

USAPECS formed from several smaller regional committees last December, after the regional leadership met at the 2014 AGU Fall Meeting to get organized. In the past five months, we have assembled a board, drafted organizational documents, and started to plan activities. Fortunately our email list predates our organization, because we reach over 500 early career scientists. Our board consists of 14 graduate students, postdocs, professionals, and early faculty from across the country, with varying previous APECS experience. Alice Bradley and Ellyn Enderlin currently co-chair the board.

Current projects include:

- - Increasing the availability of field safety training for early career scientists. We have encouragement from the National Science Foundation for running webinars to start with, and there are plans to get ECRs in the field before too long!
- - Webinars providing an introduction to one area of polar science (i.e. atmospheric science) for scientists in other fields. These aim to foster interdisciplinary collaboration.
- - Outreach through new online settings. While we're still growing at the local levels, we tried running an outreach session during the Spring 2015 Polar Week using the Reddit AMA platform; several USAPECS representatives answered questions online during the two-hour event. It seemed to go really well, but we could definitely use to do more advertising in the future.

USAPECS is still just getting started, and we look forward to learning from other National Committees on how to really get established.