



Introduction from the SCAR Secretariat

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2024!

We hope you all had a joyous holiday season and are looking forward to what 2024 has in store for us.

This year promises to be an exciting one for SCAR, with the 11th SCAR Open Science Conference (OSC) scheduled to take place in Pucón, Chile, this August. We're delighted to announce that [abstract submissions](#) for the conference are now open. Choose from a diverse selection of [50 parallel sessions](#) and ensure you submit your abstract by 4 March. Additionally, there are still a few available spots for workshops during the OSC. If you have a workshop proposal, please submit it before 29 February. For detailed information, visit the conference website at www.scar2024.org.

Join us in extending a warm welcome to Emma Needham, our new [Science and Operations Officer](#) at SCAR. Emma will coordinate subsidiary groups and foster global collaborations. You can reach her at her email address emma@scar.org. Welcome to the team, Emma!

We're pleased to share the [Fellowship report](#) from our SCAR Fellow Christian Torres. Christian was hosted at the University of Valparaíso, Chile and his project examined the impact of climate change on small glaciers in the Antarctic peninsula.

Did you know that octopus DNA can help us decode West Antarctic Ice Sheet collapse? A [new study](#), supported by INSTANT, solves a long-running mystery that has puzzled scientists about whether the WAIS collapsed during the Last Interglacial period. Keep an eye out for upcoming deadlines as well. The deadline for the [SCAR EDI AG logo contest](#) has been extended to 29 February and [nominations for our three SCAR Medals](#) are open until 15 May.

As always, our newsletter features a range of opportunities, new publications and upcoming events from SCAR and the wider opportunity.

If you have content or images you'd like to share with us, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at info@scar.org.

*With best wishes,
The SCAR Secretariat*

Featured News

The banner features two circular logos on the left: the 11th SCAR Open Science Conference logo and the SCAR logo. To the right, the text reads: "11TH SCAR OPEN SCIENCE CONFERENCE PUCÓN, CHILE, 19-23 AUGUST 2024 ANTARCTIC SCIENCE: CROSSROADS FOR A NEW HOPE www.scar2024.org". The background is a photograph of a snow-capped mountain peak under a sunset sky. A white callout box in the bottom right corner contains the text: "Submission deadline: Monday, 4th March 2024 at 23:59 UTC".

11TH SCAR OPEN SCIENCE CONFERENCE
PUCÓN, CHILE, 19-23 AUGUST 2024
ANTARCTIC SCIENCE: CROSSROADS FOR A NEW HOPE
www.scar2024.org

Call for Abstracts

Submit your abstract to the
11th SCAR Open Science Conference

Submission deadline:
Monday, 4th March 2024
at 23:59 UTC

Submit your abstract to the 11th SCAR Open Science Conference

SCAR and the Chilean Antarctic Institute are pleased to invite you to the 11th SCAR Open Science Conference, scheduled to take place in Pucón, Chile, from **19-23 August 2024**. Abstract submission for the conference is now open.

Abstracts can be submitted electronically via the conference website, www.scar2024.org. There is no abstract submission fee. Before submitting your abstract, take a look at the submission guidelines and list of [50 parallel sessions](#) to find the best match. The parallel sessions cover a wide range of themes from the Physical Sciences, Geosciences, Life Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences as well as Cross-disciplinary topics.

The abstract submission deadline is **Monday, 4 March 2024 at 23:59 UTC**.

[Conference website - www.scar2024.org](http://www.scar2024.org)

SCAR welcomes new Science and Operations Officer

We are delighted to introduce Emma Needham as the [Science and Operations Officer](#) at SCAR. With a background in environmental geosciences, Emma will coordinate subsidiary groups and foster global collaborations. Emma has joined the secretariat for a 12 month period initially, to support the secretariat team and the Executive Director who is currently working reduced hours.

Join us in welcoming Emma to the team!



11th SCAR Open Science Conference - Workshop Proposals

There are still a limited number of spots available for workshops to be held during the 11th SCAR Open Science Conference, which will take place in Pucón, Chile, from 19-23 August 2024. You are invited to express your interest in conducting a workshop during the conference by completing this [submission form](#). Please submit your proposals by Thursday, 29th February 2024.

SCAR Fellowship Report from Christian Torres

The [report from our SCAR Fellow](#) Christian Torres is now available from our website. His project delved into the impact of climate change on small island glaciers in the Antarctic Peninsula. Christian was hosted by Professor Dr. Deniz Bozkurt at the Department of Meteorology, University of Valparaíso, Chile, and his high-resolution atmospheric and glaciological modelling project brings new insights into cryosphere-atmosphere interactions.



Community News

News from the SCAR community and wider research community

- Nominations for our three [SCAR Medals](#) - for Excellence in Antarctic Research, International Coordination, and Education and Communication - are still open. Don't miss the chance to nominate someone outstanding by 15 May 2024.
- The deadline for the [SCAR EDI AG logo contest](#) has been extended to 29th February 2024. The logo should serve as an identity for the SCAR EDI AG and reflect the [SCAR EDI values](#). The prize for the winner is a 1000 USD voucher to attend a SCAR conference within the next year.

Publications from the SCAR and wider research community

A [new study](#), conceived and supported by INSTANT, used octopus DNA to discover that the West Antarctic Ice Sheet (WAIS) likely collapsed during the Last Interglacial period around 125,000 years ago – when global temperatures were similar to today. The study was led by Professor Jan Strugnell and Dr Sally Lau from ARC [Securing Antarctica's Environmental Future](#) at James Cook University, in collaboration with an international team of biological and geological scientists. 'Genomic evidence for West Antarctic Ice Sheet collapse during the Last Interglacial' was published in [Science](#).



- 'An Antarctic lichen isolate (*Cladonia borealis*) genome reveals potential adaptation to extreme environments', published in [Nature Scientific Reports](#).
 - 'Warmer Antarctic summers in recent decades linked to earlier stratospheric final warming occurrences', published in [Nature Communications Earth & Environment](#).
 - 'Hybridization barriers between the congeneric antarctic notothenioid fish *Notothenia coriiceps* and *Notothenia rossii*', published in [Polar Biology](#).
 - Volume 34 Issue 4 of [Advances in Polar Science](#) is now available online.
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Events

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

- The SCAR EDI AG will give an IGS Global Seminar on **14 February 2024**, 9-10pm UTC. The topics is "[The challenges of addressing EDI issues within an Antarctic context](#)". The seminar will be held online.
- The [2024 Ocean Science Meeting](#) will take place from **18-23 February 2024** in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- The [10th SCGES webinar "Popularizing Science without Gender Bias"](#) will be held in Paris and online on **27 February 2024**. Please register in advance.
- Save the date for the [Annual SCAR Krill Expert Group Workshop](#), which will be held from **8-12 April 2024**.
- The [7th ICES/PICES Zooplankton Production Symposium](#) will be held in Hobart, Australia, from **17-22 March 2024**.
- [EGU24](#) will take place in Vienna, Austria, from **14-19 April 2024**.
- Applications for the [GLacial Sedimentation School \(GLASS\)](#) "Interpreting past climate using Antarctic and Greenland sediment cores" are now open. The school will be held at the IODP Gulf Coast Repository, Texas, USA from **21-26 July 2024**. Applications close 21 February 2024.
- The [SCAR Open Science Conference 2024](#) "Antarctic Science: Crossroads for a New Hope" will be held in Pucón, Chile from **19-23 August 2024**. Abstract submission for the conference is now open and close 4 March 2024. Visit the conference website www.scar2024.org for more information.
- The initiatives CATCH, PACES, BEPSII, ASPeCt and QUIesCENT will hold a [joint workshop](#) on chemical, biogeochemical, and physical drivers of the coupled polar atmosphere and climate. The workshop will be held in Aussois, France, and online from **17-22 November 2024**.
- Save the date for the Gordon Research Conference and Seminar on [Polar Marine Science](#), which will take place in Lucca, Italy, from **9-14 March 2025**.

Opportunities

Opportunities from the SCAR Community and wider research community

- British Antarctic Survey is looking for a [Physical Oceanographer](#) as part of the Horizon Europe OCEAN:ICE (OCEAN Cryosphere Exchanges in ANtarctica: Impacts on Climate and the Earth System) and BIOPOLE (Biogeochemical processes and ecosystem function in changing polar systems and their global impacts) projects. Closing date **7 February 2024**.
- The University of Tasmania, Australia, is offering a suite of opportunities in [Antarctic Geopolitics, Environmental History and Environmental Communications](#). The deadline for all positions is **15 March 2024**.

Image of the Month



Let's step into 2024 for a year filled with scientific discoveries, collaboration, and growth. Our image of the month was taken by [Ramcharan Vijayaraghavan](#) and shows three eager Gentoo penguins.

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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