

MINUTES  
ODP Council Meeting  
Victoria, Canada  
October 14, 1986

Introduction

The ODP Council met in Executive Session on October 14. Dr. Heinrichs chaired the meeting. The Council meeting was a special interim meeting between the annual sessions normally held in Washington, D.C., in the spring. The JOIDES EXCOM met on October 15 and 16 following the Council meeting. Since a number of agenda items were common to both meetings, the Council concentrated on the "governmental aspects" only. The detailed presentations and discussion of the Performance Evaluation Committee report, FY 1987 Program Plan and Budget, Revised FY 1988 procedures, and Country Reports were deferred to the EXCOM meeting. Although the EXCOM meeting was not a formal joint session with the Council, all Council members were invited to participate in the discussions. Minutes of the EXCOM meeting are being provided to the Council members by the JOIDES office.

The agenda for the ODP Special Council meeting was accepted as proposed with the addition of a discussion of riser drilling included under New Business. Major items discussed are summarized below.

Membership and Annex A Status for FY 1987

NSF has signed Annex A's with Canada, United Kingdom, Japan and Germany for FY 1987. France has submitted a letter of intent but cannot sign until the Board of Governors of IFREMER meets late in October. European Science Foundation has completed all internal requirements and will sign as soon as NSF transmits a new Annex A with the agreed payment schedule.

ESF announced they have a firm commitment for membership through 1993. Canada has obtained a firm three year budget commitment. Discussions with Australia for a Canada/Australia joint membership have resumed.

Projected Budgets for FY 1988

NSF noted that formal notice was given at the Annapolis meeting that the international contributions might need to increase by five percent in FY 1988. The Producer Price Index that controls the day rate for the JOIDES RESOLUTION is slowly increasing and may trigger a \$325,000 annual increase starting in December 1986. The target level for the base program in FY 1987 is \$34.255 million. A four percent increase to maintain the current level of effort in 1988 would require an additional \$1.4 million or a base program budget of \$35.7 million.

In FY 1987 the ODP program costs are being supported 56 percent by NSF and 44 percent by the six international members. The long term goal is to work toward a 52 percent/48 percent balance with six members and to a 51 percent/49 percent balance if a seventh member joins. The major uncertainty for FY 1988 is the status of USSR membership. If the USSR joins the ODP, the current level of effort can be maintained in FY 1988 without an increase in the \$2.5 million contribution level.

All members, including NSF, agreed that an increase in contribution levels for FY 1988 should be avoided if at all possible.

NOTE ADDED: At the JOIDES EXCOM meeting on October 16, Dr. V. Krashininnikov, USSR Academy of Sciences, "officially" announced that the USSR was prepared to join the ODP starting January 1, 1987, with a commitment through September 1993. An official letter is to follow. The MOU signing ceremony is scheduled for early January 1987 in Moscow.

NSF will not request an increase in contribution level for the FY 1988 program costs.

#### Status of ODP Reviews

The NSF Oversight Committee met and reviewed the U.S. FY 1985 activities. They addressed three main questions:

- o the procedures presently used to review the quality of the scientific activities of ODP.
- o the balance of resources between ODP and grant activities in NSF.
- o the technical stewardship by NSF officials of the ODP program.

The report was positive and considered the quality of scientific activity to be very good. JOIDES planning and the international participation were viewed as strengths. The selection of scientific staff on the drillship was considered a key element. The committee did not identify any problems with the science selections but recommended the next PEC review examine this process because of its importance.

The Performance Evaluation Committee (PEC) report was not discussed in detail with respect to the contractor responses and JOI actions. Dr. Baker will give a formal presentation to EXCOM. NSF noted the PEC is a NSF contract requirement for JOI to "review the management and performance of the contract" and develop appropriate responses in consultation with NSF. The PEC

is not designed as a JOIDES review. However it is important the results go to JOIDES and the ODP Council for advise and comment. NSF is not in full agreement with JOI suggestions for the next review (Appendix to 1987 ODP Program Plan). NSF requirements for the next review will include formal NSF liaison, examination of management and performance, coupling to JOIDES but not directed by JOIDES, and timely response by JOI.

NOTE ADDED: The PEC report was discussed at the EXCOM meeting. JOI needs to provide more complete response to report. JOI is to incorporate recommendations into FY 1988 program plan and management activities. A progress report with milestones is to be presented at joint ODP Council/EXCOM meeting in spring 1987.

FY 1987 ODP Program Plan and Budget

The discussion of the revised plan was limited to governmental needs and the budget formats. The MOU calls for advice and comment from JOIDES on program content. A detailed presentation and discussion will occur at EXCOM.

The major points of the Council discussion are:

- o the revised plan is a major improvement over the initial plan.
- o the balance between the overall management section and detailed appendices is about right.
- o the management section in 1988 needs to be improved by strengthening the discussion of the international aspects of the ODP, better identification of new technologies, and more long range planning.
- o The appendices still contain multiple budget formats and confusion between task description of work and budget categories.

NSF to continue to work with JOI to improve quality of program plan documentation and presentation.

NOTE ADDED: The EXCOM endorsed a base budget level of \$34,255,000 as presented. Any enhancements are to have no long-term effect on the base budget. Priorities are:

- o Increased performance of sea-going operations--i.e., improvements of shipboard scientific equipment and drilling capabilities on upcoming legs.
- o Security of the program--i.e., keep up inventory of drilling supplies.

- o Impact of program--i.e., dissemination of information through publications and improving interaction with international community through International Project Specialist.

The PCOM recommendations should be used as a guide as appropriate--i.e., mainly for increased performance considerations.

#### Organizational Structure/Future Program Plans

The general plan presented by NSF for improved procedures and timing was accepted in concept pending discussion at the EXCOM meeting. The annual ODP Council Meeting under the revised procedures will be scheduled for the last two weeks of May. However, the 1987 Council meeting dates will not be changed.

NOTE ADDED: The EXCOM minutes provide a detailed outline of the new procedures including an interim plan for 1987 to accommodate existing schedules for PCOM, ODP Council and EXCOM meetings. Important additions to the existing procedures include more comprehensive scientific direction and planning by PCOM, NSF management analysis, detailed budget review by budget subcommittee, and comprehensive presentation to EXCOM and ODP Council for final policy direction and advice.

#### MOU Commitments when USSR Joins

Discussion and resolution of issue deferred to April 1987 meeting. PCOM has been requested to examine the science planning/execution issues for occasional three co-chief arrangements. JOI and Science Operator have been requested to consider same question from project viewpoint.

#### NSF Staff Change

Dr. G. Brass has returned to the University of Miami at the end of his rotational appointment. Dr. R. Buffler is the Program Director until September 1987. NSF is recruiting for a replacement for the Associate Program Director position. Mr. A. Sutherland, Associate Program Director, will continue to coordinate/monitor the engineering efforts, payments by international members, and the execution of the Annex A agreements.

#### Country Reports

None--to be given at EXCOM meeting.

Other Business

Riser drilling and its impact on the ODP and member countries was discussed in detail. Major points of the discussion included:

- o Need for early development of coordinated examination of scientific, technical, management and financial aspects.
- o Riser drilling would require major changes to current mode of operation.
- o Updated cost figures for capital investment and operating costs are needed.
- o COSOD-II conference should not proceed without guidance from NSF/ODP Council on likelihood of financial resources and determination that a commitment to change the operations mode exists.
- o Most members felt it would be very difficult to change to a riser mode of drilling with the added costs and restricted sites occupied.

Consensus of the Council was that a clear presentation of technical and financial requirements should be made at April 1987 meeting. NSF to work with JOI, Science Operator and JOIDES committees to ensure required information is developed.

NOTE ADDED: EXCOM discussed riser drilling concerns also. Presentation/discussion will be included on agenda for joint ODP Council/EXCOM meeting in April 1987.

Next meeting:

The next meeting of the ODP Council/EXCOM is scheduled for April 28-30, 1987, in College Station, Texas. The meeting will be held outside of Washington, D.C., to enable Council members to visit the new ODP building at Texas A&M University. NSF will invite the Scientific Councilors from member country embassies and U.S. Congressional staff to attend.

The meeting was adjourned.

Attendees:

Canada	Dr. Hutchison
ESF	Dr. Munsch, Dr. Stel, Dr. van Lieshout
FRG	Dr. Maronde, Dr. Durbaum
France	Dr. Biju-Duval

Japan	Dr. Kobayashi
U.K.	Dr. Briden
NSF	Dr. Heinrichs, Dr. Gross

Minutes of meeting:

Attendees

Dr. T. Nemoto  
Dr. J. Bowman