

Announcement of Opportunity

SCAR and COMNAP Fellowships 2016-17

The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programmes (COMNAP) and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) are working together to attract talented early-career researchers, scientists, engineers and other professionals to strengthen international capacity and cooperation in fields such as climate, biodiversity, conservation, humanities and astrophysics research. Details of each scheme are provided in this announcement of opportunity.

Summary Checklist for SCAR, COMNAP and CCAMLR Schemes:

	SCAR Fellowships	COMNAP Fellowships	CCAMLR Scientific Scholarships
Eligibility:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current PhD researcher or within 5 years of finishing PhD; 2. Visiting a facility in or run by a SCAR member country, which is different from applicant's (a) country of origin and (b) current country of residence; 3. Should contribute to the objectives of one or more of SCAR's science groups, including the Humanities and Social Sciences groups, and/or the Scientific Research Programmes. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current Postgraduate/PhD researcher or within 5 years of finishing the highest degree obtained; 2. Visiting a facility in or run by a COMNAP member's country, which is different from applicant's (a) country of origin (which should be a COMNAP member country) and (b) current position; 3. Should contribute to one or more objectives of the home or host National Antarctic Programme, fit within COMNAP's goals and purpose (would welcome applicants from Engineering, Social Sciences, Humanities, Education, Communication and Outreach, and Medicine, for example). 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current PhD researcher (or within 5 years of finishing PhD) from a CCAMLR Member; 2. Attending CCAMLR Scientific Committee workshops or working group meetings and relevant preparatory meetings; 3. Should make scientific contribution to the work of CCAMLR and relate to the current priorities of the Scientific Committee.
Award:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 4 to 5 awards for 2016; b. up to USD \$15,000 per award; c. Home institute to bear in-home-country costs (e.g. visa costs, domestic travel); d. Host institute to waive bench fees, if any. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1 to 2 awards for 2016; b. up to USD \$15,000 per award; c. Home institute to bear in-home-country costs (e.g. visa costs, domestic travel); d. Host institute to waive bench fees, if any. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1 to 3 awards for 2016; b. up to AUD \$30,000 per award; c. Home institute to fund the work of the scientist during the proposed period of tenure of the scholarship; d. Senior scientist with experience of CCAMLR agrees role of Mentor.
Application package contents:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Research proposal (with relevant appendices); b. Home Institute reference; c. Host Institute agreement. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Research proposal (with relevant appendices); b. Home Institute reference; c. Host Institute agreement. 	See the Scholarships section of the CCAMLR website for full details of the scheme.

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Last date:	1st June 2016		1st October 2016
Submission via:	Online form at: http://www.scar.org/fellowship/application		Email to science_scholarship@ccamlr.org
Any doubts / queries, contact:	info@scar.org	sec@comnap.aq	science_scholarship@ccamlr.org

The SCAR Fellowship Scheme:

The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) is a body of the International Council for Science (ICSU) and is the leading independent organisation for facilitating and coordinating Antarctic research, and for identifying issues emerging from greater scientific understanding of the region that should be brought to the attention of policy makers. Its major objective is to initiate, develop, and co-ordinate high-quality international scientific research in the Antarctic and Southern Ocean region, and on the role of the Antarctic region in the Earth system. It works closely with other organisations with a polar interest.

The SCAR Fellowship Programme is designed to encourage the active involvement of early-career scientists, engineers, social scientists and humanities researchers in Antarctic research, and to build new connections and further strengthen international capacity and cooperation in Antarctic research.

The SCAR Fellowships are intended to allow researchers to undertake short-term visits to major international laboratories, field facilities, and/or institutes in or operated by SCAR member countries, so as to become acquainted with recent advances in research and/or to develop long-term links and partnerships. The work must be carried out in a research group of a SCAR member country different from that of (i) the applicant's origin and (ii) current residence.

Topics for support should make a contribution to the objectives of SCAR as embodied in the [research groups](#) and the [current Scientific Research Programmes](#).

Awards will be up to USD \$15,000, providing, as needed, economy-class round-trip travel and a modest subsistence allowance for the fellowship period. The Fellow's home institute will bear all expenses incurred in his or her home country (domestic travel, visa costs, etc.), and the host institute will waive any bench fees that they might normally charge trainees. In addition to the original SCAR Fellowships, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Fellowship is a biodiversity award – the recipient will be chosen by the Selection Committee from among the SCAR Fellowship applications. Four to five SCAR Fellowship awards will be made in total, depending on the quality of the applications and the budget available.

Eligibility:

The SCAR Fellowship programme is for PhD students, or those within five years of having completed a PhD on the day of the deadline for applications, to undertake research at an institute in one of the 39 SCAR Member countries (for a full list of countries, please visit the [SCAR National Committees page](#)). In special cases (e.g. maternity/paternity leave), this five-year period may be extended. Please contact the SCAR Secretariat (email info@scar.org) if you believe this to be the case.

Fellowships are awarded purely on the criteria for competitive selection, which are clearly stated in the Evaluation section below.

The COMNAP Antarctic Research Fellowship:

COMNAP is the international independent organisation of National Antarctic Programmes. Formed in 1988, COMNAP has as its goal to develop and promote best practice in managing the support of scientific research in Antarctica.

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The COMNAP Antarctic Research Fellowship is similar to the SCAR Fellowship Programme in that it is designed to encourage the active involvement of early-career Antarctic researchers and to strengthen international capacity and cooperation in the spirit of the Antarctic Treaty. Both Fellowship Programmes allow the selected Fellow to become acquainted with recent advances in research and/or to develop long-term research linkages and international partnerships.

However, there are three primary differences between the SCAR and COMNAP Fellowship Programmes. Firstly, the COMNAP Fellowship Programme is open to any postgraduate researcher and is not limited to PhD students and post-doctoral researchers. Secondly, it is intended to allow researchers from a COMNAP member National Antarctic Programme country to undertake short-term visits to major international laboratories, field facilities, and/or institutes in or operated by other COMNAP member National Antarctic Programmes (for a list of members, please visit [the Members page of the COMNAP website](#)). Finally, the proposed research should contribute to the objectives of the home or host National Antarctic Programme's research objectives.

The award will be up to USD \$15,000, providing, as needed, economy-class round trip travel and a modest subsistence allowance for the fellowship period. The Fellow's home institute will bear all expenses incurred in his or her home country (domestic travel, visa costs, etc.), and the host institute will waive any bench fees that they might normally charge. One or two COMNAP Fellowships will be awarded in total, depending on the quality of the applications and the budget available.

Application for both schemes:

The last date for submitting an application is **1st June 2016**. All proposals must be made on the appropriate forms, and submitted online through the [Online Application page](#).

The proposal texts should make it absolutely clear what activities will be carried out, what will be achieved, what deliverables will ensue (e.g. papers, technologies), at what cost, and in what time frame. Guidelines for preparing the proposal are given on the Research Proposal sheet in the Application Pack.

In order to apply, candidates will be required to first contact and liaise with appropriate host Antarctic projects or programmes in order to secure the support and mentorship of an active research team capable of including them in their own research programme.

Elements of the Application:

1. **Research Proposal** – Prepared following the guidelines given in the Research Proposal section of the Application Pack. The Applicant must have the Research Proposal (with relevant appendices) as a single document, ready to be uploaded during the application process;
2. Applicant to send **Cover note 1 to the Home Institute Referee**, and the Referee to return it to the Applicant along with the reference letter, as a single document, ready to be uploaded during the application process;
3. Applicant to send **Cover note 2 to the Host Institute Referee**, and the Host to return it to the Applicant, ready to be uploaded during the application process;
4. **Online Application Form** - to be completed by the Applicant by the deadline of **1st June 2016**.

It is the Applicant's responsibility to make sure that all parts of the application (Research Proposal, Home Reference and Host Agreement) are completed and received by them before beginning their online application.

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Evaluation for both schemes:

A review panel chaired by a representative of the SCAR Capacity Building, Education and Training Committee and in addition comprising a member of the SCAR Executive Committee, a member of the COMNAP Executive Committee, the Chief Officers of the three SCAR Standing Scientific Groups or their Alternates, and the SCAR Executive Officer will evaluate all proposals on the basis of the excellence of the proposed research. This evaluation will also take into consideration factors such as:

- its importance, timeliness and achievability within the time frame allotted;
- the extent to which links have already been established with the proposed host country;
- the extent to which it will strengthen the research capacity of nations with smaller or less well-developed Antarctic research programmes;
- its 'fit' with SCAR's place in science and research, and with SCAR's research directions; and for COMNAP, its fit with COMNAP's goals and objectives.

We expect to make a decision and inform awardees in early to mid-August, with an official announcement being made to coincide with the COMNAP AGM and/or the SCAR Open Science Conference later in August. Fellowships run for one year so must be completed by the end of July 2017.

Completion of Fellowship:

At the end of each Fellowship, the candidate must provide a report to be published on the SCAR and/or COMNAP websites. Reports should cover the research accomplishments and a budgetary report and should be completed following a structure similar to those posted on [the Fellows page of the SCAR website](#). The SCAR and/or COMNAP Fellowship Scheme should be acknowledged in any resulting publications.