“Virtual Ship Experience”

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, hence scientists can access cores for description, analyses and sampling, as well as being trained at an early stage in their career.

From 25 to 29 March 2019, the fifth ECORD Training Course building on the success of previous years was held at the BCR with 29 participants from ten different countries including non-ECORD and non-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. 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 18).

The course was customized 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. (see link to detailed programme below).

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.


Photo credits: V. Diekamp, MARUM/University of Bremen

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APPLY FOR ECORD RESEARCH GRANT
Deadline: 31 January 2020
ECORD is sponsoring merit-based awards for outstanding young scientists to conduct innovative research related to the IODP.
https://www.ecord.org/education/research-grant/