

Guidelines for Collaborative Researchers
in the Joint Usage/Research Center for Drilling Earth Science (JURC-DES),
Center for Advanced Marine Core Research, Kochi University
(July 31, 2019)

1. General guidelines

The Center for Advanced Marine Core Research (CMCR), Kochi University, was established in April 2003. The mission of the CMCR is to promote research activities in the earth sciences, in particular research related to marine core analysis. One of the most important roles of the CMCR is to support activities of the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP). The CMCR is one of three main IODP core repositories in the world. For this reason, facilities and equipment at the CMCR are jointly managed by Kochi University (KU) and the Japanese Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC). In 2006, we adopted “Kochi Core Center”, KU/JAMSTEC, as a short name for our facility, and our educational and research activities are generally promoted under this name.

As a Joint Usage/Research Center for Drilling Earth Science (JURC-DES) facility designated by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan, we offer international joint research opportunities to both domestic and overseas researchers in research fields broadly related to drilling earth science, paleoceanography, and biogeosciences.

We have newly designated three Principal Research Projects (PRP-A, -B, and -C), described below, as part of the Joint Usage/Research project “**Super Warm Earth: Understanding Global Warming Processes from Paleoceanographic Big Data**” at the CMCR to promote international collaboration in drilling earth science.

PRP-A: Precise and accurate data correlation by chronostratigraphic big data assimilation to characterize late Cenozoic warming episodes (PI: Masao Iwai)

We are seeking collaborative researchers interested in magnetic and biochronologic data assimilation/reassessment based on core samples with the aim of improving our understanding of late Cenozoic warming episodes (e.g. middle Miocene, early to middle Pliocene). Candidates interested in IODP legacy cores in the Kochi Core Center as well as in ongoing IODP expeditions are quite welcome to apply. Those interested in working on Miocene and Pliocene outcrops as reference sections are also welcome.

PRP-B: Paleo-proxy data mapping in the Northwest Pacific: Understanding the behavior of the Kuroshio-subtropical gyre during past super-interglacials (PI: Minoru Ikehara)

We are looking for candidates who are interested in the paleoceanography of the Northwest Pacific, western tropical Pacific, or eastern Indian Ocean during the late Quaternary. The project offers opportunities to use marine sediment cores to investigate paleo-sea surface temperature, biological productivity, and the thermal structure of the ocean during specific time windows: the last glacial maximum and past super-warm interglacial periods, marine isotope stage (MIS) 5e, MIS 9, and MIS 11.

PRP-C: Survival strategy of microplankton to global warming (PI: Yurika Ujiié)

We call for candidates who are interested in the molecular and morphological diversity of marine microplankton, including candidates who may be interested in sharing next-generation sequencing data. The project offers opportunities for researchers with different points of view and expertise in fields such as biogeography, ecology, and bioinformatics to work with us on filter collections.

We invite researchers to submit applications for Collaborative Researcher of PRP-A, PRP-B, or PRP-C.

All JURC-DES collaborative researchers can utilize the facilities (equipment, samples, and data) of CMCR as needed, as a collaborative member of the CMCR faculty. Research to be performed without CMCR collaboration (outside of the CMCR) can also be included on the application. Domestic researchers not affiliated with the CMCR are also eligible to apply to become a collaborative researcher.

2. Eligibility

The senior proposer must be an international or domestic researcher holding a PhD or equivalent degree. All applicants must supply the following information on the application form: name, current institution, year of PhD or other degree, and the degree-granting institution and country.

3. Method of application

Applicants for collaborative researcher must fill out an application form and send it to the CMCR via e-mail (see details below).

4. Research period

October 2019 to March 2022 (2.5 years).

5. Necessary expenses

The use of CMCR equipment is, in principle, free of charge for accepted research projects. Nevertheless, users may be requested to partly cover the cost of expendables. Please consult with the PI of each research project. Some travel and living expenses necessary for conducting the research may be provided, within budgetary limits. The number and duration of visits to the CMCR and the available funds for such visits should be discussed with the PRP PI. Support for travel expenses is available only for travel to and stays at the CMCR; no funds will be provided for proposed travel outside of the CMCR. Owing to budget limitations, applicants are strongly encouraged to seek additional external funding to support their research at the CMCR.

6. Application deadline

September 6, 2019

7. Selection and notification

The decision on each application will be made by the director after evaluation by the Steering Committee of Joint Usage/Research Center of CMCR during September 2019.

All proposals will be evaluated comprehensively and judged on the basis of the academic importance of each project and its conformity with the aim of the program. Applicants will be informed by a decision letter no later than the end of September 2019.

8. Collaborative researcher report

After the research period, a report of activities and accomplishments related to the accepted proposal must be submitted by the project PI using the designated CMCR form.

9. Publication of research results

Acknowledgment of CMCR support for the research is requested when the research results are published. Some examples are shown below.

- This study was performed using joint-use facilities of the Center for Advanced Marine Core Research, Kochi University.
- This study was supported by the CMCR program for international collaboration.

Also, please send a reprint of the published paper in PDF format to the CMCR administrative office (address provided below).

10. Intellectual property

Applicants are strongly urged to discuss the context, strategy, and logic of their proposal with the PRP PI before submission. We strongly recommend that applicants conduct negotiations regarding copyright, authorship, patents (in the case of inventions), research expenses, and project aims, and brainstorm on research strategy prior to submitting the application.

11. Accommodation

Collaborative researchers can use the guest house on the Kochi University campus during visits to the CMCR. Please discuss housing with the research project PI and notify the CMCR of the planned visit period at least two weeks before the visit. The accommodation fee for collaborative researchers is 1,300 yen per night for a Western-style room.

12. Address for application submission and information requests

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