

Welcome to the 2017 Curators Meeting



25-27 April, 2017

Hosted by

Maziet Cheseby, Joe Stoner and Anthony Koppers
OSU Marine and Geology Repository



History of the Curators Meeting

40 Years Since Our Start in 1977 at Scripps

1977

at Scripps
marine curators gather

A recent conference of curators of marine geological samples brought together for the first time those responsible for the operation and funding of major repositories in the United States. These repositories archive an enormous store of material—cores (piston cores, gravity cores, vibrocores, kasten cores, etc.), grab samples, and dredge hauls—that form the basis of most scientific research in marine sediments and rocks and represent an impressive aid in teaching; collectively they are an extremely valuable national resource. Relevant information on the repositories and their collections is summarized in table 1: size of the collections, major areas of sample coverage, and addresses of those repositories.

The conference was held at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, under the auspices of the National Science Foundation; the convenor was Floyd W. McCoy of Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory. The conference specifically addressed 1 problems in standardization and dissemination of data on samples to the scientific community; 2 curating techniques and methods; 3 funding; 4 responsibilities of curators in handling and in issuing samples and data to users; and 5 problems in presently used sampling equipment, and its possible improvements.

Data dissemination. Considerable variety exists between institutions in the availability, cost and format of sample information (present table 2), resulting in complications to both users and curators. Clearly it would be desirable to have more uniformity in data handling and a central data center that would distribute this information to researchers in a uniform format summarizing the holdings in major repositories. Such a center would eliminate the need for users to make identical requests to many re-

positories. The National Geophysical & Solar-Terrestrial Data Center of the Environmental Data Service (Boulder, Colo., 80302) has agreed to serve as a central data center. Initially, the Center would issue standardized listings of cores by appropriate alphanumeric identification, corresponding curating facility, geographic position, water depth, core length, type of sampler, and basic lithology for materials collected in the past year and for all future acquisitions (including station lists, core and dredge descriptions, smear-slide descriptions, and photographs). Additional data including geologic age and lithologic descriptions, following a uniform scheme, will eventually be included. The Center would maintain and bring up to date these files with information provided by the repositories, provide search services on request, and periodically publish station summary listings and map plots. Compiling and coding similar information on materials collected before 1976 will take considerably more time to prepare and submit, particularly for those repositories with larger holdings. Our goal is to have all basic information on sample location and type on file at the Center.

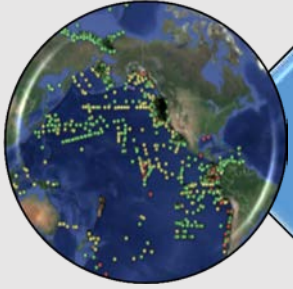
We emphasize that this system is only now being put together. Information will remain obtainable from individual curating facilities. Both the Center and the World Data Bank (Scripps) can handle requests with information on the collections in major repositories (table 1). The availability of the new Center format, once completed, will be well publicized.

Standardization of curating techniques and methods. Uniform methods for describing sediments and rocks are essential to a successful centralized data system. At present, the type description available for sediment and rock samples varies

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Same Issues:

- Standardization
- Dissemination
- Curation Techniques
- Funding
- Responsibilities
- Equipment Issues and Improvements



Agenda of this Curators Meeting Repositories in the Digital Age

Day 1 (Tuesday)

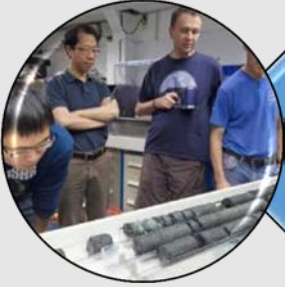
- Updates from All Repositories (10x)
- Role of Repositories from Facilitating Science to Storing Samples
- Future of Repositories and their Collections
- Reception (5:30 PM)
CEOAS Admin Building
20 minute walk from Depot; see distributed map

Day 2 (Wednesday)

- Data Discoverability
- Data Quality and New Toolsets
- Meeting Wrap Up

Day 3 (Thursday)

- Breakfast in the Old OSU-MGR
- Tour of New Facility
- Fun at the Oregon Coast



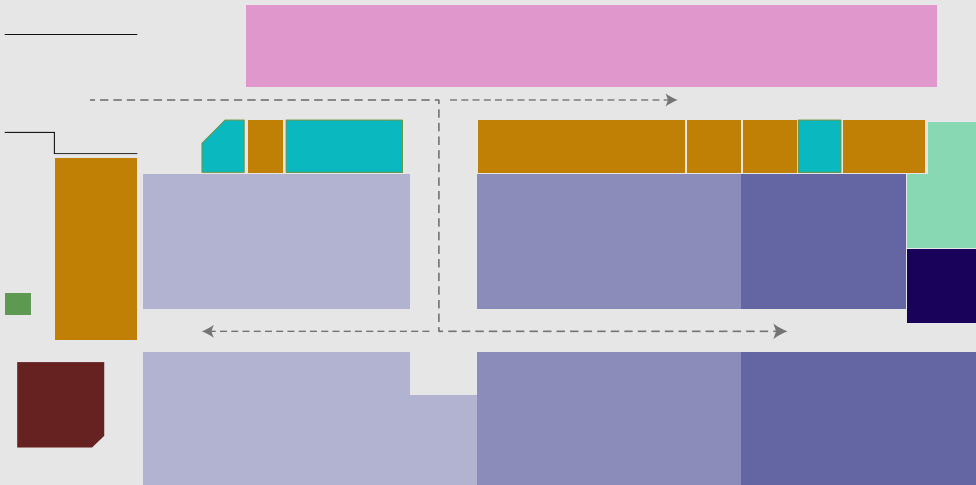
The New OSU Marine and Geology Repository Supporting Earth, Ocean and Antarctic Sciences

NEW OSU-MGR
BUILDING

ING BAYS

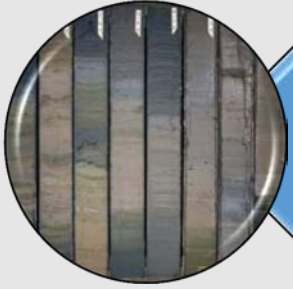
AERIAL VIEW

33,000 SFT FACILITY
CORVALLIS, OR

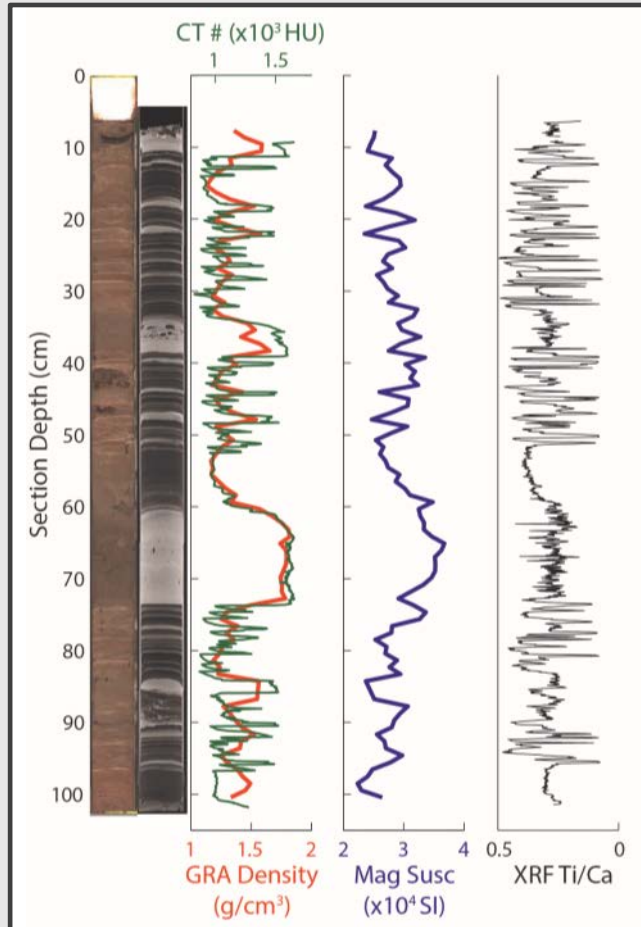


ANTARCTIC CORE COLLECTION MOVES TO NEW OSU-MGR FACILITY:

- 18,500 SFT Reefer Space
- 6,500 SFT Rock Storage
- 11 laboratories including MST, Itrax XRF scanning, and space for a future CT scanning facility
- 1,300 SFT office and visitor space
- 32-person seminar room



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END GOALS OF THIS WORKSHOP:

- **White Report with Emphasis On:**
 - Our 40-Year Pathway from Analog to Digital
 - The Role of Repositories in the Digital Age
 - State-of-the-Art Techniques Required in Support of Modern-day Research
- **EOS Article**
 - Emphasize Need for Continued Stewardship of Core and Rock Repositories in the Digital Age