

PSG Corresponding Members Committee (CMC) Report

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CMC Members

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Updates

The Corresponding Members Committee has been guided by two Co-Coordinators, Wieteke Holthuijzen and Carlos Zavalaga since 2021. In 2023, Wieteke will be stepping down in 2023 (and find/recruit new members for the CMC at the 50th Annual Meeting). Currently, the committee has 14 members (down from 18). In 2022, two corresponding members reached the end of their sponsored memberships; in 2023, eight Corresponding Members' memberships will expire. In 2023, we should prioritize adding new Corresponding Members to our program from throughout the Pacific. As a note, the number of Corresponding Members was increased to 30 members in 2021 via a proposal from the Corresponding Members Committee in order to address and advance diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout the PSG membership.

We have continued to expand the Corresponding Members [webpage](#) on the PSG website by compiling [grammar resources](#), [English writing resources](#), and [books](#). In addition, we've greatly expanded the list of national and international Job Boards collated by PSG ([here](#)) and we have added translations to PSG's [About Us](#) webpage to encourage more international members to apply for funding

Support for our Members

Click [here](#) to learn about seabird research and conservation grants available through PSG—open to all seabird scientists, from any level, any country!

Atención investigadores y estudiantes en Aves Marinas de todo el mundo. El Pacific Seabird Group provee de fondos para realizar investigación y conservación en aves marinas. Excelente oportunidad que no debes perder. Haz [click](#) aquí para mayor información.

募集中! PSG保護助成金は、レベルや国を問わず、すべての海鳥研究者からのご応募を受け付けております ([詳細はこちら](#))。海鳥の研究・保全に興味のある方は、この絶好のチャンスをお見逃しなく!

Appel à candidatures ! Le Pacific Seabird Group propose des bourses pour la conservation des oiseaux marins, ouvertes aux scientifiques de tous niveaux et de toutes origines ([cliquez ici](#)). Soumettez votre projet !

Background

The Corresponding Members Committee (CMC) is a committee associated with the Executive Council. As described in the PSG Handbook, the Corresponding Members Committee “was established to support seabird researchers and conservationists in developing countries. It provides memberships to select people with the requirement that they provide an article to Pacific Seabirds at least once every three years in

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return. The committee is limited to provide a maximum of 30 corresponding memberships.”

Actions to date

a. Current Members

In total, the Pacific Seabird Group has 14 Corresponding Members:

Full Name	Country	Membership Expiration Date
Roberto Aguilar	Chile	3/1/2024
Cristina Burga	Perú	3/1/2024
Susana Cárdenas-Alayza	Perú	3/1/2024
Sayam U. Chowdhury	Bangladesh	6/14/2023
Thomas Ghestemme	French Polynesia	6/8/2023
Abdulmaula Hamza	Malaysia	3/7/2025
Guillermo Luna-Jorquera	Chile	2/4/2024
Ravichandra Mondreti	India	2/23/2024
Yovana Murillo	Perú	6/8/2023
Fransisca Noni	Indonesia	6/8/2023
Javier Quiñones	Perú	2/4/2024
Alanna Smith	Cook Islands	6/8/2023
Angelique Songco	Phillippines	6/8/2023
Cristián Suazo	Chile	1/1/2023
Yat-tung Yu	Hong Kong	6/14/2023

b. Highlights from our Corresponding Members

Unfortunately, because *Pacific Seabirds* has not been published in recent years, our Corresponding Members have not had many opportunities to share their research with PSG’s broader membership. We have tried to build up the Corresponding Members webpage, but we need to have a more engaging platform for our membership to share their knowledge and research. We seek to work with the Communications Committee and the EID Committee to create more opportunities for information sharing and collaboration among PSG’s international membership.

- *Fransisca Noni Tirtaningtyas* (Seabirds Indonesia, National Biodiversity Monitoring Specialist at Fauna & Flora International – Indonesia Programme): I have been actively working in the field of conservation in 2005 since joining Birdlife International Asia Programme for Bird Database. Since then, I have served as the coordinator of Bird Banding Activity in West Java for the Indonesian Bird Banding Scheme Organization under the Indonesian Institute of Sciences. During my Master’s study in 2014, I worked as a researcher assistant about “Ecological and Socioeconomic Functions of Tropical Lowland Rainforest Transformation Systems” (EFForTS), a collaboration between The University of Göttingen and Bogor Agricultural University; I also served as a researcher assistant between Bogor Agricultural University, PT Indocement Tungal Prakarsa Tbk, and PT Astra Agro Lestari. I have much experience in seabird conservation and from 2009 onwards, I have managed a project focused on Christmas Frigatebird (*Fregata andrewsi*) in Indonesia by forming the Seabirds Indonesia community.

c. Purpose and value of a Corresponding Membership to Corresponding Members

Our goal is to maintain a geographically diverse PSG membership spanning the entire Pacific. Moreover, our committee seeks to foster involvement of seabird researchers and conservationists in developing countries or those working in regions with little or no institutional support for seabird conservation.

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Next steps/Recommendations

1. Expand Corresponding Members Committee and join with PSG's Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity Committee to reach common goals.
2. Find alternative methods for CMs to provide updates and reports to the broader PSG membership, offer help/support for publishing in *Marine Ornithology* (either by covering publishing costs or helping with English proofreading).
3. Continue to work in tandem with the PSG HELPS program to identify students and early-career scientists who would benefit from sponsored PSG memberships.
4. Encourage CMs to apply for PSG Conservation Grants; foster connections with the broader PSG membership to find more collaboration opportunities for CMs.
5. Continue to seek new members from target regions (possibly by asking for recommendations from BirdLife for partner organizations), including:
 - Asia (Russia, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia)
 - Central America (all countries)
 - South Pacific (Papua New Guinea, American Samoa, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands, Palau, Guam, French Polynesia + some even smaller island groups in the South Pacific)