

CHANGES TO IODP SCIENTIFIC DRILLING PROGRAM SCHEDULE – ACTION NEEDED NOW!

Dear Fellow C-DEBIers,

If you have not already heard, IODP has announced that they will be cutting back from doing 4 expeditions a year to only 3 next year, as they are not being fully funded by NSF. It is in my opinion that this considerably hinders the types and quality of science we do and puts the future of the program in jeopardy.

I think that for DEBI science, this decision and the decision whether to renew the program is **critically** relevant and important for us and that our voices should be heard beyond the pages of just the Science Plan. Many institutions and individuals are writing letters of concern over this newly announced decision to Rodey Batiza (rbatiza@nsf.gov) who will present them to Asst. Director for Geosciences at NSF, Tim Killeen. I'd encourage you all to also write a letter **within the next week** detailing the importance of the program to your past and future science and your concerns over making such a considerable change to how much science at sea can be done.



Thanks for your help,
Katrina
C-DEBI Director

Details and letter from the C-DEBI Director to Batiza at <http://www.darkenergybiosphere.org/internal/iodp.html>.

C-DEBI ALL HANDS MEETING, MAY 16-17, 2011

Our first All Hands Meeting to discuss, report and plan past, present and future research and activities of our Center to build our knowledge of life in the subseafloor biosphere is coming up!

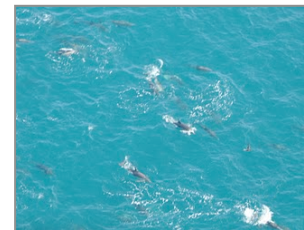
Details at <http://www.darkenergybiosphere.org/internal/allhands.html>

Also see our annual report at <http://www.darkenergybiosphere.org/internal/documents.html#SIPandReports>

C-DEBI THEME TEAM WORKSHOP: EVOLUTION AND SURVIVAL, APRIL 20-22, 2011

Our research findings have the potential to impact major current questions such as energy creation, climate change, and the very nature of evolution of life on Earth. A focus group met at the Southern California Marine Institute on Catalina Island to discuss deep subsurface biosphere evolution at the cellular level, evolution at the community level and evolution at the molecular level. The meeting report is forthcoming.

For impressions of C-DEBI and Santa Catalina Island (such as this pod of dolphins!), visit participant Jonathan Eisen's (University of California, Davis) blog at <http://phylogenomics.blogspot.com/2011/04/work-trip-to-catalina-island-usc.html>.



C-DEBI THEME TEAM WORKSHOP: LIMITS TO LIFE, MAY 18-19, 2011

A focus group will also be meeting after the All Hands to discuss the subseafloor biosphere under extremes and norms of carbon, energy, nutrient, temperature, pressure, pH and more.

DEBI RCN MEETING: DEEP BIOSPHERE SEDIMENT MICROBIOLOGY, MARCH 6-9, 2011

Our second annual DEBI RCN meeting was a joint scientific conference and workshop dedicated to exploring the cultivation dependent and independent means by which we study the microbes of the subsurface. As with our future RCN meetings, we welcomed participation from scientists of all career stages and members of the international community. Travel support to Chapel Hill, North Carolina, was provided by the U.S. Science Support Program associated with the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program at the Consortium for Ocean Leadership and the NASA Astrobiology Institute. This meeting was organized by Andreas Teske (chair, UNC Chapel Hill), Jennifer Biddle (University of Delaware) and Matthew Schrenk (East Carolina University).

Refer to the meeting website for detailed information on the agenda, presentation and training materials, and summary report at <http://www.darkenergybiosphere.org/RCN/meetings/2011.html>.

THE CONNER BUBBLE: OCEANS AND YOU, DEEP OCEANS THE “NEW INTRA-SPACE”, MAY 9, 2011

Dr. Joe Conner, Pasadena City College, hosts the weekly Conner Bubble to investigate trends in our society, and provide a forum to present new and positive findings to a national and international audience on his radio and television programs. This week, “The Conner Bubble” features Anand Patel, Postdoctoral Researcher and STEM Coordinator, and Cindy Joseph, C-DEBI Education & Diversity Director, sharing some interesting approaches to improve our understanding of the deep oceans and the possible knowledge that can better train future scientists. Tune in at 4:00-5:00 PM (PT) on <http://www.lancerradio.org>, and call in to participate at 626.585.7227.

JOIDES RESOLUTION J/aRt COMPETITION

Congratulations to the high school, middle school and elementary school winners of the J/aRt Competition co-sponsored by C-DEBI! Check out their amazing work capturing the essence of the JOIDES Resolution (JR) scientific drilling ship and its work with microbes and microbiology in the deep biosphere <http://joidesresolution.org/node/446>.

High School First Place Winner: Karolina Akimov, 11th grade, John's Creek, Georgia

Artist Statement: I think many people fail to appreciate the beauty of microbes. Their molecular intricacy often goes unnoticed. Their vivacity goes unseen. For my piece, I really wanted to place emphasis on these microscopic organisms. The JOIDES Resolution itself is anchored to them, representing the connection of research and likewise the interconnectedness between humans and all living matter.

OCEAN SCIENCES WEBINAR SERIES, MAY 13 & MAY 26, 2011

COSEE Ocean Sciences, the Institute for Broadening Participation and COSEE Ocean Learning Communities are pleased to announce a pilot webinar series titled “Many Learning Pathways in the Ocean Sciences” featuring ocean and climate scientists paired with education scientists from across the country. The series will highlight scientists making significant contributions in their fields and will be a forum for sharing successful strategies for increasing diversity in the ocean sciences community. The presenters will talk about their science topics as well as their experiences being an under-represented minority in a science field, and/or their experience providing mentorship to under-represented minorities. Details at <http://cosee.umaine.edu/programs/webinars/mlpios/>.

RIDGE 2000 DISTINGUISHED LECTURER SERIES AT USC, MAY 18 & 19, 2011

Brandy Toner, University of Minnesota, presents at the University of Southern California as part of the 2011 Ridge 2K Distinguished Lecturer Series which brings recent mid-ocean ridge research to colleges and universities. The **Science Community Lecture** entitled “Integrated nested-scale biogeochemistry of hydrothermal plumes at a back-arc spreading center” will be on May 18 at Noon in ZHS159. The **General Public Lecture** entitled “Can iron from deep-sea hot springs fertilize the oceans?” will be on May 19 at 11AM in the Hedco auditorium (HNB100). Abstracts and more at http://www.ridge2000.org/dls/speaker_list.php#toner.



POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS**Geomicrobiology at the University of Southern California**

The USC Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences Center for Dark Energy Biosphere Investigations laboratory of Dr. Katrina Edwards at the University of Southern California (earth.usc.edu/~kje/) is seeking highly-motivated, self-driven scientists to conduct postdoctoral research related to objectives of the Center for Dark Energy Biosphere Investigations.

Do you have an interest in the marine deep biosphere, hydrothermal systems, and other exciting geomicrobiology investigations at the bottom of the ocean? Are you looking for a postdoctoral position that will allow you to combine state-of-the-art molecular biology, microscopy, biogeochemistry techniques and observatory science/field work to study cutting edge research questions? Opportunities are available for conducting metagenomic, proteomic, and single cell isolation research with environmental samples. Candidates should have experience with molecular biology techniques such as DNA sequencing with environmental materials - experience with (meta)genomic analysis and next generation sequencing techniques a plus. Working knowledge of epifluorescence, confocal laser scanning, or laser microdissection microscopy desired. Familiarity with geochemical techniques and field oceanographic experience a plus. Interested applicants should send a statement of research objectives, a CV, and a list of three references to kje@usc.edu. More at <https://jobs.usc.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=58861>

Complex Systems Research sponsored by the James S. McDonnell Foundation (JSMF)

<http://www.jsmf.org/apply/fellowship/>

Earth System Sciences at Oregon State University

<http://www.coas.oregonstate.edu/index.cfm?content.display&pageID=866>

Earth Sciences at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

<https://lbl.taleo.net/careersection/2/jobdetail.ft!lang=en&job=72906>

<https://lbl.taleo.net/careersection/2/jobdetail.ft!lang=en&job=72839>

<https://lbl.taleo.net/careersection/2/jobdetail.ft!lang=en&job=72838>

Microbial Ecological Physiology at Harvard University

http://www.oeb.harvard.edu/employment/employment_docs/GirguisNorthPondpostdoc-ad-2011.doc

Geomicrobiology at Miami University

http://www.isme-microbes.org/sites/isme-microbes.org/files/Postdoctoral_Fellow_to_work_on_an_NSF_PIRE.pdf

Contact us to post your job listing at <http://www.darkenergybiosphere.org/RCN/opportunities/employment.html>

UPCOMING EVENTS

C-DEBI All Hands Meeting

May 16-17, 2011
Los Angeles, California, USA

C-DEBI Undergraduate Summer Course:

Global Environmental Microbiology

July 11 – August 5, 2011
Los Angeles, California, USA

International Symposium of Subsurface

Microbiology (ISSM)

September 11-16, 2011

Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany

SACNAS (Advancing Hispanics/Chicanos & Native Americans in Science) National Conference

October 27-30, 2011
San Jose, California, USA

Travel Scholarship and Abstract Deadline: May 12

<http://sacnas.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=11&>

Find links to these activities and events on our calendar:

<http://www.darkenergybiosphere.org/resources/calendar.html>

UPCOMING EXPEDITIONS

UNOLS Expedition:
Juan de Fuca Ridge
Flank

**Eastern flank of the
Juan de Fuca Ridge
CORK dive program**

June 26 - July 14, 2011



IODP Expedition 336: Mid-Atlantic Ridge Microbiology
Microbiology of a sediment pond and the underlying

young, cold, hydrologically active ridge flank

September 17 - November 20, 2011



WHO WE ARE

C-DEBI is a National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded Science and Technology Center on the deep biosphere with sponsorship by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Our mission is to explore life beneath the seafloor and make transformative discoveries that advance science, benefit society, and inspire people of all ages and origins. Contact us at info@darkenergybiosphere.org.

Join our mailing list today at <http://www.darkenergybiosphere.org/about/mailing.html>.