Executive Summary

Title: The SCAR Fellowship Scheme

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Relevant URLs or references to other reports
http://www.scar.org/awards/fellowships/

Introduction/ Background: Applications were received from 16 candidates originating from 12 countries. The selection committee consisted of SSG Chief Officers (or their representatives) and members of the CBET group.

Budget Implications: Total budget for SCAR Fellowships is $30,000 and an extra voluntary contribution of $9,950 was received from India for 2010.

Recommendations/Actions and Justification: Delegates are asked to approve the selection of the 2010 fellowships made by EXCOM based on the recommendations of the Selection Committee.

Expected Benefits/Outcomes: The Fellowship program is one of the key capacity building activity that SCAR undertakes.

Partners: SCAR is exploring partnership options for Fellowships with other organisations such as COMNAP.
FELLOWSHIP REPORT ON 2010-2011 APPLICATIONS

15th of May, 2010 was the deadline for applications for the SCAR Fellowships for 2010-11. The review board comprised of Pete Convey (EBA co-chair), Jose Xavier (APECS, CBET, SSG-LS), Azizan Samah (CBET), Maurizio Candidi (SSG-PS), Phil O’Brien (SSG-PS) and Rasik Ravindra (SCAR VP, CBET)

In total there were 16 applicants. To prevent any one of the evaluation team having to take on a large burden, the tasks were divided up as follows:

1. Jose Xavier took 9 SSG-LS proposals and Pete Convey took 8 SSG-LS proposals;
2. Both Azizan Samah and Maurizio Candidi took the 5 SSG-GS proposals;
3. Phil O’Brien took 5 PS proposals, and Rasik took 4 proposals;
4. Renuka Badhe coordinated the results.

If the proposals were cross-disciplinary, they were looked at by reviewers from both disciplines, hence some of the proposals were evaluated by more than 2 evaluators.

Marks were based on:
(i) High quality;
(ii) Relevance to SCAR’s SRPs;
(iii) The work will help to build the capacity of those who need it most;
(iv) The study is largely self-contained, rather than being part of a bigger project in which the applicant is a collaborator;
(v) The study can be effected in the set time and could lead to a publication;
(vi) The study helps someone from a country that is relatively financially stressed.

The Executive Officer calculated the average score according to the number of evaluators. This gave the scores and rankings the table below. Only the top 6 candidates are shown.

The candidates’ country of birth/citizenship were as follows:
Can (1); Chi (1); Ecu (1); Fra (1); Ind (2); Ita (1); Mal (2); Neth (1); NZ (1); Sp (3); UK(1); USA (1)
The candidates were going from the following countries:
Aus (2); Can (2) Ecu (1); Ger (1); Ind (1); Ita (1); NZ (4); Sp (3); UK (1)
They were proposing to go to the following countries:
Chi (2); Fr (2); Ger (1); Jap (1); NZ (1); Nor (2); Sp (3); UK (3); USA (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Citizenship</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Recommend?</th>
<th>SSG</th>
<th>Cost $</th>
<th>Cum $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sze Ling Ho</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
<td>GS</td>
<td>5500</td>
<td>5500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunil Kumar Shukla</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
<td>LS/PS</td>
<td>12500</td>
<td>18000</td>
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<td>Fransisca Vermulen</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>34*</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
<td>PS/GS</td>
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<td>30950</td>
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<td>Chile/Spain</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Chile</td>
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<td>LS</td>
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<td>33</td>
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<td>10550</td>
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(*Note this proposal was ranked by 4 committee members, with one score being significantly lower. This lower score was not used, to remove any bias)

EXCOM approved the evaluators recommendation that SCAR offers the fellowships to Sze Ling Ho, Sunil Shukla, Fransisca Vermulen and Ernesto Balari, allowing (i) at least one fellow from LS, PS and GS (ii) involvement of Malaysia and India, which resonates well with SCAR’s aim to focus on capacity building in countries with less well developed Antarctic Programmes. The total budget request is $40,000. Based on the submitted applications, the EO recommends the following initial allocations, though costs etc. should be checked with applicants and host institutions: Ho ($5,500 – 100% funded), Shukla ($11,400 – 91% funded), Vermulen ($ 11,600 – 90% funded), Balari ($11,500 – 90% funded). The applicants would thus require a total funding of $40,000.