

This message is to invite you to a symposium, **Rediscovering pelagic biodiversity: Progress, promise, and challenges of metabarcoding of microbes to mammals**, to be held in association with the ICES 2019 Annual Science Conference on September 13, 2019 at the Svenska-Mässan Conference Centre (Gothenburg, Sweden). The Symposium is sponsored by SCOR, with UNESCO IOC and ICES. Please feel free to forward this Symposium announcement and invitation to interested colleagues. Questions and suggestions are welcome and can be sent to [ann.bucklin@uconn.edu](mailto:ann.bucklin@uconn.edu).



**Symposium Announcement and Call for Presentation Abstracts**  
**Rediscovering pelagic biodiversity:**  
**Progress, promise, and challenges of metabarcoding**  
**of microbes to mammals**

Convenors: Ann Bucklin (University of Connecticut, USA) and  
Bengt Karlson (Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, Sweden)  
Sponsor: Scientific Committee for Ocean Research (SCOR); MetaZooGene Working Group (SCOR  
WG157)

***Svenska Mässan, Swedish Exhibition & Congress Centre, Gothenburg, Sweden***  
***September 13, 2019***

Novel approaches are transforming our understanding and appreciation for pelagic biodiversity and the significance for ocean ecosystem function. Metabarcoding (high-throughput DNA sequencing of barcode gene regions from environmental samples) is being widely used for analysis of diversity, distribution, and abundance of marine organisms from microbes to mammals. Metabarcoding allows improved detection of rare, cryptic and novel taxa, resulting in new global estimates of marine biodiversity and new understanding of the dynamics of marine food webs and ecosystems. There remain many technical and conceptual challenges for analysis and interpretation of metabarcoding results. Research is needed to evaluate and compare results from different marker gene regions and bioinformatics approaches, and for validation and ground-truthing of metabarcoding results. Progress is being made in the use of metabarcoding for quantification of taxon abundance or biomass, examination of trophic interactions and food-web dynamics, remote detection of marine organisms based on eDNA (environmental DNA), and applications for time-series monitoring and ecosystem assessment.

**This symposium is associated with UNESCO - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) 2019 Annual Science Conference (September 9-12, 2019 in Gothenburg, Sweden)**

See: <http://www.ices.dk/news-and-events/asc/asc2019/Pages/default.aspx>

*For additional information:*

Scientific Committee for Ocean Research: <https://scor-int.org/>

MetaZooGene SCOR WG157: <https://scor-int.org/group/157/> and <http://www.metazoogene.org/>

Global Harmful Algal Bloom Program GlobalHAB: <http://www.globalhab.info/>

Please contact Ann Bucklin (Email [ann.bucklin@uconn.edu](mailto:ann.bucklin@uconn.edu)) with questions and suggestions.

The Symposium announcement is available online here: <http://www.metazoogene.org/symposia>. To submit a presentation abstract, please complete the form found at the link below. In addition to presentation title, presenter name, and co-author information, this form will ask you to enter an abstract for your proposed presentation.

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