

Report of the General Secretary for the Fifth Annual General Body meeting of the Ocean Society of India (OSI)

Ocean Society of India (OSI)

Date & Time: 20th November-2012 1700 Hrs

Venue: NPOL, DROMI

Respected President, Vice Presidents, Governing Council members and all members

I consider it is an honor given to me to present the annual report for the fifth General Body meeting of our Society. Fourth general body meeting was held at NIOT, Chennai on 14 July 2011.

OSI GC Election

It was decided in the previous AGM to conduct OSI GC election through e - voting and NIOT Director and his team promised to provide all technical support for this. Further to that OSI GC has taken all efforts to conduct the election processes. A sub-committee was constituted and Dr. N. Mohan Kumar, Scientist, NPOL had been nominated as the Election officer. Election officer initiated the election process and presented the report in OSI GC held on 12-March-2012. Election officer informed the GC that he has not received fresh nominations and many members opined that the present committee might continue for one more term. GC then decided to seek the concurrence of all the concerned members and their willingness to serve OSI GC for one more term. The secretary was entrusted to get the feedback through e-mail. On the basis of feedback and the consequent discussions in the GC, the new Governing Council was constituted. President will announce the new members and we seek the approval of AGM for the same.

Membership

Number of Members indicates the strength of any institution and our OSI life membership has increased from 148 to 187 in the past one year. I place on record the efforts made by all of you to enthruse more members to join our society. Annual members, in spite of our repeated requests have not renewed the membership. Now OSI has life members from various parts of our country and I hope in the near future OSI can form new chapters at many other locations like Goa, Vishakhapatnam, Kharagpur, Ahmedabad, Delhi, etc. I am proud to inform you that OSI, Chennai chapter is already formed and functioning since November 2011 with Dr. Atmanand, Director, NIOT as Chapter the President.

OSICON-11

OSICON-11 was conducted successfully during 13-15 July, 2011 at NIOT Chennai. Theme of the Conference was “ Technologies for Ocean Exploration”. Conference was well attended by about 300 delegates. There were 6 invited talks and more than 80 oral presentations in the conference apart from poster sessions. A conference compendium including the abstracts of the papers was e distributed during the conference. There were 11 topics for the technical sessions. 1. Autonomous Under water Vehicles (AUV) 2. Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV) 3. Ocean Engineering , safety and reliability 4. Sonar Technologies 5. Ocean Observation systems 6. Ocean remote sensing and applications 7. Ocean state forecasting (Ocean modeling) 8. Ocean Dynamics. 9. Atmosphere, Ocean and Climate Change 10. Marien Eco-systems & Bio-geo chemistry of Oceans 11. Coastal Processes and & Coastal Management.

OSICON-11 inaugural session was graced by the presence of Prof (Dr) Idi Chand, Director IIT, Madras, Dr.S.R.Shetye, then Director, NIO,Goa, Dr Atmanand, Director, NIOT Chennai, Shri.V.Chander, Former President , OSI, Prof.P.V.Jospeh (President OSI) presided the function. Dr C V K Prasda Rao welcomed the gathering and Dr.B.K.Jena, Chairman, LOC proposed vote of thanks.

Technical sessions of OSICON-11 were well organized and many young students and researchers took part quite enthusiastically and evinced keen interest in the conference deliberations and confessed that they would be eagerly waiting for OSICON-13 to take part in it. I hope that the new GC members will take necessary actions to conduct the next biennial conference (OSICON-13). I hope this AGM will act as a curtain raiser for this activity.

I take this opportunity to place on record the wholehearted support we received from Dr Atmanand, Director, NIOT and Dr.B.K Jena, Chairman LOC and their team for the successful conduct of the OSICO-11.

OSICON-11 received funding from the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Delhi. The conference had also received sponsorship from M/s. Tsurumi Seiki Co.Ltd and M/s ASB systems, Mumbai. We thank Dr Sheilesh Nayak, Secretary, MoES, and all other sponsors. We are happy to state that in spite of our limited funds for OSI, we could meet the expenses towards travel and local hospitality to all the students and research scholars who took part in OSICON-11.

Efforts are on to release a special issue of Indian Journal of Geo- Marine Sciences (IJMS) comprising of selected papers presented during OSICON-11.

OSI Web Site (www.ocensociety.in)

The Society has got a website (www.ocensociety.in) and maintained with the support of some active members. We solicit suggestion from members to improve the website for content as well as aesthetics. On behalf of OSI I thank Dr M. Harikrishan, Scientist, NPOL who initiated several actions for improving the website.

Activities

One of the major activities of OSI in the yester years was to organize invited talks by eminent persons in the related field of marine sciences. Despite our best efforts, during the period of this report we could conduct only two invited talks. To carry forward our objectives, OSI need to organize more number of such talks in the coming years.

OSI conducted an Essay competition among high school students on 29th January at School of Marine Sciences, CUSAT. 50 students from various schools participated in the competition. Topic of the essay was “ Is Ocean essential for Human life”. A two member expert team evaluated all the answer sheets and awarded the prizes. Following are the winners.

1. Shajahan , GVHSS, Edapally (First Prrize)
2. Annsmol P Markose , K V No.1, Katari Bagh (Second Prize)
3. Mirshalia Pallath , Toc H Public School, Vyttila (Third Prize)

Prize distribution ceremony was conducted at NIO RC Kochi on 22nd June, Dr Parameswarn, Scientist in-charge, NIO, Kochi distributed the prizes. Certificates were also given to all the 15 students who secured A-grade in the essay competition organized by OSI.

It is proposed to arrange a hands-on onboard training to school students in the water quality (WQ) sampling and analysis. Initially 5 students and accompanying teachers will be invited from 5 schools to take part in it.

A two-day training-cum-workshop on Regional Ocean Modeling Systems (ROMS) is being planned to be conducted at School of Marine Sciences, CUSAT during 22-23 of November 2012 to offer training and expertise in ocean modeling for young students and researchers from various parts of our country.

I conclude this report, once again thanking all our members on behalf of GC and on my own behalf for your corporation throughout. I believe that without your support OSI activities would not have reached to this stage. Thank You one and all.

Dr.C.Revichandran,
General Secretary, OSI