



Introduction from the SCAR Secretariat

Welcome to our February newsletter!

In this newsletter Dr Jeronimo Lopez-Martinez reports on his [SCAR Visiting Scholarship to Mexico](#), hosted by the Mexican Agency for Antarctic Studies (AMEA). His report showcases the capacity building work that can be made possible by just a short visit.

We are also pleased to highlight a new Information Summary published on the Antarctic Environments Portal. This publication, on [the recovery of Antarctica's baleen whales](#), provides a detailed overview of baleen whale populations and the challenges they face in Antarctica. If you are interested in publishing an article on the Portal, you can reach out to the [Editor](#) through the website.

The [2nd circular](#) for the upcoming INSTANT Conference 2023 has just been published and the [conference website](#) has also launched. For those of you travelling to IUGG 2023 in Berlin, our new Scientific Research Programme Planning Group AGATA will be offering [scholarships](#) to attend the meeting. If you are involved in engagement activities, the PEAR Action Group invites your contributions to a [global mapping project](#).

We are deeply sad to include two obituaries in this newsletter. [Professor David Vaughan](#) and [Dr Andrés Barbosa](#) both made significant contributions to the Antarctic and SCAR communities, and will be deeply missed. Professor Vaughan was the former Director of the British Antarctic Survey and had a long history of involvement with SCAR during his career as a glaciologist. Dr Andrés Barbosa was a biologist and ecologist, and led the SCAR working group on Wildlife Health Monitoring. Our thoughts are with their family, friends, and colleagues.

As always, there are also a range of publications, such as a [banner on the rock and fossil collection from Esperanza Station Museum](#), community news, and

opportunities included in this newsletter. We warmly encourage you to share your photos, news or other relevant updates with us for next month's edition.

With best wishes,
The SCAR Secretariat

Featured News

VISITING SCHOLAR REPORT DR JERONIMO LOPEZ- MARTINEZ



Visiting Scholarship Report

We are delighted to share Dr Jeronimo Lopez-Martinez report on his recent Visiting Scholarship to Mexico, hosted by the Mexican Agency for Antarctic Studies (AMEA). Dr Lopez-Martinez's visit to Mexico, supported by the Visiting Scholar award, enabled him to engage in an extensive programme of meetings and other activities.

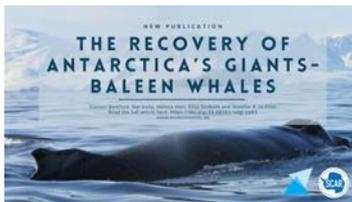
The core purpose of the [Visiting Scholar Scheme](#) is to build capacity in countries with smaller or less-developed Antarctic research programmes. Applications for the 2023 round will open later this year.

[Read his full report on our website](#)

SCAR News

SCAR PEAR Global Mapping Project

The Public Engagement with Antarctic Research Action Group ([PEAR](#)) is currently running a [global mapping project](#) and invites your contributions. The group invites responses from anyone within the sector who have any kind of involvement in engagement activities, and encourage responses from multiple people in the same organisation. The survey closes on 30 April 2023.



New Antarctic Environments Portal Publication

A [new publication on the recovery of baleen whales](#) has been added to the Antarctic Environment Portal. This summary provides a detailed overview of the past, present and future of Antarctic baleen whale populations and the challenges they face.

SCAR INSTANT Conference - 2nd Circular

The [conference website](#) and [2nd circular](#) for the INSTANT (INStabilities & Thresholds in ANTarctica) Conference 2023 has been released. The INSTANT Conference 2023 will take place from **11-14 September**, in Trieste (Italy). The abstract submission deadline is 3 April 2023.



AGATA Scholarships to attend IUGG

The new Scientific Research Programme Planning Group [AGATA](#) is pleased to open a call for applications for [scholarships to attend the next IUGG General Assembly](#) in Berlin, 11-20 July 2023. Applications for the scholarship close 1st April 2023.

Geoconservation through Educational Collections

The SCAR Expert Group on Geological Heritage and Geoconservation ([EG-GEOCON](#)) would like to highlight an [educational banner](#) showcasing a current exhibition in the Esperanza Station Museum, Antarctic Peninsula. The museum holds a collection of Antarctic fossils and rocks from Mount Flora, curated by the Instituto Antártico Argentino.



Community News

News from the SCAR community and wider research community.

- Applications are open for the [Antarctic Science International Bursary](#). The bursaries support the development of the careers of promising young scientists, working in any field of Antarctic science, and from any country. Grants of up to £6000 are awarded to extend the scope of an existing research project. The application deadline is **17 March**.

Obituaries

- The SCAR community is deeply saddened to hear of the death of [Professor David Vaughan](#), former Director of Science at the British Antarctic Survey. David had a long history of involvement in SCAR's work during his career as a glaciologist, which spanned over three decades.
- It is with deep sadness that SCAR has learnt of the recent death from cancer of [Dr Andrés Barbosa](#). Dr Barbosa was a biologist and ecologist, a leading expert in the study of Antarctic penguins. He led the working group on Wildlife Health Monitoring of SCAR's Expert Group on Birds and Marine Mammals ([EG-BAMM](#)).

Publications from the SCAR and wider research community

- 'Portugal in Antarctic History', published in [Polar Record](#).
- 'Antarctic toothfish *Dissostichus mawsoni* as a bioindicator of trace and rare earth elements in the Southern Ocean', published in [Chemosphere](#).

- 'Evaluating the conservation impact of Antarctica's protected areas', published in [Conservation Biology](#).
- 'Antarctic shelf ocean warming and sea ice melt affected by projected El Niño changes', published in [Nature Climate Change](#).

Events

Upcoming events from SCAR, the SCAR community and wider research community

- The [2023 SC-HASS Biennial Conference](#) 'The Antarctic for a Better World' will take place in Lisbon, Portugal from **22-24 June 2023**. The deadline for early bird registration is 1 May 2023.
- The [28th Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics](#) (IUGG) will be hosted in Berlin, Germany from **11-20 July 2023**. The early bird registration deadline is 28 April 2023.
- The [XIII SCAR Biology Symposium](#) will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand (**31 July-4 August 2023**). The call for abstracts is now open. The deadline for submission is 21 March 2023. Early bird registration closes 23 May 2023. More [important dates](#) are listed here.
- The SOOS Symposium '[Southern Ocean in a changing world](#)' will be held **14-18 August 2023** in Hobart, Australia. The call for abstracts is now open and the deadline is 24 March 2023.
- The [SCAR INSTANT Conference](#) will take place in Trieste, Italy from **11-14 September 2023**. The abstract submission deadline is 3 April 2023.

Opportunities

Opportunities from the SCAR Community and wider research community

- The Paul Scherrer Institute PSI (Switzerland) is looking for a [Postdoctoral Fellow in atmospheric research](#) (scientific programmer). Application deadline **9 March 2023**.
- The International Science Council (ISC) is seeking a [Science Director](#) to join the Secretariat team at its headquarters in Paris, France, to lead the delivery of science projects in line with the ISC Action Plan and priorities set by the ISC Governing Board and Chief Executive Officer. The deadline for applications is **31 March**.

Image of the Month



February's image of the month is a collage of photos from Dr Jeronimo Lopez-Martinez's [Visiting Scholar report](#), showcasing the remarkable range of activities facilitated by his [SCAR Visiting Scholar Scheme](#) visit to Mexico in 2022.

Do you have any impressions you'd like to share with us?

We love seeing photos from SCAR scientists so get in touch at info@scar.org if you'd like to share yours!



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