

Get to Know APECS PT

Portugal APECS National Committee was born in 2007 with José Xavier and Alexandre Nieuwendam, at the same time that APECS International was formed.

APECS PT have 40 members from a wide range of scientific domains with the natural and physical sciences more represented.

José Seco is the presidente of APECS PT, and during this year 12 people that are in the ex-com (S. Lourenço, P. Azinhaga, S. Aparício, A. Nieuwendam, M. Monteiro, A. Padeiro, J. Queirós, S. Pedro, H. Oliveira, E. Amaro e A. Salomé). José Xavier and Alexandre Nieuwendam still connected to APECS PT as Mentors.

In a regular basis APECS PT have developed the following activities:

- **APECS PT National workshop**, associated to the Portuguese Polar Science Anual Conference. The aim of this activity is to share the scientific projects developed during the year and present results, and also meet with the APECS PT members.
- **Polar Weeks (PW)** activities, in association with Educação ProPolar, APECS and PEI. Lectures in schools and skype calls have been the core activities of the polar weeks that take place twice a year. Science Coffees and a photographic exhibition are also some activities carried out under this activity. In the last PW they were directly involved 2141 students, 208 teachers and 9 scientists and educators and in the last year. The international collaboration has been strong, Brazil, Chile, France, United Kingdom, Canada, Angola, Norway and Bulgaria have been partners in some activities
- **"Ciência às claras!"** (Science out of dark) – a outreach activity with monthly regularity for the purpose of summarize scientific papers on polar science in a simple and objective language and easy to understand.



All activities are disclosed through the APECS PT website <http://apecsportugal.wix.com/apecsportugal> and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/apecs.portugal>. In the last year the likes on the Facebook page grew by 31% (increased from 272 to 359) with clearly observable increase in peaks during

the polar weeks and with greater range of ages, between 25 and 34 years-old. The “Ciência às claras!” activity posts has reached more than 700 people each.