

Steps to encourage collaboration and interdisciplinary research between early career researchers across Switzerland

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on behalf of APECS Switzerland



Mentimeter questions

- What are the major barriers to collaborative working?
- What are the potential solutions to increase interdisciplinary work amongst ECRs?

www.menti.com and use the code: 11 58 75



Category	Barrier	Potential solutions
Individual	Poor researcher connectivity	Regular events for ECRs
		Create databases of individual ECRs and their research
		Funding bodies and mentors make ECRs aware of complementary projects
	Time constraints and physical distance	Specific travel funds for ECR collaboration
		Support online forums and communities
Research	Practical difficulties sharing data	Create better tools and standards for data sharing
		Improve dialogue between overlapping projects to facilitate co-design
	Different terminology between disciplines	Facilitate knowledge sharing and normalize progress reporting between projects
Institutional	Hierarchy, competition	Supervisors, mentors to provide active support
	Lack of funding	Recognize alternative outputs and collaborations as research outputs
		Funding models to explicitly encourage interdisciplinary collaboration



Our experiences: Amy

What helped my collaborations:

Field work

- Collaborations started in the field and continued after returning
- Publishing open access datasets
- Aware of the complementary projects
- Good communication within the community (MOSAiC conference and monthly meetings with the MOSAiC ice team)

Conferences and workshops

- Interest in additional topics within scientific community; sustainability of field work (recognised as an alternative output)
- Meet other ECRs at APECS and SPI events and exposure to the wider community

Support

- Access to specific funding through SPI
- Active support from supervisor and mentors



Our experiences: Adrien

What helped my collaborations:

As a research assistant

- Joined different labs
- Took part in different projects that I could actively contribute to

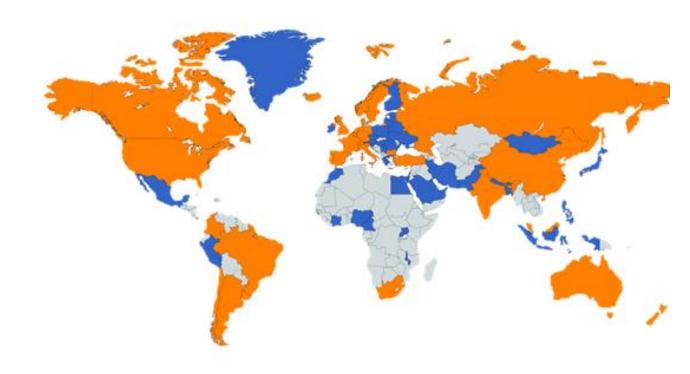
As a member of Early Career Scientist Associations

- Meet with ECS from many different fields
- Open source algorithm and software development



APECS is an international and interdisciplinary organization for early career researchers working in the Polar and Alpine Regions and the wider Cryosphere created in 2007

Members: undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, early faculty members, young professionals, educators and others



Current membership: 4.200 from 78 countries



APECS provides ...

... in-person and online skill and career development training











APECS provides

... opportunities for members to share their research and to develop research collaborations

Examples: Webinars, APECS Online Conference, topical Project Groups

















ONLINE CONFERENCE
Polar Science: Success Stories
From field and from home



APECS organizes ...

... education and outreach activities

Examples: Polar Weeks in March and September, Antarctica Day, International Mountain Day

















... upcoming events

Jungfraujoch excursion

Available funding for 15 members

1st or 2nd weekend in November

IGS International Symposium on Snow 2022

We will be there... come and say hello!

Mental health online workshop

Date TBC



Please get in contact with us if you have ideas and would like to help organise an event ©







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www.apecs.is