Update on SCAR 2016

XXXIV SCAR Open Science Conference
and Biennial Meetings
Executive Summary

Title: Update on SCAR 2016 (XXXIV SCAR Open Science Conference and Biennial Meetings)

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Introduction/Background: Biennial SCAR meetings and Open Science Conference to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. See website scar2016.com.

Important Issues or Factors: General organizational details.

Recommendations/Actions and Justification:

i. To get comments from ExCom on abstract guidelines and submission page (draft guidelines attached; link to abstract submission page: https://aosconventions.eventair.com/scar2016/scar-abstract)

ii. Seeking advice from ExCom on potential international funding to help support SCAR 2016;

iii. Possibility for SCAR to provide financial support to cover partial registration cost for selected numbers of young scientists to attend SCAR 2016.

Expected Benefits/Outcomes:

i. Finalised abstract guidelines and abstract submission page;

ii. Sponsorships from international bodies;

iii. Funding from SCAR for young scientists.

Partners: The Malaysian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation; the Sultan Mizan Antarctic Research Foundation; the National Antarctic Research Centre, Malaysia.

Budget Implications:

i. Funds from SCAR is requested to support young scientists – USD $200 for 100 scientists.
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Venue
The SCAR Meetings and Open Science Conference will be held in the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC), a premier convention venue in Kuala Lumpur. Public transport and accommodation is available nearby and block bookings have been made at the surrounding hotels.

Schedule of Events
21 August  SCAR subsidiary groups and satellite meetings
22 August  OSC Ice Breaker Party
22 – 23 August  Open Science Conference
24 August  SSG Business Meetings
25 – 26 August  Open Science Conference
25 August  Conference Dinner
28 August  Registration for SCAR Delegates’ Meeting and Ice Breaker Party
29 – 30 August  SCAR Delegates’ Meeting
29 August  Delegates’ Dinner

Abstracts
Abstract submission will open on 1st October 2015 and close on 14th February 2016.

Registration
Registration will open on the website on 2nd December 2015. The suggested fees are:

- Earlybird (before 5 May)  USD 550
- Regular (6 May to 31 July)  USD 650
- Late/On-site (from 1 August)  USD 750
- Students  USD 300

Conference Programme
Plans for the Open Science Conference are progressing. Four Mini-Symposia are being organized as follows:

- MS 1. Tropical Antarctic teleconnections
- MS 2. Connecting the biological and the physical: Environmental drivers of biodiversity in Antarctica
- MS 3. Linking Antarctic Science with Environmental Protection: Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Madrid Protocol
- MS 4. The Antarctic ice sheet from past 2 future

The list of sessions has been finalised and Session Convenors are being discussed. The confirmed session list is:

- S1. Antarctica in a global system – drivers and responses
- S2. Evolution of the physical and biological environment of Antarctic and the Southern Ocean over the 21st and 22nd centuries
S3. Sustained efforts for observing and mapping the Southern Ocean
S4. Southern Ocean Palaeoceanography and Paleoclimatic processes
S5. Past Antarctic Ice Sheet Dynamics
S6. Glaciers and Ice Sheet Mass Balance
S7. Antarctic oldest ice challenge (Beyond EPICA)
S8. Solid Earth Responses and Influences on Cryospheric Evolution
S9. Status and trends in Antarctic sea ice and ice shelves
S10. Subglacial Aquatic Environments
S11. Antarctic permafrost, periglacial processes and soil development
S12. Snow and Ice in Antarctica
S13. Antarctic Meteorology and climatology
S14. Antarctic climate variability during the past two millennia
S15. Solar-terrestrial physics in the Polar Regions
S17. Astronomy and Astrophysics from Antarctica
S18. Subglacial Geology of Antarctica: Significant events in the geological evolution of Antarctica
S19. Antarctic Volcanism
S20. Observing and Mapping the Antarctic Continent
S22. Spatial analyses of Antarctic biodiversity: Bioregionalisation and Bioinformatics
S23. Microbes, diversity, and ecological roles
S24. Physiological adaptations in Antarctic organisms
S25. Molecular ecology and evolution
S26. Effects of sea-ice changes and ocean warming on marine ecosystem functioning and services
S27. Impacts of environmental changes on Antarctic ecosystems and biota
S28. Diversity and distribution of life in Antarctica
S29. Influence of top predators on ecosystem diversity around Antarctica
S30. Southern Ocean Outposts: the links to the Southern Ocean Islands
S31. Ocean Acidification
S32. Human Biology and Medicine
S33. The role of humanities and social sciences in Antarctic Studies
S34. Footprints in Antarctica and Antarctica’s footprint: perspectives from history
S35. Data access and sharing for cutting edge science
S36. Antarctic Education, Outreach and Training
S37. Communicating Antarctic Science
S38. Scientific Advice for Policy
S39. Antarctic Research and the Media
S40. Environmental Contamination in Antarctica
S41. Evidence based conservation and environmental management in Antarctica