

IODP Proposal Confidentiality Policy

(revised February 2015)

Release of International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) Proposal Information

The IODP Science Support Office is responsible for all matters related to IODP proposal handling, including confidentiality and release to the public.

Proposals are confidential documents throughout the nurturing, evaluation, ranking, and scheduling processes of the *JOIDES Resolution* Facility Board (JRFB) and its advisory panels, and any other IODP Facility Board utilizing the *JOIDES Resolution* Facility advisory panels. The distribution of proposals is limited to the JRFB or other IODP Facility Boards, relevant advisory panels, and detailed planning groups (DPGs); implementing organizations (IOs); IODP funding agencies; project scoping or management groups; and external reviewers designated by the IODP Science Support Office. By receiving IODP proposals from the Science Support Office, all individuals acknowledge that scientific ideas in these proposals belong to the proposal authors (“proponents”) and implicitly agree that they will not disclose or disseminate proposal contents or discuss the proposal outside the context of their role with IODP. Once given access by the IODP Science Support Office, individuals become responsible for complying with these restrictions regarding use, disclosure, and dissemination. However, proposals may be released to the public, or any designated subset thereof, with the consent of the lead proponent at any time during the nurturing, evaluation, ranking, and scheduling processes.

Once a proposal is scheduled for drilling as part of an IODP expedition, the program acquires the right to publish the proposal document and conduct the science. Proponents are responsible for properly identifying, via labels/captions/annotations, any Confidential Information contained in the proposal document (e.g. Figures based on proprietary information as described in the IODP Site Survey Data Confidentiality Policy) and are responsible for ensuring removal of Confidential Information prior to release of the proposal document.

A proposal that does not result in drilling by the *JOIDES Resolution* or by any other IODP Platform Provider utilizing the *JOIDES Resolution* Facility advisory panels will be retained by the IODP Science Support Office for the lifetime of the IODP, and will be handled as a confidential document.