

Minutes of the ANTPAS meeting - 17/07/2012

Portland, Hotel Hilton

The meeting was originally planned for 15 July 2012, but because information was circulated too late, many potential participants were not able to attend and for this reason the meeting was postponed to 17 July.

List of participants:

Gonçalo Vieira, Portugal, vieira@campus.ul.pt (Co-chair)

Mauro Guglielmin, Italy, mauro.guglielmin@uninsubria.it (Co-chair)

Michele Dalle Fratte, Italy, mickdf@hotmail.it

Ulisses F. Bremer, Brazil, bremer@ufrgs.br

Karoline Del Pupo, Brazil, karoldelpupo@yahoo.com.br

Thiago Pereira, Brazil, torresthiago@yahoo.com.br

Felipe Simas, Brazil, fsimass@yahoo.com.br

Marcio Francelino, Brazil, marcio.francelino@gmail.com

Theodore Bibby, USA, theodore.bibby@my.und.edu

Joseph Levy, USA, jlevy@coas.oregonstate.edu

Andrew G. Fountain, USA, andrew@pdx.edu

Andrey Abramov, Russia, forestpro@gmail.com

Tanya O'Neill, New Zealand, oneilltanya@hotmail.com

Deb Harms, USA, deb.harms@lin.uda.gov *

1) Presentation of participants

2) Informations on ANTPAS activities

Gonçalo Vieira and Mauro Guglielmin presented an update on the following items:

- a) ANTPAS naming – MG - it is now formally accepted by SCAR that EGPPE has been replaced by ANTPAS Expert Group.
- b) IPA – GV - ANTPAS is also an Interest group with the same name within the IPA but we need to update this situation at the IPA, since there has been a significant recent reorganization of the IPA, including work group types.
- c) Special issue of Geomorphology – MG - a major accomplishment from the past year has been the publication of the Special Issue of Geomorphology, Advances in Permafrost and Periglacial research in Antarctica, edited by M. Guglielmin. This issue was the result of the ANTPAS

session held at the Buenos Aires SCAR OSC in August 2010. Such an approach is ideal as an outcome of group activities in the future. A new special issue is going to be proposed with submission of contributions from the present workshop.

- d) ANTPAS Session at SCAR OSC Portland – GV – with 12 oral and 34 poster presentations shows that there is a significant interest by the community on ANTPAS themes and that such sessions are an opportunity to promote interdisciplinary cooperation.
- e) Support young researchers – GV – ANTPAS supported with USD500 grants to young researchers selected from proposals received after an open call. Michele dalle Fratte (Italy) and Karoline del Pupo (Brazil) received the grants and attended the Portland meeting.
- f) Implementation of the new website – GV – The new website has now a domain (<http://www.antpas.org>), which at this stage has been paid by the University of Lisbon and is hosted in weebly, a free website design system. The site now needs updating, which should be done in the next few months.
- g) Newsletter – GV - Currently input has been received from Brazil, Italy, Japan, Portugal and Spain. Other groups should send their contribution in the next couple of weeks, so that it is included.
- h) Status of GTN-P – GV and MG – MG has been in a GTN-P planning workshop in Potsdam in November 2011 and presented a synthesis of the discussions. GV – a new ExCOM for GTN-P has been proposed and approved by the IPA Council at TICOP in Salekhard, Russia in June 2012. GV has been invited to integrate the ExCom and accepted. His participation will be targeting at enabling a full integration of Antarctic permafrost and active layer observatories in GTN-P. ExCom meetings will be announced to the community and open to interested observers.
- i) Implementation of ANTPAS subgroups - GV – At the Edinburgh meeting the need for subgroups have been identified, so that responsible persons should be indicated in order to promote key research areas: a) permafrost, b) soils, c) terrestrial ecosystems, d) geomorphology, e) paleoenvironments. However, we did not yet advance on this issue. Something should be planned at this meeting

3) GTN-P

A discussion was opened on the strategy of GTN-P and the ANTPAS network, in particular M. Guglielmin and J. Lopez Martinez reminded the importance of not create new un-useful overlapping with the existing Antarctic database (national and international). It is suggested also that for Antarctica not the national referent people will be in charge of the data and metadata collection and submission to the GTN-P but that a general coordination should be continued as carried out for the IPY. GV will inform ANTPAS of the developments within GTN-P and especially on data submission to the database.

4) ANTPAS sub-groups

Another important point was the discussion on the structure of ANTPAS and after a long discussion the participants decided to maintain the following subgroups: a) permafrost, b) soils, c) terrestrial ecosystems, d) geomorphology. The contact persons for the subgroups are Jeronimo Lopez Martinez for Geomorphology, Joseph Levy for Ecosystems, Andrey Abramov for permafrost, while for soils a representative has still to be decided (Ron Sletten, M. Balks, F. Simas?).

Action: to send an e-mail before the 15th September to everybody to ask who would be interested in participating in the subgroups.

5) Election of ANTPAS bodies

The community decided to keep the two Chairmen for the next 2 years and to ask to M. Balks to keep her role as Secretary.

It was also decided to implement a Steering Committee with the two Chairmen, the Secretary, a webmanager (Felipe Simas) and the representatives of the subgroups: Jeronimo Lopez Martinez for Geomorphology, Joseph Levy for Ecosystems, Andrey Abramov for permafrost, while for soils a representative has still to be decided.

6) ANTPAS Projects

The need to include projects within ANTPAS was discussed and members were requested to send regular input from their projects into the website for dissemination. The interest for ANTPAS on becoming acknowledged in ANTPAS related projects has also been discussed and it was agreed that those papers deriving from research activities linked to ANTPAS should acknowledge ANTPAS.

The possibility of ANTPAS providing letters of support to projects or proposals has also been discussed and it was agreed that such could be done after approval by the Steering Committee. Such letters could be important for framing projects and facilitate access to funding. Projects should be of high quality and directly contributing to ANTPAS scope.

7) ANTPAS Planning

The need for a longer workshop targeting at planning of activities has been discussed again. We will try to organize it next year at the Puschino meeting.

Action: A. Abramov will contact the organization in order to check about the possibility for organizing and ANTPAS workshop and to obtain special reduced prices for participants. M. Guglielmin will prepare a request for funding to submit to SCAR still during the Portland Conference.

8) Next meetings

A decision was made on the location of the next three ANTPAS conferences, which will be:

- at Puschino within the "Earth Cryosphere. XXI century" planned to April 25-28 2013, where a special workshop for ANTPAS of 1 day should be organized;
- at EUCOP4 in Évora, Portugal, June 18-21 2014
- at SCAR OSC in Auckland both in 2014, which will be ANTPAS main event for 2014.

Regarding the cooperation within SCAR A. Fountain and M. Guglielmin supported the idea to have a more connected session in the next SCAR OSC with the Life Sciences groups, contacting in advance the polar biology people.

Action: In next SCAR meetings, the ANTPAS session should be prepared in closer cooperation with polar biology group.