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XXXVII SCAR Delegates Meeting

India, September 2022

Standing Committee on the Humanities and Social Sciences 2020-22 Report

Summary

Report Authors

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International Science Council

Summary of activities from 2020-22

SC-HASS adopted a new set of Terms of Reference in 2021 and developed Rules of Procedure, which will be presented separately to the Delegates at this year's meeting. Cornelia Lüdecke, founder of the History AG that served as the first forerunner of SC-HASS, retired as a co-chief officer in 2021 on the occasion of her retirement from her chair at the University of Hamburg. Her place was taken on an acting basis by Peder Roberts. SC-HASS voted at its 2021 business meeting that a bursary be awarded in Cornelia's honour to sponsor an ECR's attendance at the SC-HASS conferences.

SC-HASS sponsored four Action Groups, the activities of which are detailed in the latter part of this report.

SC-HASS successfully held its biennial conference in hybrid format from 18 to 19 November 2021. The conference was hosted by the Polar Cooperation and Research Centre at Kobe University, Japan, under the chairmanship of Akiho Shibata. Under the theme "The Global Antarctic," the program featured 84 separate oral presentations in addition a well-attended poster session.

SC-HASS led a major report on the impact of COVID-19 on Antarctica research that included six work packages, under the overall leadership of Daniela Liggett. Using a variety of qualitative methods, the project resulted in 25 deliverables (either completed or in progress), including a report to the SCAR delegates.

	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Spent	Allocated	Request	Request
(US\$)	4,657	10,000	10,000	10,000

Summary Budget 2021 to 2024

Total SC-HASS funds available as of July 2022 (including carry-over from previous years): \$34,580.

Future Plans

Four members of the SC-HASS steering committee have elected to step down and will be formally replaced by four new members at the 2022 business meeting. The new members will be Ursula Rack (NZ), Meredith Nash (Australia), Ebru Caymaz (Turkey), and Yelena Yermakova (USA). SC-HASS has chosen to hold its 2023 annual conference in Lisbon with Pedro Marques Quintero in charge of the local organising committee.

Sub-group	Planned activity			
PEAR	Continued engagement with a wide variety of Antarctic stakeholders and projects, including SeaRise (on sea level projections), citizen science in partnership with Hurtigruten, and a baseline study of public attitudes with the Australian Antarctic Division.			
AGIVA	Continued work on a keystone publication.			
PolSciNex	Will complete its ongoing work.			
Ant-TAG	Activities underway include a peer-reviewed publication; an entry for the Antarctic Environments Portal on Antarctic tourism; a conference stream on Antarctic tourism; and an operations workshop to connect practitioners and researchers. Ant-TAG will focus initially on continuing to build its membership network, connecting with other SCAR groups, and building on foundations laid during the COVID-19 project.			

Budget

Planned use of funds for 2022 to 2024

Year (YYYY)	Purpose/ Activity	Amount (in USD)	Contact Name	Contact Email
2022-24	Support of PEAR (AG)	2,000	Elizabeth Leane	elizabeth.leane@utas.edu.au
2022-24	Support of AGIVA (AG)	2,000	Rupert Summerson	rupert.summerson@bigpond. com
2022-24	Support of Ant-TAG	2,000	Hanne Nielsen	hanne.nielsen@utas.edu.au
2024	Bursaries to facilitate ECR attendance at SCAR OSC	10,000	Peder Roberts	peder.roberts@abe.kth.se
2023	Subvention to support SC-HASS conference in Lisbon	15,000	Pedro Marques- Quinteiro	p6771@ulusofona.pt

Additional detail on funds usage and desired results/outcomes

Funding for each AG is awarded as a block grant that each leadership team may allocate as they best see fit to further the group's activities. The subvention for the 2023 conference is principally intended to facilitate in-person attendance by ECRs and scholars from outside the Global North, through a combination of bursaries and direct subsidies to keep registration costs low. Bursaries for the 2024 OSC are intended again to facilitate attendance from ECRs and Committee members based outside the Global North.

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

2022: N/A 2023: c. 45% 2024: c. 45%

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

2022: N/A 2023: c. 45% 2024: c. 45%

Membership

Leadership

Role	First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Country	Primary Language	Email	Date Start ed
Chief Officer	Daniela	Liggett	University of Canterbury	New Zealand	German / English	daniela.liggett@ca nterbury.ac.nz	2010
Chief Officer	Elizabeth	Leane	University of Tasmania	Australia	English	elizabeth.leane@u tas.edu.au	2016
Acting Chief Officer	Peder	Roberts	University of Stavanger	Norway	English / Danish	peder.roberts@ab e.kth.se	2020

(Please identify early-career researchers with * in first column)

Other Steering Committee members

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Country	Primary Language	Email
Adrian	Howkins	University of Bristol	UK	English	adrian.howkins@bristol. ac.uk
Cristian	Lorenzo	CONICET	Argentina	Spanish	clorenzo@conicet.gov.ar
Alejandra	Mancilla	University of Oslo	Norway	Spanish	alejandra.mancilla@ifikk. uio.no
*Hanne	Nielsen	University of Tasmania	Australia	English	hanne.nielsen@utas.edu .au
Akiho	Shibata	Kobe University	Japan	Japanese	akihos@kobe-u.ac.jp
Lize-Marié	Hansen van der Watt	KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Sweden	Afrikaans / English	lizemarie.vanderwatt@a be.kth.se

(Please identify early-career researchers with * in first column)

Additional information (optional)

Detailed information on activities to date

The four Action Groups sponsored by SC-HASS report the following activities:

- Under the leadership of Rebecca Priestley, PEAR (Public Engagement with Antarctic Research) engaged sociologists, tourism researchers, musicologists, cultural and literary scholars, and media studies experts to chart and explain attitudes to Antarctica. This also included collaboration with natural scientists (notably on the role of citizen science). Elizabeth Leane and Katie Marx will take over the leadership of PEAR from August 2022.
- AGIVA (Action Group on Intrinsic Values and Antarctica), led by Rupert Summerson, expanded its membership to include political philosophers and continued to work towards a keystone publication.
- PolSciNex (Action Group on Resilience and the Future of Science-Based Policy-Making) continued under the leadership of Akiho Shibata and Luis Valentín Ferrada, including a strong presence at the SC-HASS annual conference and continued progress on publications.
- Ant-TAG (Antarctic Tourism Action Group) was founded in 2021 with Hanne Nielsen, Daniela Caijao, Yu-Fai Leung, and Gabriela Roldán as chief officers. Ant-TAG has held several community meetings, prepared a SCAR Information Paper (IP075) for ATCM XLIV, and will chair the tourism session at the 2022 SCAR OSC. Other planned outputs include peer-reviewed publications, and workshops for researchers and practitioners.

Additionally, SC-HASS coordinated a research project on the impact of COVID-19 on Antarctic research. This showcased the capacity for SC-HASS to provide timely and relevant input to SCAR and other Antarctic stakeholders on questions of urgent importance, and the expertise of its membership. The project consisted of six work packages: Antarctic Futures, Research and Decision-Making, Antarctic Tourism, Perceptions of Antarctica, Antarctic Wildlife, and an overall synthesis. The project was led by SC-HASS chief officer Daniela Liggett and managed by Andrea Herbert (both NZ).

The 2021 SC-HASS conference took place in hybrid format in Kobe, Japan and online with the theme "The Global Antarctic." Akiho Shibata served as conference convenor. The local organizing committee included also Mami Furuhata, Osamu Inagaki, Zia Madani, and Wakako Masuda (all of the Kobe University Polar Cooperation and Research Centre). Peder Roberts chaired the academic planning committee, which also included Nengye Liu and Mengzhu Zhang (Australia), Sanjay Chaturvedi (India), Hong Ching Goh (Malaysia), Yu-Fai Leung (USA), Alejandra Mancilla (Norway), and Adrian Howkins (UK). The conference attracted 327 participants and included a keynote session in Japanese aimed at outreach to the Japanese public.

Major Outcomes

The SC-HASS COVID-19 research project produced over 20 deliverables (selected publications listed below).

Ant-TAG has become established the key conduit between SCAR researchers and the Dutch Research Council's four recently-funded Antarctic Tourism projects as a cooperation partner. The four projects, which all include SC-HASS researchers, are "ADAPT: Adaptation pathways through knowledge co-production to anticipate Antarctica's uncertain tourism futures", "ANTARC-SHIP: Fostering environmental stewardship among Antarctic tourism governance actors and institutions", "GUIDE-BEST (Antarctica): Growing Understanding of Individual Drivers of Expectations and Behaviours to Enhance Sustainable Tourism in Antarctic" and "ANT-MICI: Antarctic tourism - developing knowledge and tools to minimise cumulative impacts on biodiversity and wilderness values in Antarctica."

Major Products

- SCAR XVIII Paper 35: Antarctic COVID-19 Project Final Report (<u>https://www.scar.org/scar-library/papers/xxxvi-scar-delegates-2021-online/5598-wp35/</u>). The final report of the SC-HASS COVID-19 research project, summarizing the impact of COVID-19 on Antarctic research and providing recommendations for action.
- 2. IP075 SCAR Tourism Action Group (Ant-TAG), submitted by SCAR to ATCM XLIV. The paper outlined the key aims of Ant-TAG, which are to integrate, prioritize, and implement Antarctica tourism research agendas; facilitate research collaboration within SCAR; establish a communication platform to address industry-relevant knowledge gaps; and to collate research-based, policy-ready information on the topic of Antarctic tourism.
- 3. Special issue of *The Polar Journal,* "Global South Perspectives on the Future of Antarctic Governance" (2022).
- Barbosa, A., Varsani, A., Morandini, V., Grimaldi, W., Vanstreels, R.E.T., Diaz, J., Boulinier, T., Dewar, M., González-Acuña, D., Gray, R., McMahon, C.R., Miller, G., Power, M., Gamble, A., Wille, M. (2020). "Risk Assessment of SARS-CoV-2 in Antarctic Wildlife." *Science of the Total Environment.* <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.143352</u>. Assessed risk factors relevant to Antarctic fauna of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 5. Ferrada, L.V. (ed.). Estudios de derecho antártico (Santiago: Universitaria, 2022).
- Frame, B. & A. Hemmings (2020). "Coronavirus at the end of the world: Antarctica matters." Social Sciences & Humanities Open 2(1). DOI: <u>10.1016/j.ssaho.2020.100054</u>. Summarized COVID-19 impacts on Antarctica and assessed likely future implications.
- 7. Leane, E. and McGee, J. (eds) Anthropocene Antarctica: Perspectives from the Humanities, Law and Social Sciences (Routledge, 2020).
- 8. Salazar, J., Leane, E., James, P. and Magee, L. <u>Antarctic Cities: From Gateways</u> <u>to Custodial Cities</u> (Western Sydney University, 2021).

Major Impacts

Report on the impact of COVID-19 on Antarctic activities

SC-HASS members prepared a report for SCAR leadership charting the impacts of COVID-19 on Antarctic research across SCAR's membership. In addition to the report, project members prepared a number of peer-reviewed publications, participated actively in relevant conferences, gave media interviews, and produced podcasts and other forms of outreach. The project both summarized the impact of the pandemic upon Antarctic research and provided concrete suggestions for how those impacts may be addressed going forward.

Antarctic Gateway Cities project

The Antarctic Gateway Cities project led by Juan Francisco Salazar (Australia) produced a final report building upon qualitive research in the five major southern hemisphere Antarctic gateway cities. The report summarized the project's research and findings and made major contributions to discussions on the relationship between Antarctica and the cities to which it is most strongly connected. This included considering that relationship as a form of custodianship.

Direct support from outside organisations received for your activities

- 1. Australian Antarctic Division, support for research into baseline public knowledge and awareness of Antarctica (SC-HASS-based PIs Elizabeth Leane, Hanne Nielsen)
- Australian Research Council, support for projects Transforming Tourists Antarctic Experience (SC-HASS-based CIs Elizabeth Leane, Carolyn Philpott, Hanne Nielsen), Creative Antarctica (SC-HASS-based PIs Elizabeth Leane, Carolyn Philpott, Hanne Nielsen)
- Dutch Research Council (NOW), PT-REPAIR scheme support for ADAPT (SC-HASS-based CIs Elizabeth Leane, Hanne Nielsen, Pat Maher, Christy Hehir)
- 4. European Research Council, support for projects Greening the Poles: Science, the Environment, and the Creation of the Modern Arctic and Antarctic (PI Peder Roberts) and Dynamic Territory: A Normative Framework for Territory in the Post-Holocene (PI Alejandra Mancilla).
- 5. Swedish Research Council, Creating Antarctic Heritage (PI Lize-Marié van der Watt)
- 6. Volkswagen Foundation, support for the project Decay Without Mourning: Future-Thinking Heritage Practices (PI Lize-Marié van der Watt).

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

Within SCAR

- 1. Committee members participate actively in Ant-ICON research (in particular in its Research Theme 3 on socio-ecological systems, as well as the Ant-ICON synthesis theme) and leadership (Steering Committee)
- 2. INSTANT (Rebecca Priestley and PEAR)
- 3. SC-ATS (Daniela Liggett)
- 4. SCADM (Ria Olivier)
- 5. SCAR EDI

Outside SCAR

- 1. Australian Antarctic Division: collaboration on charting Australian public attitudes toward Antarctica.
- 2. Hurtigruten Expeditions: collaboration on citizen science and tourist experiences of Antarctica.
- 3. Intrepid Travel: collaboration on tourist mediation and cultural diversity.
- 4. Mawson's Huts Foundation: collaboration on public engagement with Antarctic Histories.
- 5. IAATO collaboration on polar tourism research (ADAPT, etc).
- 6. ASOC as above.
- 7. International Polar Tourism Research Network (IPTRN) as above.
- 8. WMO (involvement in the Polar Prediction Project).

Outreach, communication and capacity building activities

- 1. COVID project: a number of outreach and communication activities, including podcasts and a report to SCAR leadership; involvement of ECRs and financial support given to an ECR for project management.
- 2. Biennial conference: a dedicated session was held in Japanese aimed at bringing Antarctica humanities and social sciences to a wider local audience.
- 3. Continuation of support for ECR participation in SC-HASS events and a renewed focus on facilitating participation from members outside the Global North.

Contributions to equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI)

SC-HASS has adopted formal procedures for its biennial conferences to prioritise accessibility for all researchers within the community. Conference venues are now chosen after a bidding process, in which each bid must explicitly state what measures they have in place to promote participation from a) unwaged scholars and scholars based in less-wealthy countries and b) ECRs. Bids are now assessed in part on criteria such as ease of obtaining visas and political conditions that may make participation from some scholars unviable (such as anti-LQBTQ+ legislation). SC-HASS has consistently had strong gender equality but is working to increasing the diversity in national backgrounds of its leadership.

SCAR Fellowship Reviewers

First Name	Last Name	Email	Principal Expertise
Peder	Roberts	peder.roberts@a be.kth.se	History, political geography
Alejandra	Mancilla	<u>alejandra.mancill</u> <u>a@ifikk.uio.no</u>	Political philosophy
Elizabeth	Leane	elizabeth.leane @utas.edu.au	Humanities (literature, arts cultural history, public engagement)
Adrian	Howkins	adrian.howkins @bristol.ac.uk	History, collaboration between social and natural sciences