

1 September 2006

EMCOL
MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes

The meeting was convened in the Palaeontology Museum at 10:00 hours on Friday, 1 September 2006, with the following agenda:

1. Communication items
2. EMCOL project activities
3. Equipment procurement activities
4. Training
5. Student applications
6. Other matters

1. Communication items

The coordinator Namık Çağatay informed the meeting of the following:

a) As approved by the University Senate 21 September 2006, there has been a change in the EMCOL management committee, with the replacement of Dr. Lisa Doner by Dr. Ercan Özcan as the Sedimentology Task Leader. The coordinator welcomed Ercan Özcan in his new position.

b) A Short course will be given on “Ostracodes” by Dr. Ian Boomer of Birmingham University U.K. during 12-13 September 2006.

c) International Workshop on “Comparative Studies of the NorthAnatolian Fault (Northwest Turkey) and the San Andreas Fault (Southern California) was held in ITU during 14-18 August 2006. The symposium was attended by over 50 international and 70 local well-known scientists. A total of 23 oral and 45 poster papers were presented on various aspects of earthquake research carried out mainly in the Marmara and southern California regions.

In his welcoming speech, Prof. Naci Görür (Chairman of the Organizing Committee) announced the establishment of the EMCOL and its facilities for Natural Hazard studies, and encouraged the researchers to use the facilities for their research.

Namık Çağatay (coordinator of EMCOL) gave his invited lecture on “Late Quaternary stratigraphy and sedimentology of the Marmara Sea: implications for tectonic studies”. In his talk he presented some data on the sedimentary record of the 1999 İzmit earthquake, which was obtained using the EMCOL’s core analysis facility.

d) We have received the safety licence for the ITRAX Core Scanner from Turkish Atomic Energy Organization (TAEK). This certificate is being displayed on the wall of the lab to show all concerned that the EMCOL’s Core Analyses Laboratory is safe place to work.

2. Project activities

(i) The second progress report of the project “Seismic Risk Assessment in the Marmara Sea” has been submitted to İstanbul Greater City Municipality.

(ii) The ESONET “European Sea Observatory Network” project (FP6-2005-GLOBAL-4, Proposal N° 036851-2) contract will be signed with EC in September 2006 according to the coordinator, Roland Person of IFREMER who attended the NAF-SAF workshop in İstanbul. EMCOL’s is partner no. 33 in this rather large project project.

(iii) Fieldwork is underway for “*Seismic Cycles of the Anatolian Faults*” (EC-Marie Curie Excellence Grant (MEXT-CT-2005-025617, Coordinator: Dr. Aurelia Hubert-Ferrari of Brussels Royal Observatory). EMCOL has so far helped the project logistically in the field. The cores from Hazar and Ladik lakes will be analyzed for the earthquake and climate records in the EMCOL lab starting in October 2006.

3. Equipment purchases

(i) VT-1 Model underwater vibrocorer has been shipped from USA the Manufacturer Rossfelder Cooperation and arrived in Istanbul Airport today. The customs formalities are expected to be completed in a few days.

(ii) Geotek MSCL will be officially ordered after the receipt of the second installment from EC. We are presently in the process of obtaining a purchase license for this equipment from Turkish Atomic Energy Organization (TAEK).

(iii) The spectrophotometer, needed especially for the biogenic silica analysis, is expected to be delivered in two weeks time.

4. Training

a) The INNOMAR seismic equipment was tested in Haliç (Golden Horn) and a training session was given to EMCOL scientists, Emin Demirbağ and Emre Damcı, by the INNOMAR engineers from the manufacturer company during 17-18 July 2006.

b) Training sessions on the Shimadzu TOC/TIC analyzer by the Ant Teknik engineers will continue in September 2006.

c) One week hands-on-training on MSCL (Multisensor core-logger) will be given under supervision of Dr. Jens Grutzner in IODP Bremen Core Repository during 18-22 September, 2006. EMCOL Research assistants, Emre Damcı and Kadir Eriş, will attend the course.

d) There will be one-day course on the use and applications of our CTD probe delivered by Dr. Hüsne Altıok of İstanbul University during the last week of September, 2006. The course will include 2 hours of lectures and 2 hours of practical measurements in the small lake on ITU’s Maslak campus. This lake is selected as our training ground for water column measurements and coring.

e) Another one-week MSCL training course in GFZ, Potsdam has been organized for two more EMCOL scientists during October 2006.

f) During October and November 2006, we plan to invite the following scientists from Europe to give courses and seminars:

(i) Dr. Sebastian Krastel (Bremen University) on *Kingdom Suite* seismic processing software.

(ii) Dr. Luca Gasperini (CNR-ISMAR, Institute of Marine Geology, Bologna) on *Seispro* seismic processing software.

(iii) Prof. Gerald Haug and Dr. Helge Arz (GeoForschungsZentrum, Potsdam) on XRF core scanner and core logger and their applications.

(iv) Dr. Jens Grutzner (IODP core repository, Bremen University) on core logger and its applications.

5. Student applications

Three student applications for the EMCOL positions were evaluated. It was agreed to offer two of the positions to Deniz Dikçe (female) and Dursun Acar (male), both MSc students in ITU graduate programs.

6. Other matters

Remzi Akkök pointed out the importance of updating EMCOL web-page continuously. Namik Çağatay agreed with him and informed him that this job is being very efficiently done by Cengiz Zabcı.

Can Genç said that we will have to protect the core scanner against power failures and abrupt voltage changes. The power supply to the Core scanner is being presently provided through a UPS, which protects the instrument. However, if we want to operate the scanner at full power we need to purchase a voltage surge protector (regulator). We are presently looking into this matter and trying to select a suitable one.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 hours