

SCAR Fellowship Programme

The ad hoc Group on SCAR Organization and Strategy recommended that National Antarctic Committees should give more attention to participation of younger scientists in SCAR's activities. There have been several suggestions at different times that SCAR should establish an award or grant programme to encourage young scientists undertaking Antarctic research. In 2001 the Executive Committee proposed establishing a small fund within SCAR from which a SCAR prize for young scientists might be funded. These ideas were given a very welcome boost by the award to SCAR of the Prince of Asturias Prize for international cooperation 2002 in recognition of SCAR's contribution to international cooperation in Antarctica.

At the XXVII SCAR meeting in Shanghai, 22-26 July 2002, the SCAR Delegates established an ad hoc group to recommend how best to make use of the 50,000 Euros generously awarded to SCAR as part of the Prince of Asturias Award. Delegates approved the following regulations for nominations and awards of a SCAR Fellowship.

SCAR has established a Fellowship Programme for postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers within SCAR nations to encourage the active involvement of young scientists in Antarctic science and to strengthen international scientific capacity and cooperation in Antarctic research. The initial funding for the programme will come from the award to SCAR of the Prince of Asturias Prize for international cooperation 2002.

1. The primary selection criterion shall be the scientific excellence of the proposed research.
2. An additional criterion shall be the desire to strengthen the scientific capacity of nations with smaller or less well-developed Antarctic research programmes.
3. The award shall be limited to scientists younger than 35 on the day of the deadline for applications.
4. The work shall be carried out in a research group of a SCAR nation different from that of the applicant's origin.
5. Each award shall be related to a field of science of the three SCAR Scientific Standing Groups and should be linked to one or more of the Science Programmes endorsed by SCAR.
6. There shall be five awards of 10,000 Euros each to be made during 2003.
7. Proposals shall be made on the attached form that should be submitted to the SCAR Secretariat.

8. The closing date for receipt of proposals is 31 May 2003.
9. Proposals will be overseen and judged by a review panel comprising:
 - a. One member of the SCAR Executive (Chairman).
 - b. Three SSG Chief Officers or their Alternates
 - c. One member nominated by the SCAR Delegates

This initiative should represent the initial phase of an ongoing SCAR Fellowship Programme, recognizing that further sources of funding will be necessary for the continuation of the programme.

The proposal form to be completed by the applicant is in the attached file. The form may also be downloaded as a pdf file from the SCAR website.

Delegates are asked to bring this to the attention of their Antarctic science communities.

This message has also been sent separately to SCAR National Committees and SCAR Executive Committee.

Peter Clarkson
Executive Secretary