



Call for applications

ESSAC CHAIR

Deadline to apply: 1 May 2020

The European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling (ECORD) is a major contributor to the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP). As a platform operator, ECORD is responsible for undertaking scientific ocean drilling in parts of the world's oceans that are inaccessible to large drilling platforms, including sensitive areas such as Arctic and shallow marine environments. In addition, scientists from ECORD members also contribute to the success of all IODP expeditions, including those conducted by the drilling vessels *JOIDES Resolution* and *Chikyu*.

The ECORD Science Support and Advisory Committee (ESSAC) is the IODP Program Member Office for ECORD, and has a central role in coordinating and managing the participation of scientists from all ECORD members in all IODP expeditions.

ESSAC is now seeking applications from active senior scientists from ECORD member nations to act as **ESSAC CHAIR for a two-year term from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2023**. This is an exciting opportunity to take on a leading role within IODP, and to contribute to the successful continuation of scientific ocean drilling into its next major phase.

Role of ESSAC and the ESSAC Chair within IODP:

ESSAC is responsible for the planning, participation and coordination of science and outreach activities as an integral part of the ECORD contribution to IODP. ESSAC's tasks include staffing IODP expeditions, nominating ECORD members to IODP advisory panels and Facility Boards, coordinating training activities, and strategic planning of ECORD science, funding and technology.

The ESSAC Chair reports directly to the ECORD Council and acts as a liaison to the ECORD Managing Agency (EMA), the ECORD Science Operator (ESO) and other IODP entities. The Chair is responsible for running the ESSAC Office, coordinating nominations of ECORD members for IODP expeditions and advisory panels, and for organizing and leading biannual ESSAC meetings. The Chair represents ESSAC as a member of the ECORD Facility Board, the ECORD Outreach Task Force, the ECORD Vision Task Force, and the IODP Forum. The ESSAC Office coordinates the evaluation of applications and funding of ECORD Grants, ECORD Summer Schools, ECORD Scholarships and the Distinguished Lecturer Programme. The ESSAC Chair is also expected to propose and co-convene an IODP/ICDP-related special session at the European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly each year.

Term, Conditions and Compensation:

The ESSAC Chair is appointed by the ECORD Council, based on nominations by ESSAC. The ESSAC Chair rotates every two years, and together with the location of the ESSAC Office (consecutive terms in the same host nation are avoided where possible). **In addition, the selected ESSAC Chair will serve as incoming Vice-Chair in 2021 and outgoing Vice-Chair for one year from 1 January 2024.**

The ESSAC Office is funded by ECORD with a budget that will be paid annually and administered by the host institution. The budget includes: (i) the salary of a full-time Science Coordinator, to be selected and appointed by the Chair and who assists with day-to-day running of the office; (ii) travel and subsistence costs to allow the Chair and Science Coordinator to attend essential ECORD and IODP business meetings; and (iii) funding for the various schemes managed by the office (ECORD Research Grants, Scholarships, Summer Schools, Distinguished Lecturer Program). The budget also provides €100,000 compensation over two years for the time spent by the Chair on ESSAC business. The Chair is free to use this compensation for any purpose (subject to the regulations of the host institution). Previous uses have included the appointment of academic staff to cover the majority of the Chair's teaching responsibilities or the hire of staff to maintain the Chair's research activities during their term in office.

Please note that the ESSAC Chair also serves as an ESSAC delegate representing their ECORD member country. Therefore, candidates will need to demonstrate that they are endorsed by their respective national IODP offices when appropriate.

Application Process:

Potential candidates are strongly encouraged to contact the current ESSAC Chair (Antony Morris, amorris@plymouth.ac.uk) for advice and guidance prior to applying.

Interested scientists from ECORD member countries should email the following documents (as pdf files) to the ESSAC Office: **1)** a letter of interest including scientific expertise and previous involvement in scientific ocean drilling; **2)** a two-page summary CV; **3)** a list of publications; **4)** a letter from the head of their institute/department confirming that the home institution agrees to host the ESSAC Office; and **5)** a short letter (or email) from their national office or research council representative indicating that they are aware of and approve of the application.

Applications will be assessed by ESSAC, with a final nomination passed to the ECORD Council for approval in June 2020.

Download the Full Call [here!](#)

For further information or questions, please contact the ESSAC Office:

ECORD Science Support & Advisory Committee

Antony Morris (ESSAC Chair)

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