



## APECS November/December Newsletter

***"Alas! Alas! Life is full of disappointments; as one reaches one ridge there is always another and a higher one beyond which blocks the view." Fridtjof Nansen***

### **Letter from the Editor:**

Dear Polar Friends,

This newsletter is somewhat special. APECS is growing faster than expected and the common goal of polar research is becoming a well-designed vision. 85 APECS members representing 20 countries recently participated in the IMPETUS 2008 workshop – the largest workshop for young polar researchers EVER!!! organized in St. Petersburg in the last days of November through an enormous effort of our friends from AARI, Otto Schmidt Laboratory, IFM-GEOMAR and AWI. Not only did we cover plenty of new information on sea ice, permafrost, remote sensing and monitoring of the polar oceans, but again we shared ideas and experiences from the field and academic life. We would like to thank the organizers and our wonderful colleagues in Russia for their great hospitality.

Immediately following this workshop, the newly elected APECS Executive Committee met in Cambridge, UK at the British Antarctic Survey. Here we work on our strategy of APECS development. Many thanks to Liz Thomas, who arranged this meeting and organized important meetings with our mentors from BAS, SCAR and IPY IPO. Although a summary (again Liz ) of our work is attached to that newsletter I'm taking an occasion as the editor of this newsletter to announce to all concerned that APECS has a new absolutely wonderful president Dr. DANIELA HAASE, who together with irreplaceable Jenny will lead APECS to a next level of excellence. A note from Daniela will be coming to you all shortly.

There is plenty to do and even more to achieve, so my polar friends we can't stop exploring. Please remember that the coming 10 months belong to YOU, and we are happy to help.

In the name of APECS ExCom and Directorate I would like to wish You good Advent, Merry Christmas and Happy Polar New Year.

- Matt Strzelecki, APECS Vice-President

*As always, if there is something you would like to include in next months news letter, email [APECSinfo@gmail.com](mailto:APECSinfo@gmail.com)*

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### **ExCom meeting at the British Antarctic Survey: 22 – 25 November, 2008**

The newly elected members of the ExCom (Matt Strzelecki, Liz Thomas, Tina Tin and Jose Xavier together with Director Baeseman) met at the British Antarctic Survey in Cambridge last week to discuss the priorities for 2009. The group were joined by Dave Carlson, Nicola Munro and Rhian Salmon from the IPY IPO, Nick Owens and Alan Rodger from BAS and Mike Sparrow from SCAR. The fifth member of the ExCom, Daniela Haase, was unable to make the trip from New Zealand but was able to join us via telephone. The full minutes of the meeting are available on the council Google groups or on request however the highlights of the meeting are shown below:

- **Strengthening communication:** Monthly calls with the ExCom, the council and any member of APECS have been proposed to improve communication between the working groups and the national committees. This will provide all APECS members with a platform to discuss future activities in either an active role (as part of the agenda) or a passive role (just listening). The first is scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup> – more details to follow.

- **Collaboration with SCAR** – APECS representatives will be present at the next SCAR delegates meeting in 2010. We are also working with SCAR to assure APECS representation on the Scientific Steering Groups and the research programmes.
- **Role of Director** – This position is critical to the success of APECS as it provides continuity and a main point of contact in this organization with an ExCom that rotates on yearly basis. A main priority for 2009 will be fundraising and acting as a contact person for APECS events. The Directorate will be hosted at the University in Tromso, Norway beginning in January.
- **Election of a president** – Unanimously agreed that Daniella Haase shall be the new president – Congratulations Daniela! Daniela is an Antarctic Social Scientist working at Gateway Antarctica in New Zealand.
- **New website** – A new and much improved website is currently being constructed thanks to considerable effort by Ben Beall (Western Ontario University) and Trausti Dagsson (Arctic portal). New features will include virtual poster session and discussion forums.
- **APECS representation and upcoming events** –  
 AGU meeting 2008 (contact Jen + Rhian),  
 Arctic Science Summit Week, 2009 (contact Jen + Hugues),  
 APECS/ UNIS field school, 2009 (contact Liz),  
 ACUNS/ APECS conference, Canada 2009 (contact Jenny),  
 Gordon conference, Italy 2009 - announcements to be made in upcoming newsletters.  
 Antarctic Treaty Summit, 2009 (contact Daniela + Jason + Tina),  
 Bellingshausen field school, Antarctica 2010 (contact Jen + Tina),  
**Proposed events will provide ~600 early career researchers with an opportunity to get involved with APECS during 2009.**

## Workshops and Meetings

**Arctic Change** hosted by Arctic Net (<http://www.arcticnet-ulaval.ca/>) – 9-12 December 2008, Quebec City, Canada (<http://www.arctic-change2008.com/>)

**American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Meeting** – 15-19 December 2008, San Francisco, CA, USA (<http://www.agu.org/meetings/fm08/>)

**Arctic Frontiers** – 19-23 January 2009, Tromsø, Norway (<http://www.arctic-frontiers.com/>)

**Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW)** – 23-28 March 2009, Bergen, Norway (<http://www.imr.no/assw2009/>) Still working on plans for young researchers.

**European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly 2009** – 19-24 April 2009, Vienna, Austria (<http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2009/>)

**APECS/UNIS June 2009 Summer School** (<http://arcticportal.org/apecs/svalbard2009>)

**7th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOMORPHOLOGY - Melbourne, Australia, July 6-11, 2009** - <http://www.geomorphology2009.com/> - sessions in polar geomorphology ( glacial and periglacial processes)

**Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies**  
 ACUNS/APECS Conference: 2-5 October 2009, Whitehorse, YT, Canada  
<http://www.acuns.ca/>

**APECS/IARC January 2010 Bellingshausen Field School**

## Polar Institutions

This time we present to You following institutions:

### **IPEV (Institut Paul Emile Victor) the French Polar Institute.**

'Originally created under the name of IFRTP in 1992, IPEV has the status of Public Interest Group. The mission of IPEV is to provide the legal framework and the human, logistic technical and financial means for the development of French research in the polar regions. IPEV partners include the French Ministries of Research, Foreign Affairs, CNRS, CEA, IFREMER...

The isolation and climate of the Arctic, Antarctic, sub-Arctic and sub-Antarctic regions require specific skills and expertise. IPEV's mission, as a support agency, in these regions is to:

- support and implement national and international scientific programs
- organise scientific expeditions
- build and maintain infrastructure and equipment in support of research'

For further information please visit: <http://www.institut-polaire.fr/index.php/ipev>

contributed by Matt Strzelecki

### **Arctic Centre , University of Groningen**

'The Arctic Centre was founded on 19 January 1970 by a group of scientists of the University of Groningen. Originally its purpose was to stimulate the study of languages and cultures of arctic and sub-arctic peoples. During the 1970s, however, when archaeologists, biologists and geographers joined, the scope of the Arctic Centre widened. It not only became a platform for polar research in the Netherlands, but it also developed a multi-disciplinary research programme aimed at getting a better understanding of the arctic environment and its use by people in past and present times. Recently the geographic reach of the Arctic Centre was extended by including the Antarctic regions as an area of study.'

For further info visit: <http://www.let.rug.nl/arctic/>

contributed by Matt Strzelecki

### **The Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR)**

'INSTAAR strives for excellence in research, education, and outreach related to Earth System Science and Global Change in high-latitude, alpine, and other environments. INSTAAR is located at the University of Colorado within the Graduate School and affiliated with departments of Anthropology, CEA Engineering, Environmental Studies, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Geography, Geological Sciences, and Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (ATOC). INSTAAR also participates in interdepartmental graduate education programs such as Hydrologic Sciences and Oceanography Certificate.'

For further info please visit: <http://instaar.colorado.edu/>

contributed by Matt Strzelecki

### **The Scott Polar Research Institute (SPRI).**

'The Institute is a well-known and long-established centre for research into both polar regions. It is part of the University of Cambridge and is a sub-department of the Department of Geography. SPRI research groups investigate a range of issues in both the environmental sciences and social sciences of relevance to the Arctic and Antarctica. Their polar library, which includes the Shackleton Memorial Library, has comprehensive holdings of scholarly books and journals on polar research, with exceptional archival collections from the exploration of the Antarctic and Arctic.'

It is also worthy to visit their polar museum : ) ... as everything in Cambridge.

## Recent Job Postings

For more details about these positions, please visit: <http://arcticportal.org/apecs/jobs-opportunities>

Snow hydrology scientist at NVE in Oslo, Norway  
PhD grant in Fluvial Geomorphology / Rhine River  
PhD student position at Oulanka Research Station...

Tenure Track Position Available Geological Oceanography  
(Sediment Dynamics)...

Science Coordinator, Acadia National Park...

EGU is seeking to appoint an Executive Secretary...

Tenure Track Position Available - School of Fisheries and  
Ocean Sciences, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Post Doctoral Position Available in Climate Modeling -  
Danish Climate Centre..... And more!