



IP 10
Agenda Item: 10.3
Person Responsible: A Van de Putte

XXXIV SCAR Delegates Meeting
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 29-30 August 2016

Plans for SCAR Biology Symposium 2017

Executive Summary

Authors: Anton Van de Putte, with support from the Local Organising Committee

Important Issues or Factors:

Belgium is organising the 2017 SCAR Biology Symposium, which will take place at the University of Leuven from 10-14 July 2017. The overall theme of the Symposium is “Scale Matters”. The organisation is progressing as planned, though additional sponsorship is always welcome.

Recommendations/Actions and Justification:

We would ask that all Delegates promote this Symposium in their countries.

If Delegates, SRPs, or other SCAR groups, need to meet in the context of this meeting, rooms are available at no charge at the university.

Budget Implications:

No additional budget is requested as SCAR has already committed \$5000 dollar in sponsorship.

Introduction

Belgium is organising the XII SCAR Biology Symposium in Leuven from 10-14 July 2017. The symposium will take place at the University of Leuven (KU Leuven), which is one of the oldest continental universities in Europe. Support is being provided by the conference and event team of the university.

The overall theme of the Symposium is “*Scale Matters*”. From the small molecular scale, through the population and large ecosystem scale, **biological processes and biodiversity** span all these levels. Understanding these processes as well past and present patterns of biodiversity are essential for understanding what possible **threats** there are for Antarctic biology and what will be their **impact**.

With this Symposium, we want to focus on understanding **biological distribution and trends**, as well as **adaptation and processes**, both in the marine and terrestrial realm including human biology. Special attention will be paid to **multidisciplinary research** and how combining insight from different fields can help our understanding of biology in this unique region. An important aspect of this symposium will be focusing the **societal impact of Antarctic biological sciences** and how this can be communicated, not only to the general public, but also to policy makers.

Subthemes for the Symposium include:

- Subtheme 1: *Distribution and trends*
- Subtheme 2: *Adaptation and processes*
- Subtheme 3: *New insights through multi-disciplinary research*
- Subtheme 4: *Threats and impacts: from the pole to the globe to the pole*
- Subtheme 5: *Societal impact of Antarctic biological science*
- Subtheme 6: *Human biology at the poles*

The website was launched in July 2016 and additional promotion is expected at SCAR OSC in August 2016.

Scientific Committee Members

Chair: Graham Hosie

Co-chairs of the LSOC: Anton Van de Putte, Bruno Danis

SCAR ex-officio: Jenny Baeseman

SCAR Symposium 2013 LSOC chair: Josep Maria Gili

Bruno Danis, Richard Bellerby, Kunio Takahashi, Mark Hindell, Yan Ropert-Coudert, Andrew Constable, Nathalie Pattyn, Hans-Ulrich Peters, Julian Gutt, Jan Strugnell, Huw Griffiths, Steve Ackley

Local Organising Committee

Co-Chairs: Bruno Danis (ULB), Anton Van de Putte (RBINS)

Ann Vanreusel (UGent), Annick Wilmotte (ULg), Chantal De Ridder (ULB), Isa Schön (RBINS), Maaïke Vancauwenberghe (BELSPO), Bruno Delille (ULg), Claude De Broyer (RBINS), Philippe Dubois (ULB), Wim Vijverman (UGent), Filip Volckaert (KULeuven), Rebeca Zapata (Institute of Marine Science, Barcelona)

UGent = University of Ghent

ULg = University of Liège

ULB = Université Libre de Bruxelles

RBINS = Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences

BELSPO = Belgian Federal Science Policy Office

KULeuven = University of Leuven

Progress to Date

The dates and venue have been set. The University of Leuven Conference and Event team has been hired to provide logistical and organisational support. By having a professional team managing the bulk of the practical work, we can be more efficient in organising the meeting.

The Initial budget has been drafted. Currently the basic budget is in balance, but this excludes travel support for invited speakers and early-career scientists, as well as the conference dinner.

Sponsorship will be used to help with travel costs for early-career scientists and additional promotion of the meeting. The Sponsorship Brochure has been drafted and the website launched.

Proposed Registration cost (similar to SCAR Biology 2013):

	Early bird	Normal	On Site
Regular fee	€ 275,00	€ 350,00	€ 400,00
Student fee	€ 175,00	€ 250,00	€ 300,00

Future Plans (may still change)

Current Planning (subject to change)

SCAR OSC Kuala Lumpur	Advertisement SCAR biology Symposium
Wednesday 05/10/2016	Start of registrations - early bird
Wednesday 05/10/2016	Opening Abstract submission system
Wednesday 05/10/2016	Call for abstracts
Monday 05/12/2016	Reminder for abstract submission
Monday 16/01/2017	Reminder for abstract submission - one more month
Monday 16/01/2017	List of reviewers ready
Wednesday 15/02/2017	Deadline abstract submission
Thursday 02/03/2017	Sending abstracts to reviewers + reviewers guidelines
Friday 31/03/2017	Deadline for reviewing the papers
Monday 03/04/2017	Author Acceptance Notification
Monday 10/04/2017	More detailed program online
Sunday 30/04/2017	End of early bird registrations - late registration starts
Friday 16/06/2017	Closing of the registrations
Monday 19/06/2018	Send out briefing for keynotes/speakers/...
Monday 19/06/2017	Send out briefing for participants
Monday 10/07/17 - Friday 14/07/17	Conference

We are looking to find an additional sponsor. Sponsorship will mainly contribute to support for early-career scientists (free accommodation and travel support).

Recommendations/Expected Outcomes

We kindly ask National Delegates to strongly promote this meeting. We expect 300-450 attendees.