



**CICORE The California State University's Center for Integrative
Coastal Observation, Research and Education:
CICORE**

Governance Document

Preamble

The CICORE program was conceived and designed to assist the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Office of Naval Research (ONR), the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP), and local and regional governments meet the emerging national priorities in coastal observation while providing research, training and educational opportunities for faculty and students of the California State University (CSU) system. Through the development and application of novel technologies, the fusion of their data streams, the organization of the individual campus groups and the responsiveness to local and national needs, the CICORE program serves as a model for other coastal observatories nationwide.

In response to the national priority for coastal observations, the CICORE program has been built upon three observatory platforms: 1) in situ observations providing high temporal resolution of coastal conditions; 2) high resolution acoustic characterization of targeted nearshore habitats and 3) optical hyperspectral remote sensing of the entire California Coast. Together the fusion of these three technologies can respond to challenging national mandates. These observing capabilities in the nearshore (100 meter isobath into and onto the coast) can be augmented in the near future by incorporation of new monitoring technologies by either the CICORE program, or in association with other regional groups.

As articulated in the mission statement documents of NOAA and Oceans.US, this program will function most productively when closely coordinated with, and linked to, other emerging coastal observatories, both regionally and nationally. Development and operation of the CICORE observatory, which is distributed along the 1200 mile California coast, requires long-term commitments on the part of the Principal Investigators (PIs), the institutions involved, their administrations, and a sustained and coordinated effort to maintain appropriate funding in support of the observatory efforts and communication among all parties. As a CSU initiative, strong coordinated support at a high level is required to advance this program at several agencies and at the CSU, such that full implementation and long-term stability can be realized.

Articles of Governance

CICORE is hereby established as an organized research unit (ORU) among CSU campuses and other research organizations to promote and develop an integrated state-wide center for coastal observation, research and education. The purpose of this document is to establish basic guidelines by which the CICORE ORU is governed with respect to:

- 1) Identification and definition of programmatic goals
- 2) Resource distribution among partners

- 3) The integration of new partners into CICORE
- 4) Role of the Program Coordinator
- 5) Role of the Advisory Council
- 6) Role of the CSU Presidents Board of Directors
- 7) Amendment procedure

1. Identification and definition of programmatic goals will be conducted at three levels. *Local goals* will be defined by each partner based on local interests, circumstances and resources. It is expected that the lead PI at each partner institution will facilitate broad participation in CICORE by the faculty, students and affiliated researchers at their respective institutions and participate in the CICORE Partners meetings. *CICORE goals* will be defined by conference among the partner institutions. The conferences will include ongoing conversations and a minimum of two meetings per year. The adoption of CICORE goals will require agreement by 2/3 of the partner institutions. Although partner institutions may be represented by more than one PI, each institution will possess only one vote with respect to all CICORE issues. To insure stability in funding and integration with national and regional programs, the establishment of CICORE goals will be consistent with the *goals and priorities of the emerging national federation of regional associations of ocean observing systems (RAs)* as articulated by Oceans.US, NOAA, Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education (CORE), NASA, NSF, NOPP, DOD and other funding agencies.

2. Financial resources allocated to CICORE will be distributed among partners in a manner designed to achieve CICORE goals. In negotiating the distribution of financial resources, each partner will be required to present an estimate of minimum funding requirements to maintain the current level of CICORE activities, as well as estimates for the cost of achieving approved new goals. The adoption of an annual plan for distribution of financial resources among the partners will require approval by 2/3 of the partner institutions and endorsement by the CSU Presidents Board of Directors.

3. New partners will be incorporated into CICORE as resources expand. Eligibility for partnership in CICORE will require the identification of a lead investigator willing to assume responsibility for providing local administration and scientific leadership of the CICORE program at the candidate institution. Academic appointment of the lead investigator must be of sufficient rank and experience to enable him/her to serve as PI on a major research grant. The candidate institution must also develop a viable observation, research and education plan that promotes the CICORE objectives. In developing this plan, the candidate institution is encouraged to actively seek the collaboration and support of other CICORE partners, both collectively and individually.

The proposed work plan must address:

- i) Data management practices, including QA/QC procedures for ongoing data collection activities, the observance of metadata standards and plans for providing web-based resources for data acquisition, distribution and integration into the CICORE web structure.

- ii) Identification of legacy data sets resident at that institution (or local affiliates) and a plan to make those data available on line through the CICORE web infrastructure.
- iii) A description of resources (personnel, equipment, infrastructure) that will be leveraged by the new partner in support of CICORE and the role of these resources will play in furthering the observation, research and education objectives of CICORE.
- iv) A detailed budget describing how CICORE resources will be expended in support of the proposed objectives.

To facilitate the incorporation of new institutional partners among the CSU campuses, the existing CICORE partnership may at times solicit proposals through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process or may establish a 1 year institutional junior partnership provided by resources equivalent to the purchase of 50% release time for a faculty member to develop a CICORE plan that will lead to full institutional partnership in the following year (funding and performance permitting). The junior partner will participate in all CICORE activities, including partner workshops and board of advisors briefings, but will not exercise voting rights with respect to issues brought before the CICORE partners. Election to full partner status will require approval by 2/3 of the CICORE membership and endorsement by the Presidents Board of Directors.

4. The CICORE partners will elect by a 2/3 majority a coordinator to ensure that all reporting requirements are properly fulfilled. The coordinator will be one of the CICORE principal investigators or of equal rank. The coordinator will be in charge of scheduling coordinated research expeditions, program meetings and the submission of progress reports and proposal. The coordinator will be the point of contact for all requests from the funding agency and advisory panels. The coordinator position will be for a renewable one year term.

5. An Advisory Council composed of external scientific experts, official representatives of local, regional, state and federal governmental organizations, and interested non-governmental organizations will be established to guide the partners in developing strategies for observation, research and education that serve the needs of a broad coalition of CICORE users. Council members will be nominated to serve a 4 year term by the CICORE partners. Election to the advisory council will be achieved by majority vote of council-members not standing for election in a given year. Council-members may stand for subsequent re-election without term limits, but re-nomination by the CICORE partners will be required for subsequent election.

In order to create a council-with staggered election schedules, the initial council-will be composed of members serving terms ranging from 1 to 4 years. Initial appointments and composition of the council-will be determined by the CICORE partners. Election to the initial council-will require approval by a simple majority of the CICORE partners. One quarter of the council-will be elected to a 1-year term. Another quarter will be elected to a 2-year term. A third quarter of the members will be elected to a 3-year term. Finally, one quarter of the council-will be elected to a full 4-year term. The council-will elect a chair each year, by simple majority among the elected members.

The Advisory Council-will meet annually to assess the progress of CICORE with respect to achievement of previously established programmatic objectives and to evaluate objectives adopted by the partner institutions for the coming year. A report summarizing the meeting and

the Advisory Council's recommendations will be distributed to CICORE Partners and the Presidents Board of Directors.

6. A CSU Presidents Board of Directors, comprised of the CSU Presidents, or their appointed representative, of each participating campus, shall provide guidance and advocacy for the CICORE program to the CSU Chancellor's office, local, state and federal government and non-governmental organizations. The Presidents Board shall receive from the program coordinator CICORE progress reports, proposal plans and summaries of the Advisory Council meetings. The Presidents Board of Directors shall meet annually to review the program, and provide input to the CICORE partner institutions regarding programmatic development and resource allocations. The Presidents Board's annual review will be provided to the partner institutions and the CSU Chancellor's office.

7. Amendments to these articles of governance may be introduced by any full CICORE partner at any time. Adoption is subject to approval by 2/3 of the partner membership and endorsement by the Presidents Board of Directors.

Adopted by Consensus of the Founding Partners 6 January 2003

Revisions adopted by Partners Consensus 2 June 2004