

Antarctica New Zealand Science Update (48) October 2009

1. The **09/10 joint Antarctica New Zealand/FRST Bidding Round** closed on 2 October. A total of 20 proposals were submitted; 6 under the GLO portfolio (Understanding and Adapting to Global Environmental Change), 8 under the ECO portfolio (Resilient, Functioning and Restored natural Ecosystems) and 6 for logistics support only. All proposals have now gone out for peer review and an Advisory Group meeting will be held at the end of November to discuss the reviews. The final outcomes will be communicated in February 2010. Further information about the bidding round can be found at: <http://www.frst.govt.nz/funding/research/antarctica#>
2. **Paper on Antarctic Publications:** A recent paper in *Arctic, Antarctic and Alpine Research* (Vol. 41, No. 2, 2009, pp. 155–163) outlined trends in polar research papers published from 1981 to 2007. The paper analyses the number of publications different countries published in internationally peer-reviewed journals in three separate time periods; 1981-83, 1991-93 and 2005-07. The results show that New Zealand has fallen from 7th most productive nation for Antarctic publications in 1981-83, to 9th most productive nation in 2005-07. While the trend gives some cause for concern, given the very limited resources that New Zealand puts into Antarctic science, a top 10 ranking in the world should be viewed as extremely positive. A summary document giving more information on this paper can be found on our website at: <http://www.antarcticanz.govt.nz/downloads/science/InternationalPublicationTrends.pdf>
3. **Antarctica New Zealand's Postgraduate Scholarship** application round is now open with a deadline of March 5th 2010. Please let your students know about this fantastic opportunity. We acknowledge the generous and continued support of the scholarship sponsors: New Zealand Post, Kelly Tarlton's Antarctic Encounter and Underwater World, and Helicopters New Zealand. For more information go to : <http://www.antarcticanz.govt.nz/research/10980> or contact Shulamit with any questions.
4. **McMurdo Dry Valleys Website:** The Management Group for the McMurdo Dry Valleys Antarctic Specially Managed Area (ASMA) has launched a website at <http://www.mcmurdodryvalleys.aq/>. This contains general summary information about the Area's unique environment and features, maps and images, current activities in the Area and the management plans for the ASMA and Specially Protected Areas within the ASMA.
5. The latest edition of **the SCAR Newsletter** is now available to view on the SCAR website at: <http://www.scar.org/news/newsletters/issues2009/sep09.html>.
6. **APECS October Newsletter:**
http://apecs.is/images/stories/newsletters/apecs_newsletter_oct2009.pdf.
7. **SCAR Focus:** As the Secretary of SCAR's biology programme Evolution and Biodiversity in the Antarctica (www.eba.aq), Shulamit has compiled the October 2009 EBA Newsletter. This is a bumper edition with stories and information from many groups involved in EBA. Print it off and relax for a read to find out more about EBA:
<http://www.eba.aq/images/pdfs/2009octoberebanewsletter.pdf>
8. **Data Focus:** SCAR's Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management has just released its newsletter. This can be accessed at:
http://www.scar.org/news/othernewsletters/SCADM_Newsletter_2.pdf. Read all about NZ's data success story!!
9. **SCAR's Data and Information Management Strategy (DIMS)** for the next four years and is available to view and download at <http://www.scar.org/publications/reports/>

Publications submitted to Ant NZ this month:

Convey, P., Stevens, M.I., Hodgson, D.A., Smellie, J.L., Hillenbrand, C-D., Barnes, D.K.A., Clarke, A., Pugh, P.J.A., Linse, K., Cary, S.C.

Exploring biological constraints on the glacial history of Antarctica.

Quaternary science reviews 2009.

doi:10.1016/j.quascirev.2009.08.015

McLeod, M., Bockheim, J., Balks, M., Aislabie, J.

Soils of western Wright Valley, Antarctica

Antarctic science 21(4): 355-365 2009.

doi:10.1017/S0954102009001965