

Science in the Snow

***Sixty years of international collaboration through
the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research***

By

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and Colin P Summerhayes***

Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research
2018

Second Edition for SCAR's 60th Anniversary

About this book

The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), an independent international non-governmental body, was born out of the enthusiasm engendered by the International Geophysical Year (IGY) 1957–58. Its purpose was to co-ordinate the scientific activities of its member countries and stimulate new research on the continent and in the Southern Ocean. It also provides independent and objective scientific advice to the Antarctic Treaty.

Over the past 60 years the membership has grown from 12 to 43 with others interested in joining. This history of SCAR is a broad overview of its principal activities, a guide to scientific initiatives and developments and a celebration of scientific enthusiasm on and around the icy continent. Its many appendices will provide a useful reference to its meetings, officials and principal publications.



The authors

Professor David Walton, an ecologist, has spent his working career with the British Antarctic Survey. He chaired the SCAR Group of Specialists on Environmental Affairs and Conservation for many years as well as representing SCAR at Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings. He has been awarded the Polar Medal and the first SCAR Medal for International Scientific Co-ordination.



Dr Peter Clarkson was a geologist with the British Antarctic Survey for 22 years before becoming Executive Secretary of SCAR in 1989. In 16 years he attended the SCAR Delegates' Meetings, the SCAR Executive Committee meetings, Antarctic Treaty Meetings, and many other meetings to represent SCAR. He has been awarded the Polar Medal and was made an MBE for services to Antarctic science.



Dr Colin Summerhayes is a geologist and oceanographer specializing in studies of climate change. He was Director of the UK's Institute of Oceanographic Sciences, and Director of UNESCO's Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) Project Office in Paris, before being appointed SCAR's first Executive Director in 2004. Retiring in 2010, he is now an Emeritus Associate of the Scott Polar Research Institute.



ISBN 978-0-948277-56-6