

İTÜ EMCOL

2. Monthly Meeting minutes

Date: 1 July 2005, 9:30 hours

Participants:

N. Çağatay, L. Doner, C. Genç, N. Okay, E. Demirbağ, C. İmren, R. Akkök, K. Eriş, S. Akçer, M. Toker

Reporter: N. Okay

Communication items from the Coordinator, Namık Çağatay:

- Namık Çağatay participated and gave an introductory talk about EMCOL in “Clean Black Sea” meeting of an EC - SSA project held during 2-5 June in Varna, Bulgaria. In this meeting he also presented an outline for a project proposal on “Biogeochemical cycles and related sediment fluxes in the Black Sea”. It was agreed by the participants of the Varna meeting to prepare a proposal for an integrated multidisciplinary project on the subject and present it to FP7 programme in the next two years. If accepted, such a project would widely utilize the EMCOL facilities. He invited the EMCOL scientists to study his project proposal outline and start working on the proposal preparation.
- Namık Çağatay presented the EMCOL project in the annual coordination meeting of Turkish Marine Research at Navigation, Hydrography and Oceanography Department (SHOD) on 10 June 2005.
- Namık Çağatay received an invitation to participate in an integrated European project “NUCLEUS (Neotectonic Hazards, Undersea Processes, and Climate Change) proposal, submitted to the ESF Eurocores Programme. In this project Marmara Sea has been selected as a strategic area of study and EMCOL as an important partner.
- EMCOL scientists will be participating in the forthcoming R/V Urania cruise in the Marmara Sea during month of September 2005. Some of the cores and shallow seismic sections obtained during this cruise will be studied in the EMCOL facilities.
- There will be another cruise conducted by İTÜ-EMCOL, LDEO and University of Haifa, Israel using an small (23 m) Israeli research vessel during 19-29 July 2005 to collect the chirp-data and cores in the northern Marmara Sea and Turkish western Black Sea shelf.
- A project proposal was prepared and submitted to the Istanbul Municipality to support EMCOL Scientists during the Urania cruise and for their post-cruise field and lab studies.
- Relevant documents were sent to the Turkish Finance Ministry to obtain a tax-exemption certificate. A form was also sent to Mr. Soenen for official EC signature required by the Turkish officials for issuing the certificate.

- Already three student applications have been received for EMCOL. A student selection committee will be set up in the next EMCOL meeting to interview and select the students by mid-August 2005.
- Four members invited to serve on the Advisory Committee of EMCOL have now been finalized:
 1. Prof. Dr. Temel Oğuz (Marine Sciences Institute, METU, Erdemli, İçel)
 2. Dr. Frank Niessen (Alfred Wegener Institute, Bremerhaven, Germany)
 3. Nazım Çubukçu, SHOD, Çubuklu, Istanbul
 4. Kerim Sarıkavak (MTA, Marine Research Unit)
- University requires that every academic department and research centre including EMCOL makes its strategic plan for the next 3 years. It was decided that a committee consisting of Çağatay, Doner, Akkök will receive feedbacks from EMCOL scientists and prepare a plan for discussion in two weeks time.
- The proposed design for the Core Lab renovation was introduced with technical drawings. The list of items will be prepared for each lab and presented to companies for price quotations.
- The “Technical Specifications” for following equipment have been completed and translated into Turkish:
 - CTD, Freeze Dryer, Particle-size analyzer, Tripod by Sena Akçer
 - MSCL and GPS by Gökhan Şans
 Preparation of specification for other equipment is in progress.
- Emin Demirbag presented the information he received on different subbottom profiler systems. A small generator will be needed for the operation of the system. We are close to making the decision on selecting the best system for EMCOL use, after getting some more specific technical and cost information on spare parts.
- Namık Çağatay gave information about the Core Scanner. He informed that the company is asking extra charges for an extra X-ray tube and software installation on a second computer (another 4,5000 €). He asked for a new quotation with inclusion of these items in the total cost of instrument as quoted in the EMCOL project budget. He also asked for deferment for the payment of first installment of training and maintenance cost until after the first year of the project. If ordered in time, the instrument could be installed by October 2005.
- Namık Çağatay informed that he received some information about organic and inorganic carbon analysis equipment, besides the coulometer.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.