

PICES Press



Newsletter of the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (Published semi-annually)



The state of PICES science - 2001

The PICES Tenth Annual Meeting, held October 5-13, 2001, in Canada, was a celebration of the tenth anniversary of PICES. The meeting attracted 477 people, including many of those who had been instrumental in the creation of PICES as an organization. Seven workshops, twelve topic sessions and several working group meetings were conducted with a total of 162 oral presentations and 208 posters presented. The meeting was hosted by the PICES Secretariat at the Victoria Conference Centre in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. The keynote lecture on "PICES – the first decade and beyond" by Dr. Warren S. Wooster, reviewed the history of the development of PICES as an organization, and its broad scientific interests over the past decade. His lecture was followed by the Science Board symposium, "Ten years of PICES science: decadal-scale scientific progress and prognosis for a regime shift in scientific approach", where key PICES scientists provided in-depth reviews of the scientific accomplishments of PICES over the past decade. Internationally renowned speakers gave perspectives on possible future scientific directions. It was evident from this symposium that PICES has tackled many key areas of scientific interest in marine science during the last decade by convening sessions at its Annual Meetings, by publishing reports of the activities of its Working Groups (WG), and by implementing the PICES-GLOBEC Climate Change and Carrying Capacity Program (CCCC). We have conducted some of the background work to describe important physical oceanographic and biological components of North Pacific

ecosystems and how climate variability influences those components. However, it is clear that we have a great deal of work ahead. The development of more comprehensive monitoring systems, including the often-neglected biological components such as zooplankton, mesopelagic species and non-commercial fish species, is needed. Data and information management for operational oceanography requires a more open and accessible system, and PICES can be instrumental in providing a regional mechanism to achieve this. We must bring a broader ecosystem-based view to fisheries management systems and provide ecosystem-based advice to North Pacific policy makers. Although we have documented some of our scientific accomplishments in the PICES Annual and Scientific Reports and special issues of primary journals, the Organization must do a better job of documenting the scientific questions that remain, and devise schemes for PICES to tackle those questions in a prioritized way. To facilitate this, the objectives and structure of PICES will be examined during the coming year to identify possible changes that might help the Organization meet its scientific objectives.

The PICES X topic session on "Plankton size classes, functional groups and ecosystem dynamics: Causes and consequences", and the special issue of *Progress in Oceanography* that will result from the session were dedicated to the memory of the late Prof. Michael M. Mullin. His colleague at Scripps, Dr. David Checkley, Jr., followed



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 The state of PICES Science - 2001 | 16 Photo highlights of the PICES Tenth Annual Meeting |
| 3 Reception remarks at PICES X | 18 NEAR-GOOS 2001 Ocean Environment Forecasting Workshop |
| 4 First Annual Wooster Award | 20 IRI/IPRC Pacific Climate-Fisheries Workshop |
| 5 The state of the western North Pacific in the first half of 2001 | 21 PICES North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report |
| 8 The status of the Bering Sea: January - August 2001 | 22 U.S. GLOBEC Northeast Pacific Ocean Program |
| 10 The state of the eastern North Pacific since spring 2001 | 27 New PICES Committee and Program Chairmen biographies |
| 12 2001 SEEDS experiment in the western North Pacific | 30 Upcoming PICES publications and meetings |
| 14 Plans for the Canadian SOLAS Iron Enrichment Experiment | 31 North Pacific Transitional Areas Symposium |
| | 32 Gijón Symposium and other PICES announcements |