

## **Minutes of the GENUS Kickoff-meeting, 25.3. 2009, Hamburg**

Press release under <http://www.klimacampus.de/index.php/Aktuell/328/0/>

### **Attending:**

Rixen (ZMT), C. und F. Buchholz (AWI), Christiansen (IHF), Koppelman (IHF), Irmisch (BEO), Pfeiffer (MPI), Jacob (MPI), Auel (UniHB), Hagen (Uni HB), Kunzmann (ZMT), Ostrowski (IMR Bergen, No), Nagel (IfBM), Ekau (ZMT), Oellermann (UNAM/SANUMARC, Namibia), Schuckart (UniHB), Fennel (IOW), Schmidt (IOW), Mohrholz (IOW), Wasmund (IOW), Emeis (IfBM)

### **Agenda**

TOP 1) Welcome, meeting logistics (Emeis), introduction of guests and newcomers

TOP 2) GENUS Presentation and GENUS timeline (Emeis)

TOP 3) Discussion Expeditions (SkfOz- ship group)

*Africana* cruise December 2009 (Ekau)

*Meteor* 2010 ClimShelf I (Buchholz, Koppelman, Auel)

*Merian* 2011 ClimShelf II (Emeis, Ekau, Rixen) (April-May)

*Merian* 2011 ABMIX (Schmidt, Mohrholz) (Oct-Dec)

TOP 4) Report GENUS Data Group (Fennel)

TOP 5) Presentation of Norwegian activities (Marek Ostrowski , Inst. Marine Research/Bergen)

TOP 6) Affiliation with IMBER, GENUS Homepage (Emeis)

TOP 7) Workshops and summer schools

Planning teams and responsibilities

TOP 8) Report GENUS Grant Selection Committee (Hagen)

TOP 9) Any other business (Kooperationsverträge)

At 15:00: Meeting of the Grant Selection Committee to evaluate/discuss applications and boundary conditions. Willy Hagen, Kay Emeis, Guests: Bodo von Bodungen (excused), Christian Möllmann (excused), Larry Oellermann, Moses Maurihungirire (excused)

### **TOP 1: Welcome, meeting logistics (Emeis), introduction of guests and newcomers**

Emeis welcomed everybody followed by a brief self introduction. The group was very pleased to welcome external attendees: Dr. Larry Oellermann (University of Namibia and SANUMARC), Dr. Marek Ostrowski (Inst. For Marine Research, Bergen, Norway) and Dr. Andreas Irmisch (BEO).

### **TOP2: GENUS Presentation and GENUS timeline**

Emeis gave a short introduction to the project GENUS, which was launched in April at an acceptable funding level.

### **TOP 3: Discussion Expeditions**

The DFG Senatskommission met on the same day in Stralsund to discuss applications for shiptime. GENUS had planned 4 cruises in 2009 – 2011, and had submitted 3 applications for shiptime on either Meteor or M.S. Merian, one additional application from IOW (M.S.M.; Postel et al. ) was associated to GENUS goals:

*Africana* cruise December 2009 (Ekau)

*Meteor* 2010 ClimShelf I (Buchholz, Koppelman, Auel)

*Merian* 2011 ClimShelf II (Emeis, Ekau, Rixen) (April-May)

*Merian 2011 ABMIX (Schmidt, Mohrholz) (Oct-Dec)*

The SkfOz had indicated that all three GENUS applications for MSM and Meteor had been favourably reviewed, but that there were problems with timing of the 2010 cruise with Meteor (no ship in the region at that time). The SkfOz had queried Emeis if all three expeditions were possible in 2011. Consensus in the group was that three expeditions in 2011 were not possible, mainly because the project is then in its final stages. The group discussed different options:

- All three cruises in 2010 (according to SkfOz not an option)
- Use of Polarstern during a possible transit (according to D. Quadfasel not an option)
- Bartership of Meteor/Merian class in 2010 (Emeis contacted T. Müller and D. Quadfasel; T. Müller is checking that option with F. Buchholz)
- Use of Africana and/or Nansen. This was considered to be problematic for the main reason that neither ship has the capacities, aside from charter costs and unknown availability. This option is ok for physical oceanographers and biogeochemistry groups, and is being investigated further. Charter costs will have to be clarified with BEO and the Valdivia-fund in Hamburg.
- Shorebased or Welwitchia-based research in the coastal zone. This option was considered to be least attractive, but may be an add-on.

*Africana, Dec. 1 to 12, 2009; Cape Town-Walvis Bay-Cape Town*

Werner Ekau went on to describe logistics of the upcoming expedition with FRV Africana, which he discussed with the South African partner Hans Verheye. The charter for that cruise was budgeted with 70.000 € (US\$ 103,125) at a rate of 1€=1.5 US\$; presently the exchange rate is 1€=1.32 US\$; meaning that the charter is underfinanced by around 8000 € Emeis contacted Irmisch on 1.4. 2009 who suggested to shift funds in the project, permissible for up to 20%.

The ship will depart Cape Town on December 1, 2009 for a first leg to Walvis Bay (Dec. 5, 2009) mainly devoted to fishing activities (36 hours) with 15 GENUS scientists in addition to ZA crew and scientists. In WB there will be a crew change. The second leg (Dec 5 to Dec 12, 2009 Cape Town) will have 170 hours of station time in the GENUS working area between 22°S and 17°S, possibly also going further North into Angolan waters (pending MOU between INIP and ZMT). The crew will be 4 ZA scientists and most likely 3 Namibian PhD students in addition to 16 GENUS scientists from the various disciplines.

Ekau described ship infrastructure and pointed out that participants need working visa for ZA, a valid medical exam, valid passports, and that every group need to check connectors and voltages for any instrumentation to be brought to the ship.

*CLIMSHELF I (Meteor 2010; see above; presented by F. Buchholz)*

Four transects perpendicular to the coast across major gradients; all GENUS groups in the central field experiment of GENUS. During June to August (upwelling maximum) to identify active areas

*CLIMSHELF II (MS. Merian April-May 2011; not presented by K. Emeis)*

*ABMIX (M.S.Merian; Oct-Dec. 2011; presented by Volker Mohrholz)*

The scientific goal of that expedition is to elucidate the source water in the Angola Gyre and mixing processes in the northern Benguela. 7days Angola Basin, 4 days ABFZ, 4 days northern Benguela

For these three expeditions we need to wait for the decision and schedule fixed by the SkfOz/Steuergruppe Forschungsschiffe.

TOP 4: Report of GENUS Data Group (Fennel)

Wolfgang presented initial ideas on and structure of the GENUS data base, which are compliant with stipulations by SCOR and IMBER. These ideas were agreed upon in the GENUS ad-hoc database group (Fennel, Ekau, Rixen, Emeis). Both metadata, empirical and model data will be hosted at IOW (aside from model data produced by MPI, which will be made available via DKRZ) and will be accessible via an ftp-server at IOW.

Wolfgang's presentation is in the **Appendix 1**.

Each GENUS group names the following partners as "data scientists" responsible for data provision and interaction with the IOW data group:

- MPI (Jacob)
- IOW (Schmidt/Mohrholz/Fennel)
- IfBM (Lahajnar/project manager)
- ZMT (Ekau)
- IHF (Koppelman)
- MarZoo (Auel)
- AWI (Buchholz)

#### **TOP 5) Presentation of Norwegian activities (Marek Ostrowski , Inst. Marine Research/Bergen) (Appendix 2)**

In parallel to GENUS there is an evolving research activity on CLIMATE EFFECTS ON BIODIVERSITY, ABUNDANCE AND DISTRIBUTION OF MARINE ORGANISMS (NANSCLIM) funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation. Marek Ostrowski (Institute for Marine Research in Bergen, Norway) presented the data base and scope for this new initiative, which will involve MCM, NatMIRC and INIP, and in which the Benguela Current Commission will have an observer status.

It was agreed that the two initiatives (GENUS and NANSCLIM) are complementary and that close collaboration should be achieved. In particular, NANSCLIM does not have a model component, which GENUS does. On the other hand, NANSCLIM has long-term data that GENUS requires. It was also agreed that communication should be close, that representatives of each project should be invited for workshops, that a joint session at an international scientific conference at the end of GENUS should be held, and that joint publications should be fostered. The NANSCLIM kickoff-meeting will be in autumn 2009.

#### **TOP 6) Affiliation with IMBER, GENUS Homepage (Emeis)**

Emeis reported that the request for affiliation of GENUS with IMBER is underway. The necessary forms have been submitted (Appendix 3).

Emeis briefly reported on progress with the GENUS project homepage, which will be maintained at IfBM. It will be done in TYPO 3, and will have WIKI-esque characteristics so that new entries can be entered by individual scientists or representatives at each institute. An initial outline is to come in May 2009 for approval by GENUS partners.

**TOP 7) Workshops and summer schools, planning teams and responsibilities**

Two workshops and one summer school will be held in GENUS, the two workshops in Namibia and in close temporal relationship to cruises. The summer school will be staged in German towards the end of the first GENUS phase.

The theme of the first workshop was intended to be “taxonomy of phytoplankton and zooplankton”. **Holger Auel, Tim Rixen and Fritz Buchholz** agreed to launch the preliminary activities.

Larry Oellermann pointed out that the dates of the workshop need to be before December 15, 2009 due to Christmas holidays. It was tentatively decided that the first workshop will be held at SANUMARC/Hentiesbay before the beginning of the second leg of the Africana cruise: All participants of the second leg would be available for participation.

**Martin Schmidt** took a lead in preparing a GENUS modelling workshop in the near future.

**TOP 8) Report GENUS Grant Selection Committee (Hagen)**

Willy Hagen reported on the larger-than-expected turnout of the applications for GENUS grants. A total of 2 (complete) and 1 (incomplete) MSC. applications and 9 applications for PhD positions were received. A separate report of the grant selection committee will follow after the evaluation procedure.

**TOP 9) Any other business**

Emeis reported that all cooperation agreements have been received and will be distributed by Hamburg University.

The meeting ended at 15:00

(Emeis)