

GENERAL SESSION ABSTRACTS

LARSON, R. L., University of Rhode Island, Narragansett, RI, and P. D. RABINOWITZ, Ocean Drilling Program, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Plans for Ocean Drilling in Pacific Ocean

The newly organized Ocean Drilling Program has outfitted the drill ship *Joides Resolution* with state-of-the-art drilling, positioning, laboratory, and geophysical logging equipment that allow coring and logging operations to proceed successfully despite adverse weather conditions and unusual geology. This facility is capable of the largest and most precise suite of geologic and geophysical downhole measurements ever made at sea. The results are expected to define the leading edge of marine geologic research for the next decade.

The *Joides Resolution* will spend the last 4 months of 1986 drilling on the spreading centers and continental/ocean margin regions of the eastern Pacific to address questions relating to the formation of ocean lithosphere, the tectonics of subduction near Peru, and the paleo-oceanographic history of western South America. After an intervening 1½ years in the Indian Ocean and Antarctic areas, *Joides Resolution* will return to the Pacific in late 1988. Plans are tentative at this time; however, the campaign would begin in the Indonesian region, move to other areas of the western Pacific, and finally into the Pacific basin region in the 1989-1991 time frame. General goals for western Pacific drilling will include the dynamics of forearc evolution, the structure and history of island arcs and back-arc basins, and the histories of ocean circulation and sedimentation in this region. These studies will set the framework for subsequent exploration for energy resources in the Pacific.