

### SCAR and IASC links

The SCAR and IASC Letter of Agreement was signed in 2006. SCAR and IASC agreed to combine their efforts in selected fields and activities (to be decided by mutual agreement) so as to raise the level of impact of both organizations in terms of making scientific advances and of advising policy makers (for example of the likelihood and likely effects of climate change), as well as to avoid duplication.

To facilitate the process, SCAR and IASC agree:

- (i) **to invite each other to attend the meetings of their major bodies (SCAR Delegates' Meeting and IASC Council).** *Steve Bigras (for IASC) attended the SCAR Delegates' meeting in Hobart (July 2006), and Colin Summerhayes (for SCAR) attended the IASC Council meeting at ASSW in March 2007. Volker Rachold (IASC) attended the EXCOM meeting in Washington (July 2007), and Joern Thiede (for SCAR) attended the ASSW meeting in March 2008. Steve Bigras will represent IASC at the Delegates meeting in July 2008. In January 2008 SCAR and IASC created a joint Bipolar Action Group (BipAG) to advise their respective management bodies on further possible linkages, and on how to develop and manage the IPY Legacy. BipAG will meet in St Petersburg on July 8, 2008.*
- (ii) **to encourage appropriate linkages between the relevant existing SCAR and IASC scientific projects.** *Volker Rachold made a teleconference presentation on IASC to the SCAR Cross-Linkages meeting in Rome (November 2006), which led to (i) agreement for SCAR and IASC to co-sponsor the 2<sup>nd</sup> High Latitude Climate meeting (Seattle, October 21-24, 2007); and (ii) discussions about a possible joint paleoclimate project (SCAR Contact Jane Francis of the ACE programme). ACE is now connected to the IASC APEX paleoclimate project. SCAR and IASC co-sponsor the ISMASS ice sheet modelling workshop in St Petersburg (July 2008)*
- (iii) **to encourage their scientific communities to develop joint bipolar projects and approaches in appropriate fields.** *IASC is considering becoming a co-sponsor of IPICS, which is co-sponsored by SCAR and PAGES; SCAR and IASC now both co-sponsor with WCRP the Climate and Cryosphere programme (CliC). SCAR and IASC are also signing a Letter of Agreement with the new International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS) and a Memorandum of Understanding with the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS). IASC is developing a Sustained Arctic Observing Network (SAON). SCAR is learning from this to develop a Pan-Antarctic Observing System (PantOS). SAON and PantOS will together provide an observing system legacy for the IPY.*
- (iv) **to work together in arranging workshops, conferences, and reports on topics of mutual scientific interest.** *SCAR and IASC jointly sponsor the SCAR Open Science Conference in St Petersburg, Russia (8-11 July 2008). The two organisations co-chair the Scientific Organising Committee. SCAR and IASC are also represented on the Steering Committee of the*

*IPY Oslo Science Conference (June 2010) and will significantly contribute to the development of the science programme.*

- (v) **to exchange ideas on best practices in data and information management.** *Both organisations have interacted with the IPY Data Subcommittee. The Chair of JCADM is advising IASC on the development of approaches to data and information management.*
- (vi) **to exchange newsletters and advertise each other's newsletters and web sites on their own web sites.** *IASC and SCAR advertise each other on their respective web pages, and exchange newsletters.*
- (vii) **to develop combined approaches to communicating with the wider community on the significance of polar research to the solution of societal issues, including their respective experience in giving advice to the AC and ATCM.**

*There is scope for SCAR and IASC to work together to provide a statement for public consumption on the state of the polar climate and its implications; such a document would be informed by IASC's Arctic Climate Impact Assessment, by IASC's plans being developed under the ICARP-II planning process, by SCAR's Antarctic Climate Change and Environment (ACCE) document, and by the outcomes of the Seattle workshop on High Latitude Climate.*

*As an historic "first" – the first collaborative joint presentation of how we are working together, especially towards the St Petersburg meeting - SCAR and IASC gave joint presentations to Arctic Summit Science Week (ASSW) in Hanover USA (March 2007) and Syktyvkar Russia (March 2008), on "Antarctic and Arctic Research Partnership Opportunities" and on "Post-IPY Scientific Cooperation".*

*A presentation on IASC's and SCAR's joint contributions to the IPY legacy was given at the Arctic Council Senior Arctic Officials Meeting in Svolvær Norway (April 2008). The same presentation was given to the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Heads of Arctic and Antarctic IPY Secretariats, in Krakow, May 26-27, 2008.*