



GeoHab 2017 Marine Geological & Biological Habitat Mapping

May 1st – May 5th 2017

GEOHAB 2017 / SECOND CIRCULAR

NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA



GEOHAB (Marine Geological and Biological Habitat Mapping) is an international association of marine scientists studying and mapping biophysical indicators of benthic communities, species diversity and distribution.

The GeoHab 2017 annual conference will be held for the first time in Nova Scotia, Canada at the Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) Waterfront Campus from Monday May 1 to Friday May 5 2017.

This annual conference brings together over 120 biologists, geologists, environmental scientists, spatial analysts, technologists, acousticians and environmental advisors from around the world and provides a unique multidisciplinary forum for the exchange of knowledge and ideas that underpin sustainable ocean management. Students are encouraged to attend and grants are available. GeoHab is now in its 15th year and has several publications.

Conference

The conference houses an exhibition of industry technology and products used in the marine environmental community. Because of the relatively small number of delegates and focused topics, GeoHab conferences are organized as an informal, single-stream session, which encourages dialogue between delegates and exhibitors.

GEOHAB Sponsorship

GeoHab 2017 offers unique sponsorship opportunities that can be tailored for you. If you would like to discuss a package best suited to your requirements, or trade/exhibition booth, please contact any of the co-conveners of GeoHab 2017. Your input is welcomed and will ensure the ongoing success of this international forum. Funds obtained from sponsorships are also used to support students wishing to attend the GeoHab conference.



Venue

The 2017 GeoHab conference will take place in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada and will be hosted by the NSCC Waterfront Campus. The modern building is located on the shores of the historic Halifax Harbour, and is just a 5 minute walk from the ferry terminal.



Location

With a population of approximately 300,000 residents, Halifax is a relatively small city known for its maritime history. Most notably it's known for its hilltop Citadel, a star-shaped fort completed in the 1850s, and its waterfront warehouses known as the Historic Properties. The Halifax area has many public green spaces ranging from urban gardens to expansive forested parks.

Themes

Mapping at high latitudes:

This session will focus on mapping activities in the Arctic and Antarctic, highlighting technical and logistical challenges of working in these environments, and presenting case studies.

Methods, innovations and approaches to mapping marine habitats:

This session will showcase new ocean technologies, data processing methods and approaches for both the collection and processing of acoustic or biological data, and their incorporation into habitat maps.

Habitat mapping for conservation and management purposes:

Habitat mapping provides marine decision makers with information to make more informed choices. This session will explore applications in ecosystem-based and integrated ocean management, marine reserve design and performance, risk assessment, fisheries and other aspects of marine spatial planning. Presentations from research, industry and management are welcome.

Shelf and deep-sea habitats:

This session will include discussion of specific shelf and deep-sea habitats as well as how their fine-scale heterogeneity and specific characteristics may play an important role at broader scale.

Coastal and shallow water habitats:

This session will have a particular focus on linking methodologies from terrestrial remote sensing (including the

emergence of aerial drones) to shallow water environments.

Characterization of the Seabed for Environmental Assessment of Marine Renewable Energy Development:

This session will focus on the use of seafloor mapping technologies associated with marine renewable energy developments.



Ocean Mapping Technology Workshop

The workshop for GeoHab 2017 will be held May 1st 2017. The goal of the workshop is to offer software and hardware vendors an opportunity to showcase the latest and greatest innovations in ocean mapping tools to the seafloor geological and habitat mapping science community. This may include hands-on trials of the latest software tools, classroom sessions on technology developments, or field demos of hardware. Further details will be available through the GeoHab website as the workshop program is developed. Vendors interested in participating in the workshop to showcase their technologies should contact Craig Brown (craig.brown@nsc.ca) for further details.

Field Trip

The field trip will be held Friday May 5th. We will visit the Old Town of Lunenburg on Nova Scotia's beautiful south shore. Lunenburg is one of only two urban communities in North America designated a UNESCO World Heritage site and is home to the world famous Bluenose II.

The Itinerary for the Day

8:00 a.m. Departure
 9:30 a.m. Arrival in Lunenburg
 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Muffins served at Old Fish Factory Restaurant

Divide into two groups

Morning

Group 1

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Boat Tour
 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lunenburg Walking Tour

Group 2

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Lunenburg Walking Tour
 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Boat Tour

Afternoon

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Lunch @ Old Fish Factory Restaurant

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Museum Programming

Group 1

1:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. First Fishers
 1:15 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. History of the Cod Fishery: Banks Fishery
 1:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Life Aboard A Fishing Vessel: Theresa E. Connor & Cape Sable
 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lobster Fishery
 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Bluenose Story

Group 2

1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Bluenose Story
 1:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. First Fishers
 1:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. Lobster Fishery
 2:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. History of the Cod Fishery: Banks Fishery
 2:45 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Life Aboard a Fishing Vessel: Theresa E. Connor & Cape Sable

5:30 p.m. Arrive back in Halifax



Important Dates

2017

- January 1: Submission of Abstracts – OPENS
- January 1: Registration -OPENS
- March 1: Abstract Submission - CLOSES
- March 15: Authors notified of abstract acceptance
- May 1: Workshop and Ice-breaker Reception
- May 2: Conference Oral and Poster presentations
- May 3: Conference Oral and Poster presentations and
Conference Dinner
- May 4: Conference Oral and Poster presentations
- May 5: Field Trip

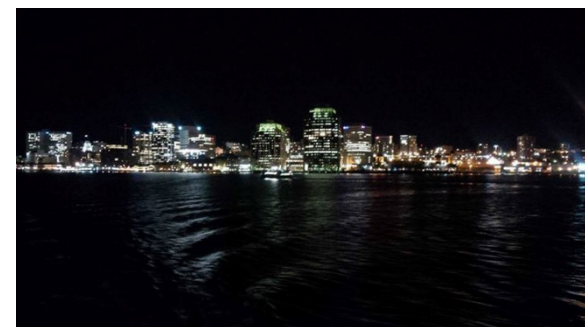


Registration Fees

Delegate Conference Registration	\$350.00
Student Conference Registration	\$200.00
Workshop	\$70.00
Conference Dinner	\$90.00
Ice Breaker	\$50.00
Field Trip	\$120.00

Online registration is available at the GeoHab 2017 website. General registration is opened on a first-come first-served basis on Jan 1 2017 and will remain open until we reach capacity (140 delegates). For any questions, please email geohab2017@outlook.com.

Please be advised: New entry requirement now in effect: Visa-exempt foreign nationals who fly to Canada need an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA). Visit <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/eta.asp> to apply.



Accommodation

Delegates are responsible for making their own reservations. Halifax has many hotels and accommodations available. The organizing committee has held rooms for GeoHab 2017 conference attendees at two hotels in the heart of the city. Details are available in the GeoHab 2017 website.

Student Support

The organizing committee of the GeoHab conference awards a small number of travel grants to selected students to attend and present at the conference. The Ron McDowell Bursary scheme is available to PhD, MSc and BSc students and will comprise an amount towards costs of travel, accommodation plus a waiver of the conference and workshop fees. See GeoHab 2017 website for details.

Student Ranking Committee:

- Tim Le Bas - Chair (National Oceanography Centre, UK)
- Vaughn Barrie (Geological Survey of Canada, Canada)
- Alex Bastos (Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo, Brazil)
- Guy Cochrane (US Geological Survey, USA)
- Markus Diesing (CEFAS, UK)
- Margaret Dolan (Geological Survey of Norway, Norway)
- Gary Greene (Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, USA)
- Anthony Grehan (National University of Ireland, Ireland)
- Peter Harris (GRID Arendal, Norway)
- David Limpenny (CEFAS, UK)
- Vanessa Lucieer (University of Tasmania, Australia)
- Scott Nichol (Geoscience Australia, Australia)
- Kathleen Robert (National Oceanography Centre, UK)
- Mary Young (Deakin University, Australia)

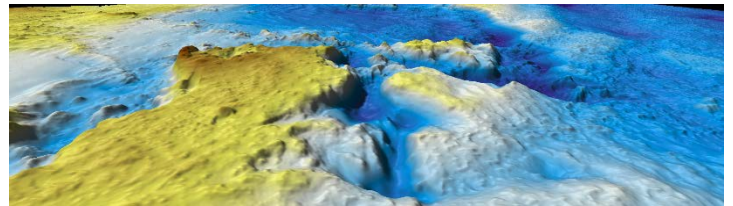
International Scientific Committee

- Craig Brown 2017 Co-Chair (Nova Scotia Community College, Canada)
- Brian Todd 2017 Co-Chair (Geological Survey of Canada, Canada)
- Tim Le Bas Past-Chair (National Oceanography Centre, UK)
- Guy Cochrane 2018 Chair (U.S. Geological Survey, USA)
- Gary Greene (Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, USA)
- Daniel Ierodiaconou (Deakin University, Australia)
- Aarno Kotilainen (Geological Survey of Finland, Finland)
- Andrea Fiorentino (Geological Survey of Italy-ISPRA, Italy)
- Margaret Dolan (Geological Survey of Norway, Norway)
- Heather Stewart (British Geological Survey, UK)
- Daria Ryabchuk (Karpinsky Russian Geological Research Institute, Russia)
- Geoffroy Lamarche (NIWA, New Zealand)
- Kim Picard (GeoScience Australia)



Co-Conveners

- Craig Brown 2017 Co-Chair (Nova Scotia Community College, Canada)
- Brian Todd 2017 Co-Chair (Geological Survey of Canada, Canada)



Local Organizing Committee

- Craig Brown 2017 Co-Chair (Nova Scotia Community College, Canada)
- Brian Todd 2017 Co-Chair (Geological Survey of Canada, Canada)
- Beth McCormack (Nova Scotia Community College, Canada)
- Vicki Gazzola (Nova Scotia Community College, Canada)
- Myriam Lacharite (Nova Scotia Community College, Canada)

Sponsors