The SDLS* – A role model for success in data sharing for paleoclimate studies

Alan Cooper[1], Nigel Wardell[2], Frank Nitsche[3]

[1]USGS, Menlo Park, CA, USA; akcooper@pacbell.net;
[2]OGS, Trieste, Italy;
[3]Columbia University, Palisades, NY, USA

Abstract

The SDLS was initiated in 1991 under the ANTOSTRAT project and has continued operating as a seismic data library under the ACE and PAIS projects as part of the science arm of SCAR and a formal recommendation to the Antarctic Treaty**. The basic tenet of the SDLS is "success in science via data sharing" under guidelines to respect intellectual property rights while providing access to data for collaborative science projects.

Seismic data are key to mapping and interpreting stratigraphic sequences that hold a paleoclimate record. They are essential for accurately and safely locating boreholes. And seismic data are being used in a wide range of ocean water and seafloor biota studies linked to climate change.

The SDLS has over the past 26 years successfully facilitated and enhanced collaboration among scientists and geopoliticans in countries involved in Antarctic paleoclimate research. The SDLS provides a different mechanism, unlike a data bank, to promote sharing of highly valued seismic data. As such, the SDLS is a role model as to how data sharing can be done to benefit the broader science community.

This presentation will provide an update on the status of the SDLS and will illustrate accomplishments from data sharing collaborations based on the SDLS.

*Acronyms:
SDLS – Antarctic Seismic Data Library System for Cooperative Research
ANTOSTRAT – Antarctic Offshore Stratigraphy Project
ACE – Antarctic Climate Evolution project
PAIS – Past Antarctic Ice Sheet Dynamics
SCAR – Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research
**The SDLS operates under ATCM Recommendation XVI-12

Keywords: seismic data, data sharing, paleoclimate research