

3rd Council Meeting

31st March 2021, 0000 & 1600 GMT



Apologies: Lisa von Friesen, Freya Sykes, Kirsten Reid, Melanie Stammner, Dalia C. Barragán-Barrera, Alexis Bahl, Gwenaëlle Gremion, Henrietta Hammant, Marta Ibanez, Mikhail Latonin, Ivan Alekseev, Elisabeth Perera, William Harcourt, Elise Gallois, Georgi Laukert, Grace Shephard, Marlen Kolbe, Tayana Arakchaa, Nicole Stark, Sidney Horlick, Shridhar Jawak, Prashant Pandit, Alexandra Yingst, Élise Devoie, Lauren Thompson, Ryan O'Hara, Rodrigo Gomez

Agenda

1. Council report
2. Directorate updates
 - a. APECS searching for a new host (still!). We need support from all of you as individuals/national committees and representatives:
 - i. Please share the [Call for Bids](#) with colleagues/mentors/supervisors/VIPs you know and discuss potentials for APECS. It is really more about planting the seeds and approaching people from different angles. (In discussions it was often said that they would see how represented and APECS is in the local polar community, so it is about creating awareness)
 - ii. National Committees: Please discuss options in your countries
 - iii. Inform the APECS Office if you have ideas and contacts we should approach: info@apecs.is THANK YOU!
 - b. [APECS Online Conference](#): Abstract Submission deadline extended to 14 April
 - c. [Mentorship Award](#) Nomination now open!
 - d. Submission deadline for [Mental Health survey](#): 1 April (tomorrow!)
3. ExCom updates
 - a. APECS activities within the council can become 'More Fun' : Ideas for social interaction within the council. Maybe someone would like to propose ideas for a team event and/or organize something (game night/hang out/quiz).If so please contact info@apecs.is .

- b. We hope that you appreciate the sharing of bi-weekly Excom meeting summaries through email. Remember they are also available [online](#).
 - c. Get ready (~April) to actively participate in the review and improvement of the new “APECS-handbook”, that will combine all keys documents as well as the state of the coming APECS council restructuring !
4. [Project Groups and National Committees updates](#)
5. AOB

3rd Council Meeting - 00:00 GMT

Present: José Queirós (chair), Susana Hancock, Hugo Guímaro, Scott Sugden, Shinae Montie, Kelly Huh, Lina Madaj, John Doherty, John Read, Christy Rouault, Nicholas Parlato

Minutes

Minutes taken by Scott Sugden.

1. Council survey.

- a. APECS council members completed the council survey sent out by Priyanka in February/March.
- b. The results of this survey will be sent to the council in PDF form soon.
- c. Please do not share these survey results as they are intended just for the council.

2. Directorate updates

- a. New location search
 - i. We're still looking for a place to host the APECS directorate, so please send out the call for bids!
 - ii. Nicholas Parlato mentioned that the University of Alaska-Fairbanks may be interested in hosting. His supervisor may follow up.
- b. APECS Online Conference
 - i. Abstract submission deadline extended to April 14, and the conference is May 12.
 - ii. Submit an abstract if you'd like to present!
 - iii. If you don't have anything to present but would still like to attend, registration is completely free and will be available soon.
 - iv. If your project group would like to present at the Online Conference and showcase your work, your project group leader should get in touch with the APECS Online Conference project group.
- c. Mentorship award nominations
 - i. Nominations are now open.
 - ii. Check online to see what the nomination process entails - it requires a few letters of nomination (from the nominator and from a third party).
- d. Mental Health Survey
 - i. Please complete this by April 1! This is valuable information and shouldn't take too much of your time!

3. ExCom updates

- a. Adding more "fun" activities
 - i. One of the outcomes of the council survey was a request for more "fun" activities to meet each other and socialize beyond just project group meetings, council meetings, and other 'productive' activities.
 - ii. ExCom will work towards making this happen in the coming months.
 - iii. If you have ideas for activities you'd like to see, please let ExCom know!

- b. Bi-weekly ExCom meeting summaries
 - i. Biweekly summaries of ExCom meetings are posted online and are also sent via email to the council.
 - ii. If you have any questions about any topics that were discussed in the ExCom meetings, contact the council chairs or APECS directorate
- c. New APECS handbook
 - i. In the middle of April, we will start reviewing the "APECS Handbook."
 - ii. The purpose of the handbook is to describe the structure of the council, responsibilities of council members, and how to get the most out of APECS.
 - iii. Be prepared to get involved with this!

4. Project Group Updates

- a. Science and Diplomacy Project Group [Nicholas Parlato and Susana Hancock]
 - i. Planned a total of four events over 2021.
 - ii. Recently hosted a small event associated with ASSW. This was the first of their four events. It was largely a success and seemed to generate a lot of interest.
 - iii. The event was a 20-minute block, with a discussion between Susana Hancock and an invited guest (Dr Katia Kontar) who does science diplomacy.
 - iv. The event was recorded and should be available soon - check it out!
 - v. They are looking at making future "science and diplomacy" events that are not necessarily tied to larger organizational meetings like ASSW. Overall, things are going well!
- b. Indigenous Collaborations Group [John Doherty]
 - i. As part of Polar Week, we had a good conversation with three Indigenous research experts about how to conduct polar research and field work in culturally respectful and mutually beneficial ways.
 - ii. There is a recording of the webinar available on the website, so check it out if interested!
- c. T-MoSAlCs Vlogs [Scott Sugden]
 - i. We are working to obtain submissions of 2-3 minute videos of researchers describing their work in the arctic.
 - ii. These submissions will be uploaded online to a map interface to obtain a collection of videos from all around the world!
 - iii. If you know someone who might be interested in making a video, please check your e-mail for an e-mail from Sergio with the subject "Call for Video Blogs for Arctic Research!" – all the information you need is there!
- d. National Committees [Susana Hancock]
 - i. We are working to get the Argentinian chapter back up and running, so if anyone is in Argentina or knows of contacts in Argentina, get in touch with ExCom or with Susana Hancock.
 - ii. The Iceland chapter is new and they're doing well!

5. Closing thoughts

- a. If you ever have anything you want to bring up to APECS, feel free to mention it to ExCom, the directorate, project group leaders, etc., as appropriate!

3rd Council Meeting - 16:00 GMT

Minutes

Minutes taken by Liezel Rudolph

Present: Hugo Guímaro (chair), Liezel Rudolph, Adrien Wehrlé, Paula de Castro-Fernández, Louise Borthwick, Olga Kulikova, Jill Diederich, Sergio Ruez Villanueva, Jilda Caccavo, Florent Fayolle, Mariel Kieval, Spencer Weinstein, John Woitkowitz, Friederike Säring, Alexandra Zuhr, Kirsi Kesitalo, Anna Gebruk, Elisa Seyboth, Rodrigo Alves, Neelu Singh, Andrea Bueno, Rebecca Duncan, Emma Davis, Vinod Kumar Nathan, Emil Sumarliðason, Maciej Mańko, Joana Fragão, Deniz Vural, Josefine Lenz

1. Council report - Hugo

Report is ready to be distributed to Council, please keep within Council.

6. Directorate updates - Josefine

(shared a poll on everyone's welfare - most are doing great!)

- a. APECS searching for a new host (still!). AWI is ending January 2022, so ideally have a host earlier to allow a good transition.

There has been no formal statement of interest been submitted at this point. May be a case of poor funding in some countries. Some big institutions were looking at how well APECS is represented within the country (visibility, effectiveness) in order to decide whether they would be willing to host. So please stay connected, visible and promote your activities.

We need support from all of you as individuals/national committees and representatives:

- i. Please share the [Call for Bids](#) with colleagues/mentors/supervisors/VIPs you know and discuss potentials for APECS. It is really more about planting the seeds and approaching people from different angles. (In discussions it was often said that they would see how represented and APECS is in the local polar community, so it is about creating awareness)
- ii. National Committees: Please discuss options in your countries
- iii. Inform the APECS Office if you have ideas and contacts we should approach: info@apecs.is THANK YOU!
- b. [APECS Online Conference](#): Abstract Submission deadline extended to 14 April (conference on 12 May, please consider to take part).
- c. [Mentorship Award](#) Nomination now open!
This year we only have a single award - looking for nominations of good mentors as well as those who can offer good support for APECS.
- d. Submission deadline for [Mental Health survey](#): extended till mid April

7. ExCom updates - Deniz

Thank you for filling out the Council feedback report.

- a. APECS activities within the council can become '*More Fun*' : Ideas for social interaction within the council. Maybe someone would like to propose ideas for a team event and/or organize something (game night/hang out/quiz). If so please contact info@apecs.is .
- b. We hope that you appreciate the sharing of bi-weekly Excom meeting summaries through email. Remember they are also available [online](#). Please contact us if you have any questions in this regard.
- c. Get ready (~April) to actively participate in the review and improvement of the new "APECS-handbook", that will combine all key documents as well as the state of the upcoming APECS council restructuring!

8. Project Groups and National Committees updates

- a. Alpine Cryosphere Group (Carla) - starting review phase of the Mountain Guide, planning to submit an abstract to APECS online conference to share experience of people working in High Mountain Environments during pandemic.
- b. APECS Art (Kirsi) - Aiming for Polar Week, have a few great requests that they are looking into.
- c. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (Lauren) - Moving forward with Code of Conduct revision
- d. Non-academic (Elisa) - Women in science info being compiled, waiting for information from scientists from some projects, including from Colombia.
- e. Polar Organisations (Joseph) - new project leader, new goal is to take current organization list and review it. Asking NC to take the list of their countries and making everything on the list is correct. GOal to have the reviewed list by the end of the Council term.
- f. Blogs (Sergio) - call is open for people to submit their blogs (shared on web and social media). Contact various networks to get fun talks on research/area of interest in the (Arctic?). Anyone interested, please follow the info on social media, or contact Sergio.
- g. Indigenous Collaboration () - they are organising a webinar.
- h. APECS Podcasts (Jack) - got a few episodes recorded and ready to publish. Some material from indigenous group. We are always looking for guests, volunteers and material.
- i. Remote sensing - completed a survey to determine what science is happening to establish the group.
- j. Mental Health (Grace) - the survey has been extended to 1 April. It will be a public resource, so not only restricted to APECS.
- k. APECS Online International Conference (Louise) - Abstracts extended to 14 April. You can attend also, not needed to present only.
- l. CO2 reduction in the Arctic (Svenja)- About to start a temporary project group. In the process of planning the first meeting - anyone interested may join.
- m. Polar Week September (Olga) - first meeting will be soon, and updates will follow.

National Committees

- a. APECS Iceland (Katharina): update on the newly re-launched APECS Iceland NC, as I am one of the co-chairs. We are in the middle of our 6 month “probation” period and I would say it is going well! We have now a leadership structure set up and had our first official kick-off meeting during the Polar Week, which went well. Further, we are working on getting more members and more people involved. More events are also in the works already.
- b. APECS Brazil (Rodrigo) - Since February, 2 webinars (640 views in Youtube channel). Newsletter will be published in the middle of this year. Working on APECS International conference and a scientific paper for the next month (April 2021).
- c. France (Adrien) - Webinar for young students, was successful and a nice surprise on the turn out. Organising another one for May (?)
- d. Germany (Alexandra) over 140 participants in Polar Week fieldwork panel discussion/webinar. They are in the process of updating the LoA / ToA.
- e. Oceania (Rebecca) - successful polar week with social media activities. Polar Career seminar - more seminars to come throughout 2021.
- f. Portugal (Hugo) - visited schools to talk about polar science, newsletter, organising the next workshop, ‘science in the clear’- an article for the general public.
- g. Russia (Tatiana) - photo contest during Polar Week - 197 entries and many likes on social media (191 and 47 for winner). Video flash mob by APECS.
- h. South Africa (Liesel) - social events online, for networking, 1 every two months, focussing on recruiting sub-disciplines that are not represented in APECSSA.
- i. Spain (Paula) - Activity on Twitter, quite a lot of interaction. Webinars with flash talks from two scientists. Invitation to all Spanish speaking people to take part.
- j. Turkey (Dogac) - quite a busy year despite pandemic. Questionnaires, polar science and education festival (more than 50 schools and 1000 students), climate change e-presentations, Antarctica day quiz and many other activities! LoA has been signed with APECS International.
- k. UK (Anna) - Outreach events, polar evolution for kids, cold climate careers panel, Antarctic science panel, Antarctic flags designed by school children for scientists, webinar with Russia. Polar Early career conference in May. Applied for a stand at COP26 (?).

Josefine opens invitation on staying after meeting to brainstorm on improving interaction between NCs and Council members. Something that is more fun and interactive.

9. AOB