ESSAC
ECORD Science Support & Advisory Committee

ECORD European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling

IODP INTEGRATED OCEAN DRILLING PROGRAM

CALL for scientists based in Europe and Canada
For the GREAT BARRIER REEF IODP Expedition
Organised by the ECORD Science Operator (ESO)
Deadline August 15th, 2008

The European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling (ECORD) offers you the unique possibility to sail in the framework of the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP) an international research program for drilling at sea.

SCIENTIFIC BACKGROUND

The timing and course of sea-level rise during the last deglaciation is an essential component for understanding the dynamics of large ice sheets and their effects on Earth's isostasy. The disappearance of glacial ice sheets was responsible for dramatic changes in the freshwater fluxes to the oceans, which disturbed ocean thermohaline circulation and, hence, global climate.

Coral reefs are excellent sea-level indicators, and their accurate dating by mass spectrometry is critical for constraining the timing, rate and amplitude of deglaciation events and thus for understanding the mechanisms driving glacial–interglacial, millennial and centennial cycles.

Furthermore, scleractinian coral colonies can monitor seasonal sea-surface temperatures (SSTs) and record past SSTs.

SCIENTIFIC AIMS

1. Establish the course of sea-level rise during the last deglaciation (~20-10 ka).
2. Reconstruct the nature and magnitude of seasonal-millennial scale climate variability
3. Determine the biologic and geologic response of the Great Barrier Reef to abrupt sea-level and climate changes.

TIMING:

It is anticipated that the offshore portion of the expedition will take place during the period August to December 2009, with only a limited proportion of the Science Party participating. Subsequently, an Onshore Science Party will be held at Bremen University, probably in the Spring of 2010 for up to 4 weeks. All members of the Science Party must attend for the whole duration of the Onshore Science Party.
See www.eso.ecord.org/expeditions/osp.htm

EXPERTISES REQUIRED

While other expertise may be considered, specialists in the following fields are required: **carbonate sedimentology, corals, coralline algae, benthic foraminifera, palaeomagnetics, inorganic chemistry (dating and isotopes), foraminifera, physical properties/logging and microbiology.**

APPLICATION PROCESS

A test phase for application process has been set up for this call. Please, consult the ESSAC webpage, or the ECORD Newsletter # 10 for information, on how to proceed. If you apply via the test procedure, please send an email to the ESSAC office for notification. During the test phase, you can additionally send your application documents to the ESSAC Office. Required documents (PDF only) for the traditional application process are: 1. a CV; 2. a letter of interest including your specific expertise, your previous involvement in DSDP/ODP/IODP expeditions, your research interest and if you wish full participation or to be onshore-based only ; 3. a publication list. Young researchers must provide information on the post-cruise science support to achieve the proposed scientific objectives in the future (funding scheme and support from host institution), and a letter of support from their host institution.

Please send also a copy of your application to your national office or delegate in order they can help to support your application (offices and delegates at ESSAC webpage, under "about ESSAC").

ECORD Science Operator

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