



APECS Oceania Report of Activities Jan-Oct 2020

Membership:

APECS Oceania's membership has grown from 173 to 208 in 12 months, most growth is in the Australian membership (142) and there are 66 new members in New Zealand. The full membership statistics from Jan - Oct 2020 are available in Appendix 1.

APECS Oceania 2020 Executive Committee and Council:

President: Alyce Hancock (Southern Ocean Observing System - SOOS)

Secretary: Katie Marx (Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies - IMAS)

Treasurer: vacant

National Representative: Natalia Ribeiro (Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies - IMAS)

Senior Officers: Gabriela Roldan (Gateway Antarctica), Hanne Nielsen (University of Tasmania - UTAS), Jasmine Lee (Monash University) and Meagan Dewar (Federation University)

Social Media Managers and Council: Rebecca Duncan (UNIS) and Erica Spain, left part way through term due to new job (Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies - IMAS)

Council: Svenja Halfter (IMAS), Laetitia Laudscher (Antarctic Poetry Exhibition founder & ex-PCAS alumni), Oakes Holland (Queensland University of Technology).

Activities and Events:

Due to COVID-19 many events that were originally planned for this term had to be cancelled or significantly modified to an online format. The pandemic also meant that the time availability of the APECS Oceania Executive Committee and Council was significantly reduced, therefore we focussed on a few events/activities (primarily, the SCAR2020 APECS Workshop and APECS Oceania Strategic Planning)

March Polar Week:

Our Social Media Manager, Rebecca Duncan, continued to inform us on Antarctic events, polar news, and any APECS-related news happening during this term.

Fieldwork Photo Competition

A fieldwork photo competition, an activity designed to engage our membership through social media, boost our social media followers and also generate content for future use. This was very successful and the winner, Alex Aves, will be delivered a prize bag kindly donated by the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, University of Tasmania.



Winning photo of the APECS Oceania Polar Week Field Work Photo Competition (Photo by Alex Aves)

SCAR2020 APECS Workshop:

This project group included a combination of members from APECS International Council and APECS Oceania due to the workshop originally being held as an in-person workshop as a side-event of SCAR2020, Hobart. Under this APECS International Project Group, APECS Oceania set-up a local project group to assist with on-the-ground logistics. Many members from the local project group joined the APECS International Project Group.

The original objective of the project group was to organise and run an in-person workshop as a side event of SCAR2020 in Hobart, Australia. Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the in-person SCAR2020 conference and side-events had to be cancelled and much of the OSC and side-events moved to being conducted online. Likewise, the decision was made by the APECS SCAR2020 Workshop Project Group to move this workshop online the week following SCAR2020 Online. Whilst it was a shame not to have an in-person workshop with all the networking and discussion that comes with it, the project group was proud to still provide a well-received online workshop with a range of speakers covering a breadth of topics. As the ability to have open discussions and networking via an online workshop is limited, the workshop

instead focused on providing a range of talks to provide the attendees with knowledge, tips and tricks to further the many skills required by ECRs as well as many useful resources for them to refer to throughout their career.

APECS Oceania members were integral to the success of the workshop. Alyce Hancock was the co-lead of the project group and originally liaison between the international and local project groups. Of the 5 session conveners of the workshop, 3 were from APECS Oceania. APECS Oceania members also were a significant percentage of the members assisting with organising the logistics, registrations, advertisements, thank you certificates and on-the-day assistance for the running of the workshop.

Prior to SCAR2020 being cancelled as an in-person event and moving to the online format, APECS Oceania members through the APECS Oceania SCAR2020 project group;

- applied for funding through the Theo Murphy Initiative (Australia) - to become a joint APECS-Theo Murphy Workshop for EMCRs
- book venue rooms and equipment for workshop
- began organising evening social event for after the workshop
- Initiated an APECS ECR “air bnb” and discussion group in facebook
- began organising other social events for pre-, during and post-SCAR2020
- began organising for an ECR Art-Science exhibition at IMAS-UTas for during SCAR2020.

The workshop ran as a side event of SCAR2020 Online. The workshop ran as a loose program with a total of 7 sessions spread across 3 days.

Attendance for the workshop (not including panelists or attendees who attended via phone);

Plenary Session - 53 attendees, Research Communication Session 1 - 50 attendees, YOPP *IcePod* Session - 19 attendees, YOPP Southern Hemisphere Session - 27 attendees, Research Communication Session 2 - 21 attendees, Logistical Collaboration Session 1 - 27 attendees, Logistical Collaboration Session 2 - 25 attendees

Webpage: <https://www.apecs.is/events/upcoming-event-highlights/scar-2020-workshop.html>

Workshop Recordings: <https://vimeo.com/apecs>

SCAR2020 Online

Many APECS Oceania members supported and presented at SCAR2020 Online. Gabriela Roldan provided integral technical support to support the SCAR2020 Online sessions and a number of APECS Oceania members wrote articles in the SCAR2020 Online Eco Magazine Special Issue; Rebecca Duncan, Kimberlee Baldry, Svenja Halfter. And Jasmine Lee was highlighted as one of the Polar Heroes recognised in the special issue.

Strategic Planning:

APECS Oceania is currently drafting a strategic plan for APECS Oceania which will sit under the APECS International Strategic plan. The aim for this strategic planning process is;

- To develop a plan that helps APECS O articulate what we do, how we do it, and what resources we need to do it.
- To do this by the end of 2020.
- To engage with our membership and external stakeholders throughout this process.
- To write a strategic plan that will inform APECS Oceania's activities and decision-making for the next (2, 3, 5) years

The process for the strategic planning is below;

- 1) Conduct membership survey (August/September)
To enable a broad section of the membership to have input on the process. - these were done via google forms sent to all APECS Oceania members and poles in social media for specific questions/options highlighted in the forms received.
- 2) Strategic Planning Workshop 1 - 9th September (via Zoom)
This workshop will focus on the following on discussing a vision and mission for APECS Oceania, the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the vision and mission what APECS Oceania's goals are actions are for the next 2, 3 and 5 years, and what APECS Oceania will prioritise. These will be informed by the results from the membership surveys and poles.
- 3) Write a draft strategic plan based on discussions during the first workshop for presentation at the APECS Oceania AGM (throughout September)
- 4) Strategic Planning Workshop 2 - 15th October (via Zoom)
Presentation of draft strategic plan at the AGM for feedback for review and comment from members.
- 5) Finalise and implement (December)

Conference Presentations:

Participation with a poster presentation at the '[Southern Exposure: Antarctic Research at the University of Canterbury](#) Conference, Gateway Antarctica, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand, 30-31 January 2020. Abstract: "What is APECS? A success story and the future of a volunteer organization for polar early career researchers" presented by Gabriela Roldan and Rodrigo Gomez-Fell.

APECS Oceania members contributed to the SCAR 2020 Online Open Science Conference in many ways: from abstracts submissions, presentations, in the role of co-conveners and moderators, to representing polar Early Careers. For instance, on 5 August 2020, Dr Hanne Nielsen represented the position of APECS in the Joint SCAR/COMNAP Panel Discussion regarding the impacts of Covid-19 on Antarctic Research.

Postponed Events due to COVID-19, to be run in late 2020-early 2021:

Stories from the Antarctic Cities - Hobart, 19th March

What do the cities of Hobart, Christchurch, Punta Arenas, Ushuaia and Cape Town have in common? What happens when you send one young person from each of these cities on an expedition to King George Island?

This free lunchtime lecture will share stories and findings from the Antarctic Cities Research Project, an exciting research collaboration investigating the linkages between the Antarctic gateway cities: <https://antarctic-cities.org/the-project/> . This event is a great way to connect with your fellow researchers and learn about an interesting project. We hope to see you there!

Date: Thursday, 19th March

Time: 1pm - 2pm

Hobart venue: IMAS Flex Space, University of Tasmania, Hobart

Science and Poetry: linking the two poles - Auckland, March 16th - CANCELLED

Dr Barbara Bollard-Green, Geospatial Scientist

Laetitia Laubscher, Antarctic Poetry Exhibition Founder

This novel lecture and workshop will bring together the seemingly opposite worlds of science and poetry. Dr Barbara Bollard-Green will discuss her latest scientific work – using 3D mapping technology to help protect remote Antarctic environments – while Antarctic Poetry Exhibition founder Laetitia Laubscher will discuss the importance of emotive science communication as well as introducing the concept of science poetry, getting you to create your own polar science-inspired erasure poems.

Suitable for people at all levels of experience with poetry or science, this workshop is aimed at poets, scientists, science communicators, citizen scientists, and anyone else interested in writing poetry scientifically or science poetically. Hosted by the AUT University, participants will simultaneously take part in the workshop in person in Auckland as well as online through the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) Art platform and the APECS Oceania platform.

Facebook Analytics:

Total Page Likes: 769

(Up ~100 from October 2019)

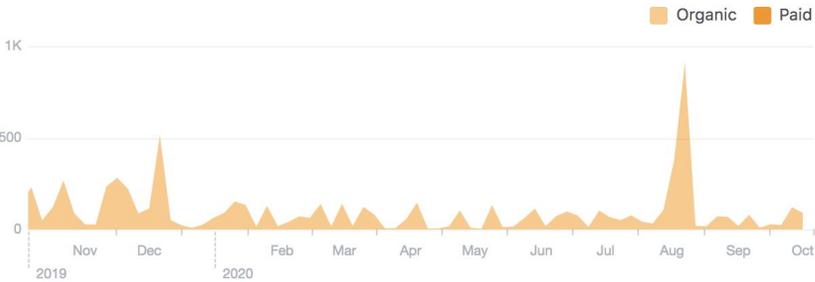


Post Reach: Generally <100 unless a page link is shared several times, as was the case around the APECS SCAR2020 Workshop (see peak in below graph around 2nd August 2020).

Engagement has remained relatively stable. However, it remains relatively low and we would like to see posts shared more frequently to help with seeing an improvement in this area.

Total Reach

The number of people who saw any content from your Page or about your Page. This metric is estimated.



Twitter Analytics:

Total Page Followers: 1061

Tweet Impressions for September 2020: 8688

Tweet Impressions for August 2020 (APECS SCAR2020 Month): 40,800

Instagram Analytics:

Total Page Followers: 123

Activity on the APECS Oceania instagram has been relatively minimal.

Appendix 1 - APECS Oceania Membership Statistics for 2020

October 2020 Membership Statistics

Total Members in Australia 172
Total Members in New Zealand 66
Total 208

Australian institutions: University of Queensland, Edith Cowan University, University of Tasmania, Australian Bureau of Meteorology, University of Wollongong, Macquarie University, Integrated Marine Observing System, University of Adelaide, Antarctic Biological Research Initiative, Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre (ACE CRC), Federation University, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Monash University, University of Sydney, Australian National University, Griffith University, Australian Antarctic Division, James Cook University, Southern Ocean Observing System, Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service, University of Melbourne, University of New South Wales, University of Newcastle, Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (NSW), Australian War College, Sydney Institute of Marine Science (SIMS), University of Technology Sydney, Museums Victoria

New Zealand Institutions: Auckland University of Technology, University of Exeter, Gateway Antarctic (University of Canterbury), Victoria University of Wellington, Lincoln University, University of Waikato, University of Canterbury, National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA), University of Otago, MetOcean Solutions, University of Auckland, Antarctica New Zealand, GNS Science, Massey University

Other: The University Centre in Svalbard, Renegade Capital

Gender Balance (%)

Male 31

Female 69

Career Stages (%)

Doctoral Students 48

Postdoctoral Researchers 14

Master Students 17

Research Scientists 3
Faculty 2
Undergraduate Student 4
Other 3

Employment Sector (%)

College / University 60
Research Institute 20
Industry / Business 1
Non-Profit Organisation 1
Education and Outreach 21
Administration 1
Primary or Secondary School 2
Other 12

Regional Focus of Members (%)

Antarctic 97
Arctic 22
Alpine 10
Third pole / Himalaya 5
Other 6

Regional Focus of Members (%)

Environmental sciences (50), ecology (45), marine and freshwater biology (33), oceanography (33), biodiversity (32), geosciences (25), modelling (23), remote sensing (22), sea-ice (22), cryology / glaciology (23), zoology (22), fisheries (13), microbiology (12), geology (13), meteorology + atmospheric sciences (13), social sciences (13), international relations (8), instruments + instrumentation (7), humanities (10), political sciences (8), plant sciences (5), engineering (4), soil sciences (4), agriculture (4), human and public health (4), toxicology (4), water resources (4), economics (3), law (4), anthropology (3), urban studies (3), hydrology (3), paleontology (2), medicine (1), energy / fuels (1), forestry (1), other (6)

Membership

