SCAR Executive Committee Meeting 2017
Brno, Czech Republic, 31 July - 2 Aug 2017

Humanities and Social Sciences
Expert Group
2016-2017 Report

Report Authors:
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Summary of activities from 2016-17 and any other important issues or factors

2016-17 was a period of growing maturity for the SCAR Humanities and Social Sciences Expert Group (HASSEG). HASSEG’s membership body grew to 185 on our email list and 60 full member profiles on our website. The latest business meeting had an attendance of 56 people. HASSEG’s major activity was the group’s biennial Humanities and Social Sciences conference (held jointly with the History EG), which attracted around 100 delegates from six continents. Three publications stemming from the conference are in progress. The group’s new streamlined Executive Committee worked well, with much of its work looking towards the proposal for a Humanities and Social Science group in 2018, as noted below. The membership of the Executive Committee was also extended to include an Argentinian researcher, extending our diversity. Our relationship with the History EG, facilitated by a small liaison group, remains to be very strong. HASSEG continues to be committed to outreach, primarily through its website and social media, facilitated by the appointment of a communications officer on the Executive Committee.

Recommendations that EXCOM and Scientific Group Chief Officers should consider (if any):

We note that the HASS Expert Group has been approved until 2018. Please also note that together with the History EG we proposed the establishment of a permanent Humanities and Social Sciences Group at the Delegates Meeting in 2016 and were advised to prepare a more detailed proposal for the SCAR Delegates Meeting in 2018. We intend to pursue this course and will propose a Humanities and Social Sciences Group at POLAR 2018, with a detailed plan for associated Action Groups and a Programme Planning Group. The SCAR Executive Committee’s guidance in this regard will be very much appreciated.
Progress and Plans:

Major Activities and Significant Progress from the past year:

The major activity was the Humanities and Social Science conference (see http://antarctica-hasseg.com/biennial-conference-2017/), held by HASSEG and the SCAR History EG. Entitled “Depths and Surfaces: Understanding the Antarctic Region through the Humanities and Social Sciences,” the conference was held at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Sciences in Hobart, Tasmania, 5-7 July 2017. It attracted 98 delegates, including nearly 80 speakers. Half of the delegates were from outside Australia, and about two-fifths were students.

In conjunction with the conference, we held several satellite events, including an APECS workshop (“Communicating Across Borders”) in which groups of ECRs were led by mentors from within and outside HASSEG and the History EG, a public forum on Antarctic Gateway Cities with speakers from Australia, New Zealand and Chile, and a public workshop on “Incorporating the Humanities and Social Sciences into Large Polar Science Projects” led by the European Polar Board (EPB) Executive Secretary Renuka Badhe. The outcomes of this workshop will contribute to a report Renuka Badhe will present to the EPB, which will also draw on a similar workshop in the Arctic.

Other activities were aimed at increasing our links with Arctic Humanities and Social Science Researchers. HASSEG also successfully put forward a session proposal for POLAR2018, in conjunction with the History EG and the IASC Social and Human Working Group, entitled “Polar Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences: Approaches and Challenges.” Our early-career researcher and APECS representative, Hanne Nielsen, attended a meeting of the IASC Social and Human Working Group as part of the Arctic Science Summit Week in Prague, April 2017.

Individual HASSEG members put forward further sessions for POLAR2018.

The HASSEG Executive Committee continued developing plans for a proposal for a SCAR Humanities and Social Sciences Group. This included discussions (remotely) with Mathieu Denis, Executive Director of the International Social Science Council, after suggestions at the delegates meeting that HASSEG should develop and clarify possible relations with the ISSC; further discussions with the History Group regarding the title and structure of the new proposed group; and a call to HASSEG and History EG members for potential Action Groups.

The Executive Committee was increased slightly by the addition of Cristian Lorenzo, an Argentinian researcher at the National Scientific and Technological Research Council (CONICET) and a lecturer at the National University of Tierra del Fuego, Ushuaia. This change in the HASSEG Executive Committee reflects the interest and engagement in Antarctic humanities and social sciences research by South American scholars and increases the diversity of our committee.

Other activities included our regular business meetings, providing expert advice in response to enquiries (see below), emails to our membership, and creating and maintaining membership profiles.
Major Future Initiatives and Actions, including rough timeline, for at least the next 2 years:

Our major future initiatives are as follows:

- **July 2017-mid-2019:** Planning for and organization of next Humanities and Social Sciences Symposium in Ushuaia, Argentina (convener: Cristian Lorenzo).
- **July 2017-May 2018:** Planning for new Humanities and Social Sciences Group, including potential Action Groups and Project Planning Group. Input from membership and decisions by Ex. Committee.
- **June 2018:** Propose new Humanities and Social Sciences Group at Delegates Meeting at POLAR2018, which would merge the existing HASS and History EGs.

Please list any new outputs and deliverables (including publications and products that your group feels are part of your achievements):

Please see the appendix.

If your Expert/Action Group produces data, please report any new data generated and links to inclusions to the Antarctic Master Directory, etc.

N/A

**Budget**

Planned use of funds for 2017 and 2018:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month/Year (MM-YY)</th>
<th>Purpose/Activity</th>
<th>Amount (in USD)</th>
<th>Contact Name</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 2017</td>
<td>Travel Bursaries – HASS EG conference</td>
<td>$3000</td>
<td>Co-chairs</td>
<td>As above</td>
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<td>July 2017</td>
<td>Registration subsidies for student/unwaged – HASS EG conference</td>
<td>$2270</td>
<td>Co-chairs</td>
<td>As above</td>
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<td>Aug-Nov 2017</td>
<td>Assistance with developing/maintaining HASSEG website</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>Co-chairs</td>
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<td>June 2018</td>
<td>Travel Bursaries – POLAR 2018</td>
<td>$5000</td>
<td>Co-chairs</td>
<td>As above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug-Nov 2018</td>
<td>Assistance with developing/maintaining HASSEG website</td>
<td>$1000 (carry-over from 2017)</td>
<td>Co-chairs</td>
<td>As above</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Briefly describe what the funds will be used for and what the desired results are:

We primarily use our funds to enable early-career researchers and scholars from countries newly engaging with Antarctic to attend our events or the SCAR Open Science Conferences.

In 2017-8, we intend to put a small amount of our budget toward developing and maintaining our website, which is an important form of outreach and communication to our membership. With the size of the membership increasing, the maintenance of the website has become more difficult, and the website itself needs to be streamlined to enable more efficient maintenance.

Provide an estimate on the % of the budget to be used for support of early career researchers:

2017: ~80%
2018: ~85%

Provide an estimate on the % of the budget to be used for support of scientists from countries with developing Antarctic programmes (as listed here: http://www.scar.org/finances/contributions):

2017: ~5%
2018: ~10%

Linkages

Please describe any direct support you receive for your activities beyond SCAR:

We received a total of $10,000 to support the Humanities and Social Sciences Symposium from the University of Tasmania, and another $1500 from the Tasmanian Polar Network.

Please list any major collaborations your group has with other SCAR groups and with organisations/groups beyond SCAR:

Aside linkages within SCAR (with the History EG in particular), linkages exist to the International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA) and the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), in particular the IASC Human and Social Sciences Working Group. Furthermore, a number of national contacts, e.g. to various National Antarctic Programmes (including New Zealand and Argentina), to the Antarctic Office in Christchurch, the Royal Society Antarctic Science Committee (in New Zealand), also exist. A number of HASSEG members are involved in the World Meteorological Organization’s World Weather Research Program’s (WWRP) Polar Prediction Project (PPP) and the Year of Polar Prediction (YOPP), and the International Polar Tourism Research Network (IPTRN). Several HASSEG members are delegates to
the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings on national and NGO delegations. HASSEG members also serve on the APECS Advisory Board or as APECS mentors in support of building capacity among future Antarctic researchers. Finally, HASSEG members are active participants in the annual Polar Law Symposiums, most of which are held in Arctic states, and which facilitate bi-polar legal research coordination.

Outreach and Capacity Building

Please describe any outreach, communication and capacity building activities that your group participates in. Also provide information on activities that demonstrate effectiveness as a network. (coordinating activity for your discipline/topic, i.e. mailing list and diversity of scientists involved)

HASSEG maintains a stand-alone website (in addition to SCAR’s) with regularly updated information about the group’s activities and events, and a membership page with 60 researcher profiles. A form allows new members to sign up to receive information. More than twenty new profiles were added in 2016-17. Our web presence provides a means for outside groups to contact us for expert advice, as e.g. the Mystic Seaport Maritime Museum did in late 2016, resulting in ongoing advice about its planned 2020 Antarctic exhibition.

HASSEG also maintains a Facebook page, a Twitter presence and a 185-strong email list. Individual HASSEG members are involved in education and outreach through public talks and media appearances, and through APECS. Our Humanities and Social Sciences Symposia always include a public lecture or forum, and this year also local television and newspaper and national radio coverage. In addition, we provide information about SCAR and HASSEG in postgraduate teaching.

Our members present at a wide range of conferences (in addition to SCAR OSCs), are represented on various national panels (e.g. New Zealand Royal Society Antarctic Science Committee), contribute media discussion pieces (e.g. Juan Francisco Salazar, Alan D. Hemmings, Elizabeth Leane, Nengye Liu, and others have written for The Conversation) and are regularly approached by the media for interviews (e.g. Julia Jabour on ABC Radio 936 on 18/08/2016 for “Your Afternoon/Science Week”).

As part of SCAR’s Capacity Building efforts, such as the Fellowships and Visiting Professor Awards, we are looking for people from all the SCAR groups to form a ‘review panel’ so if applications in your field are submitted we have people to contact to help assess relevant applications. Please list one or more people (name and email address) from your Group who would be willing to serve as reviewers for the next few years.

Both co-chairs would be very happy to serve in this capacity. See email details above.
**Membership**

**Leadership**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Date Started</th>
<th>Term to End</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-Chair</td>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>Leane</td>
<td>University of Tasmania</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td><a href="mailto:elizabeth.leane@utas.edu.au">elizabeth.leane@utas.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Feb 2015</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-Chair</td>
<td>Daniela</td>
<td>Liggett</td>
<td>University of Canterbury</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Daniela.liggett@canterbury.ac.nz">Daniela.liggett@canterbury.ac.nz</a></td>
<td>Jan 2010</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ex. Com. Member</td>
<td>Alan D.</td>
<td>Hemmings</td>
<td>University of Canterbury</td>
<td>New Zealand/Australia</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ahe30184@bigpond.net.au">ahe30184@bigpond.net.au</a></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ex. Com. Member (ex officio)</td>
<td>Sanjay</td>
<td>Chaturvedi</td>
<td>Panjab University</td>
<td>India</td>
<td><a href="mailto:csgiorg@gmail.com">csgiorg@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ex. Com. Member (ERC/APECS rep. *)</td>
<td>Hanne</td>
<td>Nielsen</td>
<td>University of Tasmania</td>
<td>New Zealand/Australia</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hanne.nielsen@utas.edu.au">hanne.nielsen@utas.edu.au</a></td>
<td>2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ex. Com. Member</td>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>O’Reilly</td>
<td>Indiana University</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jloreill@indiana.edu">jloreill@indiana.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ex. Com. Member</td>
<td>Juan Francisco</td>
<td>Salazar</td>
<td>University of Western Sydney</td>
<td>Australia/Chile</td>
<td><a href="mailto:J.Salazar@westernsydney.edu.au">J.Salazar@westernsydney.edu.au</a></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ex. Com. Member</td>
<td>Akiho</td>
<td>Shibata*</td>
<td>Kobe University</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:akihos@kobe-u.ac.jp">akihos@kobe-u.ac.jp</a></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Please include any APECS representative / Junior Officers

**Other members**

Please see our website for profiles of sixty members with details on affiliations, country and email.

**Requests to the Secretariat:**

*If there are specific administrative tasks you would like help with such as your webpages, mailing list, online meeting tools, etc., please include them below:*

N/A
Appendix

Relevant HASSEG publications (2012-2017)

Forthcoming:


2017:


**2016:**


2015:


**2014:**


Dodds, K., & Hemmings, A.D. (2014). Recent developments in relations between the United Kingdom and the Argentine Republic in South Atlantic/Antarctic region. *Polar Record* 50(2), 119-127. doi.org/10.1017/S0032247412000794


2013:


2012:


Philpott, C. (2012). Notes from the heroic age of Antarctic exploration: Gerald S. Doorly’s *Songs of the 'Morning'*. *Context: Journal of Music Research* 37, 3-35.


**List of other publications, presentations, government reports, & outreach activities**

Available upon request