

enter information on your events calendar on the website <http://www.marbef.org/modules.php?name=Calendar>. By the time you receive this newsletter you will be able to download a two-sided A4 brochure on MarBEF, which can be printed in either colour or black and white, to use at your event or events which you will be attending to help to further promote the network.

© Damian Allen



Communication culture

Last year, the press release 'Marine biology meets information technology: a new era in marine biology begins' was released. The authors discuss the initiation of change in science culture. Also, at the science communication conference in London last July, the organisers were encouraging participants to change the culture of science communication. While discussing research culture, it was highlighted that there was a need to engage younger scientists in outreach activities and to involve communication in research training.

Taking this on board, we are trying to encourage younger scientists within MarBEF to improve their communication skills for non-specialist audiences, and to develop their 'outreach' potential. Thus, we are giving them an opportunity to write an article in 'popular' English on their current research.

You will find within this issue a number of articles from current PhD students. We would further encourage articles from young scientists, both for the newsletter and the website. The Outreach office will be available to help where possible.

I am looking for people to review books for our newsletter. Currently we have two books being reviewed for our Spring 2007 newsletter (*Aquatic Food Webs* and *Respiration in Aquatic Ecosystems*). If you would be interested in reviewing books, please forward an e-mail with your area of expertise and I will add your name to my reference list.

Updates to our programme and events are posted regularly on the MarBEF website, but please feel free to contact us directly at outreach@marbef.org.

Róisín Nash

MarBEF Outreach Officer
Ecological Consultancy Services Ltd
B19, KCR Industrial Estate
Kimmage, Dublin 12
Ireland
Email: roisin@ecoserve.ie

MARBEF PROGRESS

MarBEF Training & Integration

Short-term sabbaticals

A call for applications from MarBEF members and associate members

By Jens Harder

The Scientific Steering Committee of MarBEF decided at its October 2006 meeting to support short-term sabbaticals from the central budget.

What is a short-term sabbatical?

A short-term sabbatical is a visit of a person (technician, student, postdoc or scientist) from one MarBEF institute to a second MarBEF institute for a period of two weeks to three months. Short-term sabbaticals are a MarBEF initiative to support integration in Europe. Detailed guidelines are available on <http://www.marbef.org/modules.php?name=Rules>. MarBEF members can use their institutional MarBEF account for short-term sabbaticals.

Why has the Scientific Steering Committee decided to support short-term sabbaticals from the central budget?

The action integrates MarBEF associate members.

Who can apply for a short-term sabbatical grant?

Persons from MarBEF institutes and MarBEF associated institutes.

How do I apply for a short-term sabbatical support from the central budget?

Write an application according to the MarBEF rules and guidelines (<http://www.marbef.org/modules.php?name=Rules>), including the financial request, and add a support letter from the hosting institution. Send the application to Jens Harder (marbef@mpi-bremen.de) and a copy to the management office (marbef@nioo.knaw.nl).

Deadlines for applications are December 31, 2006; March 31, 2007; June 30, 2007;

September 03, 2007; December 31, 2007; and March 31, 2008. Applications will be reviewed by a small committee of MarBEF members and the results will be announced one month after each deadline.

Short-term sabbaticals have to be performed till December 31, 2008. Reports on the short-term sabbaticals have to be sent to Jens Harder within four weeks of completion of the sabbatical.

Jens Harder

Outside lecturer at University of Bremen
Max Planck Institute for Marine
Microbiology
Dept of Microbiology
Celsiusstr. 1
D-28359 Bremen
Email: jharder@mpi-bremen.de