



To the
Scientists of the
DFG Priority Program 1158
„Antarctic Research
with comparative investigations in Arctic ice areas“

29th of June 2021

Newsletter no. 32
Priority Program „Antarctic Research“, June 2021

Dear colleagues,

this newsletter provides information about:

- the current application round of the priority program (2020/2021),
- the coordination workshop in September 2021 and the upcoming funding round 2021/22
- additional announcements.

Please read this informative newsletter carefully!

Current SPP proposal round

In November 2020, 39 scientific proposals, including the proposal for the coordination office for the next three years, were submitted to the DFG. Of the approximately 9.5 million € requested in this application round, universities asked for more than 60% of the total volume, emphasizing the continued interest in polar research at German universities as well as showing the excellent cooperation between universities and other research institutes, especially with the AWI.

The proposals were evaluated by the expert panel committee in a virtual meeting on the 6th of May 2021, and the funding recommendations (plus or minus) were communicated to the coordinator by the DFG (without reviewer opinions). Of the 19 proposals in biology, seven (37%) were recommended for funding, two out of ten

(20%) in geology and three (33%) out of nine proposals under the heading atmosphere/ocean. Additionally, funding of the SPP coordination was recommended for another period, but with strong cuts in the requested resources for all types of meetings such as, for example, topic workshops. Nevertheless, the SPP coordination will continue to financially support *in persona* meetings, since we saved some money in 2020.

The coordinator and the coordination office may be contacted by phone for preliminary information regarding panel recommendations of your proposal (phone number of the coordination office: +49(0)381-498-6101). The obligatory final decision by the DFG Senate is expected by end of July. The written DFG notifications, including reviewer reports, are expected by end of August 2021. You can also call Frau Dr. Faulhaber from the DFG (+49 (228) 885-2363) for more detailed information concerning the panel recommendations of your proposal.

Coordination workshop in September 2021

Due to the ongoing Corona virus pandemic and the resulting hygiene rules, it is still not possible to hold a meeting *in persona* this year. While this is regrettable, we would like to thank Joe Hoffman and his team of the University of Bielefeld for all pre-organizational work in the background. We strive to realize the coordination workshop in Bielefeld in 2022.

The aim of the annual coordination workshop is to stimulate collaboration and networking between funded researchers, and to provide information to new applicants. Therefore, **participation in the SPP coordination workshop is mandatory** for **(1)** all currently funded projects and for **(2)** all new applicants and renewal applications. The former also includes projects that have been recommended for funding, and are expected to be successful, in the current application round (2020/2021).

This years' coordination workshop is held virtually again on a SharePoint website: We will open the workshop on **Monday 6th September 2021, 9:30 a.m.** with a live presentation (tentatively via Zoom) by the coordinator Ulf Karsten, in which the SPP is introduced and general information for the application process is given. During this talk, it will be possible for everyone to ask questions via the chat function. After the talk these questions will be answered and discussed. The presentation itself will be recorded and uploaded to the SharePoint website, where all information will be available to view for registered users until the submission deadline beginning of November 2021 (tentatively **4th November 2021**).

All currently funded projects and successful current proposals **(1)** are required to show their first research data, concept and/or ideas as a poster (in DIN A3 as .pdf). Prospective new and renewal applicants **(2)** are obliged to provide a pre-recorded 2-5 min video presentation ("Projektskizze"; maximum of 5 min length, maximum of 50 MB size, file format .mp4; IMPORTANT: longer or larger files or other formats will NOT be accepted!), which includes the **project idea, assignment** to one or more of the

overarching topics of the SPP, rough **budget** information, indication for **collaboration within the SPP** as well as **collaboration obligation** for non-university applicants.

Please consider the following points when preparing the project video and your proposal, and also check the SPP website for more information:

- The length of project videos is limited to a **maximum of 5 min and 50 MB!**
- The main focus of the SPP is **research in Antarctica**. Comparative studies in the Arctic are possible, but NOT as main topic.
- The aim of the SPP is to support researchers from **German universities**. If you work at non-university research institutions such as AWI, MPIs etc., you are required to collaborate with a university partner ("**Kooperationspflicht**"). Please note that scientists from non-university research institutions, who are currently on a fixed-term contract and are applying for their own position, are exempt from the "Kooperationspflicht".
- The project idea must fall under at least one of the four **overarching questions** of the SPP.
- Please include a **modest & justified budget**. Please remember that the annual budget of the SPP is around 2.5 Mio €, which has to be shared between 30-40 applications/10-15 funded projects! Experiences of the last 5 years indicate: PhD students are always funded by 65% TVL13; in case of Postdocs consider 2 instead of 3 years; technicians will usually not be funded; student helpers are possible. Consumables and travel cost are fine, investments for infrastructure (>10.000 Euro) will not be supported.
- Please provide **contact details** to promote networking with other applicants and researchers with current projects.

Links with instructions (in German and English) of how to prepare a video with voice-over, for example, in PowerPoint or Zoom can be found at the end of this Newsletter.

For the virtual meeting itself, participants have to register **a)** online for the SharePoint website, following the instructions on the attached pdf, and **b)** by submitting the attached filled-out **registration form** to the coordination office. **IMPORTANT: The deadline for registration is the 20th of August 2021 - any registrations arriving after this date will be declined.** Posters (as pdf in DIN A3) can be sent as email attachments to the coordination office (email: SPP-Antarktischforschung@uni-rostock.de), while the pre-recorded project videos (in .mp4 format) have to be uploaded to a file share website (Rostock Unibox; see link & password below) - please remember to include your surname in any names of files you send or upload!

link: <https://unibox.uni-rostock.de/preparefilelink?folderID=2VZ7v7meQKxrxt11tJ93u>
password (case sensitive): SPP-WorkShop_2021

From **6th of September** until the submission deadline early November, registered users have the opportunity to view the uploaded files and videos to familiarize themselves with current projects and intended proposals, and to contact potential collaborators well in advance of the proposal deadline. **We expect all members of the community to treat new project ideas confidentially.**

Apart from the video by the coordinator, information on logistics, networks and Pangaea will also be uploaded and available for viewing. Additionally, from **6th of September** onwards, the coordinator and the coordination office will be available to answer questions about the application process etc. via telephone or email.

The DFG call for proposals to the SPP 1158 (via the "**Aufforderungsschreiben**") is expected to be published mid of July 2021. **Please be aware that an application is only possible, if a project video ("Projektskizze") has been submitted within the deadline (20th August 2021) prior to this years' virtual coordination workshop.**

Project proposals have to be submitted in the first week of November, tentatively until the **4th of November 2021**. Potential changes to this deadline will be announced via email to the SPP mailing list and on the website.

Please be aware that the structure of the proposal instructions in DFG form 54.01 was strongly revised in May 2020. These instructions have to be used when preparing the proposal, otherwise DFG will NOT accept your proposal. For more information, please refer to the [Information for Research](#).

Environmental Protection Seminar

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is currently not foreseeable whether the next seminar "Environmental Protection in the Antarctic" can take place *in persona* on 27th of September 2021 at the Alfred Wegener Institute in Bremerhaven. If this will not be possible, the intention is to carry out an online training on this day for all people who will travel to the Antarctic Treaty area (south of 60° S) in the coming season 2021/2022 in order to do research or work there, and who have not yet attended the environmental protection seminar. Those who cannot take part in the seminar or the online training, will be trained on site by the respective expedition or station leader. Please note that, in contrast to the certificate of seminar participation, which is valid for life, the online training or the *ad hoc* on-site training only applies to a one-time visit to Antarctica and does not eliminate the obligation to attend the seminar at a later date. I.e., if a such 'trained' person travels to Antarctica again in the next few years, then there is an obligation to participate in the *in persona* seminar "Environmental Protection in Antarctica".

For updates please see: <https://www.awi.de/en/about-us/logistics/information-for-expedition-participants/environment-protection-seminar.html>

28th International Polar Conference

A new date has been set for the 28th International Polar Conference - it will be held from 1st to 5th of May 2022 in Potsdam. We are delighted that the AWI Potsdam has agreed to host this event. Further information for the registration and the programme will be available in time from the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Polarforschung [website](#).

Please take note that the SPP 1158 "Berichtskolloquium" will be part of this conference. This colloquium will include presentations by invited speakers and selected scientists funded by the SPP.

Dallmann Laboratory

Since beginning of last year, the Dallmann Laboratory at the Argentinean Carlini Station (Potter Cove, Antarctic Peninsula) is NO longer supported by AWI concerning investments in upgrading the infrastructure. A limited cooperation between Germany and Argentina is expected to be continued, to allow German scientists future access to the lab. However, AWI will not provide logistics, transport or other resources any longer, but help with information how to get there and how to leave. AWI prepared a new document (letter of understanding) for future collaboration between Germany and Argentina at Dallmann, which still has to be considered and accepted by the Argentinean side.

Because of this situation, applicants, who wish to work at Dallmann, may contact AWI Logistics for information and contacts to partners in the region, but should also consider alternative stations on the Antarctic Peninsula. Because of long-term experiences in collaboration with Argentina and other countries/stations on the Antarctic Peninsula, we are optimistic that fieldwork in the region is still possible, but it might take more time to organize and careful preparation. The coordination office has a network of University colleagues who organized expeditions to different stations on the Antarctic Peninsula in the past with many personal contacts that might be useful.

Research Vessels

The application for ship time on any German research vessel takes exclusively place via the online submission system <https://www.portal-forschungsschiffe.de/submission>. Here the applicants can find any relevant information such as current cruise plans, guidelines, contact persons etc.

Reminder of gender equality measures

If you are funded by the SPP and require, for example, child care etc. during field work, we would like to draw your attention to additional funding available within the framework of the SPP. Gender equality measures also include funding to organize gender-specific workshops at conferences, and travel grants to attend such workshops. Please contact the coordination office for details.

Acknowledgement of the SPP 1158 in publications

We strongly request that the projects funded by the DFG priority program include the following sentence in the **acknowledgments for publications**: "This work was supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) in the framework of the priority program SPP 1158 "Antarctic Research with comparative investigations in Arctic ice areas" by the following grant ... (grant number)."

Data storage

During and at the end of DFG-funded projects, results have to be made accessible to the public by open access publications. Moreover, all data produced with funding from the DFG must be available on a **publicly accessible database** (such as PANGAEA) under the keyword "**SPP 1158**" (be sure to indicate the SPP 1158). Archiving and publication

of the results are mandatory and strongly required and even controlled by DFG - unfortunately, in the past, this rule has not always been consistently followed, and any violation of this rule might result in the loss of applicability for future submissions of proposals to the DFG. We therefore hope, that this obligation will not be neglected.

An additional option of **storing audiovisual data** is offered by the Technische Informationsbibliothek (TIB) – *Leibniz-Informationszentrum Technik und Naturwissenschaften* as the German Information Center for the Digitalisation of Science and Technology. The TIB offers support for the publication and storage of audiovisual content free of charge on their portal (<https://av.tib.eu>), such as scientific videos, but also computer visualisations, teaching material, simulations, experiments, interviews, lectures, conference presentations and others. All videos in the AV portal will receive a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) and will be long-term stored. Technical and natural science videos will moreover be analysed with automated scene-, text-, speech- and picture-recognizing software to make them more easily reseachable and thus accessible to a wider audience. If you have any audiovisual data, that were produced in the SPP 1158, and which you would like to store in the TIB, please contact Mr. Tolga Karaarslan (email: Tolga.Karaarslan@tib.eu).

News from the coordination office

Angelika Graiff is now back full-time as coordination assistant. She will be supported until mid of October 2021 by Svenja Heesch, who will then move on to her own research project.

Best wishes,

Ulf Karsten, Petra Quillfeldt, Tilmann Harder, Svenja Heesch and Angelika Graiff

Examples for preparing a video with voice-over in PowerPoint or Zoom:

- [https://hilfe.uni-paderborn.de/PowerPoint - Pr%C3%A4sentationen mit Ton](https://hilfe.uni-paderborn.de/PowerPoint_-_Pr%C3%A4sentationen_mit_Ton)
- https://www.roc.uni-rostock.de/storages/uni-rostock/ZLB/Anleitung_PowerPoint-Aufzeichnung.pdf
- https://www.roc.uni-rostock.de/storages/uni-rostock/ITMZ/Jutta_Tuerr/PowerPoint_recording_tips.pdf
- https://www.zlb.uni-rostock.de/storages/uni-rostock/ZLB/Anleitung_zoom-Aufnahmen.pdf