


Patrick Webber will be presented with the first IASC Medal Award

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New flyer for future generation of polar researchers

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New IASC President and Executive Committee

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IASC PROGRESS SPRING 2010

Preparing for the largest polar gathering

"The IPY Oslo Science Conference is already a success", says chair of the Steering Committee Dr. Olav Orheim. The organizers are preparing themselves to welcome 2500 participants in Oslo. Most of them will be scientists, but Dr. Orheim stresses that the science that is going to be presented is also highly relevant to public administration and policy makers. He predicts more interest from society as the event draws nearer.



One way to make the science more accessible for the general public and scientists with such a diverse background in disciplines will be the so-called PolarEXCHANGE: a brief and entertaining overview of the day's science. And with BBC science presenter Sue Nelson as a host it will be a guaranteed success.

The interdisciplinary nature of the conference is underlined by the high amount of interest in all the six conference themes and in general between the various sessions. The turnout was impressive for all of the scientific disciplines. Early career scientists were well represented in the submissions and a special stipend and travel support will help them actually make the trip to Norway in June.

The PolarCINEMA, chaired by the IASC Executive Officer, is also on a roll. The Committee received almost a hundred entries from twenty different countries. Five international screening groups in Malaysia, the United States, Norway, the Netherlands and Germany recently completed the final selection.

The program reflects the rich diversity of the polar worlds and screens productions from professionals and amateurs alike. A free accessible day program with screenings, lectures and talks will run in the IPY OSC conference center. The Norwegian Film Institute, Cinemateket, will run an evening program in the city center and expects to attract a large general public to the polar films screenings. Tickets will be available in their down-town theatre.

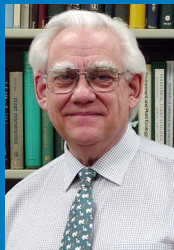
The IPY Oslo science conference takes place from 8 -12 June, 2010. For more information on the program, please visit the official website at www.ipy-osc.no.

From Knowledge to Action - IPY Conference 2012

The next IPY Conference will be held in Montreal, Quebec, from April 22-27, 2012. From Canada's perspective, this international conference will focus on how knowledge gained through IPY will pave the way for our nation to continue to take a strong position in shaping the stewardship, sustainable development and environmental protection of this strategic and prized region.

Dr. Peter Harrison, Stauffer-Dunning Chair and Director of the School of Policy Studies at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, has accepted the nomination as Chair to lead this international initiative. Dr. Karl Erb, Director of the United States National Science Foundation, Office of Polar Programs, has agreed to act as Co-Chair. The IPY 2012 Conference will be the final event to wrap-up the International Polar Year. It is expected that the Conference will attract science, policy and political delegates from around the world to present scientific research findings and to consider the policy implications of their work.

Patrick Webber awarded with the first IASC Medal



The first IASC Medal will be awarded to Professor Emeritus Patrick John Webber. Patrick Webber is recognized for his life-time scientific contributions to arctic and alpine tundra ecology and plant taxonomy and the promotion of arctic research in general through his inspiring mentorship and leadership.

The medal will be presented by the IASC President, David Hik, on 9th June 2010, 13.20-14.00 at the IPY Oslo Science Conference. The award ceremony will be followed by a 30 minute lecture by the awardee.

SWIPA Cross-fertilization Workshop in Potsdam

A Cross-Fertilization Workshop for the project Climate Change and the Cryosphere: Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic (SWIPA) was hosted by IASC from 12 to 15 January 2010 in Potsdam, Germany.



Sixty experts, including all of the Convening Lead Authors in the SWIPA project and most of the lead authors, attended the Workshop to make sure that all essential issues were being covered in the SWIPA report.

An important aspect of the Workshop involved cross-chapter meetings of authors to ensure consistency in the handling of the issues, identify gaps and avoid duplication in the coverage of issues. Chapter authors began the identification of the key issues that will emerge from their chapters, both to highlight issues for the summary for policy-makers and the layman's report, and in preparation for the development of science-based recommendations. The structure and timeline for the report can be downloaded on the IASC website. For more information on SWIPA, please visit the website at www.amap.no/swipa

AOSB Marine Working Group continues support of key activities

The Arctic Ocean Sciences Board: the Marine Working Group for IASC met in Nuuk, Greenland on 15 April 2010 for a very productive meeting. During the course of the meeting the Board determined that it will continue to support its key initiatives, including the integrated Arctic Ocean Observing System (iAOOS), the Arctic in Rapid Transitions (ART) initiative, and support of deep sea Arctic drilling.

In addition, the Board endorsed several new tasks, including support of the Distributed Biological Observatory beginning first in the Western Arctic but expanding to a pan-Arctic initiative over the coming years; an effort to organize an integrated analysis of all 173 ocean moorings in place for the IPY period and potentially expand this to include a full ocean reanalysis of the Arctic to be undertaken with WCRP and CliC. The AOSB also approved a small group to develop a five-year strategic plan for the new IASC Marine Working Group. The Board elected a new Chair, Dr. Savi Narayanan from Canada, and a new Vice Chair, Dr. Jackie Grebmeier from the US, to its Steering Group.

IASC supported projects receive ICSU funding

Two IASC supported projects received a grant from the International Council for Science (ICSU). The first project, *Education and Outreach Lessons from IPY*, aims to conduct an initial assessment of effective science communication based on IPY Education, Outreach and Communication (IPY EOC) activities, experience and networks.

Thanks to innovative ideas, creative and user-friendly tools, extensive partnerships, and, always, care and support of volunteers, the IPY education, outreach and communication teams helped IPY achieve the goal: Polar Science with Global Impact. The project will now look at the lessons can and should be drawn

from this experience to guarantee on-going, sustained science education, and the inclusion of education and outreach in other and future ICSU programmes. The main coordination of the project will be carried out by Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS), with assistance from the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), IASC and IPY EOC committee members.

The second grant was awarded to the International Permafrost Association (IPA) for the launch of its MicroPerm project. The MicroPerm project, which stands for "circumpolar integration of permafrost microbiological studies", will take off in June 2010 at the Third European Conference on Permafrost and will culminate in autumn 2010 with the organization of a workshop in October in Potsdam, Germany.

The MicroPerm project was submitted to ICSU by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), and was supported by SCAR, IASC, the International Union of Geodesy and Geology (IUGG) and the International Union for Quaternary Science (INQUA). More information on the project can be found on the IPA website: <http://ipa-permafrost.org>.



Connecting to the Poles

Live interviews with scientists from the polar regions at the Arctic Venue during the COP15 in Copenhagen

At the Arctic Venue during the Climate Change Conference held in Copenhagen (COP15) SCAR and IASC offered the media the opportunity to interview scientist that were stationed in the Arctic and Antarctic. From the Antarctic research station Rothera and the AWIPEV research base in Ny-Ålesund, Svalbard, two scientist answered questions about their research and shared information on how they were witnessing climate change first hand.

In the south, we connected to Tamsin Gray, a meteorologist from the British Antarctic Survey, who studies climate change and the ozone hole and can't

wait to get up every morning and start collecting more data knowing that the next breakthrough may be just a shovel full of snow away. Tamsin: *"In climate change research the link between collecting an air sample and monitoring global warming is refreshingly direct. The consequences of the results immediately reach way beyond the scope of academic interest straight into the lives of everyone around us".*

In the north we connected to Marcus Schumacher, a geographer from Germany, who runs the joined French-German Arctic research base, AWIPEV. In Ny-Ålesund Schumacher and his colleagues conduct



fundamental research in environmental sciences. In the frame of global change, their studies aim to understand and to recognize changes in environmental conditions and related adaptation processes. Marcus: *"The real challenge mankind has to face in the future are the challenges due to changes in the complex natural system. I hope that our work provides a contribution to set the course for the necessary political, social and economic actions".*

Steering Group presents Scientific Framework for ASSW 2011

The framework for the Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW) 2011 Science Symposium is in place. The Science Symposium, which will be organized for the second time after a successful launch in Bergen 2009, creates a platform for exchanging knowledge, cross fertilization and collaboration in arctic science. In 2011 the theme: 'The Arctic: The New Frontier for Global Science' will be the focal point.

The Scientific Steering Group, chaired by Dr. Byong-Kwon Park (Korea Polar Research Institute) and Dr. Jacqueline Grebmeier (University of Maryland), has finished the framework for the different science sessions. An overview of the disciplinary and interdisciplinary sessions is published in the first circular, which is available for download on the news page of the IASC website: www.iasc.info/news.

Exploring Polar Science

Strengthening future generations of polar researchers

An information flyer to 'explore' polar science is now available for students and early career scientists. The flyer is a shared initiative of the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS), the University of the Arctic (UArctic), the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the International Antarctic Institute (IAI) and IASC.

With a simple overview it aims to inform about international opportunities to study the richly diverse and challenging world of the polar regions. It contains information on and links to international organizations that inform and advise early career scientists on career development, networking, funding opportunities and communication and outreach.

The flyer offers a first step in the advancement and support of a future generation of polar researchers and is available for download on the news page of the IASC website.



"The polar regions evoke a sense of discovery as the origins of surprising findings that inspire unconventional thinking. Polar research cross-cuts disciplines catalyzing new scientific directions and provides a vast playground for early career scientists."
Dr. Mahon Chuck Kennicutt, President of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research



From left to right - top to bottom
Photos: Kieran O'Donovan, Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration, Hugh Beach, Carlos Furtado, Jennifer Goldwell, Jenny Baeseman, Nicole Couture, Jenny Baeseman, Maja Kirkegaard

IASC supports early career scientists for the Oslo Conference

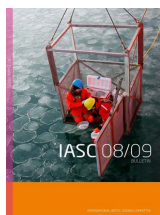
With 57 travel grants in total, IASC has made it possible for many early career scientists to attend the International Polar Year Oslo Science Conference.

The grants were allotted taking a broad international representation, quality of the abstracts and fair distribution over the different science session into consideration. The travel support will guarantee that all IASC member countries have early career scientists from various disciplines represented at the conference.

The recipients were selected from the 400 applicants that earlier received an Oslo stipend, provided by the Research Council of Norway, which already granted them with free lodging and a reduced conference fee. Amongst the 2200 conference participants registered so far are 500 early career scientists, making up almost a quarter of the total. Oslo promises to be an exciting gathering with a strong representation of a new generation of polar researchers.

Bulletin presents arctic science 08/09

The IASC Bulletin covering the year 08/09 is available. The reporting period for this third IASC yearbook falls within the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007-2008 and its aftermath. It shows the wide variety of activities and projects that help carry on the IPY legacy in current and future arctic research. A special chapter is reserved for the successful first Open Science Symposium that took place during the ASSW 2009 in Bergen (Norway).



The IASC Bulletin 08/09 can be downloaded at the website www.iasc.info or send upon written request to the secretariat at iasc@iasc.info

David Hik elected new IASC President

David Hik was elected new IASC President during the annual IASC Council Meeting in Nuuk/Copenhagen. The circumstances were somewhat special considering the fact that half of the IASC delegation was present in Nuuk while the other half was detained in Copenhagen due to the volcanic eruption in Iceland. Luckily modern technology enabled the first (and hopefully last) IASC elections through a videoconference connecting both cities.



David Hik, Professor and Research Chair in Northern Ecology at the University of Alberta succeeds Kristján Kristjánsson as the IASC President for the next four years. The newly elected Vice-Presidents Susan Barr (Norwegian Directorate for Cultural Heritage) and Naja Mikkelsen (Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland), and the re-elected Jackie Grebmeier (University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science) will join Byong-Kwon Park (Korea Polar Research Institute) to complete the IASC Executive Committee.

The Council and secretariat would like to express their appreciation and thanks to Kristján Kristjánsson (Director of Research Services at Reykjavik University) who served in the Executive Committee as a President from 2006-2010 and Vice-President from 2002-2006, and Professor Emeritus Dieter Fütterer Vice-President from 1994-1997 and 2002-2010, for all their work and highly valued input.

Upcoming IASC Supported Workshops and Activities

- The Future of Arctic Humanities and Social Science Research Workshop, Oslo (Norway), 7 June 2010
- International Summer School on Glaciology, University of Alaska, Fairbanks (UAF) and Wrangell Mountains Center, McCarthy, Alaska (USA), 7-17 June 2010. www.gi.alaska.edu/snowice/glaciers/events/summer_school/

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	The Commission for Scientific Research in Greenland	Naja Mikkelsen, Vice-President	
	Delegation of the Finnish Academies of Science and Letters	Kari Laine	
	Institute Polaire Français	Gérard Jugie	
	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft	Dieter Fütterer	
	RANNIS, The Icelandic Centre for Research	Kristján Kristjánsson	
	National Research Council of Italy	Carlo-Alberto Ricci	
	Science Council of Japan, National Institute of Polar Research	Hiroshi Kanda	
	The Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research	Louwrens Hacquebord	
	The Research Council of Norway	Susan Barr, Vice-President	
	Polish Academy of Sciences, Committee on Polar Research	Jacek Jania	
	The Russian Academy of Sciences	Vladimir I Pavlenko	
	Korea Polar Research Institute	Byong-Kwon Park, Vice-President	
	Comite Polar Espanol	Manuel Catalan	
	The Swedish Research Council	Magnus Friberg	
	Swiss Committee on Polar Research	Hubertus Fisher	
	Natural Environment Research Council	Julian Dowdeswell	
	Polar Research Board	Jackie Grebmeier, Vice-President	

