# FRANKLIN

### National Facility Oceanographic Research Vessel

### RESEARCH PLAN RESEARCH CRUISE 5/94

## DIVERSITY AND BIOGEOGRAPHY OF BENTHIC INVERTEBRATES OF THE SOUTHERN COAST OF AUSTRALIA

| Depart Hobart   | 1800 hrs | Monday    | 9 May 1994  |
|-----------------|----------|-----------|-------------|
| Arrive Portland | 1500 hrs | Wednesday | 11 May 1994 |
| Depart Portland | 1800 hrs | Wednesday | 11 May 1994 |
| Arrive Adelaide | 1500 hrs | Saturday  | 28 May 1994 |

Principal Investigators

Drs G C B Poore and C C Lu
Museum of Victoria, Abbotsford Vic 3067

For further information contact:

ORV Operations Manager CSIRO Division of Oceanography GPO Box 1538, Hobart, Tasmania 7001

Phone (002) 32 5222 Fax (002) 32 5000 Telex AA 57182



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#### Scientific Program

To sample benthic fauna along a depth gradient (50-3000 m) and a longitudinal gradient (116°E to 139°E) on the southern Australian continental shelf and slope (Vic. to WA) and to relate this to sedimentary regimes, comparing extensive biogenic calcareous sediments with terrigenous deposits from the Murray-Darling system

#### **Principal Investigators**

Drs G C B Poore and C C Lu Museum of Victoria 71 Victoria Crescent Abbotsford Vic 3067

#### Cruise objectives

To sample benthic invertebrates on 3 transects using epibenthic sled (non-quantitative), SM grab and boxcorer (quantitative)

To sample epibenthic and demersal invertebrates and fishes using beam-trawl

To collect sediment samples for sedimentary analysis and for foraminiferans from quantitative samples

To sieve, sort and study material from the samples and to preserve samples for further research

#### Cruise track

The vessel will travel from Hobart to Portland and the scientific party will join it there with all collecting and ancillary equipment. Three transects perpendicular to the SA coast will be visited, each between 50 and 3000 m depth:

- 1 off western Victoria (142°E)
- off eastern SA (139°E), i.e. off the mouth of the Murray River
- 3 near the SA–WA border (131°E), i.e. centre of the Bight.

#### Work at each transect

Ten stations to be sampled on each transect are at: 50, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1000, 1500, 2000, 2500, 3000 metres.

At each station sampling will be:

- (1) 5 grab or core samples (instantaneous) (Total 10x5x3=150)
- (2) 1 WHOI sled sample -10 mins to 30 mins depending on depth (Total 10x1x3=30)
- (3) 1 beam-trawl sample -30 to 90 minutes depending on depth (Total 10x1x3=30).

On deck samples will be washed through a series of sieves and elutriated with seawater. Large animals will be picked out and all will be fixed with formalin or alcohol. A sediment sample will be retrieved from grab samples for granulometric analysis and for foraminiferans.

#### **Equipment**

All sampling equipment with be supplied for use on the trawl winch or oceanographic winch (epibenthic sled, SM grab, box corer, 3.5 m beam trawl).

Use of the deck laboratory for deck processing is requested.

#### Needs from CSIRO:

Station position and bathymetric records; cable length while sampling; fitting of pinger or SDL to cable while sampling.

#### Time estimates

| Total  | 18.5 days |
|--|-----------|
| Sampling on 3 transects: 3 x 4.5 days                        | 13.5 days |
| Steaming between transects, Portland – WA border – Adelaide: | 3.2 days  |
| Steaming Hobart-Portland:                                    | 1.8 days  |

#### Scientific and technical participants

| Gary Poore         | Museum of Victoria         | Chief Scientist |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| CC Lu              | n                          |                 |
| Sue Boyd           | 17                         |                 |
| Robin Wilson       | tt                         |                 |
| Brian Cohen        | tt                         |                 |
| Tim Stranks        | tt                         |                 |
| Christopher Rawley | tt                         |                 |
| TBA                | University of Taiwan       | •               |
| Leanne Murray      | Chemistry, University of I | Melbourne       |
| TBA                |                            |                 |
| Dave Vaudrey       | CSIRO - ORV                | Cruise Manager  |
| Erik Madsen        | 11                         |                 |

This research plan is in accordance with the directions of the National Facility Steering Committee for the oceanographic research vessel Franklin.

A D McEwan

CSIRO Division of Oceanography

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G W Paltridge

National Facility Steering Committee

March 1994