http://www.pangea.de/Projects/MARGO/

MARGO newsletter

19 December 2003

Dear MARGO members,

The second year of the MARGO project is drawing to an end and it seems appropriate to sum up the activities of our group. All of us who went to the second workshop in Barcelona would agree that it was a most exciting time where after days of lengthy and difficult discussions, we have managed to break the apparent deadlock of differences among individual proxies and techniques and agreed on a completely new and rather unanticipated way of depicting the final results of the compilation. The Phase 2 of MARGO is now nearing to completion, albeit in a slightly extended schedule, and we are excited to report on the progress since the last meeting.

On behalf of MARGO convenors, I would like thank to all of you for contributing and analysing data, writing manuscripts, maintaining databases and promoting the group. Without the effort and enthusiasm of individual members, MARGO would not have got where it is now. An ambitious project aimed at summarising the collective wisdom and data generated over several decades, at first MARGO seemed as a dream difficult to reach. Yet, thanks to your hard work and dedication, this dream is now becoming reality.

Best wishes for the holiday season!

Michal Kucera

Contents:

1. MARGO at ICP8

The organisers of the 8th International Conference on Paleoceanography (Biarritz, France, 5-10 September 2004) have recognised the importance of MARGO for understanding of past climate dynamics. Thanks to Ralph Schneider who liased with the organisers, MARGO results will be aired at the conference through an invited talk by Michal Kucera. In addition, there will be a dedicated MARGO poster session and we would like to invite all members of the group to take up this opportunity to present the latest results of individual proxies, regional comparisons and new techniques. Given the signals we have received so far, there will certainly be substantial interest for the project.

Visit ICP8 web site at: http://www.icp8.cnrs.fr

2. MARGO QSR volume

From the co-editors – many thanks to all authors and reviewers for your hard work in the past two months (and sorry for all the various arm-twisting techniques we have practiced on you)! We are now in a very strong position with 11 out of 13 papers being submitted, 5 papers accepted and 3 papers revised and ready. I am in constant contact with Jim Rose, editor-in-chief of QSR, in order to secure the earliest possible publication slot. The table at the end of this newsletter details the contents of the QSR volume. As you will see, we have produced a number of excellent and important papers and the volume has a good chance to become a milestone for paleotemperature studies in past oceans.

3. Data collection and progress of Phase 2 publication

We have set an ambitious schedule in Barcelona and as you can imagine, we are slightly lagging behind. By no means does this suggest we have had no progress. On the contrary – I am happy to report that *ALL proxy-specific data are now in place*. Please visit the project website (address below the logo) to see the new data and proxy-specific maps created using the templates devised in Barcelona. We are currently analysing the data with the aim of having a manuscript ready by April or earlier.

Quaternary Science Reviews – contents of MARGO special issue

Happy Holidays!