



to all our icdp friends

from **Marco Bohnhoff,**
icdp Executive Director

The Times They Are a-Changin', as the Bob Dylan song stated already long ago. Uli Harms, Head of the ICDP Operational Support Group for many years, is going into his well-deserved retirement. His successor will be Thomas Wiersberg whom many of you already know. Thomas will take over as of April 1st. For many of us, Uli was not only the point of contact when it came to operational, managerial and budgetary matters in ICDP projects. Uli was literally Mr. ICDP in our community and to the outside. I would like to thank you, Uli, personally and on behalf of the entire ICDP family for all your engagement and everything you have done to make ICDP a success story. I do wish you all the best for your retirement!

Thomas is an insider of continental scientific drilling with ICDP blood in his veins. He has been our Education & Outreach Office for many years, coordinating outreach activities, including running ICDP town hall meeting and sessions at numerous international conferences, and last but not least organizing the ICDP training courses. Thomas first came into contact with the ICDP in 2001 and has since then been scientifically involved in various ICDP projects, mostly focusing on gas and fluid analysis. I wish Thomas a smooth start and every success in his new role as head of the OSG!



Uli Harms passing on the baton to Thomas Wiersberg in April 2024

At about the same time, our ICDP Program Officer Aglaja Blanke will be taking on new professional challenges. Aglaja, thank you for your effective coordination of our panels and all the best for the future!

The ICDP Scientific Advisory Group recently met in Winslow, Arizona, to evaluate the nineteen proposals submitted to the ICDP this year. The proponents of the five pre-proposals will be notified on the outcome of the evaluation shortly. Decisions on the five workshop and eight full proposals need to be a bit more patient – decisions are to be made during the Executive Committee and Assembly of Governors panel meetings in early June. The total number of proposals is remarkably high and underlines that the scientific community is taking advantage of the funding and support opportunities offered by the ICDP.

Keep the drill bit rotating!

Marco (Bohnhoff) - ICDP Executive Director

ICDP dates

& calls

ICDP @ EGU

The IODP-ICDP Town Hall Meeting will take place on Tuesday, 16 April. As last year the venue will be the Vienna Natural History Museum. Gates open at 18:30h and event starts at 19:00h, followed by a reception with the opportunity to chat with colleagues and friends over refreshments

The joint IODP-ICDP Session "[Achievements and perspectives in scientific ocean and continental drilling](#)" (ITS5.2/SSP1.13) will be held at the same day: Orals are scheduled between 08:30–10:15 (room 2.24) followed by the poster session between 10:45–12:30 (Hall X3)

The SCIENTIFIC DRILLING booth #48/49 (Entrance Hall) will be open Monday-Thursday 10:00-18:00 and Friday 10:00-13:00

Job opportunities @ ICDP

The position of the ICDP Program Officer (succession of Aglaja Blanke) is up for reappointment, [see job posting](#). We are also working on filling the position of ICDP Education and Outreach Coordinator (succession of Thomas Wiersberg) and hope to be able to advertise this position soon. Stay tuned and check the ICDP website and our Social Media channels for updates.

News

from ICDP projects

Drilling the Ivrea-Verbano Zone ([DIVE](#)), successfully cored pre-Permian mafic lower continental crust near Megolo (Italy) to study peridotite/ pyroxenite-gabbro metasedimentary interfaces. Drilling at the site DT-1a (Megolo) reached 873 m depth with >99% core recovery and is still ongoing.



SWAIS2C on-site science team Photo: Anthony Powell

Drilling activities in the Antarctic ([SWAIS 2C](#)) have started under extremely challenging boundary conditions and will continue in southern summer 24/25. The project Sensitivity of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet ([SWAIS 2C](#)) drilled at the Siple Coast of West Antarctica to recover sediment cores beneath the sea floor. Hot water drilling through ~580 m of ice at Kamb Ice Stream went well and 7.6 m gravity and hammer cores were retrieved from the seafloor. Since December 23rd operations are on hold and will resume in southern summer 2024/25.



The Trans-Amazon drilling project team in Acre (Brazil) Photo: TADP

The Trans-Amazon Drilling Project ([TADP](#)) has completed the first borehole at Cruzeiro do Sul (Acre, Brazil) last December at 923 m with very good core recovery (93%). The drilling equipment is currently on the way to the second TADP drill site in northern Brazil (Pará). There, drilling is scheduled for mid 2024.

Drilling operations are expected to also start soon in South Africa ([BVDP](#)) and China ([NamCore](#)). I congratulate all PIs and involved colleagues for having completed drilling operations and look forward to see ongoing projects reaching their ambitious goals.

Stay safe, stay healthy, keep calm & drill

your icdp team from potsdam