

 	SCAR Standing Committee	SC-HASS
	Paper 17	Agenda item 8
	Person Responsible:	Daniela Liggett
SCAR Executive Committee Meeting 2019		
Plovdiv, Bulgaria, 29-31 July 2019		

Standing Committee on the Humanities and Social Sciences (SC-HASS)

2018-19 Report

Report Author(s)

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Summary

SC-HASS came into existence at the Delegates Meeting in 2018, when a proposal was tabled to merge the existing HASSEG and History EG groups to form a permanent Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) Group on an equal footing to the existing three SCAR Science Groups. Despite the disappointment that the Delegates did not approve our original proposal for a new HASS Group, we were very pleased to have a permanent place in SCAR as a Standing Committee.

In consultation with the SCAR President and Secretariat, we formed an initial leadership group consisting of the co-chairs of the two merged groups and an advisory committee, and drew up terms of reference for SC-HASS with specifications for leadership renewal.

We approved three initial Action Groups, two of which have been active in 2019: the *Action Group on Intrinsic Values in Antarctica (AGIVA)* and the *Action Group on Resilience and the Future of Science-based Decision-making for Antarctica (PoSciNex)*. We also approved in principle a third history-focussed Action Group which is still in formation. At our business meeting in April 2019 we supported a proposal for a *Public Engagement with Antarctic Science Action Group*.

The joint HASSEG/History EG conferences, which have been running biennially since 2013, have in turn become SC-HASS conferences. The most recent conference was held in Ushuaia, Argentina, from 3-5 April 2019. 130 delegates, 106 of whom gave presentations and 40 of whom were students or unwaged, attended the conference. Twenty-three students were awarded travel bursaries of up to USD\$500, and the PoSciNex AG also awarded four bursaries of \$250 to support researchers from non-traditional SCAR states or students. The PoSciNex AG and AGIVA both organized sessions at the conference. The Polar Museums Network held a half-day symposium as a satellite event, and Ria Olivier ran a half-day workshop on data management in HASS-based polar research. A special issue of *The Polar Journal* with the theme “Latin America and Antarctica” will feature articles based on papers from the conference.

Recommendations:

We recommend that the SCAR Executive Committee take note and approve of the activities undertaken by SC-HASS to date and remain supportive of future initiatives, including the organisation of our biennial conferences.

Standing Committee updates since the 2018 Delegates Meeting

What has been achieved?

Date	Activity
June 2018	Issue of <i>The Polar Journal</i> stemming from the 2017 HASSEG/History Biennial Conference published
June 2018	Delegates approve formation of SC-HASS, merging the former History EG and HASSEG
September 2018	SC-HASS action groups AGIVA and PolSciNex formed
December 2018	Note promoting and explaining the new SC-HASS group published in <i>The Polar Journal</i>
April 2019	SC-HASS Biennial Conference held in Ushuaia, Argentina
April 2019	SC-HASS Business Meeting held in Ushuaia, Argentina
May 2019	Subcommittee formed to make recommendations for a more systematic process of selecting conference locations and venues
June 2019	Offer of the University of Connecticut to hold the SC-HASS conference in 2021 at Avery Point, CT, USA, with support from the Mystic Seaport Museum
June/July 2019	Conference report about the SC-HASS conference in Ushuaia to be published in <i>The Polar Journal</i>

What lies ahead?

Date	Activity
Oct 2019	Edited Collection <i>Anthropocene Antarctica: Perspectives from Humanities, Law and Social Sciences</i> , stemming from 2017 conference, scheduled for publication with Routledge
October to December 2019	SC-HASS website to be migrated to the SCAR website
December 2019	Planned PolSciNex meeting and session at Polar Law Symposium, Hobart, Tasmania
August 2020	Active participation with sessions, panels/workshops and presentations at the SCAR Open Science Conference in Hobart, Tasmania
August 2020	SC-HASS Business Meeting at the SCAR OSC in Hobart, with the nomination of chief officers and advisory board members, as outlined in the Terms of Reference and subject to approval by the SCAR Executive Committee
June 2021	SC-HASS Biennial Conference at the University of Connecticut, Avery Point and Mystic Seaport Museum

Budget

Changes to planned use of funds for 2019 and 2020

Year (YYYY)	Purpose / Activity	Amount (in USD)	Contact Name	Contact Email
2019	PolSciNex AG support (travel and events)	2500	Luis Valentín Ferrada	lvferrada@derecho.uchile.cl
2019	AGIVA support (travel and events)	2500	Rupert Summerson	rupert.summerson@bigpond.com
2019	Other AGs support as approved by CIs	5000	Chief officers	
2020	PolSciNex AG support (travel and events)	2500	Luis Valentín Ferrada	lvferrada@derecho.uchile.cl
2020	AGIVA support (travel and events)	2500	Rupert Summerson	rupert.summerson@bigpond.com
2020	Other AGs support as approved by CIs	2500	Chief officers	
2020	Operational/organisational expenses	1000	Chief officers	
2020	SC-HASS ECR bursaries for SCAR OSC	1500	Chief officers	
Total		20,000		

Membership

Changes to SC Leadership since 2018 Delegates Meeting report

Role	First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Country	Email	Date Started	Date Term is to End
Chief officer	Elizabeth	Leane	University of Tasmania	Australia	Elizabeth.leane@utas.edu.au	June 2018	Aug. 2020
Chief officer	Daniela	Liggett	University of Canterbury	New Zealand	Daniela.liggett@canterbury.ac.nz	June 2018	Aug. 2020
Chief officer	Cornelia	Lüdecke	University of Hamburg	Germany	C.Luedecke@lrz.uni-muenchen.de	June 2018	Aug. 2020

Please identify early-career researchers with * in first column

SCAR Fellowship Reviewers

First Name	Last Name	E-mail	Principal Expertise
Elizabeth	Leane	Elizabeth.leane@utas.edu.au	Antarctic literature; humanities
Daniela	Liggett	Daniela.liggett@canterbury.ac.nz	Antarctic governance; tourism; environmental management
Cristian	Lorenzo	clorenzo@conicet.gov.ar	Political Science & International Relations

Additional information (optional)

Outreach, communication and capacity-building activities

Relevant activities include

- “Introducing SC-HASS: The new SCAR Standing Committee on the humanities and social sciences.” *The Polar Journal* 8(2): 409-10. Article by SC-HASS chief officer Elizabeth Leane promoting the new group to the polar studies community
- Public events associated with the SC-HASS Biennial Conference in Ushuaia: “Antarctica within Argentina’s International Relations” (seminar in Spanish, 3 April); Antarctic Film Showcase, with live music (5 April); presentation, “1958: El primer crucero Antartico contado por sus protagonistas” (6 April)
- Podcast for “Polar Geopolitics”: in the wake of our conference, SC-HASS member Peder Roberts talked about the HASS disciplines in Antarctic research as part of a podcast on Antarctic history and heritage (27 May) <http://www.polargeopolitics.com/e/frozen-claims-and-contemporary-geopolitics-history-and-heritage-in-antarctica/>
- SC-HASS chief officer Elizabeth Leane interviewed by INACH (Chile) for website article about the HASS disciplines in Antarctic research (11 April)
- SC-HASS chief officer Daniela Liggett had a workshop meeting with Chilean researchers in Viña del Mar to raise awareness about SCAR’s capacity building opportunities and to talk about HASS-related activities (April)
- SC-HASS members contributed to a dedicated social science session at the Antarctic Science Conference in New Zealand in June 2019 – the first time this conference has featured a HASS session
- Report on SC-HASS conference, *The Polar Journal* (forthcoming, June 2019)

Notable Papers

1. Antonello, A. 2019. *The Greening of Antarctica*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

This monograph with a prestigious press draws on a wide range of government and non-government sources over four countries to provide the first detailed account of development of Antarctic environmental politics and diplomacy in the post-Treaty period.

2. Mancilla, A. 2018. The moral limits of territorial claims in Antarctica. *Ethics and International Affairs* **32**: 339-360.

This represents one of the first attempts to apply moral philosophy to Antarctic geopolitics. The article seeks to clarify the moral weight of existing territorial gains and points to ways of rethinking territorial status in Antarctica.

3. Nash, M., Nielsen, H.E.F., Shaw, J., King, M., Lea, M., & N. Bax. 2019 "Antarctica just has this hero factor ...": Gendered barriers to Australian Antarctic research and remote fieldwork. *PLOS-One*. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0209983>

This article presents the results of an exploratory online survey of 95 women researchers in the Australia national program. It identifies five primary gendered barriers, and argues for the importance of inclusivity, diversity and equity initiatives in Antarctic research generally and the national programs specifically.

4. Nyman, E. 2018. Protecting the poles: Marine living resource conservation approaches in the Arctic and Antarctic. *Ocean & Coastal Management* **151**: 193-200.

This article examines the proposal to create a Marine Protected Area in the Ross Sea alongside a 2014 proposal to ban commercial fishing in the Arctic Ocean. It suggests reasons for the disparity between the quick acceptance of the Arctic ban and the long period of negotiations over the Ross Sea MPA.

5. Salazar, J. F. 2018. Ice cores as temporal probes. *Journal of Contemporary Archaeology*, **5(1)**: 32–43.

This article examines the politics of ice cores, key artefacts in a period of climate change, focussing particularly on their function as time capsules. It analyses ice-coring practices and technologies to develop new ways of thinking about the materiality and agency of ice.

6. Samuelson, M., & Lavery, C. 2019. The Oceanic South. *English Language Notes*, **57(1)**, 37-50.

The paper appears in a special issue of ELN which aims to showcase new theoretical approaches to the oceanic humanities in cultural studies. It links the Southern Ocean to the global South, presenting the Southern Ocean as central rather than peripheral to contemporary humanistic inquiry.

7. Scott, S.V. 2018. What lessons does the Antarctic Treaty offer the future of peaceful relations in the South China Sea? *Marine Policy* **87**: 295-300.

This piece revisits the idea of considering the Antarctic Treaty as a possible model for solutions to the tensions in the South China Sea, arguing for cautious optimism in this regard.

8. Stephens, T. 2018. The Antarctic Treaty System and the Anthropocene. *The Polar Journal* 8: 29-43.

This article considers what the Anthropocene means for the way we conceive of Antarctica and Southern Ocean in a legal sense, and explores ways that the Antarctic Treaty System might respond to the challenges of this new conceptualization of human/planetary interactions.

Major Products

1. Nielsen, H, Liggett, D., and Leane, E. “Antarctic Protected Areas: Humanities and Social Sciences Perspectives.” Information paper submitted to joint SCAR/CEP workshop (27-28 June 2019 in Prague, Czech Republic).

Major Impacts

SC-HASS members serving on relevant delegations or contributing to major reviews

- Daniela Sampaio served as the Brazilian delegate to CCAMLR in 2018.
- Ricardo Roura represented ASOC at the 2018 ATCM and at CCAMLR.
- Klaus Dodds serves on the UK Arctic Antarctic Partnership and on the advisory council of the UK All Party Parliamentary Group on the Polar Regions. In 2019 Dodds was made an Honorary Fellow of the British Antarctic Survey – the first social scientist to be appointed in this role.
- Daniela Liggett, Sanjay Chaturvedi and Klaus Dodds are presently contributing to the SCAR Horizon Scan Review.
- Daniela Liggett contributed to UN Environment’s flagship publication, the Sixth Global Environment Outlook (<https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/global-environment-outlook-6>).
- The work of SC-HASS social scientists was featured in a major review of science diplomacy, highlighting polar science diplomacy, by the UK Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (<https://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/POST-PN-0568>).

Direct support from outside organisations received for your activities

Most external support took the form of in-kind or financial contributions to the SH-HASS Biennial Conference in Ushuaia:

1. Ministerio de Ciencia y Tecnología de la Provincia de Tierra del Fuego: 484.490 Argentinean pesos (for catering, registrations and accommodation)
2. Parliamentarians: 44.000 Argentinean pesos (for catering)

3. Ushuaia Bureau: 50.000 Argentinean pesos (for catering)
4. Arakur hotel:
 - a. Free use of venue (5-star hotel conference facilities)
 - b. a special rate for the catering service, in the context of a sustained increase in the inflation rate in Argentina.
 - c. bus transport hotel-CADIC round-trip for free + special rates in the accommodations for delegates
5. Others special rates for accommodation: Albatros hotel, Las Lenguas hotel, De Los Andes hotel, Las Yamanas hotel, Tierra de Leyendas Boutique Hotel, Fueguino Hotel, La Posta Hotel, ACA hotel, and Centro Austral de Investigaciones Científicas-CONICET.
6. Free venues for side events: Centro Austral de Investigaciones Científicas-CONICET, Universidad Nacional de Tierra del Fuego, and Museo Marítimo y del Presidio del Fin del Mundo.
7. Special rates for the excursion to the Harberton Ranch: Rumbo Sur.

In addition, several SC-HASS members led large projects that were funded by national research bodies: for example, the “Antarctic Cities and the Global Commons” project, funded by the Australian Research Council, with partners in Australia, New Zealand and Chile, led by Juan F. Salazar; “Integrating the Humanities into Antarctica Studies,” funded by the Australian Research Council and led by Elizabeth Leane; and a project on Critical Heritage in Antarctica, funded by the Swedish Research Council and led by Lize-Marié van der Watt. Thus far we have not kept records on exact funding amounts for these activities, as the number of SC-HASS affiliated researchers is quite large, but can do so in the future if required.

Major collaborations your Committee has with other SCAR groups and with organisations/groups beyond SCAR

Within SCAR

1. SCAR Standing Committee on Capacity Building, Education and Training (CBET)
2. SCAR Standing Committee on the Antarctic Treaty System (SC-ATS)
3. Ant-ICON SRP Planning Group
4. SCAR Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management (SCADAM)

Outside SCAR

1. Social and Human Working Group International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)
2. Polar Prediction Project (PPP) Societal and Economic Research and Applications (SERA) Task Group
3. International Polar Heritage Committee (IPHC)

Updates for your group's SCAR web page

As HASSEG we maintained a very active WordPress site (<http://antarctica-hasseg.com/>) linked to the SCAR site, which is up to date. We are currently in discussion with the SCAR Secretariat about migrating information on this site to the SCAR site. The SCAR site currently has links to the History EG and HASSEG, which are now superseded by SC-HASS. The migration needs to include new text on this landing page to make it clear that SC-HASS incorporates these former EGs.

Other information for publicity purposes

We have a number of photographs from our Biennial Conference that we would be happy to provide on request.