

MBCORC Meeting
Wednesday, June 6, 2001
9:00 a.m.

Attendees:

Rita Bell, MBA;	David Jessup, CA Dept. of Fish & Game;
George Boehlert, NOAA/NMFS;	Lora Lee Martin, UC MBEST Center;
Michael Carr, USGS;	Marsha Moroh, CSUMB;
Kenneth Coale, MLML;	Julie Packard, MBA;
Judith Connor, MBARI;	Pat Phoebus, NRL;
Nicole Crane, MATE;	Andrea Sanico, MBARI
Robert Diaz, National Weather Service;	Mike Shulters, USGS;
William Douros, MBNMS;	George Somero, Hopkins Marine Station;
Jeanne Frew, FNMOC;	Rick Starr, UC Sea Grant Extension;
Chris Harrold, MBA;	Kerstin Wasson, Elkhorn Slough Natural Estuarine Research Reserve;
Dawn Hayes, MBNMS;	
William Head, CSUMB;	

Call to Order:

Marcia McNutt was absent due to a family member's surgery and asked Lora Lee Martin if she would chair this meeting on her behalf. Lora welcomed everyone to the MBCORC meeting and introductions were made around the table.

Marine Directory

Presentation/Discussion:

Lora Martin reported on progress that she and Gary Griggs had made in exploring options for an MBCORC Directory and/or brochure. Lora presented several examples of options that included:

1. A Marine Directory, similar to that of the UC Marine Council Directory;
2. MBCORC's previous summaries provided for an earlier directory;
3. A two fold marketing brochure to highlight regional research/teaching excellence;

A discussion ensued regarding the relative merits of a small envelope sized brochure vs. a more detailed directory of all regional ocean scientists. Initial estimates of prices ranged from \$1.7K and up on to \$5K for design with production costs varying depending on total desired. The majority of the discussion focused on the small full-color brochure option that could be available for MBCORC members to distribute at meetings and leave or mail to elected officials, prospective faculty, students, etc. This brochure could also refer people to the MBCORC website for further information. Judith Connor volunteered to join in on further discussion for development and production of an MBCORC product.

In addition to the consensus by the group to pursue the smaller marketing brochure, this discussion expanded to opportunities for full directory access via the MBCORC website links to each institutional website. Bill Douros noted that the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary has a directory on line and would be willing to maintain it if people

take the time to respond to requested updates. It was noted that a similar MBCORC directory already exists at the MBCORC website <http://www.mbari.org/~andrea/MBCORC/MBCORC.htm> (navigate to *MBCORC Member Info*, then to *Member Background*); attempts have been made to update the member information yet information was only submitted for 19 of the 24 organizations. The questions of what kinds of information do member institutions want listed and should there be reciprocal links between the MBCORC website and member institutions were addressed. The MBCORC website does contain links to each member institution (*Go to Flash Introduction* or *Skip Intro – Go to Site*). It was noted that perhaps each institution could have a reciprocal link back to MBCORC to heighten MBCORC visibility in the community. The discussion explored the possibility that institutions could provide a link directly to their “People” pages and/or can their be a dedicated MBCORC overview page on each institution’s site linking back to <http://www.mbari.org/~andrea/MBCORC/MBCORC.htm> for more information?

Action:

- 1. Brochure: Judith Conner/MBARI will join the existing subcommittee (Gary Griggs/UCSC and Lora Lee Martin/UC MBEST) to move forward on brochure design and further budget refinement. The group consensus is that all institutions present would be willing to both contribute to a share of the design and relevant production costs. The subcommittee will bring the full proposal before the group via email or at the next MBCORC meeting.**
- 2. Website: Andrea will forward an e-mail requesting input from Institutions to update the existing MBCORC formatted directory information. Upon receipt of confirmation of information, the online directory will be updated. Further discussion will need to take place on the website links at a future MBCORC meeting.**

Education

Presentation/Discussion:

Julie Packard gave an overview of K-12 education initiatives at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Since its inception, the MBA has had a revolution in that originally education was aimed at science literacy. This has shifted towards a conservation and stewardship mission.

- MBA has reached >1M K-12 students since opening; all with free admission.
- MBA currently serves ~85K children, but only one-third get facilitated programs due to staffing and size constraints.
- The focus of our exhibit programs is now moving toward looking at families as the learning environment.
- There have been mixed messages on whether or not more science education materials are needed.
- Demographic trends: School groups do reach demographics, but the general audience does not. Kids, families, and communities need to be reached - not just kids alone.
- Currently, there is a big focus on the pre-K audience (Splash Zone).

- MBA has been working with regional headstart programs, which has been successful.
- The MBA Board has asked the Aquarium to focus on the teen audience. Programs such as the Student Oceanography Club (SOC) and Young Women in Science (YWS) have been expanded. These are limited only by MBA financial restrictions.
- The teacher summer institute programs are in revision.
- The classroom experience will be expanded to the Aquarium itself.
- With the Outer Bay Wing, attendance increased but has now leveled off so now there is a need to re-focus.
- Cynthia Vernon, the new Director of Education and Conservation Programs, begins June 15. The education focus will continue to emphasize community stewardship values.

Julie went on to say that Monterey Bay is a model; we should think about fostering better communication, collaboration, and long term sustainability between our MBCORC institutions for educational outreach.

Rita Bell then gave an overview of education thoughts and practices at MBA (see attached file).

Discussion continued on a number of ways to reach more and broader K-12 audiences. Suggestions for “chat” rooms, links to teacher/educator pages, links to K-12 programs, Open House schedules, were ideas abound. Other items that could prove useful for teachers/educators were COSEE (Center for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence) which has a repository where teachers can go to for information (see report at <http://www.ims.usm.edu/cosee/>) and a possible digital library program which Sue Cook of HBOI is working on. Given the complementary interests of several of the MBCORC institutions it was suggested that MBCORC host a meeting with designated K-12 representatives from each institution to develop regional joint efforts and strategies, e.g. joint proposals to fund outreach activities. A new regional education initiative was mentioned with an expected announcement date in the coming months. MBCORC members voiced an interest in exploring a joint regional proposal in response.

Action: Marsha Moroh, Kerstin Wasson, Kenneth Coale, and Nicole Crane will form a working group to explore the funding initiative and a possible regional response proposal.

Coastal Observatories

Presentation/Discussion:

Kenneth Coale indicated that last year MLML produced a white paper on a coastal monitoring program. The proposed California Center for Integrative Coastal Ocean Research (CAL CI-CORE) now has the highest CSU support as one of the University system's potential top priority initiatives, which would establish ocean observatories from San Francisco to San Diego. Kenneth provided information on Coastal Observatory data in the Monterey Bay area: the Sanctuary's SIMON, MBARI's MOOS, John Pearse at UCSC, 85 years of sea temperature data from Hopkins and MLML efforts. He expressed concern over loss of program funding for monitoring from agencies such as NSF and the

need to establish time series records so that a better understanding of the coastal response to climate change and anthropogenic impacts, can emerge.

Additionally Kenneth spoke of the new NOAA program, Alliance for Coastal Technologies or ACT (see <http://www.actonline.ws>) which will provide a test bed for the ground truthing of coastal monitoring technologies now being developed by industry and institutions targeting the monitoring needs of coastal scientists and environmental managers. ACT Partnership members include: the [University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science \(UMCES\)](http://www.cbl.umces.edu) <<http://www.cbl.umces.edu>>, the [University of South Florida](http://ompl.marine.usf.edu/) <<http://ompl.marine.usf.edu/>>, the [Skidaway Institute of Oceanography](http://www.skio.peachnet.edu/projects/sabsoon.html) <<http://www.skio.peachnet.edu/projects/sabsoon.html>>, the [Moss Landing Marine Laboratory](http://www.mlml.calstate.edu/) <<http://www.mlml.calstate.edu/>>, the [Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute](http://www.mbari.org/default.htm) <<http://www.mbari.org/default.htm>> and the [Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System \(GOMOOS\)](http://www.gomoos.org) <<http://www.gomoos.org>>. Bill Douros noted that the management plan review process of the MBNMS is linked to the coastal observatories discussion.

Kenneth went on to describe MLML's plans to build a shore lab facility and re-build its research pier that was destroyed in the 1989 earthquake. Kenneth distributed handouts of the drawings of the Moss Landing pier and described plans for rebuilding it for use as one of the monitoring platforms. MLML will receive partial funding support through FEMA, some from other sources (10% for CICOR for the pier), but some on their own. Kenneth indicated that MLML views both the shore lab project and the research pier reconstructions project as the development of a community resource. Kenneth indicated he'd be soliciting endorsements/letters of support from some of the MBCORC members to help MLML secure the funding.

Lora Lee Martin added that UCSC was also exploring federal funding for marine monitoring sciences and that, when asked recently while in DC, she was unable to provide knowledgeable support for pending funding requests by other MBCORC member organizations. The discussion was then broadened to the value and importance of developing a comprehensive understanding of funding initiatives underway by MBCORC institutions so that member institutions could provide support each others needs and/or avoid creating confusion over regional funding requests, particularly with elected officials and agencies. The group decided there would be value in exploring a regional long-term vision and strategy for research/teaching priorities. The group consensus was to hold a two day facilitated workshop in the fall.

Action: A committee was formed to plan a fall two-day workshop target September 2001. Committee Members: Lora Lee Martin/MBEST, Chris Harrold/Aquarium, Bill Douros/Sanctuary, Kenneth Coale/MLML, Nicole Crane/MATE-MPC and Mike Carr/USGS.

Housing

Discussion/Presentation:

Carried over from the previous meeting the group discussed the regional housing shortages and the needs of the member MBCORC institutions. A report by Marsha Moroh/CSUMB focused on Fort Ord housing. Marsha is on the Board for "For Sale" housing at CSUMB on the old Ft. Ord. Rental housing for new staff and faculty is available, but student housing has run out. New housing may be available in the Fall and a new dorm development is expected within the next year.

Discussion continued. It was noted that approximately eleven thousand units of housing will be available between now and 2009 on Fort Ord. This includes rehab housing as well as new construction. There is no lack of developers, but how much land is available is the question as much of the property is still under Army control. Possibilities may exist to negotiating housing for MBCORC institutions if engaged via the Fort Ord jurisdictions including Marina, Seaside, CSUMB, UC MBEST and/or the Fort Ord Reuse Authority.

Nicole Crane asked if testing of the Fort Ord water has been done for Chromium 6 as in La Selva Beach some developers have been recently shut down due to the contaminant. Has similar testing been done on Ft. Ord? The answer was not known.

It was suggested that the MBCORC institutions could develop an estimate of their existing and upcoming housing needs so that developers or jurisdictions at Fort Ord could be approached. Additionally, there was discussion of how the member institutions might best facilitate information about housing needs and availability between their institutions. It was suggested that MBCORC might consider maintaining a list or website of who has housing available. However it was noted that such an undertaking might be very time consuming and unwieldy. Would an e-mail process to alert institute of the need for housing be doable? What are the current needs for housing?

Action:

This item merits further discussion as no consensus was reached.

Member New Items

Job Openings

MLML – Network Administrator; Ship's Captain
National Weather Service – Electrical Systems Analyst

General Updates:

MBARI – Open House is Saturday, June 16 from 12-5 p.m.

CSUMB – The groundbreaking of the Science Academic Center will be held in the summer. Date to be announced.

MBEST – Opening small business incubator facilities in early Fall.

MBA – Two new exhibits: Vanishing Wildlife Conservation of turtles, tunas, and sharks (permanent); Project Seahorses (temporary)

FNMOC – Jeanne Frew thanked everyone for their assistance and support in making the FNMOC Open House a success.

NRL – NRL has a new high-resolution model along the California Coast. If you're interested in upwelling, sea surface winds, check it out.

MATE

- MATE received \$350K in equipment from Triton to put together a training program. This equipment and software will be utilized in MATE's existing field methods class and they will develop additional classes to expose people to techniques, including data acquisition and processing, and GIS use.
- MATE received a long-term loan of a small Remotely Operated Vehicle (DOE Phantom) from the US Coast Guard. MATE will be using this in classes too.
- MATE established a partnership with Stennis Space Center to get internships. They will start working with the National Buoy Center, who will coordinate across Stennis to place students in internships. MATE is working with them to try to work out housing needs for students while there.
- MATE has a working relationship with both NOAA and UNOLS. In particular, MATE received supplemental NSF funds to develop an internship program on UNOLS vessels and with the Ocean Drilling Program. These have been very successful. MATE is always looking for new partners to help them diversify the students they send.
- MATE is starting a program working with schools in Mississippi and Louisiana. They are going to try a pilot program for on-line mentoring. MATE has applied for funding to accomplish this and are awaiting word. Regardless of funding, they are starting to work with these schools in faculty development, and establishing better relations with regional industry to establish or improve marine technology programs.
- MATE is working with the Marine Technology Society's ROV committee to co-sponsor a national ROV competition for students. The competition, which will happen sometime in spring 2002, will have an emphasis on college and high schools.
- MATE has received funding for the next three years.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.