



Le Directeur

Villefranche sur Mer, le 6 février 2012

Partner University Fund (PUF)
French Embassy 4101 Reservoir Road, NW
Washington, DC 20007
USA

Dear Sir or Madam,

I undersigned Gaby Gorsky, Director of the Observatoire Océanologique de Villefranche (OOV), from Pierre and Marie Curie University (UPMC), strongly endorse on behalf of my institution the proposal submitted by Professor Jean-Olivier Irisson of UPMC and Professor Robert K Cowen from the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Miami (RSMAS). We are fully committed to contribute to the project and confirm that necessary steps will be undertaken to ensure successful implementation of all planned activities as proposed in the project 'Physical-biological interactions at mesoscale in the ocean' submitted to the Partner University Fund program (PUF).

This project proposes a scientific component that relies on complementary skills of the French and US teams, both widely experienced in the field of oceanography. This program aims to greatly enhance the already strong interactions between OOV and RSMAS via the exchange of master and PhD students as well as faculty for the purposes teaching and research. As a consequence, the research and educational programs of both institutions would be greatly enriched.

The OOV and RSMAS pursue the same goal to advance the knowledge in Oceanography. I anticipate that the collaboration between the excellent teams at both institutions will result in swift and major scientific progress.

Yours sincerely,

Director

Gabriel GORSKY

Gabriel GORSKY
Directeur
Observatoire Océanologique
Villefranche-Sur-Mer
FRANCE