

Noticeboard

Diary

☞ Further dates for your diary

1996

- 26–29 March **SCAR/COMNAP Second Workshop on Antarctic Environmental Monitoring.** College Station, Texas. Contact: MC Kennicutt II. Geochemical & Environmental Research Group, University College Station, Texas A&M, Texas 77843, USA.
- 1–3 April **7th Global Warming International Conference & Expo (GW7).** Vienna. Contact: Prof. O. Preining, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Clean Air Commission, Postg. 7–9/4/3. A-1010 Vienna, Austria. tel: (43) 1 51581519, Fax: (43) 1 51581 518.
- 29 April–10 May **Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting,** Utrecht, Netherlands.
- 19–24 May ☞ **Tenth International Congress on Circumpolar Health.** Anchorage, Alaska. Contact: c/o The American Society for Circumpolar Health, P.O. Box 242822, Anchorage, Alaska 99524-2822, USA. Tel: (1) 907 561 4406, Fax: (1) 907 562 7802, E-mail: icch@epi.hss.state.ak.us
- 26–31 May **ISOPE96. Sixth International Offshore and Polar Engineering Conference.** Los Angeles. Contact: ISOPE96 Los Angeles TPC, P.O. Box 1107 Golden, Colorado 80402-1107, USA.
- 24–26 June ☞ **Changing Glaciers: Revisiting Themes and Field Sites of Classical Glaciology.** Sognefjord, Norway. Contact: Elisabeth Isaksson, Norwegian Polar Institute, P.O. Box 5072, Majorstua, N-0301 Oslo, Norway. Tel: 47 2295 9500, Fax: 47 2285 9501, E-mail: elli@npolar.no
- 30 June–5 July **Fifth Quadrennial Conference of the International Organization of Paleobotany.** Santa Barbara, California. Contact: S.J. Vito, Campus Conference Services, Santa Rosa Hall, University of California at Santa Barbara, California 93106-6120, USA.
- 1–4 July **Polar Desert Ecosystems.** University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand. Contact: Polar Desert Symposium, NIWA, Box 8602, Riccarton, Christchurch, New Zealand. Tel: (64)3 348 8987, Fax: (64)3 348 5548 E-mail: carol@chch.niwa.cri.nz
- 14–19 July **VI International Symposium on Cold Hardiness in Animals and Plants.** Copenhagen. Contact: H. Ramløv, Chemical Institute Lab. 111, H.C. Ørsted Institute, Universitetsparken 5, DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark. E-mail: hans@kiku.dk
- 26–26 July **IGCP Project 315. The Seventh International Symposium on Rapakivi Granites and Related Rocks.** Helsinki, Finland. Contact: I. Happala and O.T. Rämö, Department of Geology, P.O. Box 11, FIN-00014, University of Helsinki, Finland.
- 28 July–2 August **2nd World Fisheries Congress.** Brisbane, Australia. Contact: National Organizing Committee of 2nd World Fisheries Congress, PO Box 1280 Milton, Queensland, Australia 4064.
- August **8th International Cold Regions Engineering Conference, Fairbanks, Alaska.** Contact: Larry Bennett, School of Engineering, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775, USA.
- 4–14 August **30th International Geological Congress, Beijing, China.** Contact: Professor Zhao Xun, 30th International Geological Congress, PO Box 823, Beijing 100037, China.
- 12–15 August **International Symposium on Representation of the Cryosphere in Climate and Hydrological Models.** Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Contact: The Secretary General, International Glaciological Society, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER, UK.
- 5–16 August **XXIV SCAR Meeting.** Cambridge, UK. Contact: Mr P. Irving, Conference Contact, 42 Devonshire Road, Cambridge, UK. Tel (44)1223 311946/323437.
- 12–15 ☞ **In situ Imaging Methods in Antarctic Ecology.** Bremerhaven, Germany. Contact: Dr Julian Gutt, Alfred Wegener Institute, Columbusstrasse, D-27568 Bremerhaven, Germany. Tel: 49 471 4831 333, Fax: 49 471 4831 149, E-mail: JGutt@awi-bremerhaven.de

- 27–31 August **IX International Symposium on the Physics and Chemistry of Ice.** Hanover, NH, USA. Contact: PCI-96, Professor Victor F. Petrenko, Thayer School of Engineering, 8000 Cummings Hall, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 03755-8000 USA.
- 28 August–
5 September **XXV General Assembly of the International Union of Radioscience (URSI).** Lille Grand Palais, Lille, France. Contact: AG URSI, Secrétariat Pr. P. Degauque, Université de Lille 1, F-59655 Villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex, France. Tel: (33) 20 33 72 06, Fax: (33) 20 33 72 07, E-mail: agursi@univ-lille1.fr.
- 2–6 September **Third International Penguin Conference.** Cape Town, South Africa, 2–6 September 1996. Further information: John Cooper, African Seabird Group, PO Box 34113, Rhodes Gift 7707, South Africa. E-mail: jcooper@botzoo.uct.ac.za
- 1997**
- 10–12 June **International Symposium on Physics, Chemistry, and Ecology of Seasonally Frozen Soils.** Fairbanks, Alaska. Contact: Dr J.K. Radke, National Soil Tilth Lab, USDA. Tel: (1) 515 294 0213, E-mail jkradke@iastate.edu or Dr B.S. Sharratt, North Central Soil Conservation Research Lab, USDA. Tel: (1) 612 589 3411, E-mail: bsharratt@mail.mrsars.usda.gov
- 13–18 July **Symposium on the Antarctic and Global Change,** University of Tasmania, Hobart. Contact: Secretary General, International Glaciological Society, Lensfield Road, Cambridge, CB2 1ER, UK.
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- 23–27 June **Seventh International Conference on Permafrost.** Yellowknife, MWT, Canada. Contact: J.A. Heginbottom, Terrain Sciences Division, Geological Survey of Canada, 601 Booth Street, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0E8.
- 1–5 September **SCAR Seventh Biology Symposium,** Christchurch, New Zealand. Contact: Dr Clive Howard-Williams, National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Ltd, Christchurch, New Zealand.

News

US Programme under threat

The budget problems of the US Government have had a severe impact on NSF and especially on the Office of Polar Programmes. Many of the OPG staff were laid off without pay for weeks. The paramount need to protect health and safety of those in Antarctica, together with the long lead time needed for many programmes, means that the present indecision could have longterm effects on all US Antarctic activities next season. This may also affect all those international activities that rely on US logistics.

South Africa reduces its programme

In a major change of policy South Africa has terminated the contracts of its six Antarctic officers who provided continuity and planning for the major science areas. South Africa had developed many productive bilateral projects so the loss of such a core of skilled and experienced Antarctic scientists will be felt internationally.