Data Centre-Library Co-operation in Data Publication in Ocean Science

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Data from research in ocean sciences, whether generated from research or operational observations, are not always deposited in national or international databases in a format that makes them retrievable and reusable, or even to test the reproducibility of reported research. Often, there are insufficient incentives for data submission, only punishments for not submitting data, resulting in low submission rates and even when submitted, a bare minimum of metadata. This issue is not unique to the ocean sciences, but several ocean science organizations have begun an effort to stimulate the submission and availability of ocean data. The Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research, International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and the Marine Biological Laboratory/Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Library are working together to develop and execute pilot projects related to two use cases (1) data held by data centres are packaged and served in formats that can be cited and (2) data related to traditional journal articles are assigned persistent identifiers referred to in the articles and stored in data repositories, such as DSpace repositories provided by libraries and IODE's OceanDocs system. This presentation will report on the results of collaborations of data centres and libraries to store, serve, and publish ocean data in a way that makes it possible for data providers to cite their data in their curriculum vitae and makes their data more available for use by other investigators. The presentation will also report on barriers to progress to this activity and future steps.