

IMCOAST project on King George Island

The project IMCOAST investigates the impact of climate induced glacial melting on marine coastal ecosystems at King George Island (South Shetland Islands, Western Antarctic Peninsula). This international research programme features a multidisciplinary approach involving geological, biological and meteorological sciences, field investigations, remote sensing and modeling. You can follow the scientists on their expedition into Antarctica and get insights into their exciting work via the [IMCOAST Science Blog](#).



Jubany Station on King George Island (South Shetland Islands, Western Antarctic Peninsula). Photo: Christian Wiencke, Alfred Wegener Institute

Inventors received honours during the AWI Innovation Day

7. December 2010. Today the inventors from the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Reserach were honoured, who have sucessfully filed a patent application recently. AWI's legal adviser Christoph Ruholl presented the certificates as part of the AWI-innovation day. Afterwards there were presentations concerning the handling of / protection of intellectual property as a first step for the application of innovative ideas for patent holders and those AWI-staff who perhaps consider to become one. The managing director of the Helmholtz Association, Dr. Rolf Zettl, was one of the keynote speakers.

The inventors and their patents:

- Dr. Christian Hamm: "Inorganic marking particles for characterising products for proof of authenticity method for production and use thereof"
- Dr. Christian Hamm and Prof. Oliver Zielinski (IMARE): "Security system comprising an integrated micro-optical magnification system"
- Dr. Jan Schulz: "Ring lamp for illuminating a restricted volume and the use thereof"
- Dr. Ulf Bickmeyer, Karl-Walter Klings, and Dr. Matthias Köck: "Optical measurement method for determining the pH of a medium using Ageladine A as a fluorescent pH-indicator"
- Erich Dunker: "High temperature tube furnace for pyrolysis"
- Thorben Wulff und Dr. Eberhard Sauter: "Device for water sampling"
- Dr. Olaf Eisen: "Measuring method for the non-destructive determining of a snow stratification and measuring device for performing the measuring method"



The inventors are delighted with their patent certificates (from left to right: E. Sauter, J. Schulz, U. Bickmeyer, C. Hamm, K.-W. Klings, E. Dunker, T. Wulff, C. Ruholl). Photo: C. Pichler, Alfred-Wegener-Institut

UN Conference on Climate Change in Cancún



Climate Research from the polar perspective

The United Nations Conference on Climate Change opened Monday in Cancún. Stopping or at least slowing down climate change with its far-reaching and regionally varying consequences for humanity and nature is one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century. The last report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) of 2007 shows, on the one hand, that climate change is advancing extremely rapidly and, on the other hand, that most of the warming of the past 50 years is very likely anthropogenically induced.

Particularly the polar regions are very sensitive to even slight climate changes and therefore play a paramount role for the global climate system. Particularly the polar regions are very sensitive to even slight climate changes and therefore play a paramount role for the global climate system.

Under the title „Climate Research at the Alfred Wegener Institute – The Polar Perspective“ the institute has published a new brochure. Richly illustrated, clearly written and laid out, the brochure gives a good overview of some of the topics AWI is working on in the field of climate research in polar regions.

[Download the brochure](#) or [order it at the climate office for polar regions and sea level rise.](#)

[In brief interviews](#) six senior scientists of the Alfred Wegener Institute give their views on the changing face of the earth.

[News direct from the Cancún Climate Summit offers the Climate Service Center \(CSC\), an institution at the Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht on a special website.](#)

[The official website of the Climate Summit you will find here.](#)

