The MARGINS database group (http://www.marine-geo.org/margins/) would like to thank the following investigators for contributing information and data since the last newsletter report for a number of MARGINS-funded field programs.

In the Gulf of California area, a full suite of digital data has been received from Lonsdale for his seismic and rock sampling cruises, DANA01RR, DANA02RR, DANA07RR, DANA08RR. OBS recovery information and cruise details have been added to the database for Gaherty’s SCOoba2NH cruise. Gorman provided bathymetric coastal survey data files for cruise BAJA02NN.

For the Papua New Guinea Focus Site, EM3000 swath data files for Naar’s high-resolution bathymetric survey are now available. Raw CTD data for VANC13MV, and sound velocity data for cruises VANC13-16MV, VANC27-30MV were also received from Naar.

McNinch contributed details of the small-boat sediment coring operations in 2006 for Waipaoa New Zealand.

Basic database entries for the land-based IBM projects of Kent and Plank have been created. Also in this area, ship track navigation and digital gravity data files have been added for cruise MGln08MV (Hilton).

The 2002 Costa Rica and Nicaragua land-based field rock sampling program of Carr, including field sample descriptions, can now be viewed. Basic database entries for Carr’s 2005 work, and the Eiler (2001) and Walker (2004) terrestrial rock sampling and analysis projects are available. International collaborator Barckhausen, Weinrebe and Ranero provided to the MARGINS database their gridded compilations of magnetic anomalies and multibeam bathymetry for Central America. Direct links have been created to IRIS and UNAVCO for access to seismic and geodetic data.

New Developments

Improved functionality and expanded data content continue to be added to the GeoMapApp data exploration and visualisation application. A set of multimedia audio-visual tutorials that highlight the capabilities of GeoMapApp can be viewed with any web browser. The MGDS Global Multi-Resolution Topography (GMRT) which underlies GeoMapApp has been updated with new grids and swath bathymetry, and a new Google Earth overlay was developed to allow native access to these GMRT tiles (http://www.marine-geo.org/Data4GoogleEarth.html). In collaboration with the Lamont Borehole Research Group, we incorporated into GeoMapApp a new Web Feature Service for IODP borehole logs with live links to on-line log data for more than 500 holes and over 150 expeditions from the entire history of DSDP-ODP-IODP logging. Updated rock geochemistry data from the EarthChem database for each of the Focus Sites can be accessed through GeoMapApp with the capability to plot samples in map view, to colour and scale the symbols based upon selected geochemical parameters, and graph geochemical variables. The interfaces for viewing multi-channel and single-channel seismic profiles have been enhanced. Users can import their own grids and data tables and build customised maps.

GeoMapApp, a platform-independent Java application, can be downloaded for free from http://www.geomapapp.org.

We registered more than 30 MGDS rock and sample data sets in the NSF System for Earth Sample Registration (SESAR), http://www.geosamples.org and upgraded our MGDS Web Feature Service to include the SESAR International Geo Sample Number (IGSN).

Workshops

With funding from MARGINS and Ridge, a successful workshop (http://www.nsf-margins.org/Datawkshp07/) with attendees from numerous countries was organised in Kiel in May 2007 to promote the international exchange of data (see page 10). In April 2007, we took part in the highly-productive MARGINS Education Mini-Lessons workshop (see page 14). We will be holding data resources workshops at the Fall meetings of GSA (October 2007) and AGU (see ad on page 7).

We welcome new contributions of data from your MARGINS-funded work. A packet of standardised metadata forms to capture information for the database on the land-based field programs and cruises is available for download from http://www.marine-geo.org/metadata_forms.html.

For upcoming field programs, we ask PIs to identify one person who will be responsible for liaising with the MARGINS database group for the field program. Contact us (http://www.marine-geo.org/contact.html) prior to your upcoming field expedition and we will help identify what metadata forms are needed to document your field program. We are actively seeking contributions from land programs and for older programs, both marine and land.

We welcome contributions from both marine and land programs.