

PPS Arctic: Guidelines for authorship and acknowledgement

The PPS Arctic Group believes that many excellent papers will come from our research during the IPY years. Because many of the data were collected in group settings, or for synthesis projects, it is likely that there will be many multi-author papers. Here we present guidelines for authorship and list the requirements for acknowledgement of funding.

Authorship guidelines

Key points:

- It is generally considered not enough just to contribute data or funding; project design, analysis, writing and/or intellectual contribution are also necessary. However, these are broad categories, we advise being inclusive but at the same time ensuring rigorous authorship criteria. Data contribution is neither necessary or sufficient for authorship.
- The lead author has the responsibility to invite people to be authors, and to ensure all authors agree with the final product. We recommend that someone interested in writing a paper contact everyone who had a substantial role in the data collection to become a co-author. Those who accept would then also need to contribute to analysis and/or writing.
- Graduate students should feel comfortable contributing data toward synthesis papers, even if the data are also to be published as part of their thesis research. This should be more of an opportunity than a problem, as students may well find themselves contributing to more publications than just those that arise from their own theses, a situation that may not exist in other less collaborative environments.

Order of authorship:

The collaborative nature of PPS Arctic will ensure that many excellent publications are produced. However, if all publications are produced with an author list that is alphabetical, the group runs the risk of scientific anonymity. It is therefore key to develop a method of including an appropriate way of indicating contribution to the paper. The following points should help in this regard.

1. The authors should decide the order of authorship together. Authorship issues should be discussed early in the development of a manuscript.
2. The primary author should prepare a concise, written description of how order of authorship was decided. This should be included in the published version of the paper. Depending on the journal, this can be included as a footnote to the author list, or as part of the acknowledgements section.
3. Disputes over authorship are best settled by the authors themselves or by a sub-set of the principal investigators of the PPS Arctic group.

Acknowledgements

The PPS Arctic group will also follow the IPY guidelines for attribution (from the IPY Scholarly Publications Policy, http://www.ipy.org/index.php?/ipy/detail/ipy_scholarly_publications_policy/)

IPY in general: Each publication arising from IPY Project activities should carry acknowledgment of being a part of the IPY 2007–2008 and of its co-sponsors, ICSU and WMO. This acknowledgement should state that ‘This project was conducted as part of the International Polar Year 2007-2008, which was sponsored by the International Council for Science and the World Meteorological Organisation.’ Where possible, authors should include the IPY logo and those of ICSU and WMO (these can be downloaded from www.ipy.org or the ICSU or WMO web sites).

PPS Arctic: Each publication arising from activities under the IPY core project PPS Arctic should carry acknowledgment of being part of PPS Arctic and the funding source for the activity. This acknowledgement should state that ‘This publication is a product under the IPY core project PPS Arctic (led by A. Hofgaard and G. Rees (optional)), and is financially supported by XXXXX (funding source) through the grant xxxxx1234 (grant number/code) to N. Nameson (grant holder)’. Of course, include all other sources of funding such as research stations, scholarship support etc. The suggested text should be adapted to any requirements specific to sources of funding or to the publication. If appropriate, include logos of PPS Arctic, IPY, ICSU and WMO (available from <http://ppsarctic.nina.no/>, www.dal.ca/ppscanada and www.ipy.org).

Please include the above mentioned information in ALL presentations and publications arising from research under PPS Arctic.

These “**Guidelines for authorship and acknowledgement**” are included on the PPS Arctic website/s (<http://ppsarctic.nina.no/>; www.dal.ca/ppscanada).

The guidelines were compiled by Brian Starzomski, Karen Harper, Annika Hofgaard and Gareth Rees; April 2009.