

The **UK Polar Network** was established in April 2007 as part of the 2007 – 2009 International Polar Year (IPY). Currently having over 500 members, we are the key centre of the UK's early career polar scientists, and an influential organisation in the frontier of polar science within the nation's polar-oriented community. The aims of the UKPN are threefold: 1. To provide networking between and support for early career polar researchers; 2. To provide education and outreach with regards to polar issues to young people and the general public; and 3. To provide information via newsletters, website, and social media.

Recently, we have been busy with a constant series of meetings, workshops, and outreach events that raise our profile within the UK. We provide a voice for early-career scientists in multiple national committees (e.g. UK Arctic and Antarctic Partnership, Antarctica 100, National Environmental Research Council), as well as being an extremely active and social hub at various workshops, conferences, and events throughout the UK. UKPN works best in collaboration with other organisations, and have partnered with the likes of the International Polar Foundation, British Antarctic Survey, and the Software Sustainability Institute to provide successful workshops for our members. Lastly, we are a fully functioning group representing both physical and social scientists, and are active in both disciplines.

We are also very active in Education and Outreach, and host community events at the nation's most popular museums and science festivals, as well as conducting visits to individual schools and classes throughout the year. Over the past year, the UKPN hosted three successful workshops that explored the many varied aspects of polar sciences, ranging from implementing the latest software in research, to communicating science in media, to engaging in the latest marine science techniques for better research. This year, we've already lined up numerous sessions and panels dedicated to early-career scientists at both the biennial UK Antarctic and Arctic Sciences meetings in September 2014 and 2015, respectively, as well as a series of 3 public engagement events across the UK jointly organised with the International Polar Foundation, promoting the importance of polar science and climate change to the general public.

Of course, all of these achievements are only possible with the dedication of our committee:

President: TJ Young

Vice President: Laura Hobbs

Treasurer: Sammie Buzzard

Secretary: Katrin Schmidt/Franki Perry

Education/Outreach: Madeleine Brasier

Webmaster: Millie Watts

Arctic Sciences: Amy Jowett

Antarctic Sciences: Jon Hawkings

Members-at-large: Ella Darlington/Jenny Turton/Jonny Day

Please don't hesitate to talk to any of us, whether at the conference or online!

P.S. We're [virtually] social!

Website: <http://www.polarnetwork.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ukpolarnetwork>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/UKPolarNetwork>