

**International Planning Workshop for IPY Youth and Early Career Scientists
September 26-30th, 2007, Stockholm**

**** Invitation to participants and mentors ****

Workshop Information:

The IPY International Programme Office (IPO) has recently received corporate sponsorship to seed a meeting of the IPY International Youth Steering Committee (IYSC), including the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS). This meeting will occur in Stockholm at the end of September.

The IPY IYSC is an IPY endorsed activity (#168), which represents young, aspiring, and early career polar researchers and students involved in the International Polar Year. The IYSC has already achieved a number of impressive activities on both a national and international scale including;

- Establishment of the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS)
- Planning for an International Youth Conference on the Poles
- National Polar Contests and other educational activities in schools
- Regular representation at international scientific conferences

The leadership of this community comes from around the world and needs to meet in order to plan activities over the next year and beyond. This meeting will also help them fulfil their potential, develop and prioritise their activities, expand their networks, ensure a lasting community beyond IPY, and invite and include new partners from more countries. The recent funding received by the IPO will enable the organisation of such a meeting, and fund about 8 key members from four continents. Other IPY partners, such as the Norwegian and UK National IPY Committees, the Arctic Research Consortium of the US (ARCUS), and New Generation of Polar Researchers (NGPR), have agreed to help sponsor additional members from their home countries. Some will also attend themselves as mentors. We are now inviting further participation for this meeting in order to ensure wide international representation, and to capitalise on the opportunities and energy that such a meeting will generate.

How to Get Involved:

Application is open to young polar researchers or enthusiasts interested in becoming more involved in the activities of the IPY Youth Steering Committee on an international scale. They must be committed to working with this group over the next year and have available time to do so.

The IYSC/APECS community is also seeking mentors to advise and support the leadership of this developing community. Experienced members of the polar community are therefore invited to join the last 2 days of the workshop. Involvement of mentors in IYSC/APECS activities has already greatly supported these networks by raising their international profile, ensuring representation at international conferences, advising on affiliations, planning, and strategy, and provided feedback on emerging ideas.

If you would be able or interested in sponsoring a student or young researcher to attend this meeting, or attend yourself as a mentor, please contact Camilla Hansen (chansens@gmail.com) with the following information:

1. Name of potential sponsor (or suggestion of a sponsor)
2. Would you be able to sponsor a young researcher?
3. If yes, are there any restrictions? (eg. Polar discipline, region, country, experience, study level, follow-up report etc.)
4. Would you (or a colleague) like to attend as a mentor?

Costs:

IYSC/APECS members

Arrive Sep 26th a.m., depart September 30th, p.m.

Total Cost = travel to Stockholm + €600 [includes accommodation and food]

Supplementary support may be available if you are able to partially fund your attendance.

Mentors

Arrive Sep 28th p.m., depart September 30th, p.m.

Total Cost = travel to Stockholm + €350 [includes accommodation and food]

We regret that we cannot support any of the mentoring positions financially.

Meeting Agenda:

The meeting will occur over five days and the agenda will include:

- Planning for the International Youth Conference on the Poles (IYCP)
 - Currently planned for March/April 2009 in Canada for high school- undergraduates; organised by the IYSC.
- Strategy for the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS)
 - Currently over 500 members, this international and interdisciplinary community needs to develop a long-term strategy for sustainability, leadership, and international recognition and support.
 - Professional development for these scientists is critical to ensure international and interdisciplinary collaborations for their future. APECS hopes to plan several such workshops in conjunction with UArctic, IASC, and SCAR and will be discussing these at the meeting.
- Strategy for International Networking
 - National YSCs are continually being established around the world. Communication between these national communities is critical for support, development, sharing ideas, and highlighting opportunities.
- Education and Outreach
 - IYSC polar outreach includes national contests, working with teachers, institutional open-doors days, and web-portal development. Activities occurring on an international level must be prioritised and planned.

If you would like to become more involved in IYSC and APECS activities, please email the below contacts. If interested in attending this meeting, please state whether you might have access to full or partial funding.

Melanie Raymond, IYSC co-chair:

melianieraymond@yahoo.co.uk

Jen Baeseman, APECS Director:

baeseman@arcus.org

If you would like to discuss the meeting in general, or mentoring, please contact:

Rhian Salmon, IPY Education and Outreach Coordinator:

ipy.ras@gmail.com

Camilla Hansen, Meeting Organiser:

chansens@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you.

The IYSC/APECS Meeting Planning Committee

Rhian Salmon, Nicola Munro, Melanie Raymond, Amber Church, Tyler Kuhn, Jen Baeseman, Hugues Lantuit, Jose Xavier, David Hik, Lars Kullerud, Elena Sparrow, Camilla Hansen