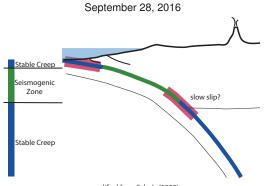
## **Rheology and Dynamics of the Plate Boundary**

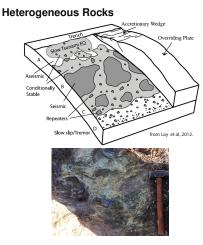
Melodie French

Department of Earth Science, Rice University



modified from Scholz (1998)

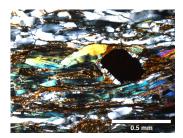
## WHAT DO WE NEED TO KNOW?



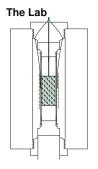
- Processes of formation
- Statistical descriptions
- Composite properties

## **Deformation Mechanisms and Rheology**

- Low breakdown temperatures Constant stress: log(ė) ∝ 1/T
- Polyphase rocks
- Extreme pore fluid pressures



## AN INTEGRATED APPROACH FROM A SUBDUCTION ZONE OBSERVATORY: FACILITATING COMMUNICATION



- Constitutive behavior
- Linking microstructures, mechanisms, rheology, and stress
- Interpretation of geophysical signals

Modifying or updating existing facilities for collaborative research to answer targeted questions.

The Field



- Cross-disciplinary communication
- Linking scales of observation
- Identifying dominant mechanisms

Sites complimentary to instrumented modern subduction zones.