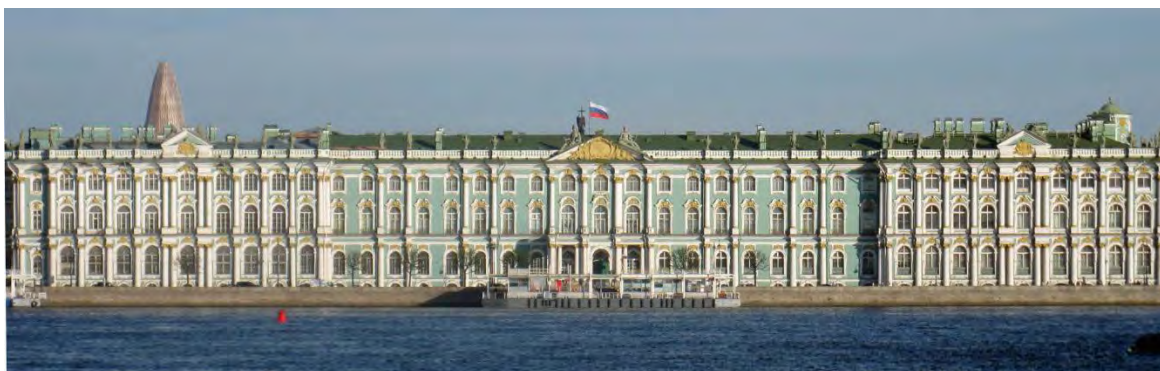




The 2013 Inter-sessional Science Board Meeting: A Note from the Science Board Chairman

This year is the 310th anniversary of Saint Petersburg after the great Russian city of culture and art was founded in 1703. It was also in this city where the 11th Inter-sessional Science Board meeting (ISB-2013) was held May 24–25, 2013. ISB-2013 took place back to back with a joint PICES/ICES Workshop on “*Global assessment of the implications of climate change on the spatial distribution of fish and fisheries*”. I wish to thank the Russian Government for hosting these two events. I also welcome Mr. Chuanlin Huo, a new Chairman of the Marine Environmental Quality Committee (MEQ) to the Science Board.

I will start with what happened earlier this year. Unlike last year, PICES did not organize any big meetings in the first half of 2013 but PICES scientists convened and/or joined many international workshops and sessions. A PICES Workshop on “*Radionuclide science and environmental quality of radiation in the North Pacific*” was held March 14–15, 2013, in Xiamen, China. It was hosted by the Chinese Government and attended by 20 scientists from 5 PICES member countries and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). As you may recall, Governing Council approved a Study Group on *Radionuclide Science*



The Hermitage, St. Petersburg, Russia.

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Science Board members and guests. Back (L to R) Igor Shevchenko (Science Board, representing Russia), Gongke Tan (China), Thomas Therriault (AP-AICE Chairman, Science Board Chairman-elect), Kyung-Il Chang (POC Chairman), Yusheng Zhang (China), Elizabeth Logerwell (FIS Chairman), Phillip Mundy (AP-SOFE Chairman), Alexander Bychkov (PICES Secretariat), Atsushi Tsuda (BIO Chairman), Chuanlin Huo (MEQ Chairman), Hiroyuki Shimada (Japan), Dongho Youm (Korea). Front (L to R) Hiroya Sugisaki (MONITOR Chairman), Hiroaki Saito (AP-COVE Chairman), Jinqiu Du (China), Robin Brown (Governing Council member, Canada), Laura Richards (PICES Chairman), Sinjae Yoo (Science Board Chairman), John Stein (Governing Council member, USA), Toru Suzuki (TCODE Chairman), Skip McKinnell (PICES Secretariat), Naesun Park (Korea), and Heejin Kim (Korea).

and Environmental Quality of Radiation in the North Pacific at PICES-2012. Since then, the Study Group worked hard, under the leadership of Dr. Yusheng Zhang (Third Institute of Oceanography, SOA), to prepare for a new Working Group. During the workshop, attendees reviewed the status of radionuclide science in each PICES member country and discussed the direction of radionuclide science research in the future. You can read a detailed report on the workshop in this issue. The Study Group prepared the terms of reference and work plan and submitted a proposal for establishing a working group. Science Board was impressed by the Study Group's efficiency, eagerness and new research directions and unanimously endorsed the proposal. I would expect that the new working group will have its first meeting this fall at PICES-2013 in Nanaimo, Canada.

At ISB-2013, we started the meeting with business related to other international organizations and programs. We are witnessing ever-increasing PICES interactions with other international bodies. To name a few, we have many joint activities with ICES (International Council for the Exploration of the Sea), IOC (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO), NOWPAP (Northwest Pacific Action Plan), NPAFC (North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission), SCOR (Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research), CLIVAR (Climate Variability and Predictability Program), GEOHAB (Global Ecology and Oceanography of Harmful Algal Blooms Program), IMBER (Integrated Marine Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research), and SOLAS (Surface Ocean - Lower Atmosphere Study),

among others. Cooperative activities with these organizations and programs include co-sponsoring sessions at each other's annual meetings, symposia and workshops, summer schools, and joint activities of expert groups. There are too many activities to list here.

In 2008 and 2012, PICES, ICES and IOC organized the international symposium on the "Effects of climate change on the world's oceans". The first one was in Gijón, Spain, and the second one was in Yeosu, Korea. Following these two successful symposia on the continents of Europe and Asia, a third one is being planned for 2015 in Santos City, Brazil. Science Board invited Dr. Jacquelynne King (Canada) to serve as the PICES convener and Drs. Shoshiro Minobe (Japan), Fangli Qiao (China), and Angelica Peña (Canada) to serve as members of the Scientific Steering Committee.

The North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) was established one year after PICES. Its Contracting Parties include Canada, Japan, Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, and the United States. The primary objective of the Commission is to promote the conservation of anadromous stocks in the Convention Area. NPAFC and PICES signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 1998, and scientists involved in the two organizations have been working together on problems of mutual interest for the past 15 years, with a good record of joint activities. To further the cooperation, Science Board approved the establishment of a joint NPAFC/PICES Study Group on *Scientific Cooperation in*



Statue of Peter the Great.

the North Pacific Ocean. This Study Group will prepare a plan for a cooperative framework, aiming to finalize it at PICES-2014. The group will be led by Dr. Elizabeth Logerwell (FIS Chairman) on the PICES side and by Dr. James Irvine representing NPAFC.

Capacity building has always been a high priority issue for PICES. Several events will be sponsored by PICES in 2013–2014, including a PICES Summer School on “*Ocean observing systems and ecosystem monitoring*” to be held August 19–23, 2013, in Newport, USA. The first PICES summer school in North America will include classroom lectures, laboratory demonstrations of interdisciplinary ocean sensors, an introduction to ocean observing platforms, and fieldwork on a research vessel to deploy ocean observing equipment at sea. Techniques of data quality control and data processing of time series will also be demonstrated. Besides its own summer school, PICES will support three early career scientists to attend the 6th SOLAS summer school in Xiamen, China (August 23–September 2, 2013). NOWPAP and PICES will co-sponsor a joint training course on “*Remote sensing data analysis*” on October 21–25, 2013, in Qingdao, China. This training course aims at providing opportunities for postgraduate students, young professional researchers and coastal managers (including local government officers) working in the fields of marine sciences and coastal-zone management in the Northwest Pacific Region and adjacent area. In 2014, the next PICES Summer School on “*Ecological modeling for marine resources management and research*” is slated for August 26–29, 2014, in Seoul, Korea. The purpose of this summer school is to review the end-to-end modeling techniques for ecological interactions and to show how these models can be applied to understand and predict change in ecosystem. The program, consisting of lectures and hands-on training, will be finalized at PICES-2013. The PICES/ICES Early Career Scientist Conference is a series of capacity building activities where early career scientists from the North Pacific and North Atlantic regions plan, prepare and run the conference by

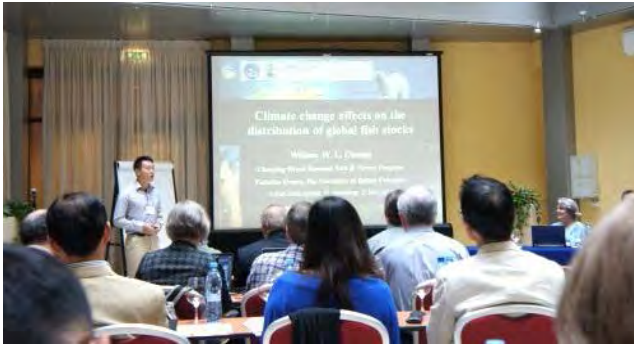
themselves. The previous conferences in 2007 and 2012 were a tremendous success. Talks are being initiated to hold the next conference in 2017, which will be the third in the series, possibly in Asia.

The PICES/FUTURE [Open Science Meeting](#) (OSM) will take place from April 15–18, 2014, on the Kohala Coast, Hawaii, USA. By 2014, the FUTURE integrative science program will be 5 years old so there will be a need to assess its progress and adjust the program’s direction, if necessary. The FUTURE OSM is intended to provide an opportunity to evaluate what has been achieved and to make necessary course adjustments for the remaining years to achieve the objectives of FUTURE. The 4-day symposium will consist of morning plenary sessions and concurrent theme sessions. One-day workshops will precede the symposium. On the last day, the plenary session will focus on the integration of more general topics followed by a discussion on the evaluation of FUTURE progress, and to identify needed changes or adjustments to fulfill program objectives. After the OSM, an evaluation team will gather to make a formal assessment of FUTURE progress. Abstract submission deadline is December 15, 2013, and I encourage you to submit an abstract and attend. Please check the [PICES website](#) for further announcements.

An important agenda item at all ISB meetings is to decide who will be the recipients of PICES awards to be presented at the Annual Meeting. The [Wooster Award](#) is given annually to an individual who has made significant scientific contributions to North Pacific marine science. Likewise, the [PICES Ocean Monitoring Service Award](#) (POMA) acknowledges monitoring and data management activities that contribute to the progress of marine science in the North Pacific. The names will be kept secret until the Opening Session at PICES-2013.

The six Committees which form the core of the PICES Science Board described their activities since PICES-2012. We reviewed the status of each of their subsidiary bodies, the preparation of work plans and reports, planning of meetings, sending representatives to meetings of other organizations, and budgetary issues. I am pleased to say that all the Committees are on track and doing well.

The year 2016 will mark the 25th anniversary of PICES and Science Board discussed the ways to celebrate it. The objectives for the anniversary will not only include a celebration of achievements, but also finding ways to raise the profile of PICES with the public. Public communication can be made through various formats utilizing social media. National activities could also be used to enhance the awareness of the Organization. A planning committee is now in place and will meet at PICES-2013 to discuss tasks and brainstorm for more ideas. I encourage you to contact the [Executive Secretary](#) of PICES if you have any interesting suggestions to help celebrate this occasion.



Dr. William Cheung (Canada) speaking at the PICES/ICES workshop in St. Petersburg.

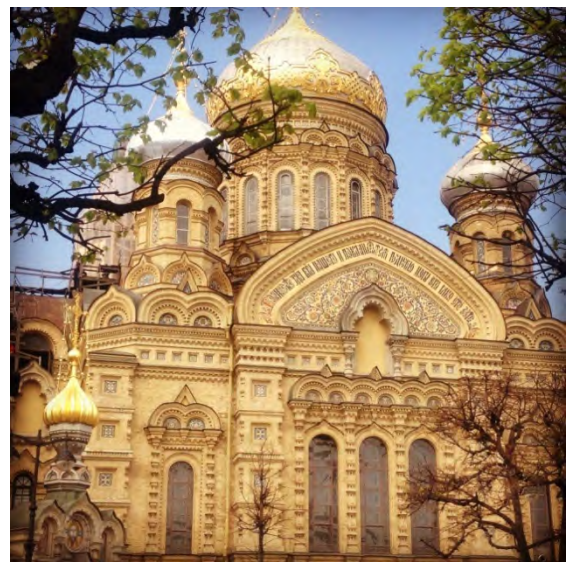
As I mentioned earlier, the PICES/ICES workshop on “*Global assessment of the implications of climate change on the spatial distribution of fish and fisheries*” took place immediately after ISB-2013. The workshop was prepared by S-CCME [Section on Climate Change and Marine Ecosystems on the PICES side and SICCME (Strategic Initiative) on the ICES side]. The purpose of the workshop was to catalyse the development of an international interdisciplinary research effort focusing on understanding and projecting the implications of climate change on the spatial distribution and abundance of fish and fisheries in the northern hemisphere. The workshop discussed diverse issues ranging from analytical methods to detect changes in spatial distribution, and skill assessment and model inter-comparison, to quantifying uncertainty to communicating outcomes to inform on decisions regarding management of living marine resources under a changing climate. A detailed report on the workshop is included in this issue of PICES Press.

A second PICES/MAFF project on “*Marine ecosystem health and human well-being*” started last year. The objectives of the project include identifying the relationship between sustainable human communities and productive marine ecosystems in the North Pacific under the concept of fishery social-ecological systems. A project meeting recently took place in Honolulu, June 10–12, 2013. Taking advantage of the fact that many members of the project team are also active in the PICES Section on *Human Dimensions of Marine Systems*, a workshop on human dimensions indicators was held piggy-back with the project meeting. The purpose of the workshop was to assemble peer-reviewed information for developing socio-economic indices regarding the social and economic status of marine ecosystems in the North Pacific. The data will be a useful contribution to the next version of the North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report as well as to the World Ocean Assessment (UN Regular Process).

An International Workshop on “*Development and application of regional climate models-II*” co-sponsored by PICES will be held September 10–12, 2013, in Busan, Korea. This is a sequel to the successful first workshop held in 2011 in Seoul. The purpose of the workshop is to discuss the regional climate projections based on ocean or coupled models,

novel downscaling techniques including implementation of surface and lateral boundary conditions, and existing roadblocks. The workshop will be chaired by four convenors, three of whom are Working Group on *Regional Climate Modeling* Co-Chairmen, Drs. Enrique Curchistser and Chan Joo Jang, and Physical Oceanography and Climate Chairman, Dr. Kyung-Il Chang. The deadline for [abstract submission](#) is August 15, 2013. Modeling studies using physics and biogeochemistry are welcome.

PICES-2014 will be hosted by Korea. Proposals for topic sessions and workshops will be processed through the new web-based submission system which we tested last year. It turned out to be a seamless, transparent, and comprehensive approach that improved the efficiency in evaluating and ranking the proposals. The session/workshop [submission page](#) for proposals for PICES-2014 and inter-session workshops in 2014 is now open and will close on September 7 to allow a period of about 3 weeks for Committee members and FUTURE Advisory Panels to evaluate the proposals. So anyone interested in submitting a proposal should prepare it and submit it using the submission system.



Finally, the next Annual Meeting, PICES-2013, will be held October 11–20, 2013, in Nanaimo, Canada. The theme of PICES-2013 is “*Communicating forecasts, uncertainty and consequences of ecosystem change*”. Many interesting sessions and workshops, covering a wide range of topics, are planned. In addition to these scientific attractions, there are lots of interesting things to see in the region. Nanaimo is the third oldest city in British Columbia, and has a long and colourful history. I invite you all to this beautiful city!

Sinjae Yoo
Science Board Chairman

