

# The Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research and PICES

Ed Urban, SCOR Executive Director,  
Univ. of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716, USA



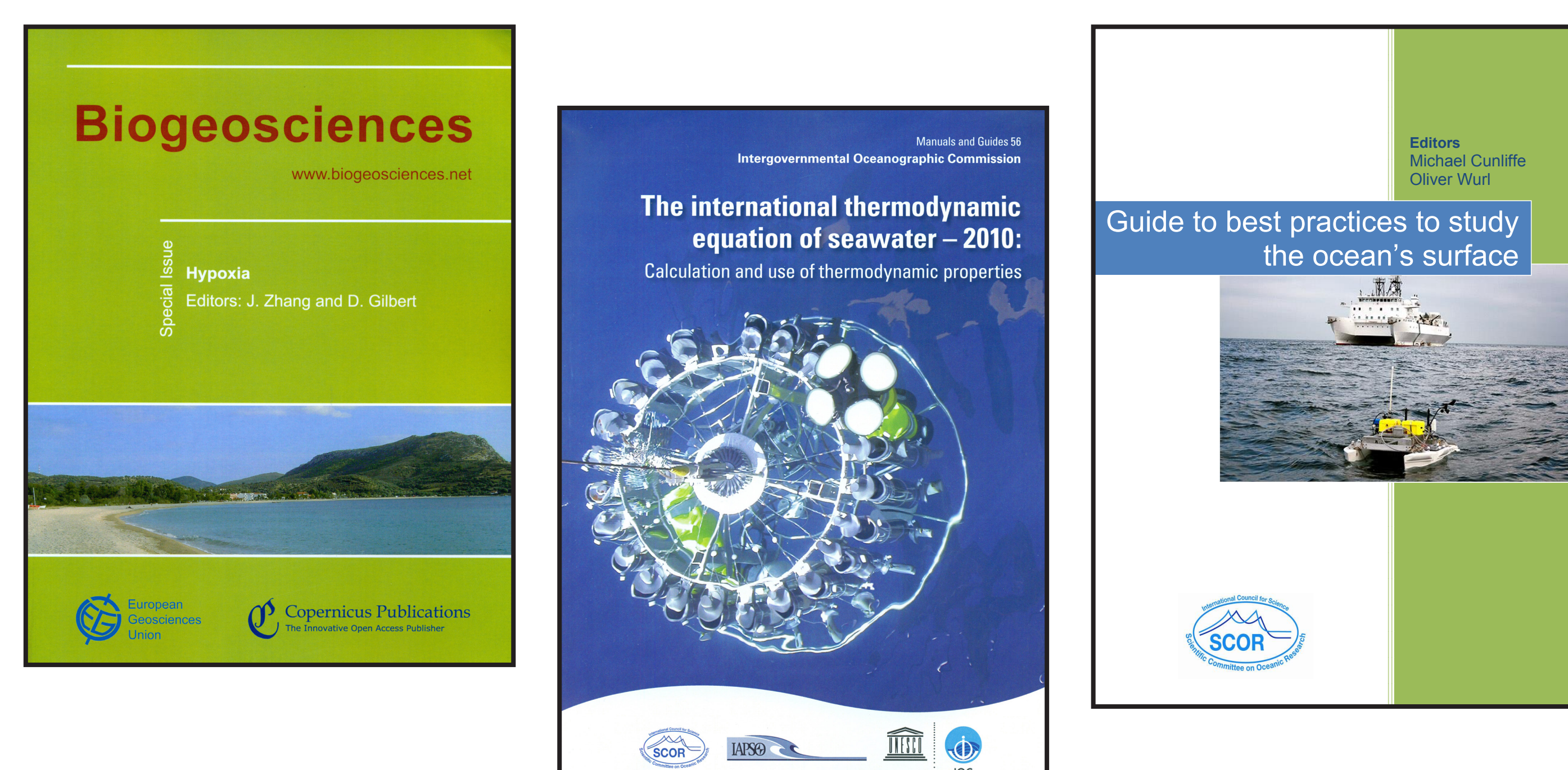
Since 1957, the **Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR)** has helped ocean scientists worldwide work together to identify research priorities in ocean science, plan and carry out international ocean research projects, overcome technical obstacles to ocean research, and build capacity for ocean research in developing countries. SCOR has contributed significantly to nearly every area of ocean science, through SCOR working groups, international research projects, and committees and panels.

**Web:** [www.scor-int.org](http://www.scor-int.org) **Twitter:** @SCOR\_Int

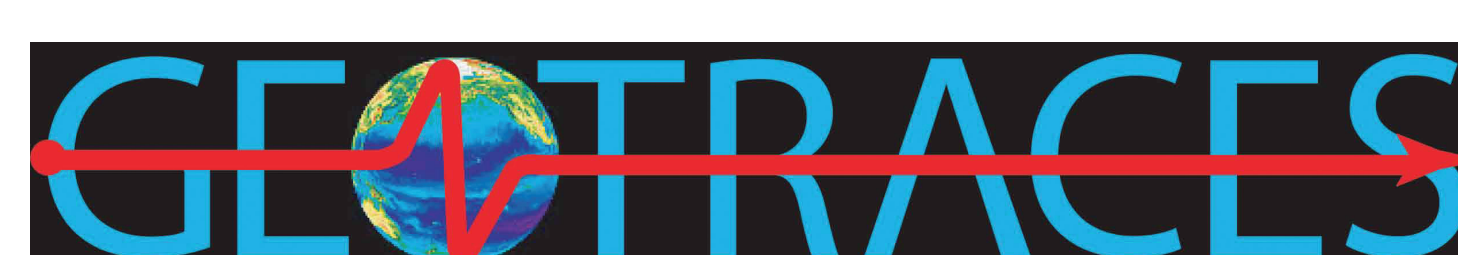
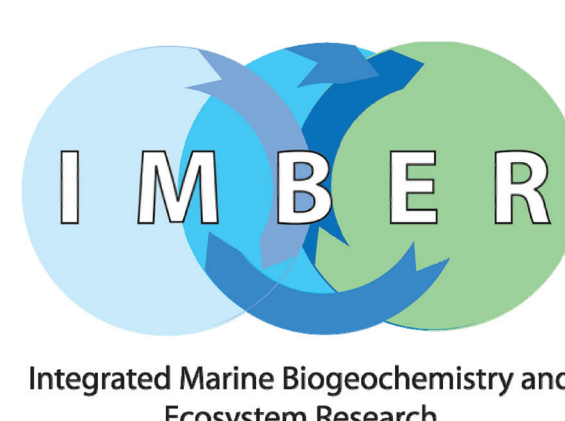
**SCOR and PICES have worked together since the creation of PICES in the following ways:**

- **PICES has helped implement SCOR-sponsored research projects (e.g., JGOFS, GLOBEC, IMBER, SOLAS, GEOHAB) in the North Pacific region through PICES groups related to the projects.**
- **PICES has funded the participation of scientists from the North Pacific region to serve as Associate Members on several SCOR working groups.**
- **SCOR has contributed about US\$90,000 to PICES over the past 10 years to support travel of developing country scientists to PICES-related meetings.**

**SCOR Working Groups:** SCOR solicits proposals each year for new working groups, which can have a variety of different purposes: solving methodological problems, creating databases, standardizing methods, documenting the state of an area of science, and identifying priority scientific topics. Proposed groups must have global importance, be achievable in 3–4 years, and must pass review by national SCOR committees. Some examples of the products of SCOR working groups are shown below.



**SCOR Large-Scale Ocean Research Projects:** For almost 60 years, SCOR has helped ocean scientists work together to increase our understanding of the ocean, its contents, and how the ocean interacts with the land, atmosphere, seafloor, and ice. SCOR provides a platform for scientists to plan and implement large-scale international ocean research projects. SCOR has been involved in many of these projects, which have greatly expanded our understanding of the ocean carbon cycle, interactions between climate and fisheries, how ocean chemistry affects ocean biology, environmental controls on harmful algal blooms, and an understanding of the role of trace elements in the ocean. SCOR currently sponsors five large-scale research projects.



**SCOR Building Ocean Science Capacity:** One of SCOR's main missions is to help make connections between ocean scientists in developed and developing countries and to stimulate capacity for ocean science in developing countries. SCOR has funded travel grants for developing country scientists since 1984, includes developing country scientists on every SCOR working group and committee, and established a program of SCOR Visiting Scholars in 2009. Eighteen Visiting Scholars have been appointed to serve in 11 different developing countries in the first 7 years of the program.