



Paper Number 11
Agenda Item 6
Person Responsible: Catherine Ritz

SCAR Executive Committee Meeting 2019

Plovdiv, Bulgaria, 29-31 July 2019

Progress towards SCAR OSC 2020

Report Author(s)

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Summary

The 9th SCAR Open Science Conference themed 'Antarctic Science – global connections', and XXXVI Delegates meeting will take place in Hobart from July 31st to August 11th 2020, concurrently with the COMNAP 2020 AGM. Meeting venues have been secured, a Professional Conference Organiser has been appointed and the event website (scarcomnap2020.org) is now operational. The first event circular has been distributed to the community along with two calls inviting input on the list of sessions. Key issues for discussion at the 2019 ExCom meeting include:

- Topics and speakers for plenary sessions and mini-symposia
- Parallel sessions list
- Agreement of the event schedule and registration fee schedule
- Other issues, including environmental sustainability/remote participation

Progress to date

The 9th SCAR Open Science Conference themed ‘Antarctic Science – global connections’, and XXXVI Delegates meeting will take place in Hobart from July 31st to August 11th 2020, concurrently with the COMNAP 2020 AGM.

Local organisation

Organisation of the meeting is well underway, with meeting venues secured, a Professional Conference Organiser appointed and the event website (scarcomnap2020.org) operational. A report by the local organiser appended to this report. As detailed in the local organiser’s report, all the OSC and business meetings will primarily be held at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, on the Hobart waterfront with some additional meeting space a short distance from the conference venue. Between these two venues there will be ten rooms available for concurrent sessions with capacity of more than 80 people in each.

International Science Organising Committee

An International Science Organising Committee was established in October 2018, chaired by Catherine Ritz. The ISOC met in October 2018, January and July 2019 to discuss overall objectives and timelines and consider sessions proposals from the SCAR community and beyond. As with previous meetings, the meeting will consist of a mixture of plenary sessions, mini symposia, parallel sessions as well as poster sessions and a range of satellite events. Based on room availability and time available, it is estimated that the OSC will accommodate 4-5 mini symposia, 4-5 plenary talks, and 40-50 parallel sessions. The need for discussion time across all these sessions has been raised by ISOC as well as in community feedback. For this reason, formats such as TED style talks, speed talks and panel discussions will be explored as well as traditional formats.

Key discussion points

Session planning

Over 170 proposals were received from the community following a call for proposals issued in December 2018. The community were given a further chance to comment on a draft session list in April 2019.

At the ExCom meeting feedback will be sought on

- (i) the proposed list of mini symposia, included in Annex 2
- (ii) the parallel session list,
- (iii) ideas for plenary sessions (some ideas listed Annex 3)

There have also been a number of proposals for events and meetings, adjacent to the SCAR and COMNAP meetings. These include: Sub Antarctic Forum (29-30 July); APECS Workshop (2 August); SORP Meeting (30 July – 31 July); and Healthcare in Remote and Extreme Environments Colloquium (6 – 9 August). Workshops on krill and Antarctic meteorology have also been suggested.

Event schedule

Comments are sought on the proposed event schedule included on page 8.

Timeline

Provisional milestones are given below. The opening of abstract submissions is earlier than originally envisaged, in order to avoid clashing with the 2019/20 field season. The feasibility of opening for abstract submissions by this date will depend on the local organiser.

- 5th August 2019 Finalise list of parallel sessions, mini symposia and plenary sessions
- 12th August 2019 Issue invitation emails to session chairs and speakers
- 31st August 2019 Finalise session chairs
- 22nd September 2019 Chairs submit session descriptions
- 8th October 2019 Abstract submission opens for the SCAR Open Science Conference
Issue second circular
- 1 January 2020 Early Bird Registration opens – SCAR and COMNAP
- February 2020 Close call for business meetings
- 28 February 2020 Abstract submission closes
- March 2020 review abstracts by convenors
- 1 March 2020 General Registration Opens – SCAR and COMNAP
- April 2020 draft programme
- June 2020 finalise programme
- 1 July 2020 Late/On-Site Registration

Registration fee schedule

Comments are sought on the proposed registration fee schedule, shown below (all in AUD\$, Australian Dollars):

- Early Bird: \$780
- Regular: \$950
- Late/Onsite: \$1100
- Student: \$550
- Day Pass: \$220
- OSC Dinner: \$120

Other discussion points

A number of queries have been raised relating to environmental sustainability and the carbon footprint of air travel associated with the event. Discussions are underway relating to options for remote participation (such as web-streaming) and comments are welcomed.

Annex 1: Organisers update



Organiser Progress Report – July 2019

Overview:

Planning and preparations for SCAR COMNAP 2020 are well underway. We are on track to deliver an excellent event in Hobart in July-August next year. The main SCAR and COMNAP meeting venues have been secured, a Professional Conference Organiser has been appointed and the event website (scarcomnap2020.org) is now operational.

Venues:

The SCAR OSC and business meetings will primarily be held at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, on the Hobart waterfront. The Hotel Grand Chancellor offers a number of meeting rooms and facilities that can accommodate from 10 to 1100 people. To ensure that sufficient meeting spaces are available the organisers have also secured the use of two large meeting rooms and a 100 seat theatrette at the Old Woolstore Hotel that is located across the road from the main conference venue. Between these two venues there will be ten rooms available for concurrent sessions with capacity of more than 80 people in each.

The Hotel Grand Chancellor also has a large Concert Hall that can seat 1100 – this will be the plenary session venue. It has also been suggested that a short daily wrap up session be held at the end of each day - this is also proposed to be held in the Concert Hall and we are working with APECS to facilitate this daily session. There is a large auditorium space available for exhibitors, posters and refreshments (including lunch which will be provided) with additional poster space available on the mezzanine that connects the main meeting room facilities.

There are two smaller Board Rooms also available at the HGC that can be used for small groups and breakout sessions.

While childcare will not be provided onsite, a room at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, proximate to the main meeting facilities, has been set aside as a dedicated carers' space.

The main COMNAP venue is the Hobart Town Hall. This is approx. 300 meters from the SCAR venue. The Town Hall has a large auditorium and a number of smaller meeting rooms. There are also receptions rooms on the ground floor that will be available for exhibitors. Registration for SCAR and COMNAP will be at the Hotel Grand Chancellor.

To encourage COMNAP participation in the OSC it is suggested that a 'COMNAP Plenary Pass' be made available at \$100 per delegate. This would give COMNAP participants access to the morning plenary sessions at the OSC. COMNAP participants that elect to stay after the conclusion of the COMNAP AGM for the final day of the OSC (and that already hold a COMNAP Plenary Pass) can purchase an OSC day pass at the discounted rate of \$195.

Indicative Dates:

31 October 2019	Abstract submission opens for the SCAR Open Science Conference
1 January 2020	Early Bird Registration opens – SCAR and COMNAP
28 February 2020	Abstract submission closes
1 March 2020	General Registration Opens – SCAR and COMNAP
1 July 2020	Late/On-Site Registration

Hosting Principles:

The SCAR COMNAP 2020 Local Organising Committee is committed to delivering an outstanding event for the Antarctic science and operations communities. In particular the organisers are promoting the principles of:

- Diversity
- Inclusion
- Accessibility
- Sustainable resource management
- Waste minimisation, and
- Engagement with the early career Antarctic science research community.

Sponsorship and Exhibition:

Sponsorship packages are available for SCAR COMNAP 2020. The meeting venues all offer excellent poster display and exhibition spaces. Information about these opportunities is available in the [SCARCOMNAP 2020 Sponsorship Prospectus](#).

Proposed Event Schedule:

The following proposed event schedule reflects all of the necessary components of the SCAR and COMNAP meetings as well as planned social events. It is expected that COMNAP delegates will attend the official opening on the morning of Monday 1 August. The COMNAP meeting schedule will be structured to enable COMNAP participants to attend the SCAR morning plenary sessions each day during the OSC.

	SCAR	COMNAP	EVENTS
Friday 31 July	Pre OSC Business Meetings		
Saturday 1 August	Pre OSC Business Meetings		
	COMNAP-SCAR Executive Committee Meeting		
Sunday 2 August	Pre OSC Meetings OSC Registration	COMNAP Symposium	OSC/COMNAP Icebreaker Reception
Monday 3 August	Open Science Conference	COMNAP AGM	Government House Reception (by invitation)
Tuesday 4 August	Open Science Conference	COMNAP AGM	COMNAP Dinner
Wednesday 5 August	Scientific Groups – plenary meetings	COMNAP AGM	OSC Dinner
Thursday 6 August	Open Science Conference	COMNAP AGM	<i>COMNAP closing drinks</i> SCAR Public Lecture
Friday 7 August	Open Science Conference		
Saturday 8 August	Post OSC Business Meetings		
Sunday 9 August	Post OSC Business Meetings Delegate Registration		SCAR Delegates Icebreaker
Monday 10 August	SCAR Delegates Meeting		SCAR Delegates Dinner
Tuesday 11 August	SCAR Delegates Meeting		

For more information:

Please contact the SCAR COMNAP 2020 Project Manager, Rhonda Bartley, at scarcomnap2020@antarctica.gov.au or check the website at www.scarcomnap2020.org

Annex 2: draft list of mini-symposia

There is broad agreement across ISOC on the following three mini symposia:

Mini-Symposium 1.

Global Advances in Antarctic Science. A series of TED-style talks from SRPs, ending with an update on the Horizon Scan presented by Chuck Kennicutt.

Mini-Symposium 2.

Antarctica and the Southern Ocean under the Paris Climate Agreement and an even warmer world - local changes and global consequences, short and long term. (A merger of proposals from Nancy Bertler and Florence Colleoni, below).

Mini-Symposium 3.

Emerging Antarctic conservation challenges: A Symposium dedicated to the memory of David Walton

This would be a SCAR-COMNAP mini-symposium, covering key issues such as non-native species and plastics, with input from ACE as well as the Humanities and Social Sciences community.

Mini-Symposium 4

Decisions are required on the framing of the fourth mini-symposium. Options are:

- Merge proposals 3,4,7,8,9 below
- Merge proposals 4,7,8,9 below

Selected original proposals on which mini-symposia are based

The mini-symposia selected from community submissions are listed below along with the comments received from proponents.

3) Sea ice variability and trends (proposed by Marilyn Raphael)

Normally sessions like these have been organized as a parallel session. However, given the “counterintuitive” trend in Antarctic sea ice, the recent, unprecedented ice decay in 2016 and ongoing changes in Antarctic sea ice, as well as the wealth of research exploring the reasons for the behavior of the sea ice, a mini-symposium would be a useful way to take a holistic look at Antarctic sea ice. I would be very interested in convening/coordinating a session based on this topic.

4) Ocean processes and ice-ocean interactions: from the Antarctic coast to the open Southern Ocean (proposed Andreas Klocker)

There is a growing (and long-overdue) interest in the sea-ice community in sea-ice ocean interactions, and this session would be great opportunity to bring both the ocean and sea-ice community together. Due to this growing interest in the sea-ice community a mini symposium would probably be the best option. I have discussed this possible session with A/Prof Andrew Stewart (University of California Los Angeles) and Dr Will Hobbs (Antarctic Climate & Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre).

(5) Beyond IPCC: the long term changes in south and north poles linkages (proposed by Florence Colleoni)

Thinking about the influence of Antarctica on the whole system and vice versa, but beyond Traditional policy timeframes. No scenarios exist beyond 2300. But largest sea level response to climate change might occur toward 2300 and beyond. This is

frontier with all disciplines and all SCAR groups. And it is also of potential interest to develop the new SCAR research program.

(6) Antarctica and the Southern Ocean under the Paris Climate Agreement and an even warmer world - local changes and global consequences - (proposed by Nancy Bertler, Timothy Naish, Franky Pattyn, Aleks Terauds, Jan Strugnell, Pippa Whitehouse)

Ideally this could be done as a combo of a mini-symposium with perhaps four plenary / keynote presentations and a panel discussion on science/policy priorities; followed by an interdisciplinary session presenting new, relevant physical and ecosystem research. Such a mini-symposium/session combo is highly relevant to the proposed AISSL SRP and WCRP CLiC Ice Sheets and Global Sea Level Grand Challenge and could bring together an interesting mix of perspectives and interdisciplinary research.

7) Ecological connectivity between Antarctic marine regions (proposed by Chiara Papetti)

I suggest a mixture of mini symposia with a final round table of discussion for some topics that may request some interaction with convenors and some overlapping sessions.

8) The effects of change on Southern Ocean ecosystems: understanding, modelling, projecting, and managing change in Southern Ocean species (Nadine Johnston, Rachel Cavanagh and Eugene Murphy)

Session to be convened by the international, interdisciplinary Integrating Climate and Ecosystem Dynamics in the Southern Ocean (ICED) programme. Requesting a Session or mini-symposium to unite session ideas of ICED and other SCAR programmes.

9) Ecosystems and Managing the effects of change on Southern Ocean ecosystems: the nature and role for Marine Ecosystem Assessments (proposed by Andrew Constable, Jessica Melbourne-Thomas, Monica Muelbert)

Rationale: A first Marine Ecosystem Assessment for the Southern Ocean (MEASO) will have been delivered from the Antarctic and Southern Ocean marine science community (coordinated through the SCAR-IMBeR ICED program) for use in the 6th Assessment Review (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Scientific Committee for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources and the Committee for Environmental Protection. The MEASO is intended to provide a forward-looking assessment of what trends in Southern Ocean ecosystems are occurring now and likely to occur into the future, given our understanding of the dynamics of these systems, along with advising on research and management needs for future assessments. The outcome of a MEASO is to have a quantitative assessment that enables managers to achieve consensus in adapting their management strategies to ecosystem change so that conservation objectives for ecosystems can be achieved. This proposal is to provide a forum to review, comment and discuss the first MEASO and consider approaches that could be used in undertaking and delivering a second MEASO over the next five years, including how simulation modelling can support the assessments. It will also provide opportunities for new assessments on status and trends of habitats, species and food webs, or updates on old assessments. Jess and Monica would be the convenors, while Andrew will take a mentoring role for early to mid career scientists participating in these activities.

Annex 3: ideas for plenary sessions

The following ideas have been put forward so far by members of ISOC and ExCom:

- The role of the humanities in Antarctic Research, given by an early career researcher (Morgan Seag, Hanne Nielson?)
- Back to the future – a history of forecasting in Antarctica?
- RAATD (Mark Hindell / Yan Roupert Coudert)
- A plenary session about the work of SOOS
- Sea Ice Variability and Trends (Julie Arblaster, Gerard Meehl?)
- Follow up to the Special Report on Oceans and Cryosphere (Valerie Masson-Delmonte?)
- Juliana Vianna (Chile, penguin genomics)
- Kate Hendry? Ocean biogeochemistry
- Prof. Akiho Shibata, Kobe University
- Korean geoengineering paper?
- Stephanie Jenouvrier (seabirds)

The following speaker suggestions have been made for a plenary session focussed on the humanities:

- Prof. Klaus Dodds, Royal Holloway – geopolitics
- Prof. Tim Stephens, University of Syd. – law
- Prof. Akiho Shibata, Kobe University – law
- Dr Lize-Marié van der Watt, KTH (Stockholm) – history/heritage
- Dr Julia Jabour, UTAS– governance
- Dr Alan Hemmings (adj. assoc. prof), University of Canterbury – governance
- Dr Jessica O'Reilly – University of Indiana – anthropology
- Assoc. Prof. Adrian Howkins, Bristol University – environmental history
- Assoc. Prof. Juan Salazar, West. Syd. University – anthropology