

Call for applications

UK ESSAC Alternate Delegate

Deadline to apply: 1 May 2024

UK-IODP is a major contributor to the European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling (ECORD), that leads European (and Canadian) involvement in the International Ocean Discovery Program and its successor, the International Ocean Drilling Programme (IODP³).

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 ECORD members in all IODP expeditions and projects. ESSAC consists of a national delegate and an alternate from each ECORD participating country appointed by their respective Member Organization, led by the ESSAC Chair.

UK-IODP is now seeking applications from UK-based scientists engaged in scientific ocean drilling research to act as the UK's Alternate ESSAC delegate for a three-year term from 1 June 2024 to 31 May 2027. In this role you will be supporting Dr Kate Littler (University of Exeter), who will become the UK ESSAC delegate at the next ESSAC meeting when Prof Antony Morris (University of Plymouth) stands down from this role. **It is expected that you would then, in turn, succeed Dr Littler as the full UK delegate for a subsequent three-year term starting on 1 June 2027.**

Role of the ESSAC Office within IODP³

This is an exciting opportunity to take on a scientific management role within IODP³, and to contribute to the successful continuation of scientific ocean drilling into its next major phase. The mandate of the ESSAC Office is to manage and be responsible for the scientific planning and coordination of ECORD's contribution to and participation in IODP³ (and in the current IODP until it ends in September 2024).

Specific tasks of the ESSAC Office are: coordinating expedition applications; nominating science party members; reviewing the quota of science party members with respect to national financial contributions; advising ECORD member countries on IODP³ issues; coordinating training and outreach programs; evaluating and nominating participants to IODP³ entities such as the Facility Board, Science Evaluation Panel and other IODP³ advisory panels; initiating and monitoring workshops; providing stimulation and guidance for writing scientific drilling proposals; and assisting and advising the ECORD managing Agency and the ECORD Science Operator on public outreach.

ESSAC conducts its business by meeting in person twice annually, once in the Spring/early Summer and again in the Autumn (during a joint meeting with the ECORD Council). As Alternate, you may be asked to attend these meetings on occasions when Dr Littler is unable to participate. You will also be involved in ranking of applications to participate in IODP³ activities in instances where Dr Littler has a conflict of interest. You can also attend ESSAC meetings virtually in addition to Dr Littler, but without voting rights. Travel and subsistence costs associated with ESSAC business will be met by UK-IODP.

Application Process:

Potential candidates are strongly encouraged to contact Dr Kate Littler (K.Littler@exeter.ac.uk) or Prof Antony Morris (amorris@plymouth.ac.uk) for advice and guidance prior to applying.

Applicants should email the following documents (combined into a single PDF file) to Prof Antony Morris by 1 May 2024:

- a letter of interest outlining your scientific expertise and previous involvement in scientific ocean drilling
- a two-page summary CV
- a list of publications

Applications will be assessed by the UK-IODP Programme Advisory Group, with a final nomination passed to the ECORD Council for approval in June 2024.