



Solicitation of Ideas for OCB Scoping Workshops

Dear Colleagues:

The Ocean Carbon and Biogeochemistry (OCB) Program (<http://www.us-ocb.org>) is soliciting your ideas for targeted workshops to promote collaborative research at the interface of ecosystem dynamics and marine biogeochemical cycles. In addition to annual summer science meetings that focus on broader interdisciplinary themes, OCB will convene targeted scoping workshops to give the research community a public venue for discussing research challenges and implementation approaches to address specific OCB research priorities. OCB has identified the following themes as scientific priorities, though scoping workshop ideas may extend beyond these themes:

- Ocean acidification (scoping workshop occurred in October 2007)
- Terrestrial/coastal carbon fluxes and exchanges (scoping workshop in May 2008)
- Climate sensitivities of and change in ecosystem structure and associated impacts on biogeochemical cycles
- Mesopelagic ecological and biogeochemical interactions
- Benthic-pelagic feedbacks on biogeochemical cycles
- Ocean carbon uptake and storage

We are currently accepting 3-5 page proposals describing ideas for potential OCB scoping workshops. Proposal format should include a short summary paragraph, a scientific justification, a list of workshop objectives and products, a list of potential attendees, preliminary logistical information, a budget, and a budget justification. The target budget for scoping workshops is \$50K. In order to be as focused and effective as possible, scoping workshops should be limited to 50 participants. Proposals should explicitly describe 1) How the workshop supports and advances OCB research priorities; and 2) Products and implementation measures (science plans, data syntheses and management practices, websites, etc.) that will result from the workshop. It is hoped that the discussions at the workshop and by the broader research community will result in more detailed implementation plans that could form the basis for future field programs. Funding for scoping workshops comes with the expectation that a workshop report will be published within 3-4 months of the workshop. More specific guidelines for planning scoping workshops can be found at <http://www.us-ocb.org/>. Please submit workshop proposals electronically to Heather Benway (hbenway@whoi.edu) by June 15, 2008 for consideration by the OCB Scientific Steering Committee. Decisions will be announced in September so that planning can get underway for a scoping workshop the following spring.