quickly and the new friends were made and old ones recognized over the next two hours. I left on the first bus and have an abiding memory of looking back from the gate and seeing ICES en masse standing at each of the 16 lighted windows that shone above the courtyard and hearing the buzz of the conversation. The Delegates and HQ staff were feted by the Mayor on the next evening too. The Conference Dinner on the final evening had another splendid venue: the Estufa Fria in Lisbon, which is a botanic garden. In this case entry was by a walk through a semi-tropical forest with gentlemen again proffering drinks and sweetmeats on the way. Some 200 people sat down to eat and be entertained by some traditional Portuguese singing and dancing with both the older folk songs and “fado” songs being featured. Colin Bannister provided the only homegrown entertainment this year.

The Closing Ceremony was excellent in both substance and brevity. The General Secretary thanked the Portuguese hosts for their splendid hospitality and arrangements and in particular the two Delegates, Dr's Carmen Lima and Graça Pestana, and their helpers for all the work they had done in making sure that the meeting ran smoothly. Dr Cook presented prizes for the best presentation and poster respectively and to the most promising “Newcomer”. (See box for details.) The President then, after reiterating the thanks of all to the Portuguese Government, looked forward to Stockholm in 1999 after asking for comments on the format of the meeting and exhorting everyone to make their contribution to the evolution of the Strategic Plan in the intervening months. All in all exactly what was needed to bring to an end what most people seemed to regard as a very effective and enjoyable meeting.

[See "Meeting reports" for other ASC stories](#)

Best Paper Presentation Award

to K. Lee, K.-L. Tay, and C. Belanger (Canada) for Doc. CM 1998/P:3 "Development of a microscale biotest based on microbial exoenzyme activity in sediments"

Best Poster Presentation Award

to R.P. Sánchez and D.R. Brown (Argentina) for Doc. CM 1998/R:28 "Larval and early juvenile growth of two Patagonian clupeoids: *Engraulis anchoita* and *Sprattus fuegensis*"

Newcomer Award

to J. Dalsgaard (Canada), A. Jarre-Teichmann (Denmark), C. Walters and D. Pauly (Canada) for Doc. CM 1998/V:10 "An approach to the modelling of persistent pollutants in marine ecosystems"



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- Strategic planning
 - [Strategic planning... full text](#)
- [ICES publications - a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle - a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttlebutt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

Strategic planning for the next century

Michael P. Sissenwine
NMFS/NOAA
Woods Hole, MA, USA

This is a summary of Mike Sissenwine's article. For the full version see the end of this text. It is important for all ICES aficionados that the full paper is taken on board, but here are its key points:

These are exciting times for ICES. There have been a lot of recent changes, I believe in the right direction, and, in a changing world ICES must continue to evolve. ICES faces continuing challenges in terms of scientific opportunities, expectations for more and better scientific advice, the functionality of its organization, and budget priorities. These are challenges that I face as a Delegate and past member of the Bureau, and they are challenges that touch on everyone associated with ICES to some degree. Unfortunately, some of the change process in recent years has not gone as smoothly as I had hoped—note that it took more than three years to reach agreement on our recent restructuring—because, in my opinion, we lack a shared understanding of where ICES is going and how it will get there. In other words, we need a Strategic Plan to guide ICES into its second hundred years.

The President of ICES, and the Bureau, demonstrated their strong support for strategic planning in 1997 by establishing a Bureau Working Group on Strategic Planning, which I have had the honour of chairing. I gave a progress report at the 1998 Annual Science Conference (ASC) at Cascais, Portugal. In this newsletter article, I reiterate the report I gave to the ASC and will give you an update.

The terms of reference given to the Working Group by the Bureau were ambitious. They called for the Working Group to consider

- a vision and long-term goals for ICES;

- guidelines for preparing Strategic Plan objectives, activity, and outcomes;
- processes to obtain input from Delegates and external shareholders;
- linkage between the Strategic Plan and the ICES budget;
- linkage between the Strategic Plan and priority-setting of national programmes;
- communications about the Strategic Plan; and
- the timetable for carrying out the strategic planning process.

The Working Group fulfilled all its terms of reference, at least to some degree. I will only highlight the results that I think are of general interest.

The vision proposed by the Working Group is:

An international scientific enterprise that is relevant, responsive, respected and right, relative to marine ecosystems and their relationship to humankind.

I think this single sentence says a lot. It recognizes a scientific enterprise bigger than ICES. It emphasizes marine ecosystems, not just fisheries, and evolving societal needs. It indicates the characteristics of the scientific information needed by users. Even the awkwardness of the gender-neutral wording provides an important message about the need for more appreciation of human diversity issues in general. To fulfil the vision, the Working Group proposed that the ICES Mission should be:

To lead the way by mobilizing scientific assets to advance capacity to understand and advise on the impact of human activity on marine ecosystems, and the implications of natural change.

The Working Group elaborated on the mission statement by pointing out that:

- the focus should be on the North Atlantic and adjacent seas, with due consideration of global concerns;
- there should be investments in both short- and long-term interdisciplinary research, including physical, chemical, biological and social sciences;
- partnerships with other organizations that have a common interest should be established;

- ICES should be responsive to emerging issues;
- arrangements should be created to provide scientific advice; and
- ICES should objectively and effectively inform the public about marine ecosystem issues.

I think the proposed mission's emphasis on developing the scientific capability to give advice, and on ecosystems (not just fisheries) are particularly noteworthy.

Seven general goals were put forward by the Working Group as a framework for the future development of the Strategic Plan. The goals are to:

1. Make ICES the most appealing and credible scientific organization it can be.
2. Match ICES budget to needs and expectations for scientific knowledge and advice.
3. Develop a challenging core science programme to fulfil the ICES mission.
4. Provide sound, credible, and timely advice that is relevant to today's and future societal needs.
5. Establish and maintain partnerships that are mutually beneficial in fulfilling ICES's vision.
6. Maintain and further develop a modern and effective infrastructure to support the ICES mission.
7. Raise public understanding of marine ecosystems and their relevance to society.

I hope as many of you as possible will participate in the strategic planning process. You are ICES's strength. The plan cannot be successful without you.

[For the full version of the text, click here](#)



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications -a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle - a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttlebutt 3](#)

Home, This newsletter

Home, ICES

ICES publications – a reappraisal

John Ramster, Editor

With a new Publications Committee and a new team at the *ICES Journal* (see end of article), the 1998 ASC was deemed to be a good time to have a “taking stock” session across the range of publications put out by the Council. As a consequence the new Chair, Professor Peter Boyle (UK), took a position paper to the next Delegates Meeting, which summarized the situation in regard to the *ICES Journal of Marine Science*, the *ICES Cooperative Research Report* series, *ICES Identification Leaflets for Plankton*, *ICES Identification Leaflets for Diseases and Parasites of Fish and Shellfish*, and *ICES Techniques in Marine Environmental Sciences*, respectively. He was able to report that the *Journal* had moved into profit for the first time since the joint account with Academic Press started, and that the new Editorial Team seemed to have settled in pretty well. In all the other cases there were significant backlogs in publication rates because of the overall pressure on resources and the need to make other use of the funds available to the Council even though the material for publication was to hand. It was important to try to move to electronic publication mode for some of them as soon as possible, with one of the criteria relevant to the decision in each case being the importance of good quality illustrations, to cut costs and also to help cut the Gordian knot of publication delays. The Delegates accepted the paper and asked that action on the lines suggested be put in hand.

The fundamental importance of publications to ICES had been brought home to many people at the ASC when Mike Sissenwine (USA), in outlining the new Strategic Plan, quoted Article 1 of the founding agreement, which broadly outlines the fundamental purposes of the Council, and at item (c) reached the phrase:

“to publish or otherwise disseminate the results of research and investigations carried out under its auspices or to encourage the publication thereof.”

Peter Boyle and his colleagues on the Publications Committee are

very keen to see what they can do for ICES, via their advice to the Delegates, over the next few years in regard to the new avenues that have opened with the arrival of the Web.

Since the ASC the *Journal* Editorial Team of Niels Daan (Netherlands), John Hislop (UK), Mike Chadwick (Canada), and John Ramster (UK) has met for the first time and also got to know Judith Rosenmeier, the ICES Senior Editor, and its colleagues in Academic Press. Susan Lord, the Executive Editor at Academic for the last two years, is leaving shortly, and she and Dr Sarah Stafford came with Lori Harris, the Production Editor, to Aberdeen for a day to talk over the handling of texts at all stages. Judith Rosenmeier was present throughout the meeting and Peter Boyle contributed to one of the morning sessions. The two days were very beneficial to all parties. The good news was first, that a record number of texts—129—had been submitted in the calendar year 1998 and second, that the backlog of papers awaiting publication at the Press had now been worked through so that authors can expect rapid progress into print once they have cleared their proofs. The overall aim of getting a paper that gets a fair wind from referees into print within a year of receipt was confirmed. The bad news was that the papers given at the 1997 Recruitment Dynamics Symposium were delayed so that there could well be some indigestion in the system as far as Symposium proceedings are concerned. When the time comes the imbroglio will be sorted out in the neatest way possible.



Left to right: John Ramster, Mike Chadwick, John Hislop, Niels Daan, and Judith Rosenmeier - Peter Boyle's guests at lunch in his office at the University of Aberdeen in January.

Publications Committee

Professor Peter Boyle, Chair

Dr Robin M. Cook, Chair of Consultative Committee

Dr Niels Daan, Editor-in-Chief of *ICES Journal of Marine Science*

Bogi Hansen

Dr François Gerlotto

Dr Peter Matthiessen

Editorial Staff for *ICES Journal of Marine Science*

Dr Niels Daan, Editor-in-Chief

Dr E. Michael P. Chadwick, Editor

Dr John R. G. Hislop, Editor

John W. Ramster, Editor



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications -a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle - a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttlebutt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

Publications Committee Chair Peter Boyle—A Profile

In the last newsletter (September 1998) some will recall a short profile of Professor Peter Boyle. The following profile goes into more detail on Peter's interests and main line of work:

Peter Boyle (UK) graduated in zoology from the University of Wales, Bangor, in the days when Dennis Crisp was Head at Menai Bridge and marine biology and oceanography featured strongly in the course. After taking his Ph.D. in New Zealand he returned to a post-doc position at the Gatty Marine Laboratory at St Andrews, Scotland. From there he moved to a lecturership at the University of Aberdeen, becoming Professor in Zoology in 1987.

Although widely active in marine biology research and teaching at Aberdeen, Peter's main research work is targeted on the cephalopods. These interests have evolved from a range of studies on the physiology and biology of octopuses to his present projects on ecology and fisheries of mainly resource species of squid. The fascination he finds in these animals arises from their intrinsic biological characteristics and the way in which their population ecology incorporates elements of both shellfish and fish biology. The analogy with fish, he claims, coupled with a hobby activity of "fish-printing" or *gyotaku* brings him as close as he wishes to actually working on fish!

For many years Peter has fostered collaborative activities with other organizations. Colleagues at the Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen, have been a great source of research collaboration and, through their participation in the taught Master's course in Marine and Fisheries Science, major contributors to the teaching programme at the University. He has actively established postgraduate training programmes under the auspices of the EU and, since 1990, has acted as the coordinator of three major European research projects on cephalopod fisheries. The European cephalopod resources, relatively little studied by individual national programmes, have been an ideal subject for international collaboration and funding.

Peter has been a regular presence at Annual Science Conferences, contributing to the Shellfish Committee since 1992; to the Study Group on the Life History and Assessment of Cephalopods since its establishment; and to the Publications Committee since 1994. He is very enthusiastic about the contribution that the various publications can make to the full expression of ICES work, and is looking forward to a productive relationship with the new members of the Publications Committee, the *ICES Journal* editors, the ICES Secretariat, and Academic Press. Those who are interested in commenting on ICES publishing activities are welcome to contact Peter.

[E-mail: p.r.boyle@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:p.r.boyle@abdn.ac.uk)



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications
- a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle
- a profile](#)
- **New ships**
 - [United Kingdom](#)
 - [Iceland](#)
 - [Ireland](#)
 - [France and Spain](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttle-
butt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

New ships - a healthy sign for the future

In the last year several new research vessels (RVs) have come into service in ICES Member Countries and announcements have been made that others will be planned. The pieces below describe these developments which must all be greatly welcomed in this day and age. One of the golden rules that was said to be handed down in the old days from Director to Director in all countries was "Look after the ships and the rest will follow." This may not be quite so true as it was, but nevertheless we would all be a bit sick if there were no plans to replace the present fleets. In the mid-eighties RVs were something of a mystery to the then blooming management-guru class and at least two attempts were made at writing manuals of how they should be looked after. The most ambitious was sponsored by a Canadian Agency that has since been disbanded, but the volumes produced at the turn of the decade should not be left totally forgotten on library shelves or stores or else we shall soon be reinventing that particular wheel.



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications
-a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle
- a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
 - [98 ASC \(S. Mackinson\)](#)
 - [98 ASC \(M. Clark\)](#)
 - [98 ASC \(K. Hiis Hauge\)](#)
 - [TACs and quotas](#)
 - [Oceanic hydrogr.'s meet,
Murmansk](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttle-
butt 3](#)

Meeting reports

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications -a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle - a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- ICES 100
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttlebutt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

ICES 100

John Ramster, Editor

Preparations continue for the events that are being arranged to mark the centenary of the period, 1899–1902, when discussions were held in Stockholm (1899), and Oslo (1901) about the forming of ICES and then formalized in the ICES convention signed in Copenhagen in 1902. ASCs will be held in each of these respective cities one hundred years on from the founding meetings, and each will have echoes of those first days of one kind or another. One afternoon session in each case will be given over to reflections on the past, present and future of marine science in an ICES context. Additionally Emory Anderson is organizing a three-day symposium in Helsinki in 2000 on “100 Years of Science under ICES”. More details of it are to be found on the ICES Web site, and ICES HQ could supply a flyer on request. In other areas:

ICES HISTORY – TO BE PUBLISHED IN 2002

Helen Rozwadowski plans to meet ICES participants from over the years based in the UK, Russia, Germany and the Netherlands during the spring and summer of this year. Drafts of her early chapters are circulating around the Steering Committee.

RE-ISSUE OF “STUDY OF THE SEA” IN 2001

Pierre Petitgas and a team of “younger” ICES scientists are reviewing papers written in the ICES publications since 1979 for the additional chapter that will be written in order to bring the book up to the Centenary.

BACKGROUND ITEMS

Jens Smed is writing a series of papers about what happened in several of the founding countries in the critical period a century or so ago. These will appear when most relevant over the period of the Centenary celebrations. An interesting facet of them is the esoteric nature of some of his references, e.g. the Prussian Ministry for Ecclesiastical Instruction and Medical Affairs. Thus far he has passed on texts about the situations in Norway, Sweden, the UK, Belgium and the running of the ICES Central Laboratory.

D'Arcy Thompson, one of the founding Delegates and someone who was still attending Statutory Meetings in the 30's, has come to life in several different areas over the last six months. First, in a review of "Pembroke Poets", a collection of poems by 50 writers who were undergraduates at Pembroke College, Cambridge, I read that "D'Arcy Wentworth Thompson mines a richly amusing seam of deftly crafted poker-faces inconsequence. On this showing he is well worth further investigation." Second, as I sat in the Marine Laboratory at Aberdeen for the IJMS meeting surrounded by bound copies of *Nature* I was moved to look again, because we had been talking about how some papers can be radically pruned and be all the better for it, at the "Watson and Crick" DNA paper. To my surprise not only was it "Crick and Watson", but also right in the middle of it was a long quote from DWT's *Form and Function*. Finally this jogged me to go to the Mitchell Library in Glasgow where I had read his papers were kept. When they finally appeared from way down in the archives I was dumbstruck to find that his father was "DWT", also because the contents of the box of goodies spanned way over a hundred years. (It has just struck me as I type that the father may have been the Pembroke poet! I shall follow this up.) Anyway, I was greatly intrigued to see that in 1911 at a ceremony to mark 500 years of the University at St Andrews our D'Arcy T was on the platform as some hatchet-man took a swipe at the "International Scheme" and the idea that it was possible for the North Sea to be overfished. I thought the latter idea had gone out of the window by then.

LITTLE PROGRESS IS BEING MADE WITH THE AMASSING OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND OTHER MEMORABILIA OF ICES OVER THE YEARS. IF ANYONE COMES ACROSS ANY MATERIAL PLEASE WILL THEY TELL JOHN RAMSTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications
-a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle
- a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
 - [New faces/Obituaries](#)
 - [Around the Delegates](#)
 - [Editorial scuttle-
butt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

ICES update

News and events at HQ and around the community since the last issue.



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications -a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle - a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- Editorial scuttle- butt 3

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

Editorial scuttlebutt 3

KNUCKLERAP FROM THE LAST ISSUE

I was delighted to be taken to task by a Youngish Turk at the Burnham Laboratory in the UK for writing “CEFAS (aka the Lowestoft Lab)” in the last issue if only because it shows, as he says, “life goes on apace in the new order”. He pointed out that the Burnham, Conwy and Weymouth labs which, together with the Lowestoft Lab, make up CEFAS are all very well known in their own right in ICES circles and that the shorthand used was inappropriate. Moreover the numbers at Burnham are higher than ever before, and numerous movers and shakers in the WG and Theme Session worlds work there. I take his point: pity though that the Conwy lab is to be closed as of 31 March 2000.

DUTCH DELIGHTS

The ASC party hosted by the Dutch Delegates was very enjoyable because there was just the right number of people there, it was a pleasant venue and it came at just the right time in the proceedings to give an element of relaxation to everyone. A lovely idea carried out beautifully just like the RIVO-DLO Christmas card, which featured a fish embryo in a gorgeous blue and green setting. There was no way I was going to throw my copy away and it frames beautifully in brown. Finally Capt. Arie Krijgsmann, the long-serving Master of the RV "Tridens" (both versions), retired in October and was given an affectionate “farewell and thank-you” by all the people he had sailed with over the years. There can be few other RV Captains across the ICES world with so many years of balancing successfully the weather, the crew and the ever-changing needs of the scientific teams that get younger and younger.

CANADIAN CHARM

Has anyone else noticed the suave sophistication of many of our Canadian friends these days? Could it be that there is a government

charm-school programmed to produce crosses between a lumberjack and a film star as the norm for international meeting attendance?

SEEN ON THE PAGE

A lovely observation by Barbara Pym, herself the Assistant Editor of a learned journal, in her novel *An Unsuitable Attachment* of the “Magic Circle”-lives adherents of any branch of science tend to lead:

“Rupert was approached by a short, bald man who began talking about an article Rupert had evidently just written for a journal of which he was editor. Rupert introduced him to Ianthe as Dr Apfelbaum, but as is often the way in the academic world he made no further effort to include her in the conversation..... ‘What’s the title of your article?’ she asked. He hesitated, then thought, why not-‘The implication of jural processes among the Ngumu: a structural dichotomy’ he declared. ‘Oh’....she turned her head away as if she were in pain or distress”.

HEARD IN THE LECTURE HALL

“If we – the premier conservation scientists in the work who seek and possess the best scientific information on the state of nature – do not actively and aggressively put our knowledge to use in the development of public policy and legislation, and do not do it soon, then we are failing society and posterity in what should be a major responsibility” ...Martin Angel quoting Gary K. Meffe, the Editor of *Conservation Biology* in a recent issue.

And of a palace in Vienna, I think, where Beethoven held an unsuccessful concert in his desperate last year “Which is now very run down and has become an oceanography institute”.

AND ON TAPE

27 hours of *Crime and Punishment* on 21 cassettes that held the interest throughout in the same way, as I remember, reading *Les Misérables* did in 1962 as we sailed from Grimsby to St Johns over 9 days and only had a bottle station to 1000 metres to do each midday en route.

STILL REMEMBERING....

The warmth of the first evening in Portugal just after arrival for the ASC, the lovely light fading out to sea, the table on the edge of the promenade, renewing acquaintances with old friends passing from time to time, the Norwegians steadily overfilling the table a little way along, the saltiness of the sardines and the wine: "BSE" it said on the label!

ONE OF THE BEST FOR A WHILE

"The focus of our Organisation Development Approach in the early stages was on restructuring the organisation and developing our capability to work together across functional areas. This is known as the Structuralist and Dialectic phases. A 'key value' of the former is a commitment to 'minimal hierachy'. So we have just five 'Levels of Work' as part of the Level of Work concept. Level 5: Field Coverage, Level 4: Comprehensive Provision, Level 3: Systematic Provision, Level 2: Situational Response and Level 1: Prescribed Outfit. Levels 1 and 2 restructuring took over 18 months to complete before the dialectical phase reconciled the differing perceptions that can develop in a restructured organisation."

ADVERTISING PEOPLE WITH A SENSE OF HUMOUR

An advertisement that carried you along for a second or two in a late December paper started out
 "Hands On Chief Executive,
 To bring bags of presence and enormous energy to a unique global distribution system, A package with bells on+sleigh, Far North.
 This intensely private organisation, which has a brand recognised throughout the world, has carved a unique position in a highly seasonal business"

and carried on as a nice parody of the usual Adman's spiel to end with "Please post full career detail up the nearest chimney". Just shows how near the edge we can live at times in that some of the phrases were very convincing

Thinking of that time I bet anything that no one got a present nearer their heart than I did from a six-months-old baby boy of a boot box, not a shoe box note, a boot box, full of post-it labels collected for him by his Doctor father from colleagues in the hospital where he works. The supply will last me into the next century easily.

POLISH JOKES

I have now acquired a small collection of Polish jokes courtesy of Ewa Wlodarczyk and Marek Lipinski perhaps as a consequence of my plea for help in widening the international nature of this feature. For the moment I am content to keep them to myself but to relate that at the ASC the South African observer, Mike Roberts, was seen staggering around at one point weighed down by two plastic duty-free bags full of Polish locks. The Polish Delegation had been requested by Marek of the Capetown Lab to bring them to the meeting for his garage and back door, and Mike had to find some one of taking them on. I am told that they are now safely installed and worth all the effort.

WEB SITE OF THE ISSUE

Try <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/BMLSS/> for a one-man operation that for me captures all the excitement that one can get out of the sea and sea things. It's not a big deal in any way, but it has something for me that the sleeker people have missed. Please tell me of other goodies that you think should be publicized in these pages.

CHEERS TO

Andrzej Olorwski in Poland who sent me some nice fishy stamps, Zhen Ye in Taiwan who seems to have been spreading favourable words about ICES to his colleagues, Alan Sinclair of the Pacific Biological Station, Vancouver who sent in Journal text 100/98, and to Roy Harden Jones in Tasmania who sent me a copy of his report "Fisheries Ecologically Sustainable Development: Terms and Concepts". As might be expected with Roy this is not anything like as dry as it sounds, and my eye was immediately taken by the fact that "Dr Johnson's dictionary" features prominently and by the section of "Aphorisms, maxims and the like for research scientists". More seriously Roy reports that in a recent Australian court case social, community, and equity issues have been ruled out as things to be considered in Fisheries Management matters. I have some references to pass on if anyone wants them.

DEFINING "FUZZY LOGIC" ETC.

"Nothing empirical is either absolutely true or absolutely false, just true or false to a degree," says the book that I was looking for in the last issue as a help in understanding other people's fields of interest. There were also equally readable explanations of

seventy-nine other key ideas of Western thought in *A Little Knowledge* by Michael Macrone (ISBN 009 186 5298).

All came to life unexpectedly at the ASC reception where Kjellrun Hiis Hauge told me how she had become interested in the role that personal knowledge plays when, for example, people are evaluating the results of model runs. She thinks, too, that discussions at Working Groups can reflect greater uncertainty about an assessment of any kind than appears in the subsequent report and suggests a “pedigree matrix” might be a way of communicating such qualitative factors. See CM 1998/T:16 for more details.

FINAL THOUGHTS ON THE ASC

How nice it was to sense the impact that John Shepherd’s piece in the last newsletter had on the thoughts and minds of lots of people and that there were tangible consequences too, I think, in the way the Publications Committee and the Delegates looked at the future.

With the new format of the ASC do we need an Open Lecture any more on the first day? Its *raison d’être* was the need to bring the disciplines together and to get people thinking about the progress and problems in areas other than their own, but this has gone in large part with the new programming.



ICES / CIEM Information

[Issue No. 33, Contents](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

Welcome to the first ICES “Weblet”

–i.e., an ICES newsletter issued solely on the Web. We will learn as we go along how people prefer it to be served up but begin conservatively with the aim of replacing all the contents at regular intervals and thus keeping discrete numbers in being. We have no idea how many members of the community we can reach in this way but hope that for those areas still poorly served by WWW links the institute librarians will run off a few hard copies that can be passed around. After three or four numbers we will take stock by finding out, as best as we can, just what circulation is being achieved and how you think future issues should develop.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE EXPLORATION OF THE SEA

CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL POUR L'EXPLORATION DE LA MER

- [Contents](#)
- [Timetable for the 1999 ASC](#)
- [ICES Information Issue 33](#)
- [News Items](#)

Any problems or corrections should be reported to www@ices.dk



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
 - Strategic planning... full text
- [ICES publications -a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle - a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttlebutt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

Strategic Planning for the Next Century

Full text version

Michael P. Sissenwine
NMFS/NOAA
Woods Hole, MA, USA

These are exciting times for ICES. There have been a lot of recent changes, I believe in the right direction, and, in a changing world ICES must continue to evolve. ICES faces continuing challenges in terms of scientific opportunities, expectations for more and better scientific advice, the functionality of its organization, and budget priorities. These are challenges that I face as a Delegate and past member of the Bureau, and they are challenges that touch on everyone associated with ICES to some degree. Unfortunately, some of the change process in recent years has not gone as smoothly as I had hoped—note that it took more than three years to reach agreement on our recent restructuring—because, in my opinion, we lack a shared understanding of where ICES is going and how it will get there. In other words, we need a Strategic Plan to guide ICES into its second hundred years.

The President of ICES, and the Bureau, demonstrated their strong support for strategic planning in 1997 by establishing a Bureau Working Group on Strategic Planning, which I have had the honour of chairing. I gave a progress report at the 1998 Annual Science Conference (ASC) at Cascais, Portugal. In this newsletter article, I reiterate the report I gave to the ASC and will give you an update.

I am extremely pleased with the membership of the Bureau Working Group. It reflects an excellent cross section of ICES in terms of experience, responsibilities, and scientific disciplines. The members work very well together. They are Pentti Mälkki (First Vice-President), Robin Cook (Chair of the Consultative Committee), Astrid Jarre-Teichmann (Chair of the Committee on Marine Habitat), Rob Stephenson (Chair of the Committee on Resource Management), Stig Carlberg (Chair of the Advisory Committee on the Marine Environment), and I, along with Chris

Hopkins (General Secretary) as ex-officio member.

The terms of reference given to the Working Group by the Bureau were ambitious. They called for the Working Group to consider

- a vision and long-term goals for ICES;
- guidelines for preparing Strategic Plan objectives, activity, and outcomes;
- processes to obtain input from Delegates and external shareholders;
- linkage between the Strategic Plan and the ICES budget;
- linkage between the Strategic Plan and priority-setting of national programmes;
- communications about the Strategic Plan; and
- the timetable for carrying out the strategic planning process.

The Working Group fulfilled all its terms of reference, at least to some degree. I will only highlight the results that I think are of general interest.

In responding to the terms of reference the Working Group considered several relevant documents and current issues as background. These included the Convention establishing ICES (in particular Article I which calls for "research and investigations for the study of the sea, particularly related to the living resources thereof"), the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the UN Agreement on Straddling Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, the Intermediate Ministerial Meeting of Fisheries and Environment Ministers (i.e. North Sea Conference), and the need to apply a precautionary approach. These background considerations led the Working Group to conclude that the ICES Strategic Plan should recognize the complexity of the issues facing society, the need for interdisciplinary research, and the need to be conservation- and ecosystem-oriented.

Based on the background considered by the Working Group, and the experience of its members, a preliminary ICES vision and mission statement were drafted. The vision is a broad statement about the setting that we hope ICES will be a part of in the future. It is broader than ICES. The mission statement describes the role that ICES should play in making the vision a reality. The Working Group realizes that there are many ways to express the ideas in the vision and the mission statement. This is especially so for an organization made up of people with many different native languages and diverse cultural backgrounds. The ideas, though, are

the things that are important. The vision proposed by the Working Group is:

An international scientific enterprise that is relevant, responsive, respected and right, relative to marine ecosystems and their relationship to humankind.

I think this single sentence says a lot. It recognizes a scientific enterprise bigger than ICES. It emphasizes marine ecosystems, not just fisheries, and evolving societal needs. It indicates the characteristics of the scientific information needed by users. Even the awkwardness of the gender-neutral wording provides an important message about the need for more appreciation of human diversity issues in general. To fulfil the vision, the Working Group proposed that the ICES Mission should be:

To lead the way by mobilizing scientific assets to advance capacity to understand and advise on the impact of human activity on marine ecosystems, and the implications of natural change.

The Working Group elaborated on the mission statement by pointing out that:

- the focus should be on the North Atlantic and adjacent seas, with due consideration of global concerns;
- there should be investments in both short- and long-term interdisciplinary research, including physical, chemical, biological and social sciences;
- partnerships with other organisations that have a common interest should be established;
- ICES should be responsive to emerging issues;
- arrangements should be created to provide scientific advice; and
- ICES should objectively and effectively inform the public about marine ecosystem issues.

I think the proposed mission's emphasis on developing the scientific capability to give advice, and on ecosystems (not just fisheries) are particularly noteworthy.

Seven general goals were put forward by the Working Group as a framework for the future development of the Strategic Plan. The goals are to:

1. Make ICES the most appealing and credible scientific

- organization it can be.
2. Match ICES budget to needs and expectations for scientific knowledge and advice.
 3. Develop a challenging core science programme to fulfil the ICES mission.
 4. Provide sound, credible, and timely advice that is relevant to today's and future societal needs.
 5. Establish and maintain partnerships that are mutually beneficial in fulfilling ICES's vision.
 6. Maintain and further develop a modern and effective infrastructure to support the ICES mission.
 7. Raise public understanding of marine ecosystems and their relevance to society.

The Working Group identified many necessary elements of a strategy to achieve these goals, such as continuing to widen the appeal of the Annual Science Conference; making ICES more open to non-governmental scientists world-wide; encouraging diversity (such as in terms of gender, race, ethnicity) in the ICES community; implementing full cost recovery for requested advice; being sensitive to the emergence of new marine science issues; developing appropriate quality assurance protocols for scientific advice; encouraging the development and application of new technologies and standards; and expanding use of media that widely accessible to the public (e.g. videos, Web sites, newsletters). It also identified potential activities that ICES might use to fulfil its mission. Some of these activities are familiar to the ICES community (e.g. symposia, working groups), but others are new (e.g. virtual meetings via electronic media, electronic publication, shared infrastructure, virtual institutes that span several laboratories). The Working Group proposed a time table and general format for identifying objectives (e.g. specific scientific information that ICES scientists want to obtain), tactics (i.e. the approach that will be used), and activities (i.e. what will be done). Objectives, tactics and activities will be the substance of the plan. It is the responsibility of the entire ICES community to provide this substance, generally through the ICES Committee Structure. The reaction to the Strategic Planning framework by participants at the Annual Science Conference, the Consultative Committee, and the Delegates, was overwhelmingly positive. Of course, there were many comments that indicated needs for improvement, but the comments were constructive and encouraging. Ultimately, they will make the plan stronger.

The Science Committees and Advisory Committees took advantage of their meeting at the Annual Science Conference to work on the

Strategic Plan's objectives. They made good progress under the overall leadership of Robin Cook (Chair). Both the Consultative Committee and the Bureau Strategic Planning Working Group will meet during the summer (1999), perhaps together, to review progress and refine the plan. We expect to have an initial Strategic Plan ready for review and approval at the 1999 Annual Science Conference in Stockholm. This should also be the first occasion when the plan will be presented to stakeholders. The Working Group proposed that, beginning with the Stockholm meeting and culminating on ICES's one hundredth anniversary in Copenhagen in 2002, ICES should engage in extensive dialogue with its stakeholders to revise the initial plan and produce a "Centennial Strategic Plan" to guide ICES as it begins its second century.

I hope as many of you as possible will participate in the strategic planning process. You are ICES's strength. The plan cannot be successful without you.



Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications - a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle - a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
 - ✦ [United Kingdom](#)
 - [Iceland](#)
 - [Ireland](#)
 - [France and Spain](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttlebutt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)



United Kingdom

"SCOTIA": A NEW RESEARCH VESSEL FOR THE MARINE LABORATORY, ABERDEEN

Peter Stewart
Marine Laboratory
Aberdeen, Scotland, UK

In the spring of 1998 the Marine Laboratory took delivery of a new ocean-going research vessel "Scotia". She was named at a ceremony at Aberdeen harbour on 21 May by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother; a great honour for the City and the Marine Laboratory. The fourth Scottish research vessel to bear this name, she is already proving to be a great asset. Designed by Skipteknisk of Ålesund in Norway and built by Ferguson Shipbuilders of Port Glasgow in Scotland, she will carry out stock assessment and oceanographic work in the North Atlantic.

The acquisition of a new and large research vessel is a major event in the life of a marine institute and presents a rare opportunity for the staff to help design new facilities to improve the scope and quality of their research work. An interested and enthusiastic group of scientists, led by John Morrison, developed a practical specification from many innovative and speculative ideas. The design of research vessels evolves with experience and several of the features in the "Scotia" are based on concepts used in other

recently built vessels and found to be valuable by the scientists who work on them. For example containerized laboratories within the hull, as used in RV "Pelagia" (Netherlands), were seen as a way of making best use of the space and enabling facilities to be upgraded regularly without expensive refitting. Then again, the hull form is similar to that of RV "Tangaroa" (New Zealand), giving good sea keeping whilst trawling in bad weather and a drop keel is fitted for the acoustic transducers like that in RV "Jan Mayen" (Norway), which has a similar hull.

"Scotia" has an overall length of 68.6 m, a beam of 15 m and a tonnage of 2600 GRT. The complement is a crew of 17 and up to 12 scientists. Endurance at sea is 30 days. The propulsion system is diesel electric, powered by three 1400 kW Wartsila diesel engines coupled to Ansaldo alternators which drive two 1500 kW Ansaldo DC motors in tandem on the main shaft. The propeller is fixed, 3.6 m in diameter with five blades. An omni-directional bow thruster (700 kW) and a tunnel stern thruster (389 kW) are integrated with the main drive and rudder into a dynamic positioning system referenced to DGPS.

The fishing equipment has been chosen for flexibility and ease of operation. There is a clear view of the trawl deck and stern ramp from the wheelhouse, and a fully automated trawl control system is provided. The main winches (34 tonne) are situated below deck and there are three net drums, two on deck and one below deck in an enclosed bay suitable for net repairs. Three sets of doors can be hung on the stern quarters and the gear can be changed rapidly between pelagic and demersal trawling.

For hydrographic work hydraulic covers move over the stern ramp, increasing the deck area and greatly simplifying the deployment and recovery of heavy buoy strings. A novel Gamma-frame is mounted on the starboard stern gantry for deploying and towing oceanographic samplers. This is preferable to an A-frame, as it can operate through the same space as the other cranes, lift equipment outboard directly from the main deck and allow pulley blocks to be changed at deck level. Additional specialized cranes and tension compensated hydraulic winches are installed for the deployment and recovery of sampling devices and instruments. The ends of the cranes can be made to lock onto the equipment and release or recover it at the sea surface to prevent it swinging and possibly being damaged. On the starboard side, at trawl deck level, there is a very useful hangar with an extending hydraulic ram to deploy CTD, rosette and other samplers safely and securely. The samplers are again locked onto the end of the ram for safety.

The use of containerized laboratories within the hull is a major

change in operating practice. These are fitted out for specific tasks (acoustics, plankton analysis, hydrography, chemical analysis, etc.) and hooked up to services when in position. Their use will simplify and speed up the changeover of equipment between cruises. The only fixed laboratory is for wet fish sampling. The space available below decks, on two levels, can accommodate five 6 x 2.5 m and four 3 x 2.5 m containers.

An important aspect of the design was the minimization of noise which might interfere with acoustic survey equipment. The ICES guidance on noise control was followed and noise reduction techniques were applied. After completion the vessel's noise characteristics were measured on an acoustic range in the Clyde estuary and she was found to be within specification over almost all of the relevant frequency range.

The drop keel is 3 m deep and will enable the transducers to operate below the entrained bubble layer in most sea states. It holds an ADCP, 38, 120 and 200 kHz transducers, has spare space and is easily retracted into the hull for maintenance, and the transducer surface is accessible at sea.

Efficient data handling is essential for current methods of working and comprehensive facilities are provided throughout the vessel for logging and processing data for navigation and all the scientific tasks in which "Scotia" will engage. Any visitor to the vessel is struck by the large number of computers and display screens installed. It is worth recalling for contrast the great efforts needed nearly 30 years ago to install and use an Elliot 920 computer with 16k of memory on the steam-driven FRV "Explorer".

"Scotia" is an impressive vessel and a credit to both Skipteknisk and Fergusons. She will probably influence the design of many future research vessels. Continuous interaction between the scientific steering group, the designers and the shipyard during the project has ensured that the vessel meets the requirements of the scientists who will work on her for years to come. The efforts of those concerned are well justified by the results and much appreciated by their colleagues.

REPLACEMENT FOR RV "CIROLANA"

In August CEFAS announced that tenders will shortly be invited for the building of a new vessel within the next two to three years at a cost of up to GB£30m.





Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications
-a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle
- a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [United Kingdom](#)
- [Iceland](#)
- [Ireland](#)
- [France and Spain](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttle-
butt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)



Iceland

"ÁRNI FRÍÐRIKSSON": A NEW RESEARCH VESSEL FOR THE MARINE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, ICELAND

Jakob Jakobsson
Marine Research Institute
Reykjavik, Iceland

A new 70-metre research vessel for the Marine Research Institute (MRI) of Reykjavik is under construction in Chile. The ship was launched on 19 April 1999, and the estimated time of delivery is in late August or early September. On her way home she will have to cross 101 degrees latitude, the shipyard being at 37°S and Reykjavik at 64°N. The voyage is expected to take about 25 days. The new ship is a logical answer to the increasing demand on the MRI to carry out extensive ecosystem research in the North Atlantic, where Iceland is in a key geographical position in regard to oceanographic as well as biological research.

It is well known, at least within ICES, that MRI scientists have a long tradition of acoustic abundance estimates on pelagic fish. They are now looking forward greatly to moving from the 32-year-old "Árni Friðriksson", which has served them well, to the new "Árni Friðriksson" -which is expected to be a much better and more stable working platform with the advantage of a modern drop keel. This is especially important when surveying in the rough winter weather of the Iceland Sea. Similarly, all deep sea research will be revolutionized by moving from the old to the new vessel. She will be equipped for towing two trawls simultaneously side by side, a feature which is invaluable in comparative fishing gear trials.

As is to be expected close attention is being paid to the progress of the construction in Chile where two staff members have been on the spot. Their number will increase once the ship has been launched. The construction of the vessel is being financed through a fund supported by the fishing industry. A somewhat similar arrangement was organized in 1965 when the first "Árni Friðriksson" was built.



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications
-a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle
- a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
 - [United Kingdom](#)
 - [Iceland](#)
 - [Ireland](#)
 - [France and Spain](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttle-
butt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

Ireland

"CELTIC VOYAGER": A NEW RESEARCH VESSEL FOR IRISH COASTAL WATERS

Michael Gillooly

The "Celtic Voyager" is Ireland's newest research vessel and it replaces the RV "Lough Beltra" (1978 - 1997). Built by Scheepswerf Visser at Den Helder in the Netherlands and delivered in July 1997, the "Celtic Voyager" is part of a planned expansion of the Irish research vessel fleet and provides an essential research, training and monitoring facility for work in Irish coastal waters.

RV "Celtic Voyager" Specifications

Length 31.4m

Beam 8.5m

Draught 3.8m

Cruising speed 10 knots

Engine 626 kW

Capacity 6 crew, 8 scientists

The vessel has wet, chemical and electronics laboratories with permanently fitted standard equipment. A Data Acquisition System collects underway data from a range of sensors and an A-frame, crane and wide selection of winches can be used to manipulate a range of specialist equipment.

In designing the vessel's layout and equipment, emphasis was placed on it being possible to change quickly from one role to another. Hence the "Celtic Voyager" can be transformed from a seismic survey ship to a fully equipped fishery research vessel in a matter of hours.

The "Celtic Voyager" has exceeded expectations in all aspects of her operations with a considerably increased range, improved workspace on board, a significant reduction in down-time due to bad weather, value for money despite substantially increased operations, and greater sea-comfort with consequent beneficial

effects for scientific output.

The vessel has been extremely busy since its delivery. Between commencing operations on 22 July 1997 and up to 2 December 1998 it completed 46 scientific missions, ranging in length from 2 to 19 days each and exceeding 350 days operation in total for the period.

The work being done on these cruises has included geological surveys off the SW coast of Ireland, marine archaeological work on wrecks around the coast, development of forecast models for toxic plankton blooms or "red tides", herring egg surveys, mackerel egg surveys, and fisheries acoustics programmes. Major programmes in 1999 include participation in the international RAPIDS programme in the Porcupine Bight, extensive fisheries acoustics programmes and fishing gear intercomparisons with the "Scotia".

[Further information is available via mgillooly@frc.ie.](mailto:mgillooly@frc.ie)



Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications
-a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle
- a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [United Kingdom](#)
- [Iceland](#)
- [Ireland](#)
- [France and Spain](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttle-
butt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)



France

"THALASSA": THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE FRENCH FLEET OF RESEARCH VESSELS

The new "Thalassa" has come into service in recent months and follows closely on the arrival of "L'Atalante" and the research catamaran "L'Europe" in the fleet of vessels owned by IFREMER. In this case, however, the ship is a joint construction with IEO, the Spanish Institute of Oceanography, which partially financed the project and whose scientists will take part in the cruises for two months in each year. This must be the first such joint venture amongst nations of the ICES community and is rather a big step forward.

The ship is 74.5m long, has a beam of 14.9m and winches on board that allow her to fish to 2000m. Most cruises will take place in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea with space for up to 25 scientists. There are "state of the art" systems in all aspects of the running of the ship. Eight "real-time" processing systems are working whilst the ship is at sea and are connected to each other via the multimedia local area network.

[Further information from jacques.binot@ifremer.fr](mailto:jacques.binot@ifremer.fr)



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications
-a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle
- a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
 - [98 ASC \(S. Mackinson\)](#)
 - [98 ASC \(M. Clark\)](#)
 - [98 ASC \(K. Hiis Hauge\)](#)
 - [TACs and quotas](#)
 - [Oceanic hydrogr.'s meet,
Murmansk](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttle-
butt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

98 ASC: a first-timer's view

Steve Mackinson
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, B.C., Canada

More than 1000 people were registered for this year's ICES Annual Science Conference, making it the largest to date. The conference was held at Cascais, traditionally a small fishing town, 30 minutes west of Lisbon on the Tagus estuary in Portugal. The meeting was divided into 17 specific sessions, some of which were held at the same time. As a first-timer to the ICES meetings I was impressed at the smooth, seemingly uncomplicated operation of the conference schedule and the efficient chairing of individual sessions.

The scientific sessions provided ample opportunity to catch up on recent research in specific areas. The largest session, "Deepwater Fish and Fisheries", boasted approximately 50 oral presentations and many high quality posters. The second largest session, "Variation and Pattern of Fish Aggregation" had more than 30 reasonably diverse presentations. On the whole the standard was good, although the visual quality of presentations given by some 'seasoned' presenters was a little disappointing. However, others were stunning. Most notable were the multimedia presentations on migration (John Simmonds), and on 3-dimensional acoustic observations (Paul Fernandes), an interesting subject which will inevitably be the focus of much attention in the future.

Congratulations to the sound crews for a fantastic job in making the presentations heard from the front to the back of the rooms.

Cascais was a perfect location for the ICES Annual Science Conference, and many people enjoyed the seafood bounty to be had in local restaurants. Some of the local delights included sea bream, scabbard fish, grilled sardines, swordfish, tiger prawns and a variety of other shellfish, all fresh directly from the public fish market in Cascais, held daily. It seemed that the Norwegian delegation held a strong front on the social activities (unsurprising since there were more than 80 Norwegian participants). However, they were frequently joined by others enjoying the pleasure of

sitting in the open, imbibing the warm summer air and local refreshments into the wee hours of morning.

The Portuguese were consummate hosts. Although unable to attend, I hear the opening reception, which was held at an old palace, was a lavish splendour of wine and food. Not wanting to miss out twice, I ensured a seat for the grand conference dinner, which was held at Estufa Fria, a tropical jungle oasis in Lisbon. Traditional Portuguese music and song accompanied our splendid meal, after which many people adjourned to the tropical plant house, only to find themselves lost in the jungle in search of either the washrooms or the exit.

For myself, the 1998 ICES ASC was a great benefit and definite success. First of all, I was able to meet people and put faces to names. Secondly, I had the opportunity to share my own research ideas, learn from other researchers and establish new areas for potential work. Thirdly, I was able to consolidate existing friendships and discuss new working ventures. Finally, I relaxed and enjoyed the Portuguese hospitality. All in all a memorable conference. I look forward to participating in future ICES conferences.



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications
-a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle
- a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
 - [98 ASC \(S. Mackinson\)](#)
 - [98 ASC \(M. Clark\)](#)
 - [98 ASC \(K. Hiis Hauge\)](#)
 - [TACs and quotas](#)
 - [Oceanic hydrogr.'s meet,
Murmansk](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttle-
butt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

98 ASC: a first look with a difference

Malcolm Clark

NIWA

Wellington, New Zealand

In theory, the 1998 conference wasn't my first, but in practice attending this year at Cascais and presenting a keynote address to the deepwater fish and fisheries session was a very different experience from that 18 years ago when as a pretty green Ph.D. student I staggered through my first talk to a major international conference, that of ICES in Copenhagen, 1980. Things have certainly changed since then!

The 1998 ASC was a busy, energetic, and very stimulating conference. From the outset with the range of addresses at the General Assembly opening of the ASC, it was clear that ICES is moving forward to meet the challenges of the next century, and even though strategic planning and restructuring are often unwelcome impositions on the science community, I got the feeling that the action being taken now would ensure ICES was going to continue to be a highly effective and envied scientific organization.

A major change for me in the running of the conference was the shift from the "old" broad session structures to smaller theme sessions. This was very effective, and meant that papers could be clustered into appropriate groupings. I was impressed at how this led to very constructive discussion as people's attention was focused on a narrower range of issues. The obvious disadvantage of this approach, however, is that with the number of parallel sessions, together with some difficulty in keeping presentations to schedule, it proved very difficult to move between sessions and successfully catch many of the papers of interest — there were simply too many things going on at once. This is always a problem with a conference as large as this one (with 1000-odd registrations), but I felt that the meeting really needed an extra day to spread the papers out a bit more, and reduce the number of concurrent sessions. With a bit less pressure on the scheduling, enabling attendance at more papers in different sessions, I think I could have got a lot more out

of the conference. I also felt that the various sessions functioned too independently, and it would have been nice to have seen the odd plenary session, maybe along the lines of a debate-style as suggested by Pamela Mace last year, which could have provided a more integrated structure to the conference proceedings.

Having said that though, the diversity of fields represented at the ASC was very impressive, and very stimulating. The quality of papers was generally pretty good. I came away from the conference thinking about ways to add in all sorts of extras to some of my research programmes to try and make them broader and more multidisciplinary. At the other end of the scale, I also found some different methods, and ways of presenting results, that would improve the detail of some of my own analyses. The wide diversity of participants, and the high level of expertise gathered in one place, had benefits beyond simply the papers, as meeting and discussing aspects and issues with old friends and new scientists from a wide range of countries and disciplines is really important for participants from a small country like New Zealand, which tucked away down under tends to be a bit isolated from regular contacts at international meetings.

Overall, I found the conference organization, content, attendance, and social events were good. Couple the science with a lovely venue and excellent weather, and you have a highly successful conference. My congratulations to the Council and the conference organization team.



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications
-a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle
- a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
 - [98 ASC \(S. Mackinson\)](#)
 - [98 ASC \(M. Clark\)](#)
 - [98 ASC \(K. Hiis Hauge\)](#)
 - [TACs and quotas](#)
 - [Oceanic hydrogr.'s meet,
Murmansk](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttle-
butt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

98 ASC: meeting expectations

Kjellrun Hiis Hauge
Institute of Marine Research
Bergen, Norway

After a disastrous summer in Southern Norway that produced blisters instead of a suntan a trip to Cascais was a must. It certainly met my expectations. I enjoyed a great event in the warmth of a late-summer sun.

In 1994 when I attended an ASC for the first time I had been working in fisheries science for only six months. My background was in mathematics and I knew nothing about fish except for what salmon, cod and herring tasted like. I decided that it was time to pick and choose from all the different sessions and get a picture of what occupied my colleagues around the world. I learnt a lot. Of course my knowledge on different topics increased but maybe even more importantly, I got an insight into what we do not know and why we should like to know this and that. Hence ASC's are perfect for beginners in the game, but I would think they have similar benefits, even if in less degree, for more experienced colleagues as well. An overview of what is going on helps put your own work in a wider context. However, the success of intersessional migration depends on how strictly the conveners keep to the schedule, and I was disappointed a couple of times. Still, I suppose that the speakers at the opening of the conference set a standard.

Last year, my second time, I experienced another very important aspect of the ASC. I arrived at the conference bringing with me a partly digested idea that I was quite excited and anxious about. The meeting allowed me to discuss this idea and to get other people's opinions, both positive and negative. This is very important in research, and the ASC provides a unique opportunity in the year to gain such perspectives.

A third valuable quality of the ASC is the inspiration gained from making new contacts, meeting old friends and picking up new ideas. It is so nice when all these things happen in a nice frame: an

unforgettable reception, lovely cool air in the conference rooms, beautiful surroundings and the warmth of the Portuguese people. I returned home content but exhausted from all the impressions gained, and from the good wine. Obrigada



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications
-a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle
- a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
 - [98 ASC \(S. Mackinson\)](#)
 - [98 ASC \(M. Clark\)](#)
 - [98 ASC \(K. Hiis Hauge\)](#)
 - TACs and quotas
 - [Oceanic hydrogr.'s meet,
Murmansk](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttle-
butt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

TACs and quotas

John Ramster, Editor

The latest in a series of London meetings organized by the Greenwich Forum to discuss the forthcoming review of the EU's Common Fisheries Policy looked for possible alternatives to TACs and quotas. Dave Armstrong and several others felt at the end of the day that no such possibility had hove into sight, with Clarrie MacKinnon from Canada and Ross Shotton from FAO painting a bleakish picture of the effect of ITQs thus far in various areas. Clarrie also emphasized the way that Canadian Communities are starting to fight their way out of their problems.

With 135 people attending the latest session this series is rapidly establishing itself as a serious attempt to lay out every aspect of the situation for all to see. What is needed now, it seems to me, is for someone to pull together all the points being made and turn the meetings from talking-shops into precursors of a "straw-man" policy for the European industry that some future meeting or meetings can discuss. From all this might well come a document that does the Commission's job for it in large part.

The details of the subject are well outside my "tool-bag", as I am told the saying goes in management circles, but as an interested body I sense from the meetings that I am beginning to see why we have not made all that much obvious progress in fisheries management thus far. We have to do better, I feel – and said so at the meeting only to be showered with scorn by D. Armstrong – than to continue with the present system that can lead to expensive legal decisions that amongst other things say "Mackerel retained on board a vessel would be deemed by paragraph 3 of article 9 to have been caught within that area, unless the vessel had complied with a procedure described in the three sub-paragraphs of paragraph 3." Precise, beyond all quibbling and so on, but did we have to get to such a pass over the catching of any fish?



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications -a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle - a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
 - [98 ASC \(S. Mackinson\)](#)
 - [98 ASC \(M. Clark\)](#)
 - [98 ASC \(K. Hiis Hauge\)](#)
 - [TACs and quotas](#)
 - [Oceanic hydrogr.'s meet, Murmansk](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
- [Editorial scuttlebutt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

Oceanic hydrographers meet in Murmansk

Harry Dooley, ICES Oceanographer

The Oceanic Hydrography Working Group took the long trek to PINRO, Murmansk, Russia in April to hold its 1999 meeting. As Murmansk is located in the remote Kola peninsula to the northeast of Scandinavia, the meeting was probably the furthest north of the Arctic Circle that has been held to date by any ICES Working Group. Given the tremendous hospitality extended by Valery Shleinik, one of the Russian Delegates to ICES, and his colleagues, it cannot be too long before other ICES Working Groups will want to find their way to PINRO.

Until this meeting, no PINRO scientist was included in the membership list of the Working Group. The Group was however honoured to be able to welcome Vladimir Oznigin to its membership, following his nomination by Valery at the start of the meeting. The Working Group had already got to know and work with PINRO and other scientists from Russia before its meeting, which started on the Tuesday, because of their participation in a Symposium on the preceding day. The Symposium was held to mark an important landmark in the history of oceanographic observations in the Barents Sea – the Centenary of oceanographic observations along the “Kola Meridian” which runs northwards across the Barents Sea from the Russian coast, at 33° 30′ E. Russian physical, biological and fisheries oceanographers described the development of their understanding of oceanographic and fisheries processes in what is seen as one of the longest and most complete series of observations anywhere in the world’s oceans. The Working Group was not a passive participant in these proceedings, with several of them making contributions to the Symposium. These contributions were of course designed to be relevant to the objectives of the Symposium, and described the long-term close relationship between Norwegian and Russian marine scientists on cooperative programmes in the Barents Sea. They also addressed work going on “upstream” of the Kola Meridian, in the Faroe-Shetland Channel, for example.

The Working Group had a full agenda, but it was able to give time out to take in the sights and culture of the Murmansk area. A highlight was a visit to the Murmansk Oceanarium where the Working Group was able to enjoy a show given by performing seals. Travelling to and from Murmansk was also an event for the Working Group as it reached the city by bus from the northern Norwegian town of Kirkenes. The 200 km, seven-hour journey across the frozen Arctic wastes went smoothly, thanks to the careful "fathering" of Harald Loeng, Norwegian Chair of the Oceanography Committee, who has had close contact with PINRO scientists for many years. Chair Savi Narayanan (DFO, Canada) was particularly delighted as it meant an extra 14 hours not only to discuss "other topics" relevant to the WG, but also to "tour" in the Arctic for the first time, under perfect sunny weather conditions in the pleasant company of the WG members!



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications -a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle - a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
 - New faces/Obituaries
- [Around the Delegates](#)
- [Editorial scuttlebutt 3](#)

Home, This newsletter

Home, ICES

New faces

Hans Lassen – ICES Fisheries Adviser

The Council was very pleased to welcome Hans Lassen as the new ICES Fisheries Adviser on 1 November 1998.

[Hans's CV is on the ICES Web site.](#)

Thaddeus Edward Rozwadowski Allen

Born 1/1/99 and weighing in at 8lbs 1oz with a length of 20 ins for the Population Dynamicists to mull over. He may not be walking the corridors on his own account for some time but, who knows, Helen may have him over a shoulder when she appears later this year. Congratulations to Helen and Mike from all her friends in ICES.

Obituaries

Ruth Larsen

Ruth Larsen died on 8 December 1998 aged 81. For many years she was a staff member of the ICES Secretariat working in the Service Hydrographique and involved with, amongst other things, transferring hydrographic data to punch cards. She was a real “Team-player” and very popular with her colleagues. She retired in 1984 after nearly 30 years of devoted service. Ruth is survived by a son and three daughters, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. - **Jens Smed**

Roger Bailey

Dr Roger Samuel Bailey, former ICES Fisheries Adviser, died on 19 February 1999, to the deep sorrow of all who had known him.

His funeral service was attended by many family members and friends, including Colin Bannister, whose account and tribute follow:

8 March 1999 in Banchory

Early morning rain dampens the spirits just a little as I leave home in the pre-dawn, amid the quirky twitter of birds tricked into sub-song by the street lights, and head off through the puddles of Norfolk to the airport. For a while I am mesmerized by the noise of the wiper blades which bizarrely echo my heart beat and make me think about the unseen pump that keeps us all going. The mind wanders from a heart that is still beating to one that is beating no longer: from the purely physical to the metaphysical: to the heart of Roger Samuel Bailey. I remember with sadness someone whose often unseen virtues transcended the customary behaviour patterns of macho man.

Several hours later I glide over the snows of the Grampian hills incandescent in the unexpected sunshine. I drive through the sparkle of the Granite City itself and take a familiar road to Deeside where the countryside seems to waken and sing. There in the solid setting of a small Banchory church, so suitable for the devout Christian that Roger was, came the unanimous testimony of family, friends and colleagues: gentle gentleman, a man who led by having no visible ego, a man who enjoyed the enjoyable, a man as much loved as he loved much. Sonorous singing, ageless hymns, familiar psalms and chants: 'Now Lettest Thou Thy Servant Depart In Peace, For Mine Eyes Have Seen Thy Salvation.'

Roger was a man who gave service steadfastly to his religion, devotedly to his family, and, to his professional life, in the generous mode of the Victorian hobby-scientist. This short piece cannot do justice to the litany of fine words spoken with deep feeling about a man whose life was so good that, in a curious sense, it actually needed no words at all. It was almost enough to sit there and hear the stones shout out loud on his behalf. How bravely his family and Jane bore it all. And, I imagined, how bravely and enjoyably he bore it himself, somehow still alert and smiling beneath the coffin lid with its flowers, and delighting in the musical interludes as Lucy Bailey sang from John Ireland, and Adam Kirkaldy sang from Fauré's Requiem.

This was without question an integrating experience. Whether believer or otherwise it was impossible not to be involved in the simplicity of the final eucharistic rite, or to deny that family, friends, neighbours, parishioners, and colleagues had been united and resurrected with the essence of life and love made possible by

Roger's presence and spirit. For Roger his death undoubtedly marks a reconnection with the Creator in whom he believed so much. For those who are left his death and funeral reconnected us to the real spirit of life, which it is too easy to lose in the premature death that we so often sense in the turmoil of our ongoing lives. -

Colin Bannister



ICES / CIEM Information

Issue No. 33, Contents

- [The 98 ASC](#)
- [Strategic planning](#)
- [ICES publications - a reappraisal](#)
- [Peter Boyle - a profile](#)
- [New ships](#)
- [Meeting reports](#)
- [ICES 100](#)
- [ICES update](#)
 - [New faces/Obituaries](#)
 - [Around the Delegates](#)
- [Editorial scuttlebutt 3](#)

[Home, This newsletter](#)

[Home, ICES](#)

Around the Delegates

This is a new feature after the style of "Around the USA" in every "USA TODAY" and aims to report items of all kinds from Member Countries that have occurred in the last six months. As many as are to hand at copy time will be used.

LATVIA

"The joint Latvian-Russian hydroacoustic survey in the Eastern Baltic in October 1998 showed that sprat stock is high, while the 1998 yearclass seems to be poor. This is a signal that sprat stock in the Baltic Sea could sharply decrease and stronger fishery restrictions in 2000 could be needed.

NORWAY

The destruction of Lophelia reefs in Mid-Norway With the use of ROV (Remote Operated Vehicle) researchers at the IMR have shown great destructions of Lophelia reefs in Mid-Norway caused by trawling. This has resulted in a overnmental proposal for protection of some of the investigated reefs. The work to get an overview of all species identified for Lophelia reefs in the area is proceeding.

Contact: Jan Helge Fossaa, phone +47 55 23 85 33, fax +47 55 23 85 84

UNITED KINGDOM

Bob Dickson has been promoted to "Merit Grade 5", an almost unheard of achievement in the British Civil Service, as a result of his international standing in Oceanography.

THE NETHERLANDS

RIVO-DLO has been reorganized and now comprises two research departments: Biological and Ecological Research (department BE, head: Adriaan Rijnsdorp) and Environment, Quality, Technology and Nutrition (department MKTV, head: Joop Luten). The research fields of the former Technological Research and Shellfish Research departments have been reallocated. Besides the traditional work in fisheries biology, department BE now includes shellfish research

conducted in its satellite institute in Yerseke (Aad Smaal c.s.) and gear selectivity research (Bob van Marlen c.s.). Later this year RIVO-DLO will be privatized and merged with the Institute of Animal Science in Lelystad (ID-DLO). It is likely that we will all have to learn a new acronym for Dutch fisheries research.

ICELAND

See the note on the new research vessel in the “New ships” article earlier.

RUSSIA

The results of the Russian survey made in November 1998—January 1999 confirm the downward trend in cod and haddock stocks of the Barents Sea. In February 1999 the Norwegian research vessel, "Johan Hjort", was authorized by Russia to investigate the stocks in the Russian EEZ. The results of Russian and Norwegian studies were to be reviewed at the annual meeting of scientists from the two countries that was held 22—25 March in Murmansk. The extensive surveys of the cod and haddock stocks that have taken place will lessen the uncertainty in the stock estimates of these valuable species that has arisen, in part, because of the lack of surveys in 1996—1998 and, hopefully, the stocks will be used more rationally.

FRANCE/SPAIN

See the note about the new RV "Thalassa" in the “New ships” section earlier.

SPAIN

Colleagues of Prof. Margalef have put forward a proposal that he should be considered for the prize awarded by the Principe de Asturias to people of outstanding merit in different fields of human activity. In previous years the recipients have included Stephen Hawking, the late King Hussein, Emma Bonino and Yassir Arafat. Prof. Margalef's supporters point out that he was one of the few marine scientists in Spain in the early 50s and that his work has inspired generations of students. He has written books on phytoplankton and ecology respectively and also struggled, with others, in the 1960s to get financed and built the first Spanish oceanographic vessel, the "Cornide de Saavedra". Once this ship came into service in the early 1970s Spanish marine science was on a much more secure footing because it had depended on naval or fishing boats for field work until then.

IRELAND

See the story about the new RV "Celtic Voyager" in the “New ships” section earlier.

