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Gaku Kimura, Eli Silver, Peter Blum,  
Gerard Blanc, Alistair Bolton, Michael (Ben) Clennell, John R. Griffin, Bernard Housen,  
Masako Ibaraki, Toshiya Kanamatsu, Miriam Kastner, Nancy Lindsley-Griffin, Andreas Lueckge,  
Kirk McIntosh, Martin Meschede, Julie Morris, Jay Muza, Grey Myers, Marino Protti, Ola Saether,  
Saneatsu Saito, David Scholl, George Spence, Harold Tobin, Paola Vannucchi, Lisa White  
*Shipboard Scientists*

Peter Blum  
*Shipboard Staff Scientist*

Prepared by the  
OCEAN DRILLING PROGRAM  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Christine Miller  
*Volume Editor*

in cooperation with the  
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[Table of Contents](#)

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# Foreword

By the National Science Foundation

The National Science Foundation is proud to play a leading role in partnership with the U.S. oceanographic community in the operation and management of the Ocean Drilling Program (ODP). We are equally proud of the cooperation and commitment of our international partners, who contribute both financial and intellectual resources required to maintain the high quality of this unique program. The Ocean Drilling Program, like its predecessor, the Deep Sea Drilling Project (DSDP), is a model for the organization and planning of research to address global scientific problems that are of high priority internationally and of long-term interest to the scientific community and general public.

Major scientific themes guiding the development of specific drilling cruises range from determining the causes and effects of oceanic and climatic variability to understanding the circulation of fluids in the ocean crust and the resultant formation of mineral deposits. Although such studies are at the forefront of basic scientific inquiry into the processes that control and modify the global environment, they are equally important in providing the background for assessing man's impact on the global environment or for projecting resource availability for future generations.

The transition from the DSDP to the ODP was marked by a number of changes. The 471-foot *JOIDES Resolution*, which replaced the *Glomar Challenger*, has allowed larger scientific parties and the participation of more graduate students, a larger laboratory and technical capability, and operations in more hostile ocean regions. The *JOIDES Resolution* has drilled in all of the world's oceans, from the marginal ice regions of the Arctic to within sight of the Antarctic continent. Over 1,200 scientists and students from 26 nations have participated on project cruises. Cores recovered from the cruises and stored in ODP repositories in the United States and Europe have provided samples to an additional 1,000 scientists for longer term post-cruise research investigations. The downhole geochemical and geophysical logging program, unsurpassed in either academia or industry, is providing remarkable new data with which to study the Earth.

In 1994, NSF and our international partners renewed our commitment to the program for its final phase. Of the 20 countries that supported ODP initially, only one, Russia, has been unable to continue for financial reasons. As the reputation and scientific impact of the program continue to grow internationally, we hope to add additional members and new scientific constituencies. This global scientific participation continues to assure the program's scientific excellence by focusing and integrating the combined scientific knowledge and capabilities of its member nations.

We wish the program smooth sailing and good drilling!

Neal Lane  
Director  
National Science Foundation  
Arlington, Virginia



# Foreword

By Joint Oceanographic Institutions, Inc.

This volume presents scientific and engineering results from the Ocean Drilling Program (ODP). The papers presented here address the scientific and technical goals of the program, which include providing a global description of geological and geophysical structures including passive and active margins and sediment history, and studying in detail areas of major geophysical activity such as mid-ocean ridges and the associated hydrothermal circulations.

The Ocean Drilling Program, an international activity, operates a specially equipped deep-sea drilling ship, the *JOIDES Resolution* (Sedco/BP 471), which contains state-of-the-art laboratories, equipment, and computers. The ship is 471 feet (144 meters) long, is 70 feet (21 meters) wide, and has a displacement of 18,600 short tons. Her derrick towers 211 feet (64 meters) above the waterline, and a computer-controlled dynamic-positioning system stabilizes the ship over a specific location while drilling in water depths up to 27,000 feet (8230 meters). The drilling system collects cores from beneath the seafloor with a derrick and drawworks that can handle 30,000 feet (9144 meters) of drill pipe. More than 12,000 square feet (1115 square meters) of space distributed throughout the ship is devoted to scientific laboratories and equipment. The ship sails with a scientific and technical crew of 51 and a ship's crew (including the drill crew) of 62. The size and ice-strengthening of the ship allow drilling in high seas and ice-infested areas as well as permit a large group of multidisciplinary scientists to interact as part of the scientific party.

Logging, or measurements in the drilled holes, is an important part of the program. ODP provides a full suite of geochemical and geophysical measurements for every hole deeper than 1300 feet (400 meters). For each such hole, there are lowerings of basic oil-industry tools: nuclear, sonic, and electrical. In addition, a Formation MicroScanner is available for high-resolution imaging the wall of the hole, a 12-channel logging tool provides accurate velocity and elastic property measurements as well as sonic waveforms for spectral analysis of energy propagation near the wall of the hole, and a vertical seismic profiler can record reflectors from below the total depth of the hole.

The management of the Ocean Drilling Program involves a partnership of scientists and governments. International oversight and coordination are provided by the ODP Council, a governmental consultative body of the partner countries, which is chaired by a representative from the United States National Science Foundation (NSF). The ODP Council periodically reviews the general progress of the program and discusses financial plans and other management issues. Overall scientific and management guidance is provided to the operators of the program by representatives from the group of institutions involved in the program, called the Joint Oceanographic Institutions for Deep Earth Sampling (JOIDES).

The Executive Committee (EXCOM), made up of the administrative heads of the JOIDES institutions, provides general oversight for ODP. The Science Committee (SCICOM), with its advisory structure, is made up of working scientists and provides scientific advice and detailed planning for the Ocean Drilling Program. SCICOM has a network of panels and committees that screen drilling proposals, evaluate instrumentation and measurement techniques, and assess geophysical survey data and other safety and siting information. SCICOM uses the recommendations of the panels and committees to select drilling targets, to specify the location and major scientific objectives of each two-month drilling segment or leg, and to provide the science operator with nominations for co-chief scientists.

Joint Oceanographic Institutions, Inc. (JOI), a nonprofit consortium of U.S. oceanographic institutions, serves as the National Science Foundation's prime contractor for ODP. JOI is responsible for seeing that the scientific objectives, plans, and recommendations of the JOIDES committees are translated into scientific operations consistent with scientific advice and budgetary constraints. JOI subcontracts the operations of the program to two universities: Texas A&M University and Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory

of Columbia University. JOI is also responsible for managing the U.S. contribution to ODP under a separate cooperative agreement with NSF.

Texas A&M University (TAMU) serves as science operator for ODP. In this capacity, TAMU is responsible for planning the specific ship operations, actual drilling schedules, and final scientific rosters, which are developed in close cooperation with SCICOM and the relevant panels. The science operator also ensures that adequate scientific analyses are performed on the cores by maintaining the shipboard scientific laboratories and computers and by providing logistical and technical support for shipboard scientific teams. Onshore, TAMU manages scientific activities after each leg, is curator for the cores, distributes samples, and coordinates the editing and publication of scientific results.

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO) of Columbia University is responsible for the program's logging operation, including processing the data and providing assistance to scientists for data analysis. The ODP Data Bank, a repository for geophysical data, is also managed by LDEO.

Core samples from ODP and the previous Deep Sea Drilling Project are stored for future investigation at four sites: ODP Pacific and Indian Ocean cores at TAMU, DSDP Pacific and Indian Ocean cores at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, ODP and DSDP Atlantic and Antarctic cores through Leg 150 at LDEO, and ODP Atlantic and Antarctic cores since Leg 151 at the University of Bremen, Federal Republic of Germany.

Scientific achievements of ODP include new information on early seafloor spreading and how continents separate and the margins evolve. The oldest Pacific crust has been drilled and sampled. We have new insights into glacial cycles and the fluctuations of ocean currents throughout geological time. ODP has also provided valuable data that shed light on fluid pathways through the lithosphere, global climate change both in the Arctic and near the equator, past sea-level change, seafloor mineralization, the complex tectonic evolution of oceanic crust, and the evolution of passive continental margins.

Many of the scientific goals can be met only with new technology; thus the program has focused on engineering as well as science. To date, ODP engineers have demonstrated the capability to drill on bare rock at mid-ocean-ridge sites and have developed techniques for drilling in high-temperature and corrosive regions typical of hydrothermal vent areas. A new diamond coring system promises better core recovery in difficult areas. In a close collaborative effort between ODP engineers and scientists, a system has been developed that seals selected boreholes ("CORKs") and monitors downhole temperature, pressure, and fluid composition for up to three years. When possible, ODP is also taking advantage of industry techniques such as logging while drilling, to obtain continuous downhole information in difficult-to-drill formations.

JOI is pleased to have been able to play a facilitating role in the Ocean Drilling Program and its cooperative activities, and we are looking forward to many new, exciting results in the future.

James D. Watkins  
Admiral, U.S. Navy (Retired)  
President  
Joint Oceanographic Institutions, Inc.  
Washington, D.C.

# **OCEAN DRILLING PROGRAM**

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Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory  
Columbia University  
Palisades, New York  
David Goldberg, Head

\* At time of publication.





## **PARTICIPANTS ABOARD THE JOIDES RESOLUTION FOR LEG 170\***

Gaku Kimura

Co-chief Scientist

*Department of Earth Sciences  
College of Integrated Arts and Sciences  
Osaka Prefecture University  
1-1 Gakuen-cho  
Sakai-shi 593  
Japan  
[gaku@cias.osakafu-u.ac.jp](mailto:gaku@cias.osakafu-u.ac.jp)*

Eli Silver

Co-chief Scientist

*Earth Sciences Department  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
Santa Cruz, California 95064  
U.S.A.  
[esilver@earthsci.ucsc.edu](mailto:esilver@earthsci.ucsc.edu)*

Peter Blum

Staff Scientist

*Ocean Drilling Program  
Texas A&M University Research Park  
1000 Discovery Drive  
College Station, Texas 77845  
U.S.A.  
[peter\\_blum@odp.tamu.edu](mailto:peter_blum@odp.tamu.edu)*

Gerard Blanc

Inorganic Geochemist

*Département de Géologie et Océanographie  
Université de Bordeaux I  
URA CNRS 197  
Avenue des Facultés  
33405 Talence Cedex  
France  
[blanc@geocean.u-bordeaux.fr](mailto:blanc@geocean.u-bordeaux.fr)*

Alistair Bolton

Physical Properties Specialist

*Institute of Earth Studies  
University of Wales, Aberystwyth  
Dyfed, Wales SY23 3DB  
United Kingdom  
[aib94@aber.ac.uk](mailto:aib94@aber.ac.uk)*

Michael (Ben) Clennell

Physical Properties Specialist

*Department of Earth Sciences  
University of Leeds  
Leeds, England LS2 9JT  
United Kingdom  
[b.clennell@earth.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:b.clennell@earth.leeds.ac.uk)*

John R. Griffin

Sedimentologist

*Department of Geology  
University of Nebraska  
214 Bessey Hall  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0340  
U.S.A.  
[jgriffin@uninfo.unl.edu](mailto:jgriffin@uninfo.unl.edu)*

Bernard Housen

Paleomagnetist

*Institute for Rock Magnetism  
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis  
293 Shepherd Laboratories  
100 Union Street, S.E.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455-0128  
U.S.A.  
[house009@gold.tc.umn.edu](mailto:house009@gold.tc.umn.edu)*

Masako Ibaraki

Paleontologist (foraminifers)

*Geosciense Institute  
Faculty of Science  
Shizuoka University  
Shizuoka 422  
Japan  
[sbmibar@sci.shizuoka.ac.jp](mailto:sbmibar@sci.shizuoka.ac.jp)*

Toshiya Kanamatsu

Paleomagnetist

*Japan Marine Science and Technology Center  
2-15 Natsushima-cho  
Yokosuka 237  
Japan  
[toshiyak@jamstec.go.jp](mailto:toshiyak@jamstec.go.jp)*

Miriam Kastner

Inorganic Geochemist

*Scripps Institute of Oceanography-0212  
University of California, San Diego  
9500 Gilman Drive  
La Jolla, California 92093  
U.S.A.  
[mkastner@ucsd.edu](mailto:mkastner@ucsd.edu)*

Nancy Lindsley-Griffin

Petrologist/Structural Geologist

*Department of Geology  
University of Nebraska  
214 Bessey Hall  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0340  
U.S.A.  
[nlg@unlinfo.unl.edu](mailto:nlg@unlinfo.unl.edu)*

Andreas Lueckge

Organic Geochemist

*Institut für Chemie und Dynamik der Geosphäre (IGC-4)  
Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH  
52425 Jülich  
Federal Republic of Germany  
[lueckge@ich504.ich.kfa-juelich.de](mailto:lueckge@ich504.ich.kfa-juelich.de)*

Kirk McIntosh

Geophysicist

*Institute for Geophysics  
University of Texas  
8701 N. Mopac Expressway  
Austin, Texas 78759  
U.S.A.  
[kirk@utig.ig.utexas.edu](mailto:kirk@utig.ig.utexas.edu)*

\* Addresses at time of cruise.

Martin Meschede  
Structural Geologist  
*Geologisches Institut  
Universität Tübingen  
Sigwartstrasse 10  
D-72076 Tübingen  
Federal Republic of Germany  
meschede@uni-tuebingen.de*

Julie Morris  
Petrologist  
*Department of Earth and Planetary Science  
Washington University  
One Brookings Drive, CB 1169  
St. Louis, Missouri 63130  
U.S.A.  
jmorris@levee.wustl.edu*

Jay Muza  
Paleontologist (nannofossils)  
*Department of Geology  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, Florida 32306  
U.S.A.  
muza@quartz.gly.fsu.edu*

Grey Myers  
LDEO Logging Scientist  
*Borehole Research Group  
Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory  
Columbia University  
Palisades, New York 10964  
U.S.A.  
gmyers@ldeo.columbia.edu*

Marino Protti  
Geophysicist/Science Observer  
*Observatorio Vulcanológico y Sismológico de Costa  
Rica  
Universidad Nacional  
Apdo. 2346-3000  
Heredia  
Costa Rica  
jprotti@irazu.wha.ac.cr*

Ola Saether  
Sedimentologist  
*Norges Geologiske Undersøkelse  
Liev Eirikssons v. 39  
Postboks 3006 Lade  
N-7000 Trondheim  
Norway  
ola.sather@ngu.no*

Saneatsu Saito  
LDEO Logging Scientist Trainee  
*Borehole Research Group  
Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory  
Columbia University  
Palisades, New York 10964  
U.S.A.  
saito@ori.u-tokyo.ac.jp*

David Scholl  
Physical Properties Specialist  
*U.S. Geological Survey, MS 999  
345 Middlefield Rd.  
Menlo Park, California 94025  
U.S.A.  
dscholl@octopus.wr.usgs.gov*

George Spence  
Physical Properties Specialist  
*School of Earth and Ocean Sciences  
University of Victoria  
P.O. Box 1700  
Victoria, British Columbia V8W 2Y2  
Canada  
spence@geosuni.seos.uvic.ca*

Harold Tobin  
Structural Geologist  
*Department of Geophysics  
Stanford University  
Stanford, California 94305-2215  
U.S.A.  
tobin@pangea.stanford.edu*

Paola Vannucchi  
Structural Geologist  
*Dip. Di Scienze della Terra  
Piazzale S. Eufemia, 19  
41100 Modena  
Italy  
paolav@steno.geo.unifi.it*

Lisa White  
Paleontologist (diatoms)  
*Department of Geosciences  
San Francisco State University  
1600 Holloway Ave.  
San Francisco, California 94132  
U.S.A.  
lwhite@sfsu.edu*

## **SEDCO OFFICIALS**

Anthony Ribbens  
Master of the Drilling Vessel  
*Overseas Drilling Ltd.  
707 Texas Avenue South, Suite 213D  
College Station, Texas 77840-1917*

Robert Caldow  
Drilling Superintendent  
*Overseas Drilling Ltd.  
707 Texas Avenue South, Suite 213D  
College Station, Texas 77840-1917*

## ODP ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PERSONNEL

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