

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF MARINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SOCIETIES AND THE SAMS/UHIP PROJECT

By

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The creation of EFMS:

The Act of Creation of the European Federation of Marine Science and was signed on Friday, December 11, 1998 at the Institut Oceanographique in Paris.

This was done in the presence of observers from other Societies, M. Jean Boissonnas, representative of European Commission's DGXII and M. Laurent d'Ozouville of the Marine Board of the European Marine and Polar Sciences (EmaPS), an activity of the European Foundation of Sciences.

Constitution:

A Council assisted by an Executive Committee will conduct the affairs of the Federation. The Council will consist of one delegate from each Constituent country.

Membership of EFMS:

- **Belgium:** Instituut Voor Zeewetenschappelijk Onderzoek (IZWO), Dr E Jaspers
- **Finland:** Suomen Meriteen Ja-Tekniikan Seura Ry (SMTTS), Dr S Kivimaa
- **France:** Union Des Oceanographes Des France (UOF), Prof. D Viale
- **Germany:** Deutsche Gesellschaft Fur Meeresforschung (DGM), Dr K J Hesse
- **Greece:** Greek Oceanographers Association (GOA), Dr Dassenakis
- **Italy:** Associazione Italiana Di Oceanologia E Limnologia (AIOL), Prof. G Albertelli
- **Netherlands:** Nederlandse Oceanografen Club (NOC), Dr H van Aken
- **United Kingdom:** Challenger Society for Marine Science (CSMS), Prof. H Elderfield
 - **SAMS:** Scottish Association for Marine Science
 - **MBA:** Society for Underwater Technology

According to the Statutes, the principles of the Federation are:

- To contribute to the advancement of research and education in marine science and technology
- To disseminate information to promote the advancement of marine science and technology in Europe

The objectives of the Federation are:

- To address jointly European issues of common interest
- To make known the conceptions and needs of its members
- To promote the development and contribution of marine science and technology
- To the European Union research programmes
- To assist the European Union to obtain technical advice from the members of the Federation

- To provide a permanent network between the marine science and technology societies and a common, but not unique, gateway to each of the marine science and technology societies and their national networks.

Executive Committee:

- President: Dr Graham Shimmield (SAMS-UK)
- Vice-President: Professor Lucien Laubier (UOF-France)
- Vice-President: Professor Dassenakis (GOA-Greece)
- Treasurer: Professor Adolf Weber (DGM-Germany)
- General Secretary: Dr Jean-Francois Pavillon (UOF-France)

EFMS Working Groups:

- A comparative study on European systems and high level training in oceanography.
- A professional charter for oceanographers working in Europe.
- A history of European oceanography
- European biodiversity

The way forward:

- The European Conference on Marine Science and Ocean Technology, EurOCEAN 2000, Hamburg, 29 August - 2 September 2000.
- Session on 'Research Policy'
- A marine science plan for Europe - The scientific issues to be addressed.

Dunstaffnage Marine Laboratory

Incorporating the activities of: The Centre for Coastal and Marine Sciences and The Scottish Association for Marine Science an Academic Partner of The University of the Highlands and Islands project

"Science has succeeded for us as a reductionist process and our education has naturally favoured this approach. But coming to terms with large systems is becoming increasingly necessary as well, and education must prepare people for it. Where better than the sea?"

John Smyth, President of the Scottish Environmental Education Council, *Marine Environmental Education*, SAMS, 1999

History and origins:

- Scottish Marine Biological Association created in 1914
- Early work (1884) on marine biology on a barge moored on the Firth of Forth
- Association's Marine Station at Millport, Isle of Cumbrae in the Clyde
- In 1968 transferred to purpose-built laboratory at Dunstaffnage, near Oban

Objective of the Association:

- Develop, promote and support research in marine science
- Facilitate communication through organisation of conferences and seminars
- Support the teaching of marine science in Scotland
- Become an authoritative voice for marine science in Scotland offering views and comment on contemporary issues

Guiding Principles in the Research Programme:

- Conduct high quality marine science, primarily in concert with the NERC mission
- Develop state-of-the-art infrastructure in support of the scientific objectives
- Encourage innovative ideas, particularly by young scientists
- Develop close links with SMEs and Agencies
- To be relevant to Scotland.

SAMS Education:

- Partner of the University of Highlands and Islands project (Marine Sciences degree)
- Argyll College
- University links - teaching and research
- Scottish Marine Group
- Science and Technology week - local primary and secondary schools
- School placements, open days public meetings

UHI Developments:

- 4 Lecturers, 8 PhD students, 4+4 IT posts:
- BSc Marine Sciences
- Research School of Natural Systems Science:
 - Sustainable use of natural resources
 - Biotechnology and biomedicine
 - The environment of the North Atlantic Rim: past, present and future

UHI Service Provision:

- Integrated services
 - video conferencing
 - voice telephony
 - data networking
 - e-mail
 - intranet
 - electronic library/MIS
 - help desk
- Remote access
- JANET and Scottish MANs connection

UHI's Primary Objectives:

- Widen access to quality higher education
- Increase participation using advanced information and communication technologies (ICT)
- Support the region's unique cultural and environmental heritage
- Build an indigenous research and development function in the region
- Be a catalyst for economic and social regeneration

UHI is different:

- A federal institution with a regional campus
- Accessible to all
- Flexible structures

- Seamless progression routes: 'Lifelong learning'
- Capability-based learning

'A new kind of university'

Conclusion:

"Nowhere within our reach presents a more illuminating case of biodiversity in all its manifestations - habitat, species, gene pool, processes, relationships and more. Nowhere is a case for intelligent care more readily demonstrable, given the stage of exploitation which the sea has reached relative to the land, nor is there a better place to explore the holistic nature of the human/environment system"

J Smyth, 1999