

ANTPAS Business Meeting – Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 26 August, 2014, Sky City Convention Centre, Auckland, New Zealand

Present:

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Gonçalo Vieira, Portugal, vieira@campus.ul.pt

Apologies

Jeronimo Lopez-Martin, Spain

Brief Background to ANTPAS

Mauro Guglielmin briefly reviewed the history of ANTPAS for the information of people who were unfamiliar with it.

ANTPAS was first initiated at SCAR meeting in Bremen in 2002 to provide an umbrella for two similar organisations that had essentially the same members and interests. Thus ANTPAS operates within both SCAR (Science Committee for Antarctic Research) and the International Permafrost Association (IPA). Thus ANTPAS encapsulates both the: SCAR Expert Group on Permafrost, and the IPA Antarctic permafrost and soil “Interest Group”. ANTPAS is also affiliated with Cryosol Group of International Union of Soil Science.

Report on EUCOP meeting in Evora, Portugal, June 2014

Goncalo Vieira reported on the successful meeting that he convened. They had 23 sessions, 400 scientists from 27 countries, and 2 fieldtrips. There was no ANTPAS business meeting in Evora.

Report on book – Soils of Antarctica

The new book, led and edited by Jim Bockheim, on the soils of Antarctica is being published by Springer as part of the Soils of the World book series. It is currently “in press” and due out in October this year. Thanks to Jim for leading this important project for Antarctic Soils and Permafrost.

Report on Special Issue of Geomorphology

Mauro Guglielmin reported that the special issue, containing 11 papers is now available on-line.

Report on soil and permafrost session here at SCAR, Auckland

Mauro Guglielmin convened the soil and permafrost sessions for the SCAR conference. There were 50 abstracts, 15 talks, 35 posters + other relevant talks in other sessions, making permafrost and soils one of the larger groups within the SCAR conference. Thanks to Mauro for his effort here.

Future Direction and processes for ANTPAS

A brief discussion was held about the future for ANTPAS.

Horizon Scan questions

The Antarctic Research Horizon Scan Exercise was undertaken in Queenstown, New Zealand earlier in 2014 with invited participants from all over the world. The outcome of this exercise was collation of 80 questions. It was noted that permafrost and soils were poorly represented by attendees at this meeting. The questions that resulted from the Horizon scan exercise that have some relationship to permafrost and soils are appended to these minutes. Further information is available in the Nature comment paper - Mahlon C. Kennicutt II, Steven L. Chown 2014: Six priorities for Antarctic Research. Nature 512, p23-. August 2014 (copy attached).

People may like to use these questions in their proposals to support their case that they are integrating their research with the priorities of the international community.

Best ways for ANTPAS to facilitate future international co-operation/collaboration were discussed. The co-chairs of ANTPAS indicated that if people wanted them to they would be willing to prepare **Letters of support from ANTPAS** for people preparing research proposals. It was also agreed that facilitating **Meetings to help people build networks and share current research progress** was an important on-going ANTPAS activity.

ANTPAS Website

Goncalo has established a new website. There is a need to ensure the existing information from the old website is transferred to the new site and the old site closed. There is also a need for ongoing updates of the website. The website has not been well maintained in recent times.

ACTION: Goncalo Vieira to liaise with Fiona Shanahun to get website updated and actively supported.

Funds from SCAR to support attendance at this meeting

SCAR provided \$US 2 000 to support attendance at the SCAR meeting for ANTPAS participants. This is yet to be distributed.

AGREED: \$500 each to go to the co-chairs towards their costs of travelling to the meeting, \$1000 to be distributed to support costs for students or early career researchers (<7 years since completing PhD) in attending the meeting.

ACTION: Mauro Guglielmin to inform ANTPAS conference participants of opportunity for obtaining some refund towards costs. Students/early career researchers to send a letter of application to Mauro Guglielmin by 15 Sept. They should include a short CV and copy of their conference abstract and a pdf of their poster or powerpoint presentation (handout format). A subcommittee of Guglielmin, Vieira, and Balks to act as decision making body. The money will be distributed to up to 5 applicants, based on financial need as well as quality of paper contributed to the conference. The decision of the subcommittee will be final.

Election of Officers

Officers were agreeable to continuation and were re-elected unopposed.

Co-chairs: Mauro Guglielmin (Italy), Goncalo Vieira (Portugal)

Secretary: Megan Balks (NZ)

Steering Committee: Felipe Simas , Jeronimo Lopez-Martinez, Joe Levy, Andrey Abrahmov.

Fiona Shanahun and Ian Meiklejohn agreed to join the steering committee.

Next meetings:

2015: SCAR Earth Sciences: Goa, India, 13-17 July 2015 – Goncalo Vieira will convene a permafrost and soil session.

2015 : Russia – Baikal For further information contact Sergey Goryachkin email sergey.gory@gmail.com

2015: IAG geomorphology – in Russia July 2-4 2015 Barnaul, Altai Mountains

2016: IPA, Potsdam, Germany – proposed 1 day ANTPAS workshop, at or immediately after this meeting. 20-24 June 2016. Goncalo Vieira and Mauro Guglielmin to convene. The next business meeting of ANTPAS will be held in conjunction with this meeting.

2016: SCAR Malaysia 19-31 August 2016.

2018: World Soils Congress in Brazil August 12-17 2018 will likely include a cryosol session.

Horizon Scan: Potentially soil and permafrost-related questions

42. How will permafrost, the active layer and water availability in Antarctic soils and marine sediments change in a warming climate, and what are the effects on ecosystems and biogeochemical cycles?

49. How will threshold transitions vary over different spatial and temporal scales, and how will they impact ecosystem functioning under future environmental conditions?

59. How will linkages between marine and terrestrial systems change in the future?

60. What are the impacts of changing seasonality and transitional events on Antarctic and Southern Ocean marine ecology, biogeochemistry, and energy flow?

75. What will be the impacts of large-scale, direct human modification of the Antarctic environment?

