



APECS Council Report January 2011

APECS council members 2nd term 2010:

Silje-Kristin Jensen - Norway - APECS Council Chair, Jennifer Rhemann - US/Iceland - APECS Council Co-Chair, Tosca Ballerini - Italy/US, Punyasloke Bhadury – India, Erli Costa – Brazil, Claudia Maturana Bobadilla – Chile, Eleanor Darlington – UK, Bryany Denning – Canada, José Araos Espinoza – Chile, Francisco Fernandoy - Chile/Germany, Jenny Fisher – US, Emily Jateff – Australia, Kim Jochum - Germany/US, Dubrava Kirievskaya – Russia, Sílvia Lourenço – Portugal, Inga May – Germany, Oliver Marsh - New Zealand, Alexey Pavlov - Russia/Norway, Julia Schmale – Germany, Nikolas Sellheim - Finland/Germany, Matt Strezelecki - Poland/UK, Rosa Rut Thorisdottir - Iceland/Belgium, Penny Wagner – US, Yulia Zaika – Russia

Silje-Kristin Jensen: APECS Norway, Council Chair

- Ran a tanned about APECS for the International programmes at the University of Tromsø:
<http://www.apecs.is/leadership/international-directorate/a-great-norwegian-life>
- Held a VPS presentation entitled “Toxoplasma gondii in polar bears and their marine mammal prey; evidence for a marine transmission pathway?” <http://www.apecs.is/virtual-poster-session/marine/1617-siljejensen2010>
- Starting to build up an APECS Norway trainee program with meeting with the career center at the University of Tromsø
- Chairing council calls throughout the term
- Introducing new council members to APECS with personal chats and guidance
- Recruitment of members to APECS
- Recruitment of mentors for the APECS mentor program
- Various news, event and job postings for the APECS web page and APECS facebook
- Giving a talk at the International whale watching conference in Tokyo, Japan called whale watching worldwilde: <http://www.apecs.is/apecs-news/2514-apecs-whale-watching-in-japan> representing APECS, Norway
- Upcoming activities:
 - Arranging a Research Funding workshop January 28th 2011, <http://apecs.is/events/details/265-apecs-research-funding-workshop>

- Joining the organization Students on Ice, <http://www.studentsonice.com> as an APECS representative for the University Antarctic Expedition

Jennifer Rhemann: APECS Iceland, USA, Council Co-Chair

- o Participated in a planning meeting for the formation of an Arctic Law Thematic Network (TN) and successfully promoted APECS participation. When the Arctic Law TN is officially formed, APECS participation will be welcomed and fostered.
 - See www.uarctic.org for more information on TNs.
- o Continued working with Tom Barry, Executive Secretary of the Arctic Council Working Group Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) in preparations to facilitate participation by APECS members in the new CAFF project, *Arctic Sea Ice*. This interaction will serve as a pilot project for future APECS involvement in other CAFF projects, thereby furthering ways in which APECS members can contribute to research and gain valuable experience.
 - Penny Wagner and Sam Rastrick are now participating in this planning stage. Further work on this will continue following the next ExCom meeting.
- o An MoU to establish continued cooperation between the two organizations is under development and ready to be signed.
- o Participating with Gerlis Fugmann, Rosa Rut Thorisdottir, Bryany Denning, & Sigmar Arnarson in planning of APECS Workshop at the June 2011 International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS)
 - The deadline for abstracts has been extended to 17 January. See <http://iassa.org> for more information.
- o Posted jobs and events to APECS website
- o Sent notices to Policy and Social Science listservs and removed a disruptive (non-APECS member) subscriber from the Policy listserv
- o Upcoming Activities include
 - Planning for APECS Workshop at ICASS and discussing (with Rosa) a joint Social Sciences-Policy VPS in May as a preparatory tool for ICASS participants
 - Start cleaning-up the list-servs
 - More developments to come with APECS-CAFF collaboration and APECS-Polar Law Institute collaboration
 - Will promote APECS when participating in the upcoming Virtual Learning Tools (VLT) course, "Adaptation to Globalization in the Arctic".

Tosca Ballerini: APECS Italy

- o Attended council meetings
- o posting jobs advertisements on APECS website.
- o Working on being more involved with RAC and and work with the Climate Change Answer Working Group to translate the answers in Italian.

Punyasloke Bhadury: APECS India

- Outreach program on polar science in West Bengal, India involving students from 40 schools- Gave a presentation on polar science and its relevance with respect to climate change to students of 10 and 10+2 grades from 40 schools in West Bengal, India. Since then some students have expressed interested in polar related activities. Currently I am formulating a plan so that 1-2 students from 10 or 10+2 level can undertake some research activities on polar biology in my research group.
- APECS and APECS-India Membership drive- Disseminated info on APECS to research students from IISER-K, Burdwan University, Madurai Kamraj University and CUSAT (Cochin)
- Liaised with the Director of NCAOR (Goa) to secure travel funds for visit of ExComm member from India to attend the recent meeting held in UK. Currently negotiating travel funds for APECS India National Chapter so that students/researchers/early career faculty members from India can attend conference/workshop on polar related areas
- Helped in organizing the Virtual Poster Session on India's Polar Activities along with VPS and APECS members.
- APECS India creation and associated activities- Currently working on the possibility of organizing a polar workshop in India and starting a webpage on APECS India.

Erli Costa: APECS Brazil

- They organized the 1st APECS Brazil Workshop.
- Presented a poster on APECS in the international Workshop: IV International Workshop on Micropollutants in the Environment (at Federal University of Rio de Janeiro) and at the XIII Simpósio Brasileiro de Paleobotânica e Palinologia (in Salvador, Bahia)!
- Left for Antarctica on 4 December. Returning 16 March.

Claudia Maturana, Jose Araos, Francisco Fernandoy, Layla Osman: APECS Chile

- Wants to create a FORUM or any kind of communication platform to discuss some “scientific problems”.
- Arranged in October a mentor panel for the symposium: II International Symposium "Reconstructing Climate Variations in South America and the Antarctic Peninsula over the last 2000 years".
- In November they attended with a poster to LIII Annual Meeting of Chilean Biology Society IV Chilean annual meeting of Evolution entitled: APECS-Chile: Forjando el futuro de los Jóvenes Investigadores Polares en Chile. Web-news: <http://newpage.biologiachile.cl/?p=430>. 1 APECS spreading poster presentation in a local meeting in Santa Cruz, Chile
- They also arranged a mentor panel for the International Glaciological Conference Ice and Climate Change: A View from the South

- We are now trying to establish formal relationships between APECS and the Chilean Antarctic Research Council, in order to get some resources for local activities and formal recognition of APECS at national level
- Francisco was selected to attend the AGCS Meeting as the APECS representative, during the IUGG Conference in Melbourne next year
- Jobs and event posting on the web page
- Claudia added a poster the VPS “Genetic diversity in a brooding echinoid *Abatus agassizii* based on Microsatellites”
- APECS spreading poster presentation in a local meeting in Santa Cruz, Chile
- Working on the APECS-Chile web page
- Participating in webinars
- One mentor added: Paulina Uribe (biologist)

Jenny Fisher: APECS USA

- Since joining the council in September, Jenny’s been getting a handle on her duties as a council member.
- Added many jobs to the website (mainly found through the ES_JOBS_NET list);
- Added a few events and news articles to the website;
- Worked with Julia to re-energize the climate@apecs email list (although more work is needed since currently we are the only ones who post!);
- Contacted Shelley Knuth to help her organize an APECS panel and social event at the 10th AMS Conference on Polar Meteorology and Oceanography being held in Boston in May 2011 (I won’t be attending but live nearby);
- Participated in all RAC calls and council calls.
- Her plans for the coming months include doing more of the same, as well as co-organizing with Julia a VPS call on atmospheric science topics, possibly including not only posters but a presentation if we can get the technology worked out. I’m also hoping to put together an APECS panel or event of some sort at the Mercury 2011 conference in Halifax in July (<http://mercury2011.org/>).
- She would also be interested in establishing some sort of relationship with the AMS Committee on Polar Meteorology and Oceanography, although she is not sure how to proceed there. If anyone has suggestions, she would love to hear them!

Kim Jochum: APECA USA

- Web posting on APECS web page
- Participate in arranging Virtual Poster Session

Organized RAC calls in October and December and posting RAC information on webpage and news sections and participate in the new RAC and Council changes

Dubrava Kirievskaya: APECS Russia

- Dubrava has been organizing a series of APECS events in St. Petersburg during 2010 (see <http://www.apecs.is/national-committees/russia>). At present APECS Russia committee (in St. Petersburg) are working on establishing cooperation with young scientist councils of different Universities.
- Also Ivan Sudakov presents APECS Russia experience in a Career Development Workshop at the Governmental conference.
- Dubrava and Ivan Sudakov met with co-chair young scientist councils of Saint Petersburg State University of Service and Economics (<http://service.in.spb.ru/>) for a planning organize of APECS Russia Funding workshop by next spring.
- Also they are planning organize Career Development Symposium at the Baltic Sea Conference on summer 2011. We want to organize it as international event and need your support for it.

Silvia Lourenço: APECS Portugal

- Attended council meetings
- Working on the connection between APECS international and APECS Portugal, by informing both groups about the upcoming activities.
- Help with posting news on the APECS webpage
- Help with organizing the APECS Portugal workshop and the 2nd polar science conference in April 2011. Planning to talk about APECS international and its role in polar science and education & outreach.
- Discussion of a document to be presented to the Minister of Science and Technology, showing the strategy of Portugal Polar Science (Structure and Logistics) for the future. APECS will have a representative in the organizational committee.
- Collaboration with Young Portuguese Researchers in UK and France. Sue Bloom (at the British Antarctic Survey, in Cambridge to work on foraging ecology of white chinned petrels) and Filipe Ceia and Rui Vieira (at the CEBC-CNRS and University of La Rochelle, France to work on food web dynamics related to albatrosses and Antarctic fish) were three early portuguese career scientists collaborating with major European laboratories, working with top British and French polar scientists, showing that Portugal is making an effort to connect and promote international collaborations.
- Participation on the Researchers Night, where Eduarda Guerreiro and Paulo Maciel took part on hands-on activities for students in Olhão, Algarve. This is an Educational and Outreach event with an European dimension with happenings in most of all EU countries, that already have a very nice media coverage here in Portugal.

- APECS Portugal with APECS Brazil. A tremendous workshop of APECS Brazil took place in October, where José Xavier presented a poster (with Miriam Almeida the main author) showing how using new technologies provided an unique way to connect scientists in the Antarctic with students in Brazil, Malaysia, UK and Canada.
- Lecturing in Cambridge. José Xavier (a British Antarctic Survey guest scientist) was invited to give lectures on Antarctic food web dynamics to young marine biologists that will be spending more than 2 years in the Antarctic collecting data on the feeding ecology of penguins, seals and albatrosses. Of course José took the chance to invite them to become APECS members and be actively involved in APECS while in the Antarctic.
- Next APECS Portugal meeting is planned to be in March/April 2011.

Oliver Marsh: APECS New Zealand

- Posting on webpage
- Talk about APECS at the Snow and Ice Research Group (SIRG) Meeting in New Zealand, February 2011
- Monitoring glaciology list-server

Alexey Pavlov: APECS Russia

APECS & ASSW 2011

- Serving as the APECS Representative for the Arctic Science Summit Week in Seoul in March 2011 (member of the Scientific Steering Committee / SSC) and a convener to one of the Sessions (ARCTIC MARINE CLIMATE CHANGE: CAUSES AND IMPACTS ON THE MARINE SYSTEM):
<http://www.assw2011.org/symposium.php?sm=040>
- I am working with Rasmus Bertelsen and Jenny Baeseman on organizing an APECS Career Development Workshop attached to the conference: <http://apecs.is/workshops/assw2011>
- Co-chaired the October VPS Call on “India’s Research” on the Virtual Poster Session and Uploaded a number of posters to VPS (which were coming through Submission system)
- Posted news and jobs on APECS website
- Created an Oceanography Listserve (ocean@apecs.is)
- Contributed to a small workshop for Russian and Norwegian teachers at the University of Tromsø, based on IPY Polar Resource Book (together with Angelika Renner and Marie-Anne Blanchet)
- Promoted APECS among friends/colleagues through personal communication and various web tools

National Level

- Contributed to the translation of APECS Brochure into Russian (together with Yulia Zaika):
http://apecs.is/images/stories/apecs_russia/apecs_russian_brochure.pdf

- Contributed to the translation of EOC survey on EO projects during IPY (together with Yulia Zaika)
- Contributed to the group on vkontakte.ru (<http://vkontakte.ru/club9980378>), to the APECS Russia google group and APECS Russia twitter account (http://twitter.com/#!/APECS_Russia)

Matt Strzelecki: APECS Poland/UK

- In recent months his APECS activity has been reduced due to his PhD laboratory work and other commitments.
- In June, just after IPY OSC he organised the first Discussion Panel of APECS Polska with invited mentors and huge audience composed mainly by senior scientists (quite opposed to changes we are working on) in Lodz during XXXIII International Polar Symposium. The discussion about the role of young scientists in the further development of Polish polar research programmes was very spontaneous and fruitful. For us it was also a great occasion for promotion and networking especially between representatives of biological and Earth scientists. I had a pleasure to moderate the discussion and I was asked to be a chair of one of the scientific sessions on interaction between land and sea in the Polar Regions.
- In autumn (November) we organised another promotional event in Lublin during a geopolitical conference. Here my role was very limited. I served as a contact person and left the main meeting logistics to other members of APECS Polska. Meeting was important because we gained new members from law and political studies departments who can help in the future to become more attractive organisation for other social scientists.
- In the beginning of December Matt was invited to give a promotional talk about APECS and APECS goals during a special conference entitled 'Global Climate Change and its implications on Polish landscape transition' organized by Committee of Geographical Sciences, Polish Academy of Science and National global Change Committee where I had a chance to present APECS in front of many important persons from leading scientific institutions in the country.
- In September he organized a APECS promotional event during 5th SEDIBUD workshop which took place on Iceland. After a great conference together with young enthusiasts of sediment budget studies we decided to form a new APECS Working group.
- In November new APECS Working Group of Sediment Budgets in Cold Environments was officially registered and is open for all APECS members interested in interdisciplinary discussion of landscape transition and sediment fluxes in cold regions.
- Posting jobs on webpage

Rosa Rut Thorisdottir:APECS Iceland/Belgium

- A report from the social sciences sector. The winter has had a good start with social sciences mailing list in the air. The challenge now is to keep it alive and active.

- Preparing for the ICASS VII, the seventh International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences, in Akureyri Iceland next June which is going to be a very diverse and interesting conference. APECS direct contribution to the congress will be a one day workshop in the day prior to the opening day.
- The social science discipline coordinator defended her PhD theses at the University of Paris 7, in December and is hugely relieved

Penelope Wagner: APECS USA

- helping and leading APECS functions with regards to the working group developments and previous and future workshops.
- lead the workshop session "Alternative Careers in Polar Science" with Graham Simpkins (UNSW) that introduced various job opportunities in polar science for participants who would like to learn about other career paths outside of academia. Mentor panel speakers for this session were as follows:
 - Frank Rack - ANDRILL (Executive Director)
 - Sara Bowden - Arctic Ocean Sciences Board (AOSB)
 - Georg Hansen - Research Council of Norway
 - Renuka Badhe - SCAR
- Help arranging the Gordon Research Seminar (GRS). The first Gordon Research Seminar (GRS) will be held two days prior to the GRC. The primary goal for the Polar Marine Science GRS is to give students a chance to participate in planning and organizing these types of specialized conferences that have been very well-regarded since the first GRC in 1999.
 - The students will take part in a workshop that will give them early career development guidance and introduce them to APECS.
 - *Website posting:* Information on the GRC/GRS was posted in the APECS news section to invite other APECS members who wish to participate in organizing this <http://apecs.is/apecs-news/1624-gordon-conference-participation-for-march-2011> because my goal is to have APECS become a permanent fixture for the future GRS and GRC's.
- IASC proposal for IMPETUS Sea Ice Workshop in conjunction with the Otto-Schmidt Laboratory
 - Assisted in creating agenda for proposed IMPETUS Sea Ice Workshop planned for November/December 2011 in St. Petersburg, Russia. This includes:
 - Establish topics that should be discussed from invited speakers that pertain to main focus of the workshop
 - Develop daily schedule and allocate time slots accordingly for each topic based on importance to discussion session.
 - Contributed to IASC proposal to fund students and early career scientists to participate in this workshop
 - Currently working on NSF proposal with Burcu Ozsoy-Cicek to provide additional funding for participants.

- Sea Ice APECS DC position/list serve:
 - In speaking with Angelika Renner we decided that it may be better to merge the Sea Ice and Geophysics DC positions so that we can work together to find out what we can do to improve how we communicate with others in our group and what will ultimately benefit the sea ice focus.
 - I posted a news item on the webpage about the listserv at seaice@apecs.is at http://apecs.is/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=96&Itemid=169.
 - Currently, I am going through the APECS members list and those from the IGS sea ice workshop, Gordon Community, and IPY conference to obtain email addresses for students and early career scientists working in sea ice related research in order to add them to the list serve.

Yulia Zaika: APECS Russia

- Recruited two mentors from Russia
- Translation of APECS Brochure into Russian language (together with **Alexey Pavlov**)
- Translation of APECS Mentor Form to recruit more mentors from Russia
- Web posting to the APECS web page
- Recruit 2 Mentors from Russia: Dr Elena Golubeva and Dr Tatiana Vlasova
- Arranging with Organisational Committee to have APECS presentation for young scientists at PPS Arctic Meeting - <http://ppsarctic.nina.no/>. It will be held at Moscow region of Russia in February 2011.
- Trying to establish connections with Russian Union of Young Scientists. Where they have great workshops and seminars on how to successfully develop career for young scientists.
- Proposal for APECS new WG – Funding Bodies Data Base
- Preparing of APECS Presentation (Power Point) in Russian language to represent APECS at Russian conferences and in different institutions
- APECS Presentation at PPS Arctic Annual Meeting (Benefits) for young scientists, February 2011 (status: confirmed)
- APECS Presentation at Avalanches and related subjects - IV International conference (September 2011, status: at the dialogue stage), Russia
- Series of APECS Presentations at Kola Science Center of Russian Academy of Sciences (during 2011, status: at the dialogue stage), including presentations at Polar Geophysical Institute (Russia)