



CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT ICASS III

The Third International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences

University of Copenhagen May 21-23 1998

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EDITORIAL

May 5-7, the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) held its annual meeting in St. Petersburg, Russia. As a permanent observer to IASC, IASSA has tried to influence Arctic policy questions as formulated by IASC and others. This concerns matters such as ethical questions, the involvement of indigenous communities in research projects and upgrading of social science research.

Since its establishment, IASC has been dominated by the natural sciences and earlier attempts to have social sciences included in the IASC science priorities have been unsuccessful. Fortunately, there seems to be a real change now.

At a major science meeting in New Hampshire, USA, in December 1995 a group of IASSA scientists suggested that IASC take a more active interest in indigenous affairs and in urgent themes from the social and cultural sciences. This resulted in a suggestion for IASC to adopt "Rapid Social and Cultural Change in the Circumpolar North" as a science priority.

In 1996, at the IASC annual meeting in Bremerhaven, IASSA presented this suggestion. The IASC Council was supportive and established a small ad-hoc group of three persons to work out a scoping report. In February this year, the ad-hoc group convened at a meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark, to which researchers and representatives of indigenous research institutions and research-related institutions were invited. The nineteen participants from all over the Arctic elaborated further on the science priority suggestion.

This suggestion was presented in St. Petersburg for IASC's final adoption of "Rapid Cultural and Social Change in the Circumpolar North" as a science priority and to establish a project group to work out a science and implementation plan.

Compared to the situation only a few years ago, the IASC Council has significantly changed its position towards the Circumpolar indigenous communities and towards the humanities and the social sciences. The suggested new science priority was received in a positive and encouraging way. This change was noticed by the IASSA representative, as well as noted and openly dealt with by the members of the IASC Council.

In this issue of the IASSA Newsletter the suggested science priority is reprinted, and we urge all readers to give their opinion about this matter to the IASSA Council <iassa@coco.ih.ku.dk>. When the project group is established, a workshop or seminar will be convened, presumably in Iqaluit, Nunavut, this autumn. It is essential, that all further planning is done in close collaboration between researchers (native and non-native) and the Circumpolar communities. It is also important that the project group, although fairly small in size, is open to input from the Circumpolar communities - from those scientists and communities who in the end are going to deal with the research and elaborate specific research projects under the umbrella "Rapid cultural and social change in the Circumpolar North".

Jens Dahl (IASSA chair)

RAPID CULTURAL AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE CIRCUMPOLAR NORTH

Suggestion for an IASC Science Priority as adopted at the IASC Work Group meeting in Copenhagen February 6-7, 1997 organized by IASSA

Introduction

Arctic and northern societies have for millennia adapted and responded to environmental and social changes and have shown great resiliency. During the 20th century, however, the pace and intensity of change increased dramatically. Responses by northern peoples have been complicated and varied, and present a challenge to Arctic social science.

It has been recognized that the Arctic regions are key areas for studying and understanding human environmental interactions and processes of social and cultural adaptation. The major motivation for global change research is to understand how humans influence and are influenced by environmental change. Human responses to such changes are social and cultural in nature.

The following research themes are aimed at addressing these central issues of the IASC research program and facilitating the prioritization process.

All research projects in the Arctic, including the natural and social sciences, must be carried out in accordance with the highest standards of professional responsibility and accountability to those being affected by this research. The IASSA Guiding Principles of Ethics for the Conduct of Research provide guidelines for developing research partnerships based on the principle of informed consent, accountability, and mutual respect.

Scientific approach

The goal of this programme is the development of international, comparative, interdisciplinary and co-managed research projects.

Major scientific questions

1. Indigenous and local environmental knowledge.

In recent years there has been an increased focus on indigenous and local knowledge, first of all as this relates to environmental issues. Indigenous and local knowledge are considered as fundamental expressions of human/environmental relations. Indigenous and local knowledge must be given priority in the sustainable management of local and regional resources. The

following are some research themes that have been identified as having particular urgency as well as relevancy to IASC.

- o Documentation, preservation and development of traditional and local knowledge of the environment including recording of place names, land uses, indigenous topography, and application of GIS in this process.
- o Increased and more integrated research on indigenous and local knowledge of marine and terrestrial resources, especially demonstration projects on marine mammals, fish and reindeer/caribou, as well as other resources of value to northern peoples.
- o Research on the ways indigenous and local knowledge can be effectively communicated and incorporated into family life, the attainment of life skills, language revitalization, education and training.
- o Studies of the role and significance of indigenous and local knowledge in political and legal processes, especially issues of environmental justice and resource management.
- o Studies on the relationships between local, regional, national and international environmental decision making and management regimes.
- o Research on the ways environmental perception can be developed and incorporated in IASC projects dealing with northern lands, territories and resources of significance to indigenous peoples.

2. Social viability and cultural continuity.

There has been increasing awareness of rapid transformations, both cultural and social across the Circumpolar North, as well as recognition of the differences among various Arctic regions. The following approaches are identified as urgent and highly valuable:

Determining key factors of change in social, cultural, and economic processes;

Comparing how these key factors, the changes and their effects vary within and across the Circumpolar North.

Research issues include, but are not limited to:

- o Research on the documentation, maintenance and

revitalization of indigenous languages and how language is related to cultural continuity and identity.

- o Studies on perceptions of health and illness, use of health care services, lifestyle habits, quality of life, and traditional and local knowledge.
- o Research on the interplay of small scale, subsistence and global economics and resulting shifts in patterns of work and employment.
- o Research on changing patterns of gender and generational relationships, family and household formation, community integration and social life.
- o Research on the social, cultural, and economic impacts of land and resource use.
- o Studies of changes of educational patterns, cross-cultural communications, cultural relevance and development of local educational programmes and institutions.
- o Studies on how cultural and group identities are maintained and influenced as a result of social and cultural continuity and change on the local, regional and circumpolar level.

3. Political dynamics, governance and collective rights.

The Circumpolar regions are experiencing important changes in political structures both internally and externally with respect to national (state) and international integration. These structural changes range from those situations in which minority peoples still strive for political and legal recognition to those in which a population is in control of a state apparatus. Indigenous groups outside of the Circumpolar North are also making claims for self-determination. Therefore, studying Arctic experiences will be of comparative value.

Issues of immediate relevance are:

- o Research into the dynamics of power transfer and the development of new political institutions resulting from this, including perspectives on the issues of local empowerment, gender, and cultural performance.
- o The dynamics of knowledge production and information dissemination in Arctic communities/societies and the role of the media.

- o A comparative study of state linkages and models of governance evolving in the process of struggle for self-determination in the different Northern regions.
- o Studies of the impact of international conventions and declarations of human rights in the resolution of conflicts over lands and resources.

Users

- o Arctic communities, indigenous nations, their NGOs and governing bodies.
- o Non-Arctic indigenous peoples and their organizations.
- o International research community, including biological, physical, and social scientists.
- o Agencies involved in natural resource management and environment protection.
- o National, regional and local authorities dealing with education, health, welfare, and economic issues.
- o International NGOs concerned with cultural survival and environmental protection.

Linkages

Humans are part of the Arctic ecosystem. They react to environmental changes as well as contribute to them. Their actions are determined in part by the consequences of the social and cultural changes occurring in the Arctic. Therefore research on indigenous and local environmental knowledge, social viability and cultural continuity, and political dynamics, governance and collective rights will make significant contributions to, and benefit from, the current IASC research priorities which are 1) Impacts of Global Changes on the Arctic Region and its Peoples (including BESIS and BASIS), 2) Arctic Process of Relevance to Global Systems, 3) Natural Processes within the Arctic, and 4) Sustainable Use of Living Resources in the Arctic.

Next steps

Following IASC approval in May 1997 the following steps will be taken:

- o Mid. 1997: The suggested science priority will be circulated among stakeholders and scientists, including IASC research programmes and IASSA members.
- o Oct. 1997: A planning group meeting will be convened. Refinement of the three research topics. IASC support is requested.
- o Spring 1998: Workshop on project proposals. Proposals can be submitted to funding agencies.

Discussed and adopted by:

Boris Chichlo (*Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris*), Noel Broadbent (*Department of Archaeology, University of Umeå*), Natsiq Kango (*Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.*), Chester Reimer (*Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat, Copenhagen*), Mary Wilman (*Nunavut Implementation Training Committee, Iqaluit*), Rebecca Williams (*Nunavut Social Development Council, Iqaluit*), Morten Meldgård (*Danish Polar Centre, Copenhagen*), Vladimir Etylin (*"Chukotka" Research Center, Anadyr*), Igor Krupnik (*Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution, Washington*), Susanne Dybbroe (*Department of Anthropology, University of Aarhus*), Ludger Müller-Wille (*Department of Geography, McGill University, Montreal*), Monica Tennberg (*Faculty of Social Science, University of Lapland, Rovaniemi*), Elona Yefimenko (*Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat, Copenhagen*), Elina Helander (*Nordic Sami Institute, Kautokeino*), Nikolay Vakhtin (*Department of Ethnology, European University, St. Petersburg*), Carole Seyfrit (*National Science Foundation, Washington*), Tine Curtis (*Institute of Clinical Epidemiology, Copenhagen*), Charles Brower (*North Slope Borough, Barrow*) and Jens Dahl (*Department of Eskimology, University of Copenhagen*)

MEMBERS' NEWS

Dorais, Louis-Jacques is now concluding, together with Susan Sammons of Nunavut Arctic Collage, Iqaluit, a three-year study of discourse practices in Iqaluit, Igloodik and Kimmirut, Baffin Region, Canada. Over the next few years, the data collected (interviews and tests on language use and its cultural meaning) will be analysed, and the collection of data will be extended to Greenland, under the supervision of Karen Langgaard from Ilisimatusarfik. Dorais has recently published three books on Inuit language and society: 1. *La Parole Inuit. Langue, Culture et Société dans L'Arctique Nord Américain* (Paris:Peeters, 1996, 331 pp.); 2. *Language in Inuit Society* (Iqaluit: Nunavut Arctic Collage, 1996, 111pp.); 3. *Quaqtaq: Modernity and Identity in an Inuit Community* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1997, 150 pp.).

Ignatenko, Ljudmila has been part of the creation of an ethno-cultural tourist and recreational Centre of Aborigines.

Nagy, Murielle recently defended her Ph.D. thesis

"Palaeoeskimo cultural transition: A case study from Ivujivik, Eastern Canada" at the University of Alberta.

Nowak, Elke has published the book *Transformating the Images. Ergativity and Transitivity in Inuktitut (eskimo)* 1996.

Ronn, Tatyana is continuing the three year research project financed by the Russian Science Foundation. The focus is the investigation of the aspects of contemporary cultural changes of the native peoples of Sakhalin (the Uil'ta) and the environmental problems in their area. Ronn has published the following book: *"The Uil'ta of Sakhalin. The History-Ethnography Research of the Traditional Material Culture and Activities (18-20 c.)"*, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, 1996, 176 pages - a book which is a part contribution to the regional ethnology.

CONFERENCES

FORUM '97: New Linkages In Conservation and Development

Istanbul, Turkey, November 16-21, 1997

Forum '97 is a four-day international conference designed to review experiments in conservation and development over the past decade, highlight the most pressing practical problems in this emerging field, and facilitate the creation of new North-South and South-South partnerships for mutual understanding and effective action. The conference themes, chosen to raise critical and controversial issues in conservation and development are as follows: Culturally Conflicting Views of Conservation; Engaging Communities in Conservation and Development; Ethics and Responsibility in Environmental Action; Conservation and Development in War and Peace; Business as a Partner in Environmental Action; Institutional Pathways to Sustainability.

These themes will be explored in plenary sessions that lay the groundwork for panel discussions and practical workshops. Possible workshop topics within these thematic areas include Community-based Wildlife Management, Gender and Natural Resource Use, Building South-South Linkages, and Communication and Dissemination Strategies in Conservation and Development. Donor and other large NGO workshops may also be part of the program.

Registration materials and presentation proposal guidelines are currently available in hard copy or via e-mail. On-line registration is also available at our web site: www.cdf.ufl.edu/cdf/. When requesting registration materials via e-mail, please put "Forum '97 Registration Info" in the subject line.

Conservation & Development Forum
P.O. Box 115531, Uni. of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611-5531
phone: (352) 392-6548, fax: (352) 392-0085
email: cdf@ted.ufl.edu

The 11th Inuit Studies Conference Nuuk, Greenland, September 2 1998

The theme of the conference is 'Partnership in Development? Polarisation in Inuit Societies' and the conference takes place in Nuuk, Greenland from September 2 to September 6., 1998. For more information please contact the organizing committee on e-mail: isc98@gs.gh.gl.

29th Algonquian Conference Thunder Bay, Ontario, October 24-26, 1997

The 29th Algonquian Conference will take place from October 24-26 1997 in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada. The conference is being organized by Lakehead University, Thunder Bay.

The organizers welcome topics from all disciplines relating to the Algonquian peoples (Ojibwe, Cree, Micmac, Delaware, Blackfoot, Shawnee, Fox, and others). The conference traditionally deals with art, archaeology, ethnology, history, linguistics, music, literature, religion, and other areas. Contributors are encouraged to make their findings comprehensible to scholars in other disciplines.

Papers may be delivered in English or French. Each paper will be allocated 20 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for discussion. The organizers are planning several plenary sessions. Please indicate if you would be interested in presenting a paper which is suitable for a plenary session.

Registration fees before October 1, 1997 are CA\$40 (US\$35) for non-students, CA\$25 (US\$20) for students;

after October 1 they are CA\$45 (US\$40) for non-students, CA\$30 (US\$25) for students. Please make cheques/money orders payable to Lakehead University.

Contributors should send titles and an abstract of no more than 100 words by September 1, 1997 to: John O'Meara, Faculty of Education, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 5E1, CANADA.

For further information, please contact John O'Meara at the above address;
phone 807-343-8054; fax 807-346-7746;
or e-mail: John.Omeara@lakeheadu.ca

Sealing - The Future, International Conference & Exhibition

25-27 November 1997 - Delta St. John's Hotel & Conference Centre, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada

Arranged by the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO) in cooperation with Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC), Nordic Council of Ministers (NMR), Nordic-Atlantic Cooperation (NORA) and High North Alliance. Hosted by the Government of Newfoundland & Labrador

Seals have long been an important resource for coastal communities, providing food, clothing and other products for local use and for national and international trade. With appropriate conservation and management approaches, seals can continue to contribute to the sustainable development of many communities in the future.

The aim of the conference is to provide an international forum through which to share information and experiences from sealing activities around the world, to enhance contacts between sealing communities, industry and policy makers in different regions, and to strengthen cooperation across political, geographical and cultural borders on the conservation and management of seals and trade in seal products.

The need to better integrate ecological and economic aspects of resource management has led to an increased focus on the role of seals in the marine ecosystem in recent years. The conference also aims to explore the scientific bases and policy objectives of multi-species approaches to the management of seals in different contexts.

The conference will be held over three days and divided into several sessions under the following main themes: Sealing past & present; In principle & practice; Products & markets; Seals in the ecosystem; International cooperation.

An international exhibition will coincide with the conference. This will comprise a standing exhibition of product and information displays, with film screenings, hands-on presentations, and product sampling. Producers, sealing communities, researchers and relevant national and international institutions and organisations are encouraged to make use of this unique opportunity to inform an international audience of their activities and views. Proposals for oral presentations under any of the main themes of the conference should be submitted in writing to the NAMMCO Secretariat with a detailed outline of the intended presentation no later than 1 July 1997.

The Pre-Registration Form must be returned to the NAMMCO Secretariat by 1 July 1997 in order to receive the full conference programme in August. The deadline for final confirmation of attendance, hotel bookings and payment of fees will be 1 October 1997.

Conference & Exhibition: CA\$200 (100 for students & unemployed) which covers Conference documents, social arrangements and access to the Exhibition. Exhibition only: CA\$100 (standard exhibition space)

For further information, contact NAMMCO - North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission, c/o University of Tromsø, N-9037 Tromsø, Norway
phone: +47 776 45908; fax: +47 776 45905;
e-mail: nammco-sec@nammco.no

BOOK ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greenlanders, Whales, and Whaling. Sustainability and Self-Determination in the Arctic
by *Richard A. Caulfield*

Whaling has been central to the life of Greenland's Inuit peoples for at least 4000 years, but political, economic, technological, and regulatory changes have altered this ancient practice. Caulfield reveals these impacts first by analyzing Home Rule and its success in Greenland, and then by looking at whaling's place in the contemporary Greenlandic economy and its evolu-

ing co-management regime. What emerges from his investigation is an intricate web connecting traditions of indigenous peoples, the promises and pitfalls of co-management, the influence of international whaling policies, the complexities of sustainability, and the power of culturally determined views shaping relationships between humans and their environment. Caulfield finds that controversy over whaling often arises from conflicting idea systems, rather than disagreement over biological resource management. Understanding the ways Greenlanders and outside interests have defined and negotiated these conflicts "give us more than just an insight into how indigenous peoples are coping with a changing world", Caulfield writes. "It also provides us with a sense of the challenges we face as well".

1997, 224 pages, \$35.00, ISBN 0-87451-810-5
University Press of New England
23 South Main Street. Hanover, NH 03755 USA
fax 603 643 1540

The Sámi and Their Land. The Sámi vs the Swedish Crown. A Study of the Legal Struggle for Improving Land Rights: The Taxed Mountains Case.
by *Tom G. Svensson*

Rights to land and water are crucial to most land-based indigenous peoples in order for them to sustain their particular life styles. In modern times claims for improved land rights are part of the agenda for indigenous peoples, both in the legal and the political arenas of the nation states to which they belong. These claims relate to basic features of international law but they also reflect legal pluralistic strategy, legal arguments in court merge national law with customary law and international law. Actualizing and pursuing these claims can be seen as ethno political activity not just law and are essential for cultural survival. The following monograph is an in-depth analysis of a unique case, in which the Sámi confronted the Swedish Crown on the issue of ownership rights to the Taxed Mountains in the South Sámi region in Sweden (1966-1981). The author followed the case at close range for the 15 years it lasted and has spent another 15 years following up the consequences of this huge and extensive case. The case is a unique and very significant event in Sámi cultural history. Comparison is made with recent legal confrontations in the northern Fourth World to place it in a broader perspective.

1997, 213 pages ISBN 82-7099-272-0

The Institute for Comparative Research in Human Culture; Novus Forlag, Oslo

Inuit, Whalers and Cultural Persistence. Structure in Cumberland Sound and Central Inuit Social Organization.

by Marc G. Stevenson

For decades Qallunaat (people of European descent) have idealized Inuit survival ability under what seem intolerably harsh conditions. Although environmental factors play a role in shaping the economic, social, and political landscape of Arctic peoples, many aspects of Inuit society are culturally determined. Stevenson marshals scholarly studies and personal research in Cumberland Sound, Baffin Island, to examine the structure of Central (Canadian) Inuit social organization. He finds that, despite the influences of nineteenth-century whalers and later, traders, missionaries, and government officials, central Arctic Inuit societies continue to be formed on the basis of two principles, *naalaqtuk* (respect and obedience) and *ungayuk* (closeness and affection). Employing these concepts, he examines the social organization of the hierarchical Iglulingmiut, the inwardly focused Netsilingmiut, and

the ruggedly individualistic Copper Inuit. He challenges contemporary anthropological thinking about Inuit social organization, culture change, and prehistoric population movements, while offering some intriguing suggestions for the government of the new Canadian territory of Nunavut.

1997, 400 pages, ISBN 0-19-541217-6

Oxford University Press Canada

Transforming the Images. Ergativity and Transitivity in Inuktitut (Eskimo)

by Elke Nowak

The book is an empirical study of Inuktitut based on field work in the Eastern Arctic. The study presents an innovative contribution to syntactic theory and typology. The theoretical and methodological implications for ergativity are discussed and an alternative approach to the representation of Inuktitut is proposed. Fundamental typological and syntactic concepts are scrutinized from a historical perspective and compared with the results of empirical research.

1996, 312 pages, DM 228,-, ISBN 3-11-014980-X

Mouton de Gruyter, Berlin, <<http://www.deGruyter.de>>

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

Third International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences ICASS III

Changes in the Circumpolar North: Culture, Ethics and Self-determination

University of Copenhagen 21-23 May 1998

For millennia, Circumpolar societies have adapted and responded to environmental and social changes and shown great resiliency. However, the pace and intensity of this change has increased dramatically during the 20th century. The Circumpolar peoples have responded in complicated and varied ways. Moreover, Circumpolar peoples have themselves initiated changes which pervade the local, national and international communities. These are cultural, social and economic changes aiming at improving livelihoods and creating new possibilities for present as well as for future generations of Circumpolar peoples. Extensive landclaims, cultural and linguistic programmes and revivals, economic development strategies, social programmes and political mobilization and lobbying are but a few examples of these internal initiatives. Another important change which deserves to be singled out, is the dialogue with social scientists, especially concerning questions of ethics and community involvement. Circumpolar peoples have urged the science community to conduct research in accordance with the highest standards of professional responsibility and accountability to those who are affected by this research. IASSA's 'Guiding Principles of Ethics for the Conduct of Research' provides a draft for guidelines for developing research partnerships based on the principles of informed consent, accountability, and mutual respect. But ethics evaporate if they are not continuously discussed by all parties involved. ICASS III constitutes an important forum for social scientists to meet and discuss ethical issues as well as social, cultural, economic and political changes in the Arctic.

REGISTRATION

International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences ICASS III

Changes in the Circumpolar North: Culture, Ethics and Self-determination

University of Copenhagen May 21-23 1998

Dear colleagues and members of IASSA

The International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA) has the privilege to invite you to attend the Third International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS III). The Congress takes place at the University of Copenhagen May 21-23 1998. Issues encompassed by the theme "Changes in the Circumpolar North: Culture, Ethics and Self-determination" will be discussed by social scientists from all over the world and all IASSA members are invited to deliver a paper (20 minutes maximum) and/or organise a session (please contact the IASSA secretariat if you want to become a member of IASSA). Topics include all areas of social sciences.

Conference fees are DKK 500,- (if paid before February 15, 1998) and DKK 600 after that date. Students pay DKK 250,- respectively DKK 300,-. Deadline for submission of sessions is October 1, 1997. Deadline for submission of abstracts is February 15, 1998. All abstracts submitted will be reviewed by a committee that decides on their final inclusion in the programme. Conference language is English. In order to receive the last notice of the conference and/or propose a paper or a session, please fill out and tear off the bottom part of this page. The second announcement will be included in the autumn edition of the IASSA Newsletter containing more information on accommodation, sessions and how to pay conference fees.

I wish to attend ICASS III

- ☐ I wish to attend the conference
- ☐ I propose to deliver a paper (abstract included max 100 words)
- ☐ I propose to organise a session (details included)
- ☐ I wish to become a member of IASSA, please send application form

Name: _____

University/Institution: _____

Mailing address: _____

Country: _____ Telephone: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

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