

REPORT FROM

9th ISAES

Potsdam, Germany
6th-13th September 2003

SCAR GSSG meeting
6-7th September

Members present:

Phil O'Brien (Australia), Alessandro Capra (Italy), Ross Powell (USA), Steffen Vogt (Germany), Juha Korhonen (Finland), Detlef Damaske (Germany), Chris Wilson (Australia), Marta Ghidella (Argentina), Matthias Koenig (Germany), Alexander Golinsky (Russia) and Glenn Johnstone.

Notes

A general comment was made that it was disappointing not much information had been forthcoming from SCAR and the SCAR Executive since the Shanghai meeting or the SCAR Executive meeting in Brest.

SCAR Executive meeting in Brest

Alessandro Capra spoke about the SCAR Executive meeting in Brest which he had attended, in place of Phil O'Brien who was unable to make it. It was a constructive meeting and the general sentiments echoed that it was very useful to have all SSG Chief Officers (or their representatives) contributing to the discussion. The SCAR Executive were pleased with the status reports each SSG delivered.

A draft report of the meeting was discussed at length. Highlights include:

- A meeting of the SCAR Executive was held in early September 2003 to decide upon the new SCAR Executive Director. It is expected that a public announcement of the successful applicant will be made in the next few weeks. Funding for the position will come from SCAR for the first 2 years. After that it is expected the incumbent will secure his own funding.
- Switzerland and Bulgaria are proposing to apply for Full Membership of SCAR, Malaysia is expected to apply for Associate Membership.
- The success of GSSG's Communication and Outreach Action Group was noted and the Executive would like to see the other SSG's adopt a similar programme.
- Of the 5 proposals received for Scientific Research Programmes (SRP) the Executive recommended that 3 (ACE, SALE and Evolutionary Biology of Antarctica) should be accepted. The other 2 require some further work and may be resubmitted by December 2003. ACE may have to change its name to CACE (Cenozoic Antarctic Climate Evolution) to avoid confusion with other ACE programmes)
- The deadline for submission of SRP proposals is December 2003, with the SCAR Executive set to discuss these at the Delegates meeting in Bremerhaven in October 2004.
- XXVIII SCAR Science meeting - plans are progressing well. The deadline for abstracts is 15 January 2004. See separate section in this report for further details.
- XXIX SCAR science meeting will be held in Hobart, Australia. The location of the Delegates Meeting has yet to be determined - somewhere in Australia.
- XXX SCAR - nominations have been received from Finland, Russia and Uruguay

- SCAR Fellowship programme - 5 fellowships have been awarded, 2 of which are in the geosciences field. It is expected that a public announcement of the successful Fellows will be made once all the unsuccessful candidates have been informed.

The final version of the report will be available soon through the 'Members' section of the SCAR web site.

ADMAP and WDMAM

The relationship between the Antarctic Digital Magnetic Anomaly Project ([ADMAP](#)) and the World Digital Magnetic Anomaly Map (WDMAM) project was discussed. Dr Juha Korhonen from Finland has been appointed informal co-chair of WDMAM and he gave a presentation on the current status of the project. (Prof Colin Reeves from ITC Delft is the other co-chair)

WDMAM is being undertaken by the [International Association of Geophysics and Aeronomy \(IAGA\) Division 5](#). The aim of the project is to source, collate and integrate magnetic anomaly data from around the globe. Some work has already been done by ITC Delft in compiling a global index of aeromagnetic data. There is, however, much more to be done. Dr Korhonen is interested in working with the ADMAP group to provide the Antarctic component of the WDMAM.

Dr Korhonen noted that there are many issues surrounding access to data, data quality and data storage. These are exactly the type of issues that have been identified by a number of SCAR groups including GIANT, Geographic Information and JCADM. Glenn Johnstone mentioned there are a number of other international groups such as the Global Mapping initiative (Japan) and the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP) which have developed policies - particularly in relation to the sharing or access to data. Glenn undertook to email Juha Korhonen information about data sharing policies adopted by these groups.

ADMAP as a group, has been quiet for the last few years, since the publication of the map in 2000. Concern was voiced that the location of some datasets is unknown, as well as poor or non-existent metadata records for the line data that does exist.

From discussion around the table and out of session it seemed as though there was enough interest and former ADMAP members at the meeting who would like to 'resurrect' ADMAP.

Outcome: That ADMAP becomes an Expert Group of SCAR GSSG - chaired by Marta Ghidella (Argentina). This will be formalised at XXVIII SCAR and will get started immediately.

XXVIII SCAR meeting, Bremen

The meeting spent some time discussing the various Geoscience themes for the Open Science meeting in Bremen next year. The GSSG Chief Officer has a list of the major themes that were discussed.

We also discussed the 'key note' addresses for each of the sessions. Each program (ie. GSSG, LSSSG, PSSSG) will have an opportunity to present a major key note address. Erik Ivins (Canada) was proposed as the major key note speaker for GSSG, however, this has yet to be confirmed. There are 2 other open science sessions where there can be 'minor' key note addresses given -

Information on the themes will need to be distributed to all GSSG members as soon as possible so they can start planning the submission of abstracts (due 15 January 2004).

International Polar Year 2007-08

The [ICSU IPY Planning Group](#) wants to endorse exciting science projects (ie. those which require a compelling scientific objective) and encompass research being conducted at both poles.

CACE is a likely contender for the IPY 'stamp of approval'. Another idea is to do a possible bi-polar Geophysical Observatories project (ie. Extending the network of permanent geodetic, meteorological, seismic and geomagnetic stations, utilising remote technologies).

GSSG members are asked to consider any possible projects for IPY endorsement and to let the GSSG Chief Officer know before these are submitted to the IPY Planning Group.

IPY 2007-08 was also discussed in the main ISAES symposium - see next section for further details.

Actions

GJ to email GEOSCI-L to inform members that abstracts for XXVIII SCAR are due by 15 Jan 2004

GJ to promote WDMAM and ADMAP work in the next edition of GeoReach

GJ to email Juha Korhonen information about data sharing policies adopted by other international groups such as the Global Mapping initiative (Japan) and the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP)

GJ to email Alexander Golinsky about OSU geophysics and GSSG ADMAP web site addresses

MG, DD, GJ to meet later in the week with other members interested in reforming ADMAP.

ADMAP members to provide metadata on their various line datasets. This is loosely being coordinated by Carol Finn (USGS) and Glenn Johnstone. [no formal decision was been made on where these metadata records will be housed, the first step is to obtain them!]

GJ to follow up with BAS on proposed 'sampling' workshop - invitation to all SCAR SSG and JCADM members should be provided.

ISAES symposium 8-12th September

The 9th ISAES meeting was successfully held at the University of Potsdam, Germany between 8-12th September. The 340+ participants from 26 countries, listened to more than 160 papers and saw 215 posters during the week. It was particularly good to see a number of countries represented at the meeting who have been unable to make it to previous symposia (eg. Ecuador, the Czech Republic, Ukraine and Bulgaria).

The organisation committee did an excellent job with the programme and the venue. One aspect that a lot of participants commented on was the success of the poster sessions - this was mainly due to the availability of high quality, locally produced and most importantly, free beer. This encouraged people to spend more time in the poster hall and talk with the authors. The [list of posters presented](#) is available from the ISAES web site.

The main focus of the symposium was Antarctic contributions to global earth science and judging from the high quality and number of presentations made there is indeed much that Antarctica can contribute to the overall global picture.

There were many 'out of hours' workshops and side meetings conducted including East-West Antarctic Tectonics and Gondwana Breakup, ANDRILL Science Committee Meeting, Permafrost Action Group, Antarctic Seismic Data Library System, and SCAR ANTEC and GSSG meetings.

Other matters of interest discussed during the symposium included:

International Polar Year 2007-08

"The 125th, 75th, and 50th anniversaries of the first two International Polar Years (IPYs) and the International Geophysical Year (IGY) will occur in 2007-2008. These milestones have the potential to spark exciting new polar science and research, both engaging the next generation of scientists and illustrating to the public the benefits and challenges still inherent in polar exploration."

The ICSU IPY Planning Group is being chaired by Prof Chris Rapley (UK) and vice chair is Prof Robin Bell (USA).

Further details about IPY 2007-08 can be found at: <www.ipy.org/>

Next ISAES meeting

The USA has offered to host the next meeting in July 2007. The venue and exact dates have yet to be confirmed. The venue will either be in New York or Santa Barbara, California.

Actions

GJ to update GSSG website with photos of members.

GJ to email Ecuador representative about Geological representation on GSSG through Ms Essy Santana.

GJ to email Korea regarding monumentation specifications GPS installation on King George Island.