

FELLOWSHIP REPORT

2007-2008 APPLICATIONS

May 31 was the deadline for applications for the SCAR Fellowships for 2007-2008. As last year, the review board comprised the three SSG COs and should have included two members of the Executive Committee as well as the Executive Director. However, as there are many biological candidates and no biologist on the EXCOM, we asked Clive Howard-Williams (past Vice President and member of the fellowship evaluation team for 2006-7) to stay on the team as a past EXCOM Member and biologist.

We had 22 applicants, as in 2006-7. To prevent any one of the evaluation team having to take on a large burden, the tasks were divided up as follows:

1. Maurizio Candidi took all 7 SSG-PS proposals;
2. Alessandro Capra took all 7 SSG- GS proposals;
3. Ad Huiskes took all 12 LS proposals;
4. Toni Meloni took the GS and PS proposals;
5. Clive Howard-Williams took all the LS proposals;
6. Colin Summerhayes took all 22 proposals.

This ensured at least 3 reviews for all proposals.

Marks were based on:

- (i) High quality;
- (ii) Relevance to SCAR's SRPs;
- (iii) The work will help to build the capacity of those who need it most;
- (iv) The study is largely self-contained, rather than being part of a bigger project in which the applicant is a collaborator;
- (v) The study can be effected in the set time and could lead to a publication;
- (vi) The study helps someone from a country that is relatively financially stressed.

Evaluators scored proposals as: "A+" excellent; "A" good; "A-" not bad; or "B" reject.

Evaluators ranked their top 4 choices (1 = top; then 2, 3, 4), and marked as '5' all others for which they were responsible.

The Executive Director converted the alphabetical scores to numerical (A+ = 1, A = 2; A- = 3; B=5), then summed the alphabetical and rating scores to give a combined score that was averaged according to the number of evaluators. This gave the scores and rankings in table 1 below. Only the top 8 candidates are shown.

Delegates in 2006 agreed to allocate up to two of our fellowships to candidates for the IPY 6th Continent Initiative (6CI). Basically this is the same as the SCAR Fellowship, with the addition of having someone spend some time at a base or on a ship in the Antarctic (extra costs paid by IPF). Table 1 identified those candidates applying for a

6CI SCAR-IPF Fellowship. Evaluators did NOT differentiate between these and the other fellows when evaluating the candidates. The same high standards applied to all.

For general information, half of the candidates were women.

The candidates were going from the following countries:

Arg (1); Aus (4); Be (3); Chi (1); Chin (1); Fra(1); Ge (1); It (4); NZ (1); Pol (1); Por (1); Ukr (1); US (2).

They were proposing to go to the following countries:

Aus (3); Be (2); Br (1); Fr (2); Ge (3); It (1); Neth (1); NZ (2); Swi (1); UK (4); US (2)

Name	From	To	Score	Rank	SSG	SRP	6CI	Cost \$	Cum \$
Coco	Italy	USA	2.7	1=	PS	ICESTAR	no	10,000	10,000
Lannuzel	Bel	Aus	2.7	1=	LS	EBA	yes	8,500	18,500
Phillips	Aus	Ger	2.7	1=	GS	ACE	no	10,000	28,500
Kaiser	Ger	UK	3.3	2	LS	EBA/CAML	yes	9,500	38,000
Verducci	Italy	Aus	3.7	3	GS	ACE	no	6,000	
Hassler	Aus	Bel	4.3	4=	LS	EBA	no	7,500	
Monaghan	USA	Neth	4.3	4=	PS	AGCS	no	7,500	
Fernandoy	Chile	Ger	5.3	5	GS/PS	ACE/AGCS	yes	10,000	

Fernandoy is the only one in the top 8 from a developing country.

The budget available is \$30,000 + \$2,000 from South Africa. In addition, the unspent \$5,000 set aside for office secondments for young scientists is requested since there have been no takers for secondments and there is no sign of any. Thus SCAR could have \$37,000 available. This would enable full funding of the top 4 candidates. The 2006 EXCOM agreed to this proposal.

We explored with IPF the possibility that they might provide additional resources to assist with paying for at least 2 of the 6CI fellowships. However, because none of the top 6CI candidates were from developing countries or non-traditional SCAR countries, they declined to support any candidates this year.

The Washington EXCOM in 2007 approved fellowship awards to Inigo Coco (male), Delphine Lannuzel (female), Glen Phillips (male) and Stefanie Kaiser (female).

Coco will be studying the role of abrupt solar wind dynamic pressure variations on the polar ionosphere.

Lannuzel will be studying the role of Fe as a micro-nutrient to the Antarctic sea-ice zone algal community, using a cruise on the Aurora Australis.

Phillips will be studying the structural controls and timing of upper crustal deformation, Lambert Basin.

Kaiser will be quantifying the role of Southern Ocean biodiversity in the Amundsen and Bellingshausen Seas, using a cruise on the James Clark Ross.

2008-2009 APPLICATIONS

The Executive Officer is currently processing the applications for the 2008-2009 fellowship awards, which will be reviewed by the Executive Committee when it meets in St Petersburg on July 7. He will provide information about the process and the results in a supplement to this report at the XXX SCAR Delegates meeting (July 14-16, 2008).

PAST FELLOWSHIP REPORTS

Delegates are reminded that reports of past SCAR Fellowships and descriptions of current Fellowship activities can be accessed on the SCAR web page at <http://www.scar.org/awards/fellowships/>.