

16 January 2007

To: Nominated Members of SCOR, Affiliated Organizations, Interested International Organizations, Sponsors, Chairs of SCOR Subsidiary Bodies

From: Ed Urban, Executive Director

Call for Working Group Proposals for 2007 SCOR Executive Committee Meeting

The 38th SCOR Executive Committee Meeting will take place in Bergen, Norway on **26-28 August 2007**. Details about the meeting can be found at <http://www.scor-int.org/2007EC//2007EC.htm>.

The SCOR Secretariat will accept proposals for new working groups from now until **30 April 2007**. Model proposals and other information about working groups can be found at <http://www.scor-int.org/wkgrpinfo.htm>.

SCOR examines the disciplinary balance of its working groups annually. Comments from the 2006 evaluation recommended that “SCOR encourage multidisciplinary approaches, at the limits between existing large programs. In biology, we need some activities on the benthic boundary interface with chemistry, physics, and sedimentology, including exported fluxes from the surface ocean. [Earlier discussions at the meeting identified ecology of the mesopelagic zone as a potential area of SCOR interest.] In the area of physical oceanography, we need some integrative activities and perhaps something on sea ice. In chemistry/biogeochemistry, we need something on remote sensing and clathrate dynamics.” Each proposal, whether in these areas or others, will be evaluated against each other by national SCOR committees in terms of scientific merit and quality, timeliness, and achievability of the proposed terms of reference.

SCOR tentatively plans to start two new working groups in 2008, pending availability of adequate funding. I would be pleased to work with proponents to develop proposals for funding of their working group ideas from national funding agencies, foundations, and other potential sources. National SCOR committees are an important aspect of SCOR’s operation and can play a key role in reviewing working group proposals and in seeking new funds to pay for working group activities. Proponents should consider submitting their proposals through their national SCOR committees, although we will also accept proposals from individuals and other organizations.

Proponents who wish to attend the 2007 SCOR meeting are welcome to do so, but should be aware that they will be asked to leave the room when their proposal is discussed. SCOR started this practice in 2005 to avoid any appearance of favoritism toward proposals that are represented at the meeting by a proponent.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the process for working group proposals.