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Introduction from the Executive Director

Welcome to the August edition of our newsletter, where we look back on an extremely busy and successful month. [SCAR 2020 Online](#) was held from 3-7 August and we thank everyone who participated in the event! It was great to see so many of you during the conference and the events surrounding it. You can watch all recordings on our SCAR 2020 Online [YouTube channel](#) and also still access our [event portal](#) to browse the contributing author's gallery. We will shortly be sending out an optional questionnaire to learn more about how we could make such meetings work for you in the future - please do take the time to fill it out.

COVID-19 continues to affect us in all areas of our lives. In this newsletter we highlight the work of the [Antarctic COVID-19 Research Project Team](#), which is preparing a survey to learn more about the impact of COVID-19 on the Antarctic research community.

We were delighted to announce the [SCAR 2020 Medal recipients](#) during the week of SCAR 2020 Online. A very warm congratulations to our four medal recipients, Dr Valérie Masson-Delmotte, Dr Huw Griffiths, Dr Carlota Escutia and Dr W. Berry Lyons.

The SCAR [Visiting Scholar Scheme](#) is now also open for applications and mid-to late-career stage scientists are invited to apply by October 15th. SCAR has [partnered with ECO magazine](#) for their Polar Special Issue and we invite you to submit nominations to their "[Polar Hero](#)" Feature by September 4th.

Also highlighted in this newsletter is a summary report of the [SC-HASS 2020 Business Meeting](#) and other online events, opportunities, and news from the research community.

We hope you all stay healthy and safe and enjoy this month's edition.

- Chandrika Nath
SCAR Executive Director

Content:

Featured News



SCAR 2020 Medal Recipients Announced

We were delighted to announce the 2020 SCAR Medal recipients on August 3rd and 7th. An important SCAR activity is recognition of excellence in Antarctic and Southern Ocean research and outstanding service to the international Antarctic community, both of which are critical to advancing SCAR's vision and mission. Peer recognition is a way of rewarding and highlighting those who exemplify the best of the Antarctic community and serve as models for the next generation. This year's medals have been awarded at the opening plenary and closing ceremony of [SCAR 2020 Online](#). You can watch the award ceremony online [here](#).

- The 2020 SCAR President's Medal for Outstanding Achievement in Antarctic Science has been awarded to **Dr Valérie Masson-Delmotte**. The medal was awarded by SCAR President, Prof Steven L Chown.
- The 2020 SCAR Medal for International Scientific Coordination was awarded to **Dr Carlota Escutia**.
- The 2020 SCAR Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research was awarded to **Dr W Berry Lyons**.
- The 2020 SCAR Medal for Education and Communication was awarded to **Dr Huw Griffiths**.

Congratulations to all four medal recipients!

[Read more](#)

SCAR News



Thank you to everyone who participated in [SCAR 2020 Online](#) with us - there were over 2700 people registered in the end. For those of you who missed the talks you can still watch everything on YouTube. We've drawn together a list of quick links here:

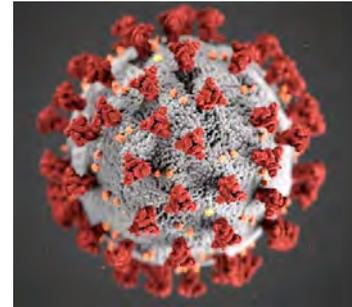
- [Plenary Events](#)
- [Mini-Symposia and Workshops](#)
- [Related Events](#)

The virtual displays - of which there were almost 600 - will also stay on the event portal and you can still

register to access it for [free](#). All videos upload to the event portal are also available on [YouTube](#).

The Antarctic COVID-19 Research Project needs your input

The team is currently preparing a survey to learn more about the [impact of COVID-19](#) on the Antarctic research community. Your response will be vital in helping us to understand how we, as a community, are affected, and it will inform strategic decisions to mitigate impacts within SCAR and its research groups, programmes and standing committees. The link to the survey will be sent out via various channels in the next month and we would like to invite all researchers to participate. Please contact [Daniela Liggett](#) and [Andrea Herbert](#) if you have any questions.



2020 SCAR Visiting Scholar Scheme open for applications

[SCAR Visiting Scholarships](#) are for mid- to late-career stage scientists and academics (at least 5 years after completing their PhD) who are involved in Antarctic research, providing the opportunity for them to undertake a short-term visit (1 to 4 weeks) to an institute(s) in another SCAR member country, to provide training and

mentoring. The closing date for applications is Thursday **15th October 2020**.

ECO Magazine looking nomination for "Polar Hero" feature

SCAR has partnered with [ECO Magazine](#) for their upcoming Polar Special Issue. ECO Magazine is looking for innovative projects and/or individuals making significant contributions to polar science. Nominate a 'Polar Hero' to be recognised. The deadline for nominations is **4th September**.



Summary Report of SC-HASS 2020 Business Meeting

The Standing Committee on Humanities and Social Sciences (SC-HASS) held its 2020 business meeting virtually over two sessions on 30 July 2020, with a total of 28 participants. The [meeting report](#) is now available on our website.

Community News

News from the SCAR community and wider research community

- SCAR was deeply saddened to learn of the death of [Prof Dr Konrad Steffen](#) (1952-2020) after an accident during fieldwork in Greenland. As the SCAR Delegate for Switzerland for the past six years, and representative in the Physical Sciences Group, he has been an enthusiastic and committed participant in the SCAR community.
- [Two leadership positions](#) are opening in the Southern Ocean Observing System (**SOOS**) Weddell Sea and Dronning Maud Land Regional Working Group. Nominations close **15th September**.

Events

Upcoming events from SCAR, the SCAR community and wider research community

Note: Due to the current situation worldwide we are only listing virtual events at the moment. We hope you will enjoy meeting online!

- The PALSEA-SERCE 2020 workshop has been postponed to autumn 2021. A virtual meeting, [PALSEA Express](#), is planned for **15-16 September 2020** instead. Please register by **11 September**.
- The [West Antarctic Ice Sheet \(WAIS\) Workshop \(21 Sep - 7 Oct\)](#) will be virtual. A number of events are planned over the course of three weeks and the full topics for virtual sessions can be found on the website.
- The [Polar-CORDEX Meeting 2020](#) is moving online (**5-7 October**). The core of Polar-CORDEX consists of regional climate model simulations over the Arctic and is expanding to include the Antarctic region as well. More information will become available soon.

- The [Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research](#) has moved their annual meeting online. It will be held **19-22 October** via the virtual platform GoToMeeting.
- [GSA 2020 Connects Online](#) will be held online **26-30 October**. The registration deadline is **21 September**.
- The [AGU Fall Meeting "Shaping the Future of Science"](#) will be concentrated around **7-11 December**. To minimise scheduling conflicts, events around the meeting will be extended from 1-17 December.

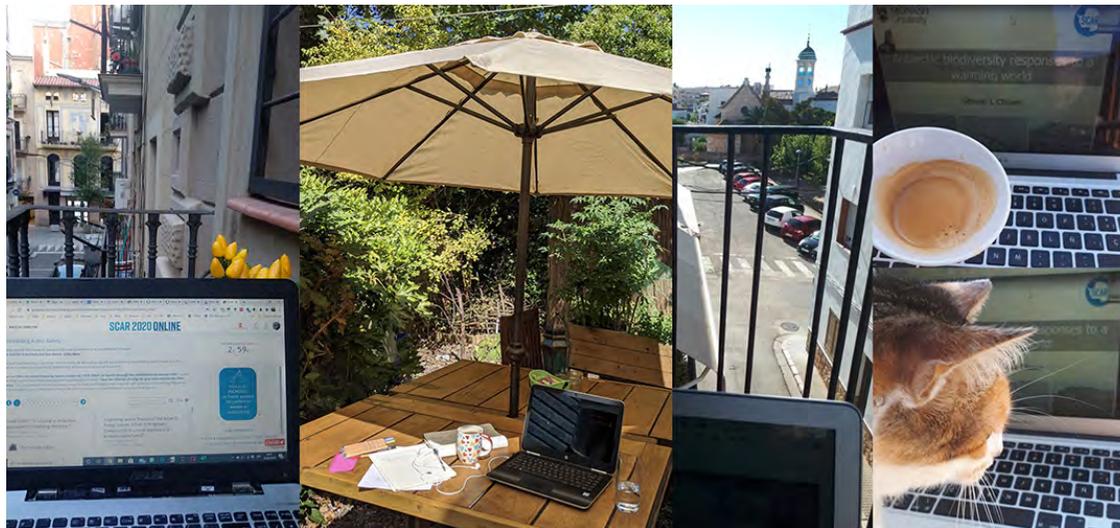
Opportunities

Opportunities from the SCAR Community and wider research community

- The [European Polar Board](#) (EPB) is looking for a [Project Officer](#) to support the EPB's internal and external review process, actions relating to projects, communications activities and website management, support for EPB meetings, finance and administration, and other duties as required in the small Secretariat. The application deadline is **8 September**.
- The [European Polar Board](#) is also seeking to contract an [individual to complete a synthesis report](#) on best practices for minimising the environmental impacts of polar research and logistics. The application deadline is **8 September** and an initial draft of the synthesis report will be due in November 2020.
- The [British Antarctic Survey](#) is looking for a [Climate and Ocean Model Data Analyst](#) to join the team investigating climate variability and how ice core data can be used to project future climate changes more accurately. The closing date for applications is **27 September**.

- The [Barcelona Expert Center \(BEC\) - ICM-CSIC](#) invites applications for a [Post Doc position](#) on sea ice and cryospheric applications with remote sensing data. Enquiries and applications should be emailed before the **end of September 2020**.
- A [three-year PhD position](#) “ESMs of varying complexity with data assimilation” is available from the [Alfred-Wegener-Institute](#) in Bremerhaven. The application deadline is **7 October**.

Image of the Month



[SCAR 2020 Online](#) was more than a live event – it was a collection of opportunities for researchers to engage with each other, and for those outside of research to find out more about this exciting field. We loved engaging with all of you and seeing your images of where you joined the Online Conference from. [Sergi](#) (and his neighbours) could attend the conference from his balcony in Barcelona, while [Alice](#) joined from her sunny garden. [Blanca](#) enjoyed a nice

espresso coffee and the company of her cat Lola, which seemed to be very impressed by SCAR 2020 Online.

We love seeing photos from SCAR scientists so get in touch at info@scar.org if you'd like to share yours!



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