



## **\*Introducing a new network for Polar Early Career Scientists!\***

Are you a graduate student, postdoc, a starting professor or even an undergraduate student involved in polar research? The Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) is made for you!

APECS is a new initiative that aims to bring together early career scientists from around the world who share an interest in the Polar Regions. An interactive website has been established to serve as the main contact point for APECS members and provides a forum to share news, connect with other polar researchers, and find jobs and events that might be of interest. APECS is an endorsed International Polar Year project and the official early career association recognized.



**Visit APECS at [www.kent.edu/Polar](http://www.kent.edu/Polar)**

### **Who are We?**

Because of increasing concern about climate and the escalating changes in polar regions, it is imperative that young scientists develop collaborations with international counterparts as well as scientists in other disciplines to address questions facing these regions that play such an important role for the function of this Planet. The [International Polar Year](#) (IPY) comes at a time when focus on the Poles is a pressing concern. The IPY aims to create large international and interdisciplinary research addressing the delicate Polar Regions on Earth and to increase the general public's awareness, understanding, and importance of these ecosystems. The APECS organization taps into the momentum surrounding the IPY to unite early career researchers in a network that ensures the development of international and interdisciplinary collaborations early in our careers that will last well beyond the IPY.

APECS was founded by three early career scientists in 2006, as a directive from the International Polar Year international office; Dr. Jenny Baeseman – a microbial ecologist studying life in extreme environments – with the help of Hugues Lantuit – a permafrost researcher – and Dr. Rhian Salmon – an atmospheric chemist and the Education and Outreach coordinator for the IPY. This network represents people with a wide range of scientific expertise and interests including glaciology, geology, anthropology, sociology, atmospheric science, oceanography, polar biology, culture and heritage studies, linguistics, space studies, biogeochemistry, paleontology and other fields.

### **Who can join?**

Membership in APECS is open to all early career scientists interested in natural and social sciences of Polar Regions, from undergraduates through assistant professors or equivalent for non-academic positions. We encourage senior scientists to register on the APECS website and serve as mentors for the organization as well as post job openings and events at their institutions. All pages on the website are public except the discussion forums, which are open only to members of APECS. Being a member gives you advantages: you can post information to the site, participate in discussion boards, network with other researchers through the membership database, as well as receive periodic updates from the APECS organization. For more information or to get involved in APECS and start your international and interdisciplinary collaborations today, visit <http://www.kent.edu/Polar> or email [APECS@kent.edu](mailto:APECS@kent.edu)?

### **Future plans:**

APECS will be sponsoring several early career gatherings at IPY events and major research conferences around the world during the International Polar Year. For more information on hosting these events or to suggest a conference where a gathering of early career polar scientists would be welcome, email Jenny Baeseman at [jbaesema@kent.edu](mailto:jbaesema@kent.edu)