

ECORD Training Course 2018

23-28 April 2018, Bremen, Germany

Ursula Roehl*

For the next generation of IODP scientists the MARUM (Center for Marine Environmental Sciences, University of Bremen) is an important hub. The Bremen Core Repository (BCR) located at MARUM, is one of three IODP repositories in the world, here scientists can access cores for description, analyses and sampling, as well as being trained at an early stage in their career.

From 23 to 27 April 2018, the fourth ECORD Training Course building on the success of previous years was held at the BCR with 31 participants from 14 different countries, including non-ECORD IODP member countries. This five-day course started with an introductory session on the structure and objectives of ECORD and IODP, and a general tour of the MARUM and BCR, before focusing on the IODP core-flow and typical expedition laboratory procedure practicals in smaller groups (*photos below*). These IODP-style lab exercises formed the foundation of the course, following the pattern of the unique "Virtual Ship" approach developed for the popular Bremen ECORD Summer Schools (*page 21*).



(photos Volker Diekamp, ECORD/MARUM)



The course was customised to prepare the participants for sailing on an IODP expedition, and to give them an appreciation of the high standards required for all kinds of coring projects. The detailed programme is posted on:

<http://www.marum.de/en/ECORD-Training-Course-2018.html>

The course concluded with an IODP proposal writing exercise on the last day. The brainstorming in breakout groups was great fun and has already resulted in several promising new ideas that may evolve into pre-proposals in the future. The participants were exceptionally lively, taking part in practical exercises and contributing to discussions, gaining first-hand insights into the multidisciplinary team effort that is a crucial part of the success of any ocean drilling programme.

Some comments we received from participants, when they were asked which aspect of the summer school they liked most:

"Fantastically run course giving real insight into the operations of MARUM and IODP as a whole."

"My overall Impression on the course is very positive with a fair balance between practical activities and lectures."

"Varied programme which provided hands on experience of working with a variety of cores and gave valuable experience."

"I liked the stories about life on board and the information on how/who can apply."

"I liked that we were split up into smaller groups, which made the lab turns really interactive."

"Getting to meet that many interesting and open-minded people, width of topics covered."

"Learning about the job roles onboard and the applications of different methods. It has also been very good for my studies and helped improved my understanding of different concepts."

"The multidisciplinary approach. The experience of a wide spectrum of analytical techniques that take place during an IODP expedition. The opportunity of relate with experts and colleagues from different fields of study and backgrounds."

"Seeing behind the scenes. Getting a proper look into IODP practice. Networking."

"The opportunity to get inside into areas outside of my personal expertise and the chance to meet other early career scientists in Earth Sciences."

"In general the course is an incredible opportunity to obtain an approach to real work aboard a research ship, I congratulate you for the excellent work."

<http://www.ecord.org/education/training-course/>