

Data Management Plan

Data generated during this project will arise from the completion of an oceanographic cruise, and will consist of concentrations of Hg species as a function of depth. Prior to the cruise, the co-PIs from Wright State and WHOI will be in frequent telephone contact and refine the sampling and analytical plan already put into effect in the first leg.

Sampling events during the cruise will be documented using paper and digital event logs, rosette and pump cast sheets, as completed with our GEOTRACES collaborators. A final cruise report will be generated and will include summaries of sampling and analytical protocols used.

The data generated by us will be archived via the BCO-DMO (Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office), and we will comply with their recommendations with regard to data formatting and metadata generation in all instances where relevant. BCO-DMO currently archives the data they receive in national facilities (e.g., NODC), thus requirements for permanent data storage and archiving will be met.

Post-cruise data processing will be significant and include comparison of our Hg datasets with those generated by the wider science party and Hg analytical community. This will include submission of our data for scrutiny of the GEOTRACES Standards and Intercalibration Committee. At sea and in the lab, our QA/QC protocols include the frequent analysis of standard reference materials as well as the use of sampling blanks.