

Report on the 2005 POGO-IOC-SCOR Fellowship Programme

The fellowship programme was implemented with financial support from IOC and SCOR. The announcement went out in January, and the competition was open for two months. In total 15 applications were received from Brazil, Chile, China, Egypt, India, and Russia.

The applications were screened independently by a committee of three, with representation from SCOR, IOC and POGO. In making their selection, the committee considered the following factors:

- quality of the application
- relevance of the application to the priority areas identified in the fellowship announcement
- evidence that the training will lead to capacity-building with potential lasting impact on regional observations
- the need to maximise regional distribution of the awards

This year, ten fellowships were offered to oceanographers from developing countries and economies in transition. The host institutions were in Canada, Chile, France, Germany, Japan, The Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. We acknowledge the efforts from all the supervisors and colleagues at the various host institutions who agreed to devote time and energy required for the training. The programme would not have been viable without such efforts from prominent scientists and their teams.

All the people involved in each fellowship (the fellowship holder, the supervisor at the parent institute and the supervisor at the host institute) were requested to submit short reports at the end of the training period. So far, the reports received have been enthusiastic. They indicate that these exchanges should lead to effective capacity building in the host institute and facilitate longer-term collaborations between the institutes concerned. All conclude that the programme serves a useful purpose. To quote one of the parent supervisors:

Indeed, the Fellowship Programme enables researchers to enhance their professional skills through advanced training in specific areas of their choice. Furthermore, it is valuable in fostering institutional development to both sides involved in the research collaboration, and it encourages the establishment of co-operation programmes, which can involve scholars, researchers, as well as Ph.D. students, with the proposal of the progress of a relevant research area.

There is tremendous interest in the fellowship programme at all levels, both in the oceanographic institutions of the developing nations, as well as among leading scientists who are eager to contribute to this initiative. It is seen to be filling a niche in capacity building through specialised training that is not filled by intensive courses or participation in scientific meetings. It helps build an *esprit de corps* among oceanographic institutions around the world, and serves as a stepping stone to building collaborations.

The co-sponsors of the programme – IOC and SCOR – have both indicated that they are satisfied with the programme.

Demography of fellowships

Parent Institutions of Successful Candidates:

Brazil: Fundação Universidade Federal do Rio Grande (FURG)

University of São Paulo

Chile: University of Concepción

Austral University

China: First Institute of Oceanography

Egypt: Suez Canal University

India: Indian Statistical Institute

Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad

Russia: P.P. Shirshov Institute of Oceanology

Host Institutions:

Canada: Dalhousie University

Institut des Sciences de la Mer de Rimouski (ISMER)

Chile: University of Concepción

France: University of Perpignan

Germany: Alfred Wegener Institute

Japan: Centre for Marine Environmental Studies, Ehime University

JAMSTEC

The Netherlands: Utrecht University

UK: University of Manchester

USA: Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory

Gender distribution

Female: 1

Male: 9

POGO-IOC-SCOR JOINT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES - 2005

Boris Chubarenko - Russia

Dr. Chubarenko's interests lie in operational oceanographic observations and related modelling in coastal zones and lagoons. His research takes place at the Atlantic Branch of the P.P. Shirshov Institute of Oceanology in Kalingrad, Russia. His fellowship takes him to Institut des Sciences de la Mer de Rimouski (ISMER) in Quebec, Canada for a month of training under the supervision of Dr. Vladimir Koutitonsky.

Javier Diaz - Chile

Mr. Diaz is involved in research at the Center for Oceanographic Research in the Eastern South Pacific (FONDAP/COPAS), through the University of Concepción. He underwent training on chemical analysis of continental shelf/slope organic phosphorus (Pfish), supervised by Dr. Gert de Lange at Utrecht University in the Netherlands. Duration of the training was three months.

Vagner Duarte - Brazil

Mr. Duarte is involved in the MOVAR Project that will deploy argo floats in the central part of the South Atlantic Ocean, as coordinated by Fundação Universidade Federal do Rio Grande (FURG). His fellowship was used for one month of training in processing data from, and deployment of, ARGO floats. The training was supervised by Dr. Claudia Schmid at the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory in Florida, USA.

Mohsen El-Sherbiny - Egypt

Mr. El-Sherbiny's interests lie in ecology and taxonomy of Red Sea zooplankton; he conducts research and is a lecturer at Suez Canal University's Marine Science Department. The fellowship takes him to Japan's Centre for Marine Environmental Studies at Ehime University for three months training in advanced marine copepod identification, under the supervision of Dr. Hiroshi Ueda.

Ricardo Giesecke - Chile

Mr. Giesecke conducts research at the University of Concepción's Oceanography Department regarding the ecological role of chaetognaths on the pelagic food web and their contribution to vertical carbon fluxes. The POGO-IOC-SCOR fellowship allowed him to join an Antarctic

expedition aboard the Alfred Wegner Institute's RV Polarstern for 2 months, supervised by AWI's Prof. Ulrich Bathmann.

Rosane Ito - Brazil

Dr. Ito is employed by the University of São Paulo; she is a teacher of marine chemistry and a researcher in the area of dissolved gases in seawater. With her fellowship she spent 2 months at France's University of Perpignan evaluating anthropogenic CO₂ in seawater. The supervisor at the host institution was Dr. Catherine Goyet.

Juan Placencia - Chile

Mr. Placencia's work involves estimates of sea surface processes using geochemical proxies; he is a graduate student at the University of Concepción. He undertook 3 months of training in analyses of molecular and isotope proxies to estimate trends in sea surface temperature, productivity, and pCO₂ recorded in marine sediment. The training took place at JAMSTEC supervised by Dr. Naomi Harada.

Satya Prakash – India

Mr. Prakash is a junior research fellow at Physical Research Laboratory in Ahmedabad. He will spend 3 months in Chile, where Dr. Osvaldo Ulloa will oversee his training in determination of photosynthesis-light (P-I) curves using C¹³, for application in remote sensing.

Shovonlal Roy – India

Mathematical modelling of plankton dynamics is the field of interest for Mr. Roy, a junior research fellow at the Indian Statistical Institute. He travelled to the University of Manchester to develop new mathematical techniques to assess marine primary production based on field data and remote sensing. His 3 months of training was supervised by Prof. David Broomhead of the School of Mathematics.

Wei Jianwei – China

Mr. Wei Jianwei's research at First Institute of Oceanography focuses on bio-optical oceanography and biogeochemistry. His fellowship took him to the Oceanography Department of Dalhousie University in Canada, where for 3 months he underwent instruction in fixed point time series observations and emerging technologies for ocean instrumentation. Dr. Marlon Lewis was the host supervisor.