



Paper No: 16 Agenda item: 9.1

Standing Committee SC-HASS

Person Daniela Liggett

Responsible:

SCAR Delegates Report 2020

Standing Committee on the Humanities and Social Sciences (SC-HASS) 2018-2020 Report

Summary

Report Author(s)

Prof Elizabeth Leane (University of Tasmania, Australia)
Dr Daniela Liggett (University of Canterbury, New Zealand)
Prof Dr Cornelia Lüdecke (University of Hamburg, Germany)
Associate Prof Peder Roberts (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden)

Summary of activities from 2018-20

After its formation at the Delegates Meeting in 2018 (drawing on the merged HASSEG and History EG groups), SC-HASS has been led by three Chief Officers, with seven other representatives forming a 10-person steering committee. Dr Alan Hemmings stood down in mid-2020, and Associate Professor Alejandra Mancilla agreed to join the steering committee. Prof Dr Cornelia Lüdecke has retired from her university position in 2020 but has agreed to remain as a Chief Officer to ensure continuity until an election can be held for her replacement. The Chief Officers have co-opted Associate Professor Peder Roberts to assist with administrative tasks on an *ad hoc* basis to ensure that the work of the Group continues smoothly.

We have approved four Action Groups, two of which have been active over 2018-2020 – the AG on *Intrinsic Values in Antarctica (AGIVA)* and the AG on *Resilience and the Future of Science-based Decision-making for Antarctica (PoSciNex)*. The AG on *Environing Antarctica: perspectives from history, social sciences and the humanities on managing and assessing Antarctic environments (EN-AQ)* and *Public Engagement with Antarctic Science AG* both plan to begin activities in 2021.

In April 2019, we held the first official SC-HASS biennial conference in Ushuaia, Argentina. 130 delegates (106 presenters, including 40 students/unwaged) attended. Twenty-seven travel bursaries of up to USD\$500 were awarded to support researchers from non-traditional SCAR states or early-career researchers. The PoSciNex AG and AGIVA organized individual sessions at the conference. A special issue of *The Polar Journal* with the theme “Latin America and Antarctica” was published from the conference in December 2019.

Seven SC-HASS-related sessions were planned for SCAR COMNAP 2020, and at least two of these are likely to run as online sessions. The SC-HASS Business Meeting will be held online in August 2020.

After the onset COVID-19 pandemic, a diverse group of 25-30 researchers within SC-HASS, led by Chief Officer Daniela Liggett, was organized to study the impact of the pandemic on Antarctic research and the Antarctic sector more generally, with the aim of producing a report of SCAR and a series of academic papers.

Summary Budget 2019 to 2022

	2019	2020	2021	2022
	Spent	Allocated	Request	Request
(US\$)	10,713.71	10,000	10,000	10,000

Future plans

Planned use of funds for 2020 to 2022

Year (YYYY)	Purpose/Activity	Amount (in USD)	Contact Name	Contact Email
2022	Travel Bursaries for SCAR-COMNAP	2500	Co-Chief Officers	
2022	Support for AGs	7500	Co-Chief Officers and AG leads	
2021	Support for SC-HASS Biennial conference – logistics and administration	All left-over funds from 2020	Akiho Shibata and Co-Chief Officers	
2021	Travel Bursaries for SC-HASS Biennial conference	2500	Akiho Shibata and Co-Chief Officers	
2021	Support for AGs	7500	Co-Chief Officers and AG leads	
2020	N/A as conferences/meetings were cancelled – transfer of funds to 2021 requested	0		

Additional detail on funds usage and desired results/outcomes

The vast majority of SC-HASS funds are spent on travel bursaries, either directly through SC-HASS or through the AGs. The travel bursaries are reserved for HDRs/ECRs and for researchers from non-traditional APs who could not otherwise attend the SCAR or SC-HASS conferences.

Considering the impact of COVID-19 on international travel, we are looking at using the available funds also to support well-defined research initiatives by ECRs and researchers from non-traditional APs and plan on discussing this option at our online Business Meeting in August.

Percentage of the budget to be used for support of early-career researchers

2020: 100% (four travel bursaries claimed from 2019)

2021: 75%-100%

2022: 75%-100%

Percentage of the budget to be used for support of researchers from countries with developing Antarctic programmes

2020: 0%

2021: 25% (not including ECRs from developing APs)

2022: 25% (as above)

Membership

Leadership

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

⁺N.B. Originally, we intended to have new Chief Officers elected at the SC-HASS Business Meeting and then approved by the SCAR Delegates in August 2020, but in response to the SCAR Executive Committee's request to consider extending the Chief Officers' terms until in-person SCAR Business and Delegates Meetings can be held, all Chief Officers agreed to do so. Peder Roberts, a SC-HASS Steering Committee member has agreed to support the Chief Officers by sharing some of workload in the meantime.

Other members

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Country	Email
Adrian	Howkins	University of Bristol	UK	adrian.howkins@bristol.ac.uk
Cristian	Lorenzo	CONICET/National University of Tierra del Fuego	Argentina	clorenzo@conicet.gov.ar
Alejandra	Mancilla	University of Oslo	Norway	alejandra.mancilla@ifikk.uio.no
*Hanne	Nielsen	University of Tasmania	Australia/NZ	hanne.nielsen@utas.edu.au
Peder	Roberts	University of Stavanger	Norway	peder.w.roberts@uis.no
Akiho	Shibata	Kobe University	Japan	akihos@kobe-u.ac.jp
Lize-Marié	van der Watt	KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Sweden	lizemarie.vanderwatt@abe.kth.se

* ECR

Additional information (optional)

Detailed information on activities to date

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 PoSciNex formed
December 2018	Note promoting and explaining the newly formed SC-HASS published in <i>The Polar Journal</i>
April 2019	SC-HASS Biennial Conference held in Ushuaia, Argentina – with dedicated AGIVA and PoSciNex Sessions/Panels This meeting was locally organized by Instituto Antártico Argentino, Centro Austral de Investigaciones Científicas (CADIC) – Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET), Universidad Nacional de Tierra del Fuego, Ministerio de Ciencia y Tecnología de la Provincia de Tierra del Fuego, Instituto Fueguino de Turismo, Municipalidad de Ushuaia, and Fundación para la Conservación del Patrimonio Antártico. SCAR Vice President Professor Jefferson C. Simões attended this meeting representing the SCAR Executive Committee.
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/July 2019	Conference report about the SC-HASS conference in Ushuaia published in <i>The Polar Journal</i>
November 2019	<i>Anthropocene Antarctica</i> published, featuring revised papers from 2017 conference
December 2019	PoSciNex Panel held at Polar Law Symposium in Hobart
December 2019	Special issue of <i>The Polar Journal</i> based on revised papers from 2019 conference published

Major Outcomes

Special issue, “Latin America and Antarctica.” 2019. Ed. Adrian Howkins and Cristian Lorenzo. *The Polar Journal* 9.2.

Articles based the 2019 SC-HASS biennial conference, editors both SC-HASS (and Steering Group) members. The first major English-language collection of scholarly articles on Antarctic history and Latin America.

Anthropocene Antarctica: Perspectives from the Humanities, Law and Social Sciences. 2019. Ed. Elizabeth Leane and Jeff McGee. London: Routledge.
Chapters based on papers delivered at the HASSEG/History EG biennial conference 2017, editors both SC-HASS members. A novel engagement with the concept of the Anthropocene and the diversity of human impacts on Antarctica.

Special issue, “Reflecting on the 60th Anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty.” 2019. Ed. Klaus Dodds. *Polar Record* 55.5.

Editor and all but one contributions by SC-HASS members

Antonello, A. 2019. *The Greening of Antarctica: Assembling an International Environment*. Oxford: Oxford UP.

Critically acclaimed monograph in prestigious press by SC-HASS member.

Mancilla, A. (2020). *Decolonising Antarctica*. In A. Hemmings & D. Bunikowski (Eds.), *Philosophies of Polar Law*. Routledge.

A novel theorization of Antarctica as a colonized space that has sparked wider discussion and formed the impetus for a conference scheduled for December 2020 on the relationship between Antarctica and concepts of colonialism and post-colonialism, expected to result in an edited volume.

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).
2. The Antarctic Documents Database (<https://www.utas.edu.au/library/atadd>). Based on documents collected by international lawyer, Bill Bush, this database contains national and international documents relating to Antarctic law and policy. It was created by a team including SCHASS members Jeff McGee and Tim Stephens, from funding provided by the Australian Research Council.

Major Impacts

- 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 have contributed 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>).
- A paper by Meredith Nash and colleagues has underpinned the Australian Antarctic Division’s recently launched Gender Equality Strategy and has significantly influenced the Director’s approach to making fieldwork more inclusive. (Nash, M., Nielsen, H. E., Shaw, J., King, M., Lea, M. A., & Bax, N. (2019). “Antarctica just has this hero factor...”: Gendered barriers to Australian Antarctic research and remote fieldwork. *PloS One*, 14(1), <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0209983>).
- Dag Avango led a major expedition to the Antarctic Peninsula region (CHAQ 2020) concerned with cultural heritage related to the Swedish Antarctic Expedition (1901-03).

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:

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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. Other special rates for accommodation: Albatros hotel, Las Lengas 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 member-led projects are 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 the project Creating Cultural Heritage in Antarctica (CHAQ), funded by the Swedish Research Council and led by Lize-Marié van der Watt. Peder Roberts leads the European Research Council-funded project “Greening the Poles: Science, the Environment, and the Creation of the Modern Arctic and Antarctic” (GRETPOLE), which Hanne Nielsen spent three months with through a SCAR fellowship during 2018. Alejandra Mancilla leads the project “Political Philosophy Looks to Antarctica”, financed by the Research Council of Norway.

Major collaborations your group 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)
5. INSTANT SRP Planning Group

Outside SCAR

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

Outreach, communication and capacity building activities

- The [Antarctic Cities Youth Expedition](#), led by SC-HASS member (and former leader) Juan Francisco Salazar with Elizabeth Leane (SC-HASS Chief Officer), and facilitated by the Chilean Antarctic Institute, took five young people (18-29), one from each “gateway” city, to Escudero Base on King George Island as part of the Australian Research Council funded project “Antarctic Cities”. The ACYE received significant media coverage in five countries, including national television in Chile and national radio in Australia. It has led to an emergent [Antarctic Youth Coalition](#) in the five cities.
- “[Antarctic Futures](#)” online game workshopped and co-designed with youth in the five “gateway” cities by the “Antarctic Cities” project.
- The CHAQ 2020 expedition received considerable media coverage in both Sweden (including a slot on the TV4 morning program) and Argentina. Expedition activities included public events in Argentina and a website with an actively maintained blog (meltinghistory.org).
- 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 Antártico 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) Roberts has since become a regular guest on the podcast with a particular emphasis on polar history.

Website

We have a comprehensive website listing all of our members and our major events, which this year was migrated to the SCAR webpage. We are extremely grateful to Rosemary Nash for her excellent work on this. We also actively maintain a Facebook page, which feeds into our webpage.

SCAR Fellowship Reviewers

First Name	Last Name	Email	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
Alejandra	Mancilla	alejandra.mancilla@ifikk.uio.no	Political Philosophy
Peder	Roberts	peder.w.roberts@uis.no	History
Hanne	Nielsen	hanne.nielsen@utas.edu.au	Humanities, Governance, Tourism
Ximena	Senatore	mxsenatore@gmail.com	Antarctic Heritage
Akiho	Shibata	akihos@kobe-u.ac.jp	Law