



The Developing Framework of IPY 2007-2008

David Carlson

IPY International Programme Office, British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge, UK
(ipy.djc@gmail.com)

The opportunity to focus research and public attention on polar regions during an international Polar Year has drawn strong world-wide interest, through more than 1000 expressions of interest, and recently through several hundred coordinated proposals. These proposals put forward a wide range of physical, biological and social sciences covering both polar regions. This set of activities offers unique opportunities for education and outreach. Against a background of prominent events, including films, television series, and museum exhibitions, and regular broadcast coverage, many IPY institutions and individuals consider local events, new educational materials, and new engagement strategies. Nearly every IPY science project will offer real-time web access to project information and a variety of potentially-useful materials. The challenge to educators lies in anticipating the large media events and in refining the materials from the science projects for practical and effective use. This talk will focus on opportunities and partnerships.