



SDM **37**
Agenda Item: **8.2**
Person Responsible: Secretariat

**XXXV SCAR Delegates Meeting
Davos, Switzerland, 25-26 June 2018**

SCAR Visiting Professor Scheme

Report Author

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Summary

The Visiting Professorship scheme is intended to facilitate capacity building for mid- to late career stage scientists and academics, whose work contributes to the scientific objectives of SCAR, and complements the SCAR Fellowship scheme.

A number of issues with the scheme have been identified including applications not addressing the purpose of the scheme and the lack of female applicants. A review of the scheme has been proposed.

Recommendation

Delegates are asked to consider ways to help with the funding and advertising of the scheme.

Summary Budget 2018 to 2020

The budget for the scheme is fixed annually at USD\$5,000 annually, providing funds for two Visiting Professorships.



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Introduction

The Visiting Professor Scheme was inaugurated in 2013. It is directed at mid- to late-career scientists and academics (more than five years after completing their PhD) whose work contributes to the research objectives of SCAR, offering the opportunity for them to undertake a short-term visit (from one to four weeks) to another SCAR member country to provide training and mentoring. Awards are intended to provide an international return flight and some contribution towards living expenses for the visiting period.

Recent Activity

Several applications each year pay little or no attention to the basic mission of the scheme. There were however no female applicants in 2017 and there was only one female applicant in 2016. In 2017 there were 9 applications, up from 8 in 2016.

The awards made to date are detailed below. Reports available from the visits are available on the SCAR web site. A template for these reports was produced in 2016 and is now available to all Visiting Professors.

2017 Visiting Professors

Yeadong Kim (KOR to Turkey)

South Korea to ITU Polar Research Center, Turkey

Providing advice on expedition environmental protection and safety as well as delivering public lectures.

Dermot Antoniades (CAN to Uruguay)

Canada to Universidad de la Republica, Uruguay

Instructor on summer field school on King George Island and mentoring researchers and students new to Antarctic research in Montevideo.

Xavier Crosta (FRA to South Africa)

France to National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research, India

Training to help develop expertise in Southern Ocean Paleoceanography, public lectures and developing wider collaborations.

Yves Cheral (FRA to South Africa)

France to Port Elizabeth Museum, South Africa

Training curators and biologists in dealing with Southern Ocean cephalopod beaks, establishing reference collection and a series of seminars and public talks.

2016 Visiting Professors

Bryan Storey (NZ to Iran)

New Zealand to Iranian National Institute for Oceanography and Atmospheric Science

Introducing SCAR and helping Iran make decisions about developing its own Antarctic research programme.



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Judd Case (USA to ARG)

USA to Museo de La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Giving lectures and collaborative working sessions on the practice and uses of biostratigraphy

Proposed Date: July 2017

A full list of all of the Fellowships awarded from 2013 is available at:

<https://www.scar.org/awards/visiting-professors/awardees/>

Recommendations

The Visiting Professor Scheme was initially funded through Additional Voluntary Contributions from India (\$10,000) and is now funded at \$5,000 annually from the internal SCAR budget. Delegates are encouraged to consider ways to increase the funding for the scheme externally and also to advertise the scheme as widely as possible.

The 2017 scheme benefitted from additional contributions from Norway, Switzerland and India, and it is hoped that other members will consider further contributions to the scheme.

A review of this programme should be considered to assess whether it is achieving the aims envisaged when it was established, and if not, what changes might be required to do so.