



# Marine Biology Research

formerly *Sarsia* and *Ophelia*

## Thematic Issue: Fifty Years of Norwegian-Russian Collaboration in Marine Research

Guest edited by:

Tore Haug, Ingolf Røttingen, Harald Gjøsæter  
& Ole Arve Misund



As *Marine Biology Research* enters its fifth year of high quality publishing we present the second thematic issue devoted to a long-term collaboration of two leading marine research institutions in Norway and Russia.

2007 marked the 50-year anniversary for a formal and active cooperation between Norway and Russia in marine research. To commemorate this long period of collaboration, the Institute of Marine Research (IMR) in Bergen and the Polar Institute of Marine Biology and Oceanography (PINRO) in Murmansk arranged an anniversary symposium in Tromsø in August 2007.

During the anniversary symposium, scientists from the two countries attempted to sum up some of the major results and knowledge gained during the 50 year collaboration between IMR and PINRO. The outcome is documented in eight publications in this exciting thematic issue.

The background for the collaboration was the development of the stocks of Northeast Arctic cod and Norwegian spring-spawning herring in the 1950s. Both countries were members of the International Council of the Exploration of the Seas (ICES) but felt closer cooperation was needed as at that time ICES did not give advice on the total quantities that could be harvested from the stocks, since those types of regulations were not regarded to be necessary.

Both the Norwegian and the Barents Seas were open to any and all to exploit the stocks found there. As problems with an unregulated fishery started to emerge, with harvests declining, concerted action was called for.

Taken from the Editorial, *Marine Biology Research*, Volume 5, Issue 1.

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