"Scientific Shark Tank"

- call for proposals -

MOSAiC conferences are open to new and/or innovative ideas and we asked the MOSAiC community for ideas for the upcoming conference in advance. An ECR proposed an interesting networking session which may sound familiar to many.

What is the "Scientific Shark Tank"?

1. Preparation: We encourage all participants (all, but ECRs have priority) to submit their ideas to us for scientific proposal pitches. The scope would be: 1 page proposal idea, like you would give to a Program Manager, and another page half with: "Why am I qualified and how did I come up with it", and half logistics: "What $- scope, term, funding agency and call/solicitation, what collaborators are being sought" - also to make sure the idea is half-baked. From these we select a few (~4-5), and in our review process we contact senior people who have an idea and would be willing to support something like this in principle. They will certainly have to bring in more senior people, and so we create the pool of 'lions'.

2. Execution: In a ~1-1.5 hour session, each of the selected proposal pitchers may present their project idea within ~3 minutes, then first question: Briefly tell who the pitcher is and what the motivation behind it is, and then the 4-5 'lions' can ask further critical questions about the proposal for 7 minutes. At the end they make offers "I'll help you write the proposal if you ... / I'll co-PI if I get an undergraduate funded for it / I'm fully involved for 2 person-months a year" etc. Or they say "I'm out, the idea is not good / better pick one from field XYZ that will help you more / ..." ~15 minutes per person in total.

→ Benefit pitchers: You get valuable feedback on the proposal (more of this, less of that), and in the very-best-case a collaborator (that could be someone else reporting afterwards, we will have an audience of many other people), and "increasen your visibility".

→ Benefit jury: They can improve the chances of success for future MOSAiC related projects and in the best case they can become co-PI on a hopefully successful proposal where in doubt there is a PhD position or a few person-months in it for them, and they keep the MOSAiC legacy going. Workload in advance: First responding to emails in preparation, and then just participating in the session as lion/shark

→ Benefit audience: e.g., PhDs can see how a proposal is created, what are good ideas, what are not so good approaches, what are the funding sources (we certainly have to distinguish between proposals from different countries, and also adjust the 'lions' depending on what is submitted), and get an insight into open scientific questions and what still needs to be done with the MOSAiC data. And maybe also a non-Lion can join a proposal afterwards.

Please create a small document answering following key points:

Please send your idea by e-mail to: mosaic-office@mosaic-expedition.org using the subject "Scientific Shark Tank" no later than **15 January 2024 at 12:00 UTC**.

First Name:

Last Name:

Email address:

Institution:

Year of PhD (enter 0 for pre-PhD):

Proposal idea (1 page max) - like you would give to a Program Manager

Background (half page max) answering following question: "Why am I qualified and how did I come up with it?"

Logistics (half page max) answering following key points "What $- scope, term, funding agency and call/solicitation, what collaborators are being sought?"