

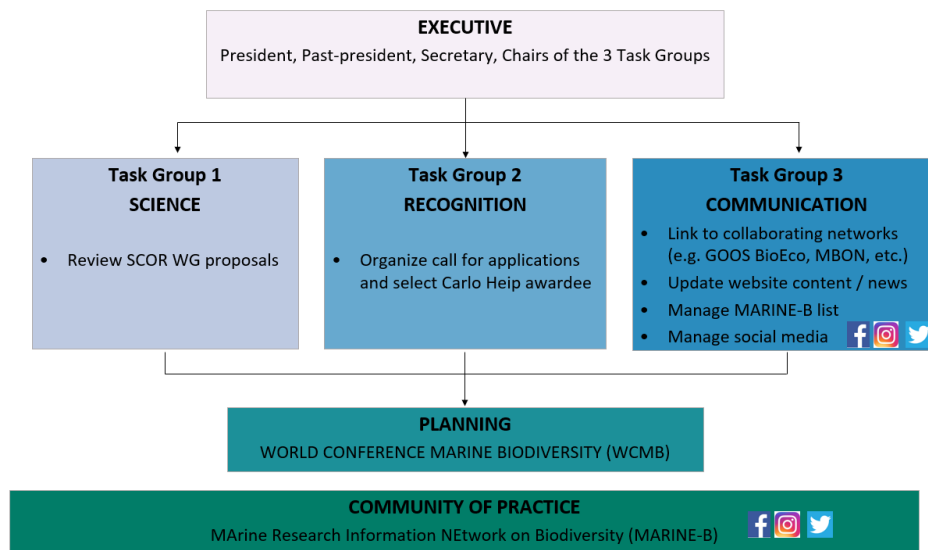


June 8, 2020.

## Annual Report of the International Association for Biological Oceanography (IABO)

### Activities summary for 2019 - 2020

Over this period IABO has focused on the implementation of the new organizational structure following the Terms of References (ToRs) approved during the previous year by the Executive Committee. Details of the new ToRs are available in the IABO report for the [2018-2019](#) period. Under the new IABO structure the Executive Committee oversees and supports activities the Science, Recognition and Communication Task Groups (TG) as follows:



Members of the Executive Committee and three TGs have been selected and appointed according to the ToRs, taking into account gender, geographic and career level balance. Invitations to join the IABO leadership were sent last year based on results from a broad survey carried out to collect expressions of interest from the community. Details on geographic representation of respondents are available on the [2018-2019](#) report.

The IABO leadership is now composed by nine Executive Committee members including the current and past President, and Executive Secretary, and Chairs and Co-Chairs of each of the Task Groups. Eleven TG members from 14 countries now serve for the Science, Recognition and Communication TGs.



Details about affiliations and area of expertise of the Executive Committee (EC) and TGs members are available on the IABO [website](http://www.iabo.org/).

**IABO Website - <http://www.iabo.org/>**

Several updates have been made to the IABO site to highlight information of new members, new logo and about the upcoming 5th World Conference on Marine Biodiversity to be held in Auckland, New Zealand this year or early 2021 (depending on travel restrictions related to the Covid-19 pandemic).

Changes made to the IABO site include:

1. replacing names of the Executive Committee names with new members.
2. adding short bio and head shot of IABO members
3. adding the organizational chart to the main page
4. adding information about the 5th WCMB.
5. adding a **WHO WE ARE** description in the **About** page.
6. transferring website login credentials to the current Acting President, Enrique Montes.
7. displaying all IABO reports on site under the **Reports** page.
8. adding several banner photos to the main page.

The website will continue to be updated with information about research opportunities posted on the MARINE-B listserv and other relevant communications from the Marine Biodiversity

Observation Network ([MBON](#)) of the Group on Earth Observation BON ([GEO BON](#)), the Global Ocean Observing System ([GOOS](#)) and [SCOR](#) Working Groups.

### IABO Presidency

Dr. Patricia Miloslavich has been appointed the SCOR Executive Director and will no longer be able to fulfill responsibilities of the IABO Presidency. She therefore requested approval from the EC for the transfer of the IABO Presidency to Dr. Enrique Montes until end of 2020, or when the 5th WCMB is held. Dr. Montes is an early career biological oceanographer of the College of Marine Science at the University of South Florida with expertise in phytoplankton-mediated cycling of carbon, nitrogen and oxygen, satellite remote sensing of phytoplankton and ocean biogeography, and biodiversity. He currently co-leads the U.S. [South Florida MBON](#) project and is the Principal Investigator of the MBON [Pole to Pole](#) of the Americas program. He will continue his role as Acting President of IABO until elections of the new President to be held in the upcoming 5th WCMB.

### Student and Early Career Travel Grant to Attend the 5th WCMB

The Acting President of IABO submitted a proposal to SCOR for consideration of support of developing country scientists to attend ocean science meetings and training. SCOR approved the proposal and has awarded \$5,000 USD to provide small travel grants to 3-5 participants to attend the 5th WCBM. This travel opportunity has been posted on the conference [website](#). Eligible candidates must be from one of the Developing Countries according to the World Bank categories ([https://scor-int.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Eligible\\_Countries-1April2020.pdf](https://scor-int.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Eligible_Countries-1April2020.pdf)), have offered to present a talk or poster at the WCMB, and have made an application by the 31 June 2020. Priority will be given to applicants who will be providing a novel and relevant presentation at the WCMB, who have obtained partial funding for their attendance, and are early in their scientific career (defined as 10 years since their PhD and under 40 years of age by SCOR).

### Review of SCOR Working Group Proposals

IABO's EC and Science TGs have initiated the review process of ten Working Group proposals submitted to SCOR in 2020. Reviews will be sent to SCOR's Executive Director before August 31th.

### Carlo Heip Award

IABO's Recognition TG evaluated three nominations to the Carlo Heip medal and has elected the winners for 2019 and 2020. Selected nominees will be recognized in the 5th WCMB.