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Number 2, March 13, 2007
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Special Issue of PLoS Biology Announced at News Conference

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CoML Vice Chair Victor Gallardo participated in a live webcast at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., on March 13, 2007, where the results of the Venter Institute's two-year global sampling expedition to expand understanding of microbial diversity through genomic analysis were released. A special issue of PLoS Biology was dedicated to the researcher's findings.

An archived version of the webcast is available at the link below. It serves as a good example of how releasing information to the media has evolved.

<http://www.visualwebcaster.com/NationalPressClub/venterininstitute/event.html>

Fish and Bird Barcoding Workshop Underway

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The Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales in Buenos Aires, Argentina, is the setting for a joint workshop of The Fish Barcode of Life (FishBOL) and the All Birds Barcoding Initiative (ABBI) through March 16th. The workshop is designed to advance the implementation of these initiatives in South America by working to establish cooperative networks and regional strategies.

The synergies and solutions that are developed there may prove to be helpful for replication in other regions.

<http://www.fishbol.org/index.php>, <http://www.barcodingbirds.org/>

Arc-OD Images on Display in Brussels

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Arc-OD images are part of an International Polar Year exhibit on display from March 5-15, 2007 at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences in Brussels, Belgium. The images appear in an exhibition designed to educate the public about the DAMOCLES project, an integrated ice-atmosphere-ocean monitoring and forecasting system for observing, understanding, and quantifying climate changes in the Arctic.

The exhibit will be displayed in 10 European countries during the IPY (2007-2008).

http://www.polarfoundation.org/index.php?/damocles_exhibition_launch_event&s=no&puid=596&uid=597&lg=en&mid=831

Looking for Story Ideas

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The Census has an opportunity to pitch story ideas to **Our Ocean World**, a radio feature co-sponsored by the Smithsonian and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. It airs daily on 140 National Public Radio stations throughout the United States to an estimated audience of 750,000. Senior Scientist Ron O'Dor was interviewed for a segment on January 23, 2007.

The program is dedicated to news and information about ocean-related issues -- a perfect format for Census scientists! If you have a story idea that you think might be a good match, please share it with Darlene at darlene.crist@cox.net. She has contacted the production team and promised a continual stream of good Census stories.

Please include who you suggest be interviewed, his/her contact information, and a quick summary of the story.

<http://www.ouroceanworld.com/2001/oceanworld.htm>

Congratulations to Odd Aksel Bergstad and MAR-ECO Team

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Odd Aksel Bergstad was one of five laureates who received the EU's 2006 Descartes Prize for Science Communication at a ceremony in Brussels on March 7. Bergstad was nominated by The Norwegian Research Council for his leadership of MAR-ECO's outstanding public outreach effort since its inception in 2001.

This award was a fitting tribute to Odd Aksel's commitment to ensuring that science reaches the public and the tremendous leadership he has shown in this regard. Links to the complete story are available on the Census portal.

<http://www.coml.org>

**Contact Information**

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