

PICES Monitoring Service Award (tentative title)

A topic for discussion at the PICES XV Science Board meeting was a proposal by Japanese National Delegate and Governing Council Vice-chairman, Dr. Tokio Wada, for the establishment of a new PICES award certificate for organizations and groups that have made contributions to PICES activities and the progress of marine science in the North Pacific through long-term monitoring operations and/or data management of various ocean conditions and marine bio-resources.

May 11, 2006

A Proposal to establish a new PICES Award for monitoring and data management activities
By Tokio Wada PICES Ocean Monitoring Award (POMA)

Background and Aims

Progress in many aspects of marine science relies on field-monitoring activities and the management and distribution of the data obtained from monitoring. However, these activities are not so glamorous compared with the scientific achievements based on data obtained from those activities. Furthermore, monitoring activities are becoming reduced in scale, especially in PICES member countries with recent severe financial conditions. This award aims to recognize the organizations and groups that remarkably contribute to PICES activities and the progress of marine science in the North Pacific through their long-termed monitoring operations and data management for various ocean conditions and marine bio-resources in the North Pacific. The award also aims to enlighten the public on the importance of those activities as fundamentals of marine science. Furthermore, it draws attention to an important aspect of the PICES Convention that is not so much in the limelight: (b) to promote the collection and exchange of information and data related to marine scientific research in the area concerned.

Target (or Recipient)

Awards will be presented to organizations and groups in PICES member countries that have made great contributions to PICES activities and the progress of marine science in the North Pacific through their long-term monitoring operations and/or data management associated with various ocean conditions and marine bio-resources in the North Pacific.

The organizations and groups might include research vessels, research or administrative institutes, or portions thereof, involved in monitoring, data management and distribution, or technical groups.

Nomination and Selection

Based on nominations of candidates from the PICES community (individuals and groups of PICES member countries), The Selection Committee consists of the PICES Science Board and the PICES Chairman selects the recipients with an approval from the Governing Council in every year. At the selection, The Committee should consider a balance of field of activities (oceanographic observation, bioresources monitoring, management of data, etc.) and area among the present and previous recipients. Nominations of organizations not selected are rolled over to the next year in order to keep a large pool of potential candidates. Process and schedule of the nomination and selection are as follows as the PICES Wooster Award.

Award and Presentation

The award consists of a certificate signed by the PICES Chairman and the PICES Science Board Chairman, and presented by the PICES Chairman to the representatives of recipients at an

Opening or Closing Session during the PICES Annual Meeting. There is no financial support from PICES to the representatives of recipients to attend the Annual Meeting that the award is given. If any representative could not attend the Annual Meeting, one of the Delegates of the recipient's country should receive the award.

By correspondence, SB decided to have the PICES Ocean Monitoring Service Award (POMA).

A description of the new award will be finalized at PICES XVI in Victoria and the first recipient of POMA will be awarded at PICES XVII (2008) in China.