

APECS-Chile: Shaping the Future of Polar Research from the South

L.P. Osman,¹ F. Fernandoy²

¹ Instituto de Ecología y Evolución, Universidad Austral de Chile, Valdivia PO Box 567, Chile

² Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Postdam, Germany (AWI)

#2527

1. Introduction

The Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) is a worldwide association of early career scientists (undergraduate and graduate students, postdocs, and early career faculties) actively involved in the cryosphere and polar regions research. Its mission is to raise the profile of young scientists by providing professional development opportunities, that is both internationally and interdisciplinary focused, and to stimulate collaborative projects. One of the main APECS objectives is to diversify the nationality of their members; therefore the creation of national Committees is a priority within the main directress of the organization. The Chilean Chapter of APECS has been established in 2007, is presently runned by the authors of this poster.

apecsinfo@gmail.com
www.apecs.is

4. Mentors wanted!

Presently we are looking for senior scientists interested on getting involved mentoring the new and future generation of polar researchers. This is not only an objective of APECS-Chile, but a main aim of APECS in general. Presently a fast growing list of senior scientists, who are motivated in transfer their experience and knowledge, is getting together. So if you are interested as well, please let us know. We are especially interested in to find mentors with connection and/or interest in the South American Polar research. Presently more than 80 mentors from all the natural and social science spectrum are registered. More information is available at:

<http://apecs.is/mentors>

2. CHILlean polar Young network (CHILLY)



©Lanz/Universal

The Chilean committee of APECS has started to create a Chilean-network of young national researchers, which are in the early steps or actively integrated in polar activities. The group is now growing and professional development activities are being organized. One featured activity was the discussion panel organized during the International glaciological conference: "Ice and Climate Change: A view from the south" (VICC, 2010) at the Centre of Scientific Studies in Valdivia (<http://www.cecs.cl/vicc/>) (Figure 1). A panel between APECS members and distinguished senior scientists gave a view on the newest perspectives on the actual polar related research to the young scientists.

During the last year as well, a website of the Chilean Chapter was created and we are presently looking for material to be incorporated. If you have interesting news or articles that you would like to promote among our community just let us know sending us as an e-mail.

Our website is available under:

<http://apecs.is/national-committees/chile>

3. INACH

INACH is the specialized Chilean agency in Antarctic science. It is responsible for planning, coordinating, guiding and controlling the Chilean scientific activities of universities, institutes, other state agencies and the private sector, conducted in the Antarctic Territory. Furthermore, INACH can plan, organize and lead expeditions directly to undertake research and maintain its own scientific bases in the Antarctic Territory. One of his missions is to publish and disseminate scientific work resulting from the various Antarctic scientific research through publications, conferences, exhibitions, and other media. INACH provides also support and promote training and development of young scientists. In the INACH's bulletin issue of December, 2009, APECS was featured in the and its permanently included among featured among the interesting science links of its web portal (www.inach.cl).



Livingston Island, South Shetlands

5. APECS an opportunity for Chilean Science

APECS has evolved in the most prominent organization for young polar researchers worldwide in a very short time since its creation in 2007. The advantage of getting an integral formation including leadership and self-organization abilities are highly desired in the actual science carriers. That is exactly what APECS is offering to their members, we are now committed to bring the same benefits to a (inter)national level. APECS-Chile aims to establish more formal relationships and to work together with the Chilean polar research senior institutions, and to continue organizing activities for the career development of our members. We are looking motivated new members and mentors! Please let us know if you have a comment or idea for our organization. We are looking forward to hear from you.



Figure 1. Glaciological conference in Valdivia



The Research Council
of Norway



Acknowledgements:

We would like to thank generously sponsorship of APECS, The Research Council of Norway, SCAR and the Tinker foundation, which allowed the participation in the IPY OSC of the authors of this poster. The Ph.D. fellowship of Francisco Fernandoy by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is gratefully acknowledged

Links of interest and contact e-mail addresses:

APECS: www.apecs.is
APECS-Chile: <http://apecs.is/national-committees/chile>
APECS Mentor program: <http://apecs.is/mentors>
INACH: www.inach.cl

Contact persons:
APECS: apecsinfo@gmail.com
Dr. L. Osman: lavlaozman@gmail.com
F. Fernandoy: Francisco.Fernandoy@awi.de