Elections (countries: 23 on Wed., 20 on Sat.):
Yan Ropert-Coudert (CO, France)
Marc Shepanek (Deputy CO, USA)
Ian McDonald (Secretary, New Zealand)

New members:
Fernanda Quaglio (primary APECS, Brazil)
Jeff Bowman (APECS, USA)
Henrik Christiansen (APECS, Belgium)
Significant achievements

Aftermath of the Horizon Scan

Future Challenges in Southern Ocean Ecology Research

José C. Xavier, Angelika Brandt, Yan Ropert-Coudert, Renuka Badhe, Julian Gutt, Charlotte Hervemas, Christopher Jones, Erli S. Costa, Karin Lochte, Irene R. Schloss, Mahlon C. Kennicutt II and William J. Sutherland
Significant forthcoming initiatives

• Life Sciences fully support the following items from ICED: 1) International Conference on Assessing Status and Trends of Habitats, Key Species and Ecosystems in the Southern Ocean, Hobart, Australia, 2018 (www.measo2018.aq); 2) the benchmarking initiative described in WP16.

• Life Sciences support the Action Group “Development of a satellite-based, Antarctic-wide, remote sensing approach to monitor bird and marine mammal populations” request for a letter from SCAR to the European Space Agency for a better satellite coverage the Antarctic region.

• Finally, members of Life Sciences with expertise in Astrobiology proposed to explore research opportunities within the Scientific Research Programs, expert and action groups of SSG-LS for projects relating to their discipline.
EG – Antarctic Biodiversity Informatics

CO Bruno Danis

- Dynamic Biogeographic Atlas of the Southern Ocean (dBASO)
- Register of Antarctic Marine Species (RAMS)
- Microbial Antarctic Resource System (mARS)
- Retrospective Analysis of Antarctic Tracking Data (RAATD)
EG – Human Biology Medicine (SCAR-COMNAP)

CO Jeff Ayton, new CO Ann Hicks

- Tele-health and Tele-medicine high priority
  - Agreement on technology priorities and information transmission
  - Position publication (Tromso 2015)
- Website Medical Antarctica with both confidential medical portion and general public portion
- While honoring individual, organizational and national confidentiality, JEGHBM looks to be tasked to address SCAR groups concerns ranging from High Altitude medicine to walking blood bank to environmental factors.
- Enhanced collaborative research, medical practice, policy and advice – SCAR, COMNAP, ATCM
- Outreach-Education – engagement with APECS
- Encourage more active membership from national programmes
AG – Ocean Acidification

CO Richard Bellerby

• Still expecting the report to be produced by the end of 2016
AG – Remote Sensing
CO Hans-Ulrich Peter

- Expanding group with interdisciplinary linkages
- Satellite counting of wildlife becomes a large component
- New methodologies being developed to address analyses issues
- Better satellite coverage of Antarctica needed (SCAR letter support to be requested)
- Impact of UAVs starts to be addressed (Rümmler et al 2016 Polar Biology)

BUT

- CEP is actively seeking data and guidance on the impact of UAVs and SC-ATS will discuss with AG-Remote Sensing on the best course of action to address this.
EG – Birds and Marine Mammals

CO Mark Hindell

8+ Working Groups – outreach, databases (2), CAML, trophic interactions, field guides, satellite monitoring.

Retrospective Analysis of Antarctic Tracking data (RAATD)
• Joint SCAR/CCAMLR project
• Workshops Brussels 2015, Delmenhorst 2016
• CESAB grants for future workshops + post-doctoral fellow

Health Monitoring of Birds and marine Mammals workshop “Antarctic microbial/parasite impacts “

Trophic interaction group: Stable Isotope database
New Working groups (2 in OSC 2016) with APECS support

REQUEST CONTINUATION AS AN EXPERT GROUP
EG – Continuous Plankton Recorder Research
CO Kunio Takahashi

• 150 tows, from 7 vessels from Australia, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa and France, including Brazil
• Training workshop in South Africa in 2015, with SCAR visiting professor scheme to G. Hosie
• Database SCAR Business Product
• EG ends Malaysia 2016 – Report on “Status of the Southern Ocean Zooplankton”

REQUEST TRANSITION TO CPR Database Group
AG – Antarctic Near Shore and Terrestrial Observation System (ANTOS)

CO Craig Cary/Vonda Cummings

• Implementation plan August 2015 during a workshop attended by 12 countries
• Pilot terrestrial and coastal observing systems in Cape Adare and Terra Nova Bay
• Received lot’s of attention from a large array of scientific groups
• KOPRI agreed to develop and house the ANTOS database
• A workshop was held at the Kuala Lumpur OSC, August 2016

REQUEST EVOLVING TO AN EXPERT GROUP
AG – Integrated Science for the Sub-Antarctic (ISSA)
CO Gary Wilson/Steven Chown

• A workshop was held in Cerro Castillo in advance of the Southern Connections Conference in Punta Arenas in January 2016
• Identified the scientific questions that are circum-Subantarctic in scale and global in impact, and how a common approach to addressing them at different Subantarctic sites can be further developed
• Substantial external funding was generated for the meeting (NZ and Chile)

REQUEST CONTINUATION AS AN ACTION GROUP

REQUEST CARRY-OVER OF 2015/16 FUNDS
AG – Biogeochemical Exchange Processes at the Sea-Ice Interfaces (BEPSII)

CO Jacqueline Stefels/Janne Markus Rintala
(represents a mailing list of 150+ scientists in the field)

- BEPSII started as a group in 2009 and was formalized as a SCOR working group in 2012
- Unique forum linking modelers and field scientists studying sea-ice biogeochemistry
- TASKS: 1) improving observation methods; 2) building large-scale databases; and 3) upscaling processes within models
- Subject is currently underrepresented in SCAR
- Stimulate the interaction between experimentalists and modelers
- Duration: 2 years

REQUEST TO BECOME A NEW ACTION GROUP
SCAR Restructuring

- Life Sciences discussed the restructuring plan and will send detailed comments on various issues to the restructuring team.
- Task groups: general preference for the accuracy and clarity of retaining AGs and EGs. AGs are focused, short groups either addressing a specific task or preparing the transition to an EG. EG are broad groups, sometimes complex in structure (several working groups within an EG) and address longer-term issues.
- Business meetings in the middle of the OSC week: better and broader attendance demonstrating the utility of this format and Life Sciences endorsed this change. BUT time allocated to business meetings and between business discussions need to be improved. Substantial concern about having enough free time to explore, discuss, and develop ideas emerging from the open and science meetings.
- Supporting change of name to Life Science Group
Upcoming Biology Symposia

• Updates on the XIIth SCAR Biology Symposium – Louvain 10-14 July 2017

• Endorsed the organization of XIIIth SCAR Biology Symposium – Christchurch, New Zealand - summer 2021
## Requested budget 2017 and 2018 (USD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EG-ABI</td>
<td>Bruno Danis</td>
<td>ABI workshop July 2017</td>
<td>7000</td>
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<td>EG-BAMM</td>
<td>Mark Hindell</td>
<td>CO to attend SCAR Biology in 2017 WG Wildlife Disease Workshop 2017 Tag and isotope databases</td>
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<tr>
<td>EG-CPR</td>
<td>Kunio Takahashi</td>
<td>Standardisation-Training workshops</td>
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<td>JEGHBM</td>
<td>Jeff Ayton</td>
<td>Secretariat support 2017 Meeting support 2018 Capacity Building Awards 2018</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>3000</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG Remote Sensing</td>
<td>Hans-Ulrich Peters</td>
<td>Travel for young scientists to conferences</td>
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<td>AG-ISSA</td>
<td>Steven Chown, Gary Wilson</td>
<td>Carry-over from 2015-16 request to organize workshops</td>
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<td>AG-BEPSII</td>
<td>Jacqueline Stefels, Janne Markus Rintala</td>
<td>Young researchers support to travel to attend workshops</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSG-LS</td>
<td>CO</td>
<td>Travel for meetings, supporting early career/student travel, contingency</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td>41000</td>
<td>42000</td>
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Recommendations

- EG-CPR request to continue as an EG: SO-CPR Database group
- EG-BAMM requests continuation as EG
- ISSA requests continuation as an AG and carry-over of 3000U$ from 2015-2016
- ANTOS requests to evolve to an EG
- Life Sciences request the creation of a new AG-BEPSII
- SCAR sends a letter of commendation to Dr Graham Hosie for his decades of service to Life Sciences.