

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPPORTUNITY

### SCAR \* FELLOWSHIP SCHEME 2006-7

*\* The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) is a body of the International Council for Science (ICSU) and is the leading independent organisation for facilitating and coordinating Antarctic research, and for identifying issues emerging from greater scientific understanding of the region that should be brought to the attention of policy makers. Its major objective is to initiate, develop, and co-ordinate high quality international scientific research in the Antarctic region, and on the role of the Antarctic region in the Earth system.*

The SCAR Fellowship Programme is designed to encourage the active involvement of young scientists and engineers in Antarctic scientific research, and to strengthen international capacity and cooperation in Antarctic research.

The award is for postgraduate and/or post-doctoral researchers from within the 32 SCAR Member countries (see <http://www.scar.org/about/officers/>), and will be limited to scientists younger than 35 on the day of the deadline for applications.

The Fellowships are intended to allow researchers from one SCAR Member country to undertake short term visits to major international laboratories, field facilities, and/or home institutions in or operated by other SCAR Member countries, so as to become acquainted with recent advances in research and/or to develop long-term scientific links and partnerships. The work shall be carried out in a research group of a SCAR nation different from that of the applicant's origin.

Topics for support should make a contribution to the objectives of one or more of the five Scientific Research Programmes endorsed by SCAR (for details see <http://www.scar.org/researchgroups/>).

Awards will be up to US\$10,000, providing, as needed, an economy class round trip airfare and a modest subsistence allowance for the fellowship period. The Fellow's home institute will bear all expenses incurred in his or her own nation (domestic travel, visa costs, etc.), and the host institute will waive any bench fees that they might normally charge trainees. Between 3 and 5 awards will be made depending on the quality of the applications and the budget.

Proposals shall be made on the attached form, which should be submitted to the SCAR Secretariat by **31 May 2006**.

Proposals will be judged by a review panel comprising: one member of the SCAR Executive; the Chief Officers of the three Standing Scientific Groups or their Alternates; the leaders of the Scientific Research Programmes; and the Executive Director. The Panel will evaluate proposals on the basis of the scientific excellence of the proposed research. They will give weight also to such factors as: its importance and timeliness; its achievability within the time frame allotted; the extent to which links have already been established with the proposed host institution; the extent to which it will strengthen the scientific capacity of nations with smaller or less well-developed Antarctic research programmes; and to its 'fit' with SCAR's place in science and with SCAR's scientific directions.