SOLAS Open Science Conference 2015

The well attended SOLAS Open Science Conference 2015 was held in Kiel, Germany 7-11 September at the Christian-Albrechts University. Over 270 scientists from 35 countries came together to learn and discuss about the latest developments on biogeochemical-physical air-sea interactions and processes. During plenary talks, discussion sessions and poster presentations participants were able to exchange about cutting edge research in the field and present their own findings. During this year’s Open Science Conference, special site events took place like an all-day meeting of the Surface Ocean CO2 Atlas (SOCAT) and the Surface Ocean pCO2 Mapping Intercomparison (SOCOM) communities, highlighted by the launch of the SOCAT version 3. For her dedicated work with SOCAT Dorothee Bakker received a reward during the conference banquet. The German contribution to SOLAS, the Surface Ocean Processes in the Anthropocene (SOPRAN) project also had its final meeting and published a brochure containing important scientific highlights of the last 9 years.

To strengthen the SOLAS commitment towards capacity building the workshop `The ABC of presenting: Audience-friendly, Brief and Clear’ for early career scientist was organized. This workshop was held over two days and helped early career scientist to further develop their presentation skills. On the last day of the conference a small ‘Nordic SOLAS’ meeting took place to introduce the visions of Swedish SOLAS and discuss an expansion of the network to include scientists from all Nordic countries.

The SOLAS IPO would like to thank all participants for making this latest edition of the SOLAS Open Science Conference a success. We also congratulate again the winners of the student poster competition Panassa Essowe, Leonie Esters, Margaux Gourdal, Sinnika Lennartz, Mingshuang Sun, Precious Mongwe, Camille Richon, Tianfeng Guo and Alex Zavarsky.
SOLAS Scientific Steering Committee Meeting 2015

The SOLAS Scientific Steering Committee (SSC) held its annual meeting in Hamburg, Germany after the Open Science Conference, between 11-13 September. The major part of the SSC meeting was dedicated to further develop the scientific framework of the next phase of SOLAS and in particular to address the review comments on the science plan. Also topics such as future capacity building events and communication strategies were discussed.

Proposal for a SOLAS-CliC Sea-Ice Biogeochemistry Forum

The SCOR WG 'Biogeochemical exchange processes at Sea Ice Interfaces (BEPSII)' is currently discussing the possibility of a SOLAS-CliC Sea-Ice Biogeochemistry Forum as a successor of the working group which is running out in 2016. Format and terms of reference are still to be discussed and conceived by the community, but a first discussion took place during the SOLAS Open Science Conference in Kiel.

SOCAT version 3 released & data submission for SOCAT version 4

The Surface Ocean CO2 Atlas (SOCAT) version 3 was released on 7th September 2015. It contains
14.5 million fCO2 data from 3630 data sets for global oceans and coastal seas. The SOCAT website provides access to all version 3 products and tools as downloadable files and interactive data viewers.

Data submission for SOCAT version 4 is now possible until 31 December 2015. Also for the first time data generators are enabled to submit their data and metadata through an automated submission system. Please contact the SOCAT team at submit@socat.info for details.

Passing of Kon-Kee Liu and Roland von Glasow

The entire SOLAS community is deeply saddened by the passing of Kon-Kee (KK) Liu and Roland von Glasow. Both men have played an important part in the SOLAS community and contributed greatly to the SOLAS cause. The SOLAS Scientific Steering Committee and IPO would like to extend its sympathy to the families of KK and Roland. We feel fortunate to have worked with both men.

Memorial pages for Roland and for Kon-Kee have been set up.

SOLAS-IMBER WG 'Ocean Acidification' terminology concern

The SOLAS-IMBER Working Group on Ocean Acidification has expressed its concern over the improper use of terminology by some scientists, media outlets and general public. The plea is published on the OA-ICC news stream where comments can be made. Please see the article if you are interested in related online discussion.

The plea is to not use 'acid' or 'acidic' in the context of the work of Ocean Acidification.

Opportunities

- A free series of communications webinars by Future Earth designed to give researchers the tools to engage with a wider audience will have its next webinar on 14 Oct 2015.

- A call for sessions for the Goldschmidt 2016, which will be held in Yokohama, Japan on June 26 - July 1, 2016 is currently open. Deadline 31 Oct 2015

- IOCCP and SCOR WG 147 'Towards comparability of global oceanic nutrient data' (COMPONUT) are working to encourage a broader usage of the Certified Reference Materials (CRMs) for nutrients in seawater by the global ocean science community. A questionnaire aiming to help the leaders of this activity to determine projected future use of such CRMs is available to be answered by interested scientists. Deadline 15 Oct 2015

- Future Earth is currently accepting expression of interest for selection of Future Earth offices for Africa. Deadline 28 Oct 2015

- The call for 2016 SCOR Visiting Scholars is now open to enlist the services of ocean scientists from the SCOR community, from both developed countries and developing countries, to teach short courses and to provide more extended on-site education and mentorship at developing country institutions. Deadline 04 Dec 2015

- GEOTRACES plans to launch a three-pronged synthesis initiative ‘GEOTRACES Synthesis of Results Initiative’. The first component focuses on sources and sinks of trace elements and isotopes (TEIs) at ocean boundaries, starting with the workshop ‘The biological and climatic
impacts of ocean trace-element chemistry’ (7-8 December 2015). The second component focuses on internal cycling of TEIs within the ocean. This will be organised by U.S. GEOTRACES, in collaboration with OCB in mid-2016. The third component will be centered on geochemical tracers used as paleoceanographic proxies with a workshop planned for 2017.

A bit of reading

- Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center (CDIAC) has published the Global Surface pCO2 Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO) Database V2014.

- Presentations, videos, photos and blogs from ‘Our Common Future under Climate Change conference’ of July 2015 in Paris, France are now online.

- The Oceans 2015 Initiative has produced a policy brief to try raising the profile of the ocean at COP21 and beyond.

- A special Issue of Oceanography has been published on ‘Emerging Themes in Ocean Acidification Science’.

- The Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS) has released a comprehensive progress report for its first three years (2012-2014).

- WCRP has published an article on ‘Future Directions for the World Climate Research Programme’.

Submit an abstract/register before...

- 16 Oct 2015 for Earth Observation and Cryosphere Science 2016, 13-13 May 2016, Prague, Czech Republic

- 02 Nov 2015 for the International Conference on Regional Climate: CORDEX 2016, 17-20 May 2016, Stockholm, Sweden

- 04 Nov 2015 for the 4th International Symposium on the Ocean in a High-CO2 World, 03-06 May 2016, Hobart, Tasmania

New dates for your diary

- Discussion Meeting: The biological and climatic impacts of ocean trace-element chemistry, 7-8 Dec 2015, London, UK

- Workshop: Quantifying fluxes and processes of trace-metal cycling at ocean boundaries, 9-10 Dec 2015, Buckinghamshire, UK

- 1st Gordon Research Conference (GRC) on Ocean Biogeochemistry ‘The Biologically-Driven Ocean Carbon Pumps’, 12-17 June 2016, Hong Kong, China


**See our full events calendar on our website**

We welcome e-bulletin contributions, email us at solas@geomar.de