Dear PYRN members,
In this newsletter you will find some updates on recent PYRN activities as well as information on events to come later this spring.
Hoping you are well and that your preparations for field seasons are going smoothly,
PYRN ExCom

Get involved in the new PYRN ExCom!

A new PYRN executive committee will be elected at ICOP 2016 in Potsdam, Germany.
PYRN seeks a renewal of its current governing bodies - the Executive Committee (ExCom), Executive Council, and National Representatives. The term for the new committee are for two years (2016-2018) and begin following the International Conference on Permafrost 2016 (ICOP2016) in June.
The application deadline is May 1, 2016! If you are interested, please continue
With best wishes,

Your current PYRN ExCom

Available positions:

PYRN is led by the Executive Committee, supported by the Council, and several national representatives. The ExCom directs the activities of PYRN. It consists of 12 positions described below. You may apply for particular positions, however you are not required to state the office you are applying for.

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Newsletter-Editor
Treasurer
Web Manager
Representative for the next Permafrost conference after ICOP
PYRN EC member in general

The Council is an advisory panel responsible for providing feedback from PYRN members to the ExCom. No formal positions exist, however council members may support the ExCom by participating in ExCom committees and task groups. A National representative can be any regular PYRN member representing their county. A nation can be represented by several people. All NR are automatically part of the Council.

For more information regarding these positions, you can read the PYRN Constitution and Bylaws.

Application procedure
Please send your application in the form of a motivation letter (max. 300 words) to the current PYRN president and vice-president- George Tanski (George.Tanski@awi.de) and Alex Bevington (bevingtona@gmail.com).

Your application should include the following points:
Motivation: Why are you interested in PYRN and being part of the ExCom, Council or National Representatives?
Responsibility: What is your major interest/responsibility (e.g. website, newsletter, social networks (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn), organizing workshops and meetings, outreach)?
Experience: Do you have any previous experience within PYRN or other networks?
Vision: Where do you see PYRN in the future and how would you like to contribute shaping the future of young permafrost researchers?

**We look forward to receive your application by May 1, 2016.**

Selection process
All nominations will be received and reviewed by a nomination committee.
Nominees will receive a notification acceptance by May 31, 2016.
The new PYRN ExCom will be presented on June 19, 2016 during the PYRN general assembly, just after the Young Researchers Workshop from 5:15-6:15 p.m.
Thank you!

**Young Researchers Workshop at ICOP**

A “Young Researchers Workshop” will take place on 18-19 June 2016 in Potsdam, Germany, before the XI. International Conference on Permafrost (ICOP 2016). This workshop is organized as a joint effort of PYRN (Permafrost Young Researchers Network), APECS (Association of Polar Early Career Scientists), the young researcher representatives of the USPA (United States Permafrost Association), and ADAPT (Arctic Development and Adaptation to Permafrost in Transition).
The workshop aims at providing opportunities for young researchers to learn and build interdisciplinary knowledge:
For detailed information on the Young Researchers Workshop program, please download the program at http://icop2016.org/index.php/young-researcher-activities/young-researchers-workshop.
The soft skills portion, presenting and sharing knowledge about the Arctic and Antarctic permafrost regions, will be a focus. To achieve this, the participants will enter into dialogue and exchange in thematic break-out sessions.
We are looking forward to welcoming you at ICOP and workshop. Please contact jens.strauss@awi.de for questions.
PYRN members involved as Young National Correspondents in GTN-P

The Global Terrestrial Network on Permafrost currently consists of more than 1,200 boreholes and over 240 active-layer monitoring sites in both hemispheres with more than 25 participating countries. Data reporting is facilitated through 38 National Correspondents of 26 countries. In October 2015, after the 2nd National Correspondent Workshop was held in Québec/Canada, PYRN opened a call for applications of early career scientists to get involved in GTN-P. As a result, 16 Young National Correspondents associated to the Permafrost Young Researchers Network from 15 countries were selected! They will meet during the 11th International Conference on Permafrost in Potsdam/Germany in June and discuss data implementation in GTN-P with their “senior” colleagues.
Russia meeting #37 in February 2016

On February 25th, 2016, the PYRN Russia meeting #37 “Coastline retreat along Baydaratskaya Bay coastal segment composing by frozen soils (Kara Sea, Russia)” was held in Moscow State University. The speaker was Daria Alekysutina (PhD student from Faculty of Geology, MSU).
The presentation considered the results of Arctic coastal erosion features in the spatial and temporal aspects obtained from investigations of western coast segment of Baydaratskaya Bay. The ranges and change generalities of soil thermal properties were demonstrated as well as influence of these properties on coastal retreat.

The meeting attracted attention of both PYRs and senior scientists from various institutions and scientific directions: pedology, coastal studies, construction sphere, thermal modeling, geoecology, etc.

The Fifth Russian Conference on Geocryology
The Fifth Russian Conference on Geocryology called «Geotechnics on permafrost» will be held in Moscow in June 14-17 2016. This is the major scientific event of Russian permafrost researchers, specialists and engineers. There will be 12 parallel sessions, workshops and roundtables organized in the main Building of Moscow State University. The conference will be held under co-chairmanship of Vladimir Melnikov (Academician of RAS, Institute of the Earth Cryosphere), Lev Khrustalev (Professor of the Lomonosov Moscow State University), Anatoli Brouchkov (Head of the Department of Geocryology of the Lomonosov Moscow State University) and Mihail Zheleznyak (Director of the Melnikov Permafrost Institute, Yakutsk).

Russian Conferences on Geocryology bring together all leading Russian scientists on permafrost, engineering and related topics. The First Conference on Geocryology was held in 1996.

Due to assistance of the Total EP Russie oil company there will be a special youth program at the conference, including roundtables and master-classes from leading scientific experts, competition for the best oral and poster presentation and financial travel support of young permafrost researchers from Siberia and the Far East.

Wishing you a very happy spring and we hope to see you soon in Potsdam at ICOP2016!

All the best,
Your PYRN ExCom