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Finland

Expedition 347: Baltic Sea Paleoenvironment. There is great interest in the upcoming Baltic Sea Paleoenvironment Expedition in the Finnish geoscience and microbiology communities. Several scientists applied for ECORD berths on the expedition. The community is very pleased that Outi Hyttinen (University of Helsinki) and Aarno Kotilainen (Geological Survey of Finland) have been invited to participate in the offshore and onshore science parties of the expedition taking place this year. Outi Hyttinen will be acting as a stratigraphic correlator and Aarno Kotilainen as a physical properties specialist/stratigraphic correlator. Aarno is also one of the coproponents of the expedition.

Expedition 347 has been successfully presented by **Joonas Virtasalo** to a wider geoscience community in the bi-

annual Lithosphere Symposium held at the Geological Survey of Finland, Espoo in early November 2012. The meeting had a special theme focusing on "Scientific **Drilling Projects** in Fennoscandia", where currently active IODP-ICDP proposals were discussed and advertised. More than 70 researchers and students attended the Symposium.

In March 2013, the new International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) was presented and advertised to doctoral and post-graduate students at the annual Geological Colloquium and



IODP- related poster presented by Ekaterina Kaparulina (right) and Heather Tessier at the Geological Colloquium in Oulu March 2013.

workshop arranged by the Finnish Doctoral Program in Geology, this time at the University of Oulu.

Kari Strand, ESSAC Delegate, and Annakaisa Korja, ESSAC Alternate http://iodpfinland.oulu.fi/

United Kingdom

The UK has approximately 700 students and scientists engaged in IODP-related research. Over the past year, 16 UK scientists have participated in eight expeditions, two serving as Co-chief Scientists. http://www.bgs.ac.uk/iodp/newsletters.html

IODP 2013-2023. While the final structure of the international programme is taking shape, the UK-IODP domestic research programme (the largest of its kind in the UK) is also going through a renewal process. All signs are positive that the programme will continue to enable UK scientists to take advantage of the opportunities provided by IODP *e.g.* post-cruise funding, site-survey grant rounds, hosting and attending IODP-related meetings/workshops. In September, UK-IODP hosted two

conferences. The three-day, 2012 UK-IODP Student and Early-Career Scientists Workshop was the first of its kind in the UK, and was a great success for the 50 participants. The 2012 UK-IODP General Conference was a day of excellent talks covering the diversity of research conducted within IODP, including a poster session, and discussions about the future of the international and domestic programmes. http://www.bgs.ac.uk/iodp/meetings.html

UK-IODP new faces. We have several new UK scientists in the ESSAC and IODP Science Advisory Structure (SAS). Current members are: Bridget Wade (Univ. of Leeds) at ESSAC; Dick Kroon (Univ. of Edinburgh), Chair of the PEP; Stuart Robinson (UCL) and Lisa McNeil (Univ. of Southampton) at PEP; Paul Wilson (NOCS) at SIPCom; Mads Huuse (Univ. of Manchester) at SCP;



Paul Wilson, Expedition 342 Co-chief Scientist (photo P. Lippert & IODP).

Cedric John (Imperial College) at STP, and **Bramley Murton** (NOCS) at STP.

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