

ICASS VII

The 7th International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences
Akureyri, Iceland, 22 – 26 June 2011

Circumpolar Perspectives in Global Dialogue: Social Sciences beyond the International Polar Year



Editors: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson, Joan Nymand Larsen and Lára Ólafsdóttir
Stefansson Arctic Institute, Akureyri, Iceland



IASSA
INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SOCIAL
SCIENCES ASSOCIATION

Topics in Arctic Social Sciences - Volume 7, 2014

Circumpolar Perspectives in Global Dialogue: Social Sciences beyond the International Polar Year

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(A series of the International Arctic Social Sciences Association)

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A web publication - www.iassa.org

ISBN 978-9979-72-602-9

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INTRODUCTION

The Seventh International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS VII), *Circumpolar Perspectives in Global Dialogue: Social Sciences beyond the International Polar Year*, was held at the University of Akureyri, Iceland, 22-26 June 2011. Organizers were Stefansson Arctic Institute, University of Akureyri and the International Arctic Social Sciences Association. There were 52 sessions, five keynotes and six film screenings. The 450 participants came from 30 countries.



University of Akureyri

Photo: Sigurgeir Haraldsson

Members of the IASSA Secretariat (2008-2011) at the Stefansson Arctic Institute:

Dr. Jón Haukur Ingimundarson – ICASS VII congress convener.

Dr. Joan Nymand Larsen - IASSA President and ICASS VII congress co-convener.

Lára Ólafsdóttir - IASSA secretary.

Justiina Dahl - IASSA Intern.

Additional individuals assisting during the ICASS VII days: Embla Eir Oddsdóttir, Helgi Jakob Helgason, Hjördís Guðmundsdóttir, Níels Einarsson, Sigmar Arnarsson, Sigurbjörg Árnadóttir, Sölmundur Karl Pálsson, Gunnar Már Gunnarsson, Jóhann Ásmundsson, Sandra Lilja Parviainen, Sören Bitsch, and the people at Arctic Portal, and the University of Akureyri Research Centre.

Thank you also to Hrafnhildur Karlsdóttir and Ragnheiður Jakobsdóttir at Akureyri Travel.

Special thanks to the University of Akureyri administration and staff.

Special thanks to Karlakór Akureyrar – Geysir (men's choir) and Tónræktin – Tónlistarskóli (music school).

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the many sponsors and supporters, whose

generous support and in-kind contributions have made this ICASS VII possible (alphabetical order):

City of Akureyri, Embassy of Canada in Reykjavík, EPSCoR, Icelandic Ministry for the Environment, International Arctic Science Committee, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Iceland, National Science Foundation, Nordic Council of Ministers, Norwegian Embassy in Reykjavik, Oak Foundation, Stefansson Arctic Institute, University of Akureyri, US Arctic Research Commission, US Embassy in Reykjavik, Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation.

SPONSORS

Hosts and sponsors who made ICASS VII possible

Stefansson Arctic Institute

University of Akureyri

The University of Akureyri Research Centre

Town of Akureyri

The Icelandic Centre for Research

Arctic Portal

Akureyri Travel

US National Science Foundation

Nordic Council of Ministers

EPSCoR

US Embassy in Reykjavik

IASC – International Arctic Science Committee

US Arctic Research Commission

Oak Foundation

Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation

Norwegian Embassy in Reykjavík

Embassy of Canada in Reykjavík

WELCOME ADDRESSES

Words of welcome to the ICASS VII venue were presented by Dr. Stefán B. Sigurðsson, President of the University of Akureyri.



Photo: Bjarni Eiríksson

Icelandic Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources: Svandís Svavarsdóttir



Photo: Bjarni Eiríksson

Dear friends,

It is my pleasure and an honour to welcome you here in Akureyri, which we Icelanders often refer to as “the capital of the North”. By this we mean that Akureyri is the biggest town and a centre of services in the

northern part of Iceland, but in recent years this old title has taken on a new meaning.

Here in Akureyri a cluster of Arctic knowledge and institutions has formed, which makes Akureyri a magnet for those working on issues of the High North. The Stefansson Arctic Institute is a government agency to strengthen Iceland’s research efforts and participation in international scientific cooperation in Arctic issues. Secretaries of two Arctic Council working groups are located here, on the conservation of flora and fauna, and on the protection of the marine environment. The University of Akureyri offers a degree in Polar Law and is affiliated with the University of Arctic. These bodies cooperate and support each other and help cement Akureyri’s role as a northern centre.

This conference is a milestone in this regard; it is to the best of my knowledge the biggest scientific conference that has been held in Akureyri. We have participants from some 30 countries with a wide range of expertise. We are thrilled to have the ICASS conference here in Iceland and here in Akureyri, and hope that our capital of the North will be a suitable frame for your ambitious agenda and work. We have even tried to keep the summer temperatures here at a range that will remind you of your geographical scope - and help you to keep a cool head for clear thinking.

The Arctic has always fascinated the outside world as a forbidding white wilderness, a place of epic loneliness, endless nights and heroic adventures of frostbitten explorers. Lately, it has caught the fancy of politicians and the media, as a warming climate makes access to sea lanes and natural resources easier. A race to exploit these potential riches is going on – a modern-day Yukon gold rush. The empty quarter at the top of the world is becoming a geopolitical game board. Or something along these lines, as the story is often presented in the media.

Except the Arctic is not empty. There is a different way to look at the Arctic region – as home. The Arctic is not only spectacular wilderness, but a region where some 2 million people live, or even more, depending on where you draw to the boundaries of the Arctic world. Some inhabitants have been indigenous to the region for millennia, developing unique cultures and a way of life in harmony with the natural riches and challenges of the North. Others have arrived more recently. Contact between the peoples of the Arctic has until recently been minimal, lines of communication have usually been to the south, not to fellow Northerners.

The people, societies, economies and cultures of the Arctic and sub-Arctic region is the subject of study for members of IASSA. It is in many ways a pioneering work, as we have a shortage of comparative data for Arctic and sub-Arctic societies, and a relatively short history of academic cooperation and joint studies. Iceland is proud to have contributed to Arctic social science inter alia through the development of the Arctic Human Development Report. This work was led by the Stefansson Arctic Institute during Iceland’s chairmanship of the Arctic Council 2002-2004. Iceland considers it important that the human dimension is well represented at the Arctic

Council. The input of social sciences is highly relevant at the Council – through the development of social and economic indicators, through the updating of the Arctic Human Development Report and through the integration of the social dimension in all its work. Iceland will continue to emphasize the social dimension in the Arctic Council and in its approach to Arctic issues.

The Arctic is undergoing fundamental changes now – political, social and economical. The most profound change may be in the environment, which will affect the entire Arctic ecosystem and all its communities. Climate change is more visible and more acute in the Arctic than in most regions of the world. Sea ice is retreating, glaciers are melting, permafrost is thawing, species are migrating. This change will not only affect the Arctic, but the world. Increased melting of the Greenland ice cap is serious news for people in Bangladesh and Pacific islands. Never before has the world looked so much to the Arctic in search for answers on issues that concern all humankind.

If we do not manage to curb emissions of greenhouse gases we could be looking at an ice-free Arctic Ocean before the end of this century. Instead of being a frozen barrier, the Arctic Ocean could become a new Mediterranean Sea at the top of the world. But the cost of such scenario would be tremendous.

Unchallenged climate change will cause an upheaval in the Arctic and spell a disaster to the world. But we do not need sea ice and glaciers to disappear to remove barriers in cooperation between people in the circumpolar region. We will see rapid change in Arctic societies in the coming years, just like in the environment. We are already seeing this change, an increase in drilling for oil and gas, in shipping, in tourism and so on. All this calls for greater cooperation, with the aim to ensure sustainable development of the Arctic. We need better knowledge, we need to study best practices, we need to learn from each other. We need forums for cooperation such as IASSA, we need conferences such as this one. We can turn the Arctic into a Mediterranean of close cooperation, without doing so in the physical sense.

I have looked at your agenda and I am impressed by the scope of your work and the wide range of studies to be discussed here. I wish you good luck

in your work here at this conference and in the future. We who work in policy-making will be looking to you for knowledge, data, ideas and guidance.

Vilhjálmur Stefánsson, the Icelandic-Canadian explorer whom the Stefansson institute is named after, coined the term “the friendly North”; which was contrary to all widely-held ideas of the Arctic in his days. What he meant was that if you know the region as well as the indigenous peoples of the Arctic, it becomes a place where one can not only survive, but live a good life. Nature stops becoming a cold-hearted foe, as it seemed to many early explorers, but starts being a friend and a provider of people’s physical and spiritual needs. All you need is some cool-headed knowledge about the perils and gifts of Mother Nature, and a wisdom in your heart on how to live in harmony with her many moods. This is the work of science and politics and culture, all together.

May you have a good stay in Akureyri, Iceland’s friendly capital of the North.

Thank you.

IASSA President: Dr. Joan Nymand Larsen

Distinguished guests, fellow members of the International Arctic Social Sciences Association, dear friends and colleagues, ICASS VII participants from near and afar, it is with great pleasure I welcome you to Akureyri, from abroad and within Iceland, to our 7th International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS VII) –the first ICASS to be held in Iceland.

ICASS takes place once every three years or so. It has so far travelled the long distance from Rovaniemi to Copenhagen to Quebec to Fairbanks Alaska to Nuuk in Greenland and now to Akureyri, Iceland.

Many of you have attended one or more of the previous IASSA congresses - our travelling venue - for Arctic social sciences and humanities. As such, you are aware of just how highly successful these congresses have been in bringing our many disciplines together, and in providing an important platform for enhancing our collaboration, building capacity, creating

synergies between projects, and for us to share our research in the Arctic social sciences and humanities. And importantly, it is a key venue for young researchers and graduate students to expand their networks, make contacts, share their research and receive feedback, and meet with their mentors – truly making these venues among the most enjoyable and fruitful within our research community.

Also, it is truly exciting to see how many delegates we have from outside our Arctic social science community, including policy makers, government officials, whose daily lives may not be as consumed with Arctic social science questions – but who truly see great value in taking active part in our congress. In the end, ICASS becomes an important forum for stakeholders to meet, to exchange ideas and to learn from each other.

About 430 people are registered for ICASS – but this congress will be attended by up towards 450



Joan Nymand Larsen, IASSA President and ICASS VII co-convenor
Photo: Bjarni Eriksson

delegates (which is the high end estimates of what we thought might be possible – indeed a great success. Because of these new University of Akureyri facilities, and the new cultural centre, Hof, we are able to gather all of you here in Akureyri. We are truly proud that University of Akureyri now has the capacity to host an international science congress of this magnitude and grand size.

Delegates are arriving from about 30 countries, including from as far away as China, New Zealand, Australia, and Argentina; and from far away but from within our circumpolar world – also from Alaska and Kamchatka, and Chukotka. Also we are having excellent participation from our dear friends and colleagues from closer by, with many participating from Greenland, who will not have to travel as far as they usually must to get to a conference.

As you know, ICASS is among the largest gatherings for networking and sharing Arctic social science and humanities research. This ICASS will feature plenary presentations, discussion panels, workshops, poster sessions, and several keynote addresses.

This will be the second IASSA Congress to celebrate the large volume of research produced during the International Polar Year –and beyond. The success of ICASS VII will be a significant testimony to the wealth of research that went on or was initiated during the IPY process. This ICASS is an important continuation of the IPY – and a lead up to the final IPY conference (Montreal IPY 2012) – which we will hear more about later today.

The purpose of ICASS VII is to present and discuss research results on peoples, societies, and cultures in the Arctic regions (and the Antarctic as well); about rapid change in Arctic societies, the future of the Arctic and the growing global connections and their role for the Arctic. Themes include climate and environmental changes, living conditions and quality of life in the Arctic, economic and social development, literature, language, education, culture, art and history, media and film-making, health and wellness, migration, Arctic governance, and much more – truly expanding the whole range of Arctic social sciences and humanities.

There are a total of 10 substantive themes:

With about 60 subject sessions – including a poster session – with more than 380 papers to be presented (includes posters) – this is the largest ICASS gathering and I think a testimony also to how much our science has expanded and been fuelled in part by the recent IPY.

The many themes, and the extensive list and range of sessions is a true reflection of a broad and active interdisciplinary science community, with a long tradition of working together, and for using in particular these ICASS venues for networking, catching up, meeting old friends. We are a very tight knit community, but one that is expanding and evolving, and now with more participation also from our colleagues engaged in research in the Antarctic, making us increasingly a community of polar social sciences.

The volume of activities of IASSA has increased and important international collaboration requires much of the Association's time and dedication. Still, it is fair to say that the ICASSes

continue to be the most important activities organized by IASSA. These congresses are built bottom-up, and with the help of the daily running of the IASSA secretariat, the dedication and on-going work of the IASSA Council, and the numerous dedicated and long-time members of the Association, and it all comes together in these celebrations at ICASS.

The ICASS gathering is also an important vehicle through which we seek to fulfill the objectives of our association. Such as

- To promote international cooperation and to increase the participation of social scientists in national and international arctic research;
- To promote communication and coordination with other related organizations;
- To promote the collection, exchange, and dissemination of scientific information
- To increase public awareness of circumpolar issues and research results;
- To promote mutual respect, communication, and collaboration between social scientists and the peoples of the north;

and more.

These objectives are met for example through our engagement in a range of activities such as: e.g. IPY and its legacy – now ICASS, and possibly ICARP III – the International Conference of Arctic Research Planning; as well as in our engagement with the Arctic Council where IASSA has observer status; our participation in Arctic Council endorsed projects such as SAON; SWIPA, AHDR, ASI etc.; and our collaborations with IASC [the International Arctic Science Committee], the University of the Arctic; APECS (Association of Polar Early Career Scientists; and SHARE- Social Sciences and Humanities Antarctic Research Exchange, etc.

Let me also take this opportunity to remind us all that it is just over 20 years since IASSA was established. We celebrated our 20th anniversary just this past August, and look how far we have come (the banquet on Friday will be an opportunity to celebrate this important 20th anniversary now that we are gathered here in Akureyri).

The past twenty years have seen great advances towards the continued growth of the Arctic social sciences and humanities, and in this IASSA has

played a notable part thanks to the dedication of our membership.

Let us remember our founders, our true visionaries – who were the pioneers of this undertaking – and whose dedication and drive created what today is a vibrant and productive science community, with Ludger Müller Wille, Igor Krupnik and Noel Broadbent, as instrumental driving forces.

I also wish to extend my thanks and respect to our members, both past and present, whose dedication and continuous efforts have led to the present profile, growth and recognition of the Association that we now enjoy.

We trust that the current congress over the next 5 days will live up to your expectations and continue the established tradition of bringing thought-provoking presentations and lively exchanges of views.

Our congress theme: **Circumpolar Perspectives in Global Dialogue: Social Sciences beyond the International Polar Year** will be reflected in many of the themes and talks, and also, we will have a special plenary panel on Saturday, where we will discuss future directions and our possible role and involvement in an IPD (International Polar Decade) if that comes about; as well as the legacy of IPY, and continuation of the momentum created.



Jón Haukur Ingimundarson, ICASS VII Congress Convener

Photo: Bjarni Eriksen

Social science participation in the IPY was instrumental in making the IPY more inclusive and cross-disciplinary. The IPY created the momentum to advance collaborative international research in social/human sciences to a new level. It also advanced the participation of Arctic residents, and particularly indigenous people

Global challenges call for the collaboration and

integration of social science perspectives. I think we can all agree: Social sciences need to be part of any major Arctic/ Polar future science endeavor.

I would like to express our deepest and most sincere gratitude to the generosity of the many sponsors and supporters, whose generous support has made this ICASS possible. The full list is printed in the book of abstracts and the program. Thank you! Friday and Saturday we have an opportunity to detail further our gratitude to the sponsors at the ICASS Banquet.

With the support from our generous sponsors it has been possible to offer support to a significant number of young researchers, graduate students, indigenous participants, and participants from regions where travel support is more difficult to secure; an invaluable contribution to the future of our science, and to ensuring the inclusiveness in Arctic social sciences and humanities research.

The IASSA secretariat changes location every three years. The strength of the association lies in the commitment and voluntarism of dedicated members and its growing membership. I will report on the activities and achievements of the association at the General Assembly on Saturday.

I wish to acknowledge the work and dedication of my fellow IASSA Councilors, most of whom are here today, and the many dedicated members who have contributed their time and resources to the cause of this association.

On behalf of IASSA, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Stefansson Arctic Institute, Stofnun Vilhjálms Stefánssonar (which bears the name of Arctic Explorer and Antropologist Vilhjalmur Stefansson) and which has hosted the secretariat of the association for the past three years, and the Icelandic Ministry for the Environment, University of Akureyri and Arctic Portal, all for their outstanding support to the association over these three years since august 2008. And thank you to the dedicated IASSA staff and our colleagues and students here at the University, who have been very supportive and who have followed – or participated in - with keen interest the organizations of ICASS, and the day-to-day operations of IASSA at the Stefansson Arctic Institute.

From all of us on the organizing committee, welcome to Akureyri, Iceland, and our very best wishes for a productive, inspiring and thought-

provoking congress. We wish you all a wonderful and invigorating 5 days. I will now turn this podium over to our ICASS VII congress convener – Jón Haukur Ingimundarson - who will introduce our first keynote speaker.

And so, I now declare this congress for open.

US Ambassador to Iceland: Dr. Luis E. Arreaga



Takk fyrir Svandís. Mig langar til að þakka gestgjafa mínum fyrir að bjóða mér að taka þátt í þessari mikilvægu ráðstefnu. Það er mér mikil ánægja að vera hér í dag.

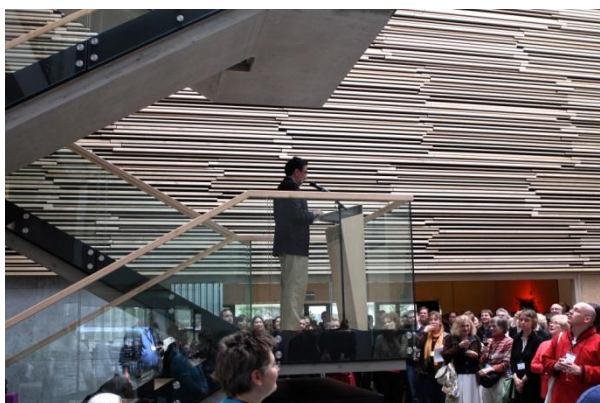
Minister Svavarsdóttir, Mr. Mayor, distinguished guests. It is a pleasure to be with you today to celebrate the commencement of the Seventh International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences. I would like to welcome all of you who have travelled great distances to be here with us for this event. Fortunately, travel options have improved a bit since some of the great explorers, such as Vilhjalmur Stefansson, made this trek.

There is no denying that the Arctic is a region of growing importance in the world. It will play an increasingly significant role in areas such as energy, security, the environment, commerce and culture, just to name a few. While I imagine that most of you here tonight have recognized the value of this region for many years already, the rest of the world is finally starting to take notice. And this is a good thing. With increased attention, we can hopefully direct the necessary resources to better understand and protect this dynamic region.

The United States recognizes the tremendous importance of the Arctic. We are working diligently towards identifying and implementing initiatives that will contribute to greater understanding of this region, through organizations such as the National Science Foundation and the U.S Arctic Research Council. The level of U.S. participation that you will see throughout this Congress is one indication of our commitment to the region. I believe the National Science Foundation, in particular, deserves

recognition for their generous financial support of this event.

Cooperation and coordination within the Arctic is a multilateral effort. The United States is proud to be an active member of organizations, such as the Arctic Council and IASSA, which are dedicated to addressing Arctic-related issues in the multilateral arena. In addition, just last month, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton met twice with Iceland's Foreign Minister Ossur Skarphedinsson and discussed possibilities for how our two countries can increase our Arctic cooperation. We look forward to continuing this dialogue and expanding Arctic coordination between the United States and Iceland.



Ambassador Arrega welcoming guests in Hof Cultural and Conference Center Photo: Bjarni Eiríksson

Before I conclude, I would like to thank the Stefansson Arctic Institute for organizing this outstanding event. The Institute's commitment and dedication to Arctic issues is reflected in the diverse, distinguished group standing here today. Níels, Jón, Joan and everyone at the Stefansson Arctic Institute, thank you for your hard work and dedication. And to the participants of this remarkable event, thank you for being here and for your contributions to furthering our understanding of the Arctic.

IASSA AWARD CEREMONY

Dr. Anna Kerttula de Echave receives IASSA's Honorary Lifetime Membership Award in recognition of her sustained and significant contribution to Arctic Social Sciences and Humanities. The Award was presided over by Dr. Nikolai Vakhtin and Dr. Thomas H. McGovern who delivered complimentary speeches.



Photos: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson

IASSA Award Laudatio by Dr. Nikolai Vakhtin

Dear Fellow Arctic Social Scientists,
Dear Colleagues and Friends,

In August 2008, the first IASSA's Honorary Memberships were awarded. Today, it is my great honor and pleasure to introduce one more IASSA's Honorary Member, a person whom most of you know: Dr. Anna Kerttula de Echave.

Anna cannot be praised highly enough for making the social sciences and humanities much more visible on the Arctic science agenda. But before we get to Anna's outstanding role in Arctic Social Sciences, let me mention a few steps in her life and career.

Anna was born and raised in Alaska – the fact that has apparently influenced her life greatly. She is daughter of Senator Jay Kerttula, a man who holds the distinction of being Alaska's longest serving legislator.

She graduated from the University of Alaska with a Bachelor Degree in Anthropology and Mathematics. She entered the University of Alaska, Fairbanks to complete a Master's Degree – quite understandably, in Anthropology, because of course anthropology is much more interesting than mathematics. Then it was time for the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, for a Ph.D., again in Anthropology.

Her dissertation was based on two years of research in the village of Sireniki, a small community on the Chukotka Peninsula, where she

lived among Chukchi and Yup'ik people. She came there in 1989, and this was where we met for the first time.

Coming from an Alaskan farming family, she was better than many her colleagues prepared for her life and work in the village, a life that was at the time rather basic. She scraped the walrus and seal hides brought in by the hunters. She pulled hide off recently killed reindeer. She cooked without a microwave, she did the laundry without a washing-machine, she stood in long lines in the village tiny shop.

This is what Anna herself writes about her work in Sireniki: "To be honest, my work in Sireniki consisted of living. I conducted interviews, collected data, and researched village records and regional archives, but mainly I lived. I was befriended by some people and families and not by others. I participated in as many activities as were open to me..." – can there be a better way for an anthropologist to do fieldwork?

Instinctively, Anna chose a line of conduct which, in her own words again, made her first "less different" from others, and then simply one of them: native people were willing to open up and talk to *Ania* as she was – and still is – called there.



Dr. Anna Kerttula de Echave Photo: Joan Nymand Larsen

Sireniki was where I first met her. My fieldwork in Sireniki was coming to an end, and I was already getting ready to go home. After three or four months there, I got to know everybody in the village at least by sight. I was walking along the village street and suddenly I saw a new face, a young woman sitting on the porch of a house

smoking, and looking somewhat at a loss. This must have been one of Anna's first days in the field, and my last one. I stopped, came up to her and said hello. Etiquette is rather simple up there. The woman answered in Russian, but with an accent, so I switched to English. You should have seen the joy in her eyes when she heard her own language spoken! We smoked those horrendously strong Russian *papirosas* together for ten minutes, and after ten minutes I realized that I had just met somebody who would become a friend. It turned out later that the feeling was correct.

In 2000, Anna came up with an impeccable ethnography of the village – deep, exact, emotional and wonderfully written. I am sure there are very few people in the hall who haven't read "Antler on the Sea" published by Cornell University Press: I always recommend this book to my students not only as a wonderful piece of research but also as a model "fieldwork manual".

Of course Sireniki wasn't the only research site for Anna: her research has spanned three decades of fieldwork in the Arctic, during which she has covered a diverse range of research topics, from land use patterns and subsistence economies to identity, household organization, and domestic violence. Her host populations have been equally diverse including not only the Siberian Yupik and Chukchi, but also the Yup'ik of Alaska, Denai'ina, Pribiloff Aleuts. She has also participated in archaeological research projects investigating prehistoric Athapaskan and Pacific Inuit sites. She made many presentations at conferences and published numerous articles on various topics within the realm of Arctic anthropology based on first-hand comprehensive field data.

In 1992, Anna became Special Assistant for Russian Affairs to Senator Stevens, and later worked as the Associate Director for Natural Resources, Fisheries, and the Environment for the Alaska Governor's Office in Washington, DC. Currently, she is Program Director of Arctic Social Sciences for the Office of Polar Programs of the National Science Foundation. Under Anna's guidance, the Arctic Social Sciences program has increased over 300 percent both in the number and size of awards and in the diversity of awards. And of course, being a linguist by training, I should mention Anna's special concern about endangered languages not only of Alaska and other parts of the United States but also worldwide.

As Program Director, Anna is doing a lot to promote the principles and objectives of IASSA. If you compare the NSF Arctic Social Sciences Program principles and IASSA's objectives on their respective websites, you will find striking similarities that are, I am sure, not accidental. International cooperation; communication and coordination with other research organizations; collaborations between researchers and those living in the Arctic; partnerships among disciplines; – these principles are shared by NSF Arctic Social Sciences Program and IASSA, and this is something we should praise Anna for.

I think we all agree that Anna Kerttula, as a scholar and as a person, has done a lot to make the Arctic a better place to work in. Her efforts are fully recognized and appreciated by her colleagues and friends.

In August 2008, The Palmer Research Laboratory, University of Alaska, Fairbanks was renamed "Kerttula Hall" in honor of Anna's father. During the ceremony, Senator Kerttula said: "I will always feel honored to have served Alaska and feel blessed to have made so many friends along the way."

No doubt Anna has earned the right to borrow the words of her famous father and say today: "I will always feel honored to have served Arctic Social Sciences, and I feel blessed to have made so many friends along the way."

What else can I say? Welcome Anna Kerttula de Echave, the new Honorary Member of IASSA.

Dr. Nikolai Vakhtin
European University at St. Petersburg

ICASS VII THEMES

Theme 01

Climate and environmental changes - impacts, adaptation and narratives

Theme 02

Economic and social development

Theme 03

Living conditions, community development, quality of life and human resources

Theme 04

Population, mobility, migration and borders

Theme 05

Governance, politics, legal issues, and resource management

Theme 06

Health and wellness

Theme 07

Culture, art, knowledge, values, images, creativity, ideology, religion, history, heritage and archaeology

Theme 08

Communication, media, and film-making

Theme 09

Education

Theme 10

IPY lessons and legacy, inclusive research, comprehensive topics, research collaboration and methods, and data management

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES speakers and abstracts

Keynote Speaker:
Professor Nikolai Vakhtin
European University,
St. Petersburg, Russia



Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, Nikolay Vakhtin graduated from St. Petersburg State University and received his post-graduate training at the Institute of Linguistics, Russian Academy of Sciences. He specialized in Eskimo-Aleut

languages, mostly Yupik, and later in sociolinguistics of Siberian / Arctic languages, and in cultural anthropology of the North.

Vakhtin is author and co-author of over 150 scholarly publications, including 12 books; among them: *Native Peoples of the Russian Far North*. A Minority Rights Group Report. London, 1992; *Eskimo Syntax*. St. Petersburg: Evropeiski Dom. 1995 (in Russian); *Sireniki Eskimo Language: Data*

and Analysis. LINCOM-Europa: Munich, 2000; Languages of the Peoples of the North in the 20th Century: Essays on Language Shift. St. Petersburg: Dmitri Bulanin. 2001 (in Russian); Russian Old-Settlers of Siberia: Social and Symbolic Aspects of Identity (with E. Golovko and P. Schweitzer). Moscow: Novoe izdatelstvo. 2004 (in Russian); *Commander Island Aleut Language: The Bering Island Dialect*. (with E. Golovko and A. Asinovskii). St. Petersburg: Nauka. 2009 (in Russian); a.o.

Vakhtin taught and worked as visiting scholar / professor in many research centers, such as Institute of Eskimology, University of Copenhagen (1989- 1990); American Museum of Natural History, New York (Fulbright Scholar, 1993- 1994); Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge University, UK (1994-1996 and 2010); Center for Linguistic Typology, Australian National University, Canberra (1999); Georgetown University, Washington D.C. (2001); New College, Oxford University, UK (2010); a.o.

Vakhtin is currently Professor of Arctic Studies at the European University, St. Petersburg. He teaches courses on Sociolinguistics, Linguistics, and Arctic Social Studies.

Keynote address by Nikolai Vakhtin: Future of Arctic Social Research in Russia

It is a great honour for me to be invited to ICASS-7 as a key-note speaker, even though the trap I got myself into by suggesting the topic of today's talk is horrifying: I am supposed to cover the topic *Future of Arctic Social Research in Russia* in 30 minutes ...

One important note on terminology. When I use the term "Russian Arctic" in this presentation, I use it very broadly: it includes not only "the real Arctic" – the territory above latitude 60°, – but also all of Siberia and the Far East, in spite of the fact that some areas of "the Arctic" thus defined appear to be in the same latitude as south of France.

Let me also draw your attention to the fact that I am talking today about Arctic Social Research *in Russia*, not about *Russian Arctic Social Research*: research in Russia is today international, thank goodness. While it is difficult to say anything definite about the future of *Russian* research (the

future of Russia itself is quite uncertain), Arctic research *in Russia* is doomed to continue, if only for purely geographical reason: more than half of the Arctic coastline is today Russian territory.

It is difficult to make forecasts. In the last issue of *Northern Notes* Oran Young and Else Grete Broderstad write the following about "the future of the Arctic":

"The Arctic is experiencing a profound transformation driven by the interacting forces of climate change and globalization. Many believe the region is approaching a threshold or a tipping point that will set the Arctic on a new course for the foreseeable future. It is impossible to forecast the pace and trajectory of these developments precisely. Yet there is every reason to conclude that the Arctic today is in the midst of... what scientists often refer to as a state change." (Young, Broderstad 2010: 14).

Likewise, it isn't at all easier to predict the pace and trajectory of change in Arctic Social Research – but there is, likewise, every reason to believe that Arctic Studies today are in the midst of a change.

Obviously, the future of every branch of knowledge lies in its present, and one can, pretending to talk about the future, in reality talk about current trends and tendencies, about points of growth that are the seeds of a future change. This is what I am going to do. My today's talk will consist of two parts: (1) a very brief overview of the current situation in Arctic Social Research in Russia, and (2) an attempt to extrapolate.

But first – still – very briefly – about the past.

As many of you know, Arctic Social Research in Russia lived through a boom in 1920-s: many younger people went into this new and attractive branch of knowledge, most of them – through the Ethnographic Section of the Geographical Institute of Leningrad State University (later Department of Geography, after 1930 – Faculty of the Peoples of the North at Herten Pedagogical) established by Vladimir Bogoraz and Leo Sternberg in 1916. The new field was interdisciplinary by definition; the students, regardless of whether they were going to become ethnographers, linguists, demographers, teachers, or social workers, attended lectures and seminars taught by the same professors and later

worked in close contact. The new field was also international due to extensive international academic ties of Bogoraz and Sternberg¹.

This interdisciplinary and international phase of development of the new field ended rather soon. I will skip the tragic pages of the history of Arctic Research in the Soviet Union (see for details: Bartels & Bartels 1995: 50 ff.; Grey et al. 2003, Habeck 2005, Vakhtin 2006, and many others) and will only mention that by the early 1970-s it became clear that, on the one hand, a lot had been done to study cultures and languages of indigenous minorities of the Russian Arctic, but, on the other, interdisciplinary and international ties in the field had been to a great extent lost. In 1970-s those who would become Arctic ethnographers were trained primarily by departments of history in total isolation from the indigenous languages and from linguistics in general; those who would become Arctic linguists were trained at Institute of linguistics of the Academy of Sciences in almost total isolation from ethnography; language teachers for Arctic schools were trained at Hertzen Pedagogical University in almost total isolation from fundamental achievements of social sciences, etc. This situation unfortunately continues. Actually, there aren't in Russia today any place where students could get focused training for doing social research in the Arctic: apparent exceptions of the Institute of the Peoples of the North at Hertzen Pedagogical University and the Polar Academy, both in St. Petersburg, unfortunately, can hardly count due to unsatisfactory quality of education there (despite efforts of some faculty members).

This isolation of different branches of Arctic studies in the country (together with the general isolation of the Soviet scholars in 1950–1980-s) has affected negatively the quality of training, and, respectively, the quality of research in the Arctic done by Russian scholars.

1. The Present

It has become common knowledge that in 1990-s the Russian Arctic opened up to foreign scholars. There is hardly a colleague who haven't written about this, myself included (see: Vakhtin, Sirina 2003; Grey et al. 2003; Hann 2003; Vakhtin 2006; Habeck et al. 2010).

¹ See: (Krupnik, Vakhtin 2003; Vakhtin 2001) for details.

Where is Arctic social research done these days? The geography of research institutions is today rather broad. Many of you work in those institutions; many of you, working all over the world, are closely connected with various research centres and groups in Russia, and the other way round: many Russian researchers are closely connected with research institutions and individuals all over the world; so, just some names. In UK, these are Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, and Department of Anthropology, University of Aberdeen. In Germany – Siberian Studies Centre at Max Planck Institute, Halle, and the research group on Comparative Population Linguistics at Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig. In North America, one should mention Alaska Native Language Center and Department of Anthropology, both at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. And of course there are numerous working groups and individual researchers in many North American Universities. In Norway let's mention University of Tromsø and a newly established University College, in Kautokeino. In Finland – this is of course University of Lapland, Rovaniemi. There are also several working groups and individual researchers in France (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Musée de l'homme, etc.); in Sweden (Uppsala University etc.); in Ireland (Maynooth University), etc. The list may not be full – I apologize if I have forgotten something important.

In Russia, there are three borderlines that separate different parts of Arctic research and training. I have already mentioned one: disciplinary isolation, the fact that ethnographers, linguists, demographers and others who do research in the Arctic are trained separately. This has of course a positive side: students get a deeper education in one narrow discipline; but the negative side of it, in my opinion, tips the scales.

The second line of isolation is the fact that in Russia the University system and the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS) system still are rather far apart. The third is the hard consequences of the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the 1990-s economic crisis that hit severely the humanities and social sciences, cutting interregional ties, ruining almost entirely the system of book and journal circulation, and scaring younger people away from dramatically underpaid academic jobs. All these are now changing for the better, but “the echo of the nineties” is still rather loud.

Let's start with St. Petersburg, the "traditional" centre for Arctic research. Here we have the famous Kunsamera, RAS, Department of Siberian Studies; Institute of Linguistic Research, RAS, Department of Languages of Russia; Institute of Peoples of the North, Herten Pedagogical University; State University, Department of Geography, Chair of Regional Politics and Political Geography. There is also of course the Institute of Arctic and Antarctic Research but social sciences are unfortunately not popular there.

In Moscow, one should mention excellent Department of Peoples of the Far North and Siberia (Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, RAS) and some individual scholars and research groups.

In Novosibirsk, we have Institute of Philology, RAS, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, RAS, Institute of History, RAS; in Tyumen – Institute of Problems of Northern Development, RAS; in Yakutsk – Institute for Humanities and Research of Northern Minorities, RAS; in Syktyvkar (Komi Republic) – Institute for Social and Energy Problems of the North, RAS. In Arkhangelsk – Institute for Northern Ecology, RAS; in Vladivostok – Institute of History, Archaeology, and Ethnography of the Peoples of the Far East, RAS; in Krasnoyarsk – Institute of Northern Problems, Medical Academy; in Tomsk – Tomsk Pedagogical University, Department of Northern Languages.

What do people study in those centres? Here is a small random sample of research topics from the Internet:

- Altai Burkhanism in the 21st century
- Barents Region Educational Network
- Conditions and Limitations of Lifestyle Plurality in Siberia
- Ecological and Social Consequences of Global Change and Industrial Development in the Russian North
- Ethnic and Cultural processes in Sakha (Yakutia) according to archaeological findings of the Stone Age and Middle Ages
- Ethno-tourism in the Far North of Russia: Transformation of Lifestyles on the Microlevel
- Folklore and Burial Ceremonies in the Old and New World
- Kola Saami herders in post-Soviet society: Ethnopolitics in urban and tundra spaces
- New Technologies in the Tundra: High-Tech Equipment, Perception of Space and Spatial

Orientation of Nomadic and Settled Populations of the Russian Arctic

- Power and Society: Political and Social Transformations in Sakha (Yakutia) in the 19th – early 20th century
- Religious Interaction in Chukotka: Traditional Beliefs and Protestantism

Some of those topics are rather traditional – or should I say old-fashioned? – others sound quite modern – or should I say sexy? Many of those are international – the working groups consist of people from more than one country. Generally speaking, the influence of "Western" anthropology can be felt very strongly in today's Arctic research in Russia – although there still are "strongholds of conservatism", so to say. But if one recalls that 20 years ago the "Western" influence in Russian Arctic studies was almost nonexistent then one must conclude that in 20 years our Western colleagues have done a great job in changing the landscape of Arctic social research in Russia. I think that this tendency will continue.

2. The Future

What is "future"? When is "future"? How far into future should we try to look so that our predictions are still probable – and already interesting? Is tomorrow future? Tomorrow we will, in all probability, wake up one day older but more or less in the same settings: in the same universities, with the same courses and students, with the same research projects and colleagues. Predictions about tomorrow are highly probable, but hardly attractive. On the other hand, predictions about a hundred years from now may be very attractive – but they are hardly probable.

With the given speed of social, technological, medical and economic progress, it is as hopeless to foresee today what life will be like in the year 2110 as it was in 1910 to foresee the life in the year 2010.

As a compromise between probability and attractiveness, I will take twenty years and I will try to make prognoses about the situation in Arctic social research in Russia around the year 2030. I am thus not as brave as Lawrence Smith – see his book with a teasing title *The World in 2050* (Smith 2010) where he offers a forecast for half a century – but, just like him, I am sure that the North, the Arctic will be getting more and more important for global welfare of the humankind.

Why am I taking 20 years? First of all, “20” is a magic number for social sciences: if scholars are predicting death and deterioration of cultures or traditions, languages or dialects, folklore or beliefs, rituals or memories, they usually, for reasons unknown, write something like “in 20 years the language (tradition, folklore, belief...) will disappear”. It doesn’t disappear of course, but nevertheless, we continue to make gloomy predictions about “20 years from now”.

Second, around 20 years ago very important things happened in the lives of Arctic social researchers: the Iron Curtain was raised (and the Ice Curtain melted), the Berlin Wall was pulled down, and academic ties between Russian and foreign scholars began to revive, or were established anew. “Western” Arctic specialists got access to a whole new world of field research – for Russian scholars a whole new world also opened up. The 20 years that passed since that time are part of our collective memory, and it makes sense to try to look a similar span of time forward.

Finally, many of us have good chances to live another 20 years and make sure that all my predictions have nothing to do with reality, just like most such predictions.

I have structured the rest of this text around a set of questions that I will address one by one: Who will do social research in the Arctic? Where in the Arctic? What institutions will they be affiliated with? What will be the subject of their studies? Where will the money come from? What will be the scope of topics for Arctic research? Finally, in what language(s) will the results of social research in the Arctic be published? These questions are of course interconnected and interdependent but I am separating them analytically for convenience.

Who

20 years from now, the field of Arctic social research will be joined by young PhDs who were born in and around 2004. Their most salient difference from us is that for them, the world will not be “post-Soviet”: they won’t have personal experience of living in the divided world – at least, not in the world divided along the old lines. Moreover, nation-state, with its “national pride”, “national traditions” and “national interests”, will be, for many of them, an obsolete, outdated social animal. With the so-called *Bologna Process* in European education, with the *Semester Abroad* requirement in many American universities, with

similar developments in the Russian educational system it is quite probable that this generation will be even less attached to a university, a school or a national tradition than the previous one.

Second, Arctic social researchers who will work in Russia will become an even more mixed crowd. Until late 1980-s, the field was open only for Russian scholars². Around 1990, as I have mentioned, “Western” scholars came to Siberia, and seriously changed the landscape. In mid-1990-s, Japanese scholars came to do field work there – they were mostly linguists, but not only, and worked mostly in the Far East, but again not only. My guess is that 20 years from now, we will see, together with new faces from Russia, United States, Canada, Britain, Germany, the Nordic countries, the arrival of scholars from China, from South Korea, and perhaps from Kazakhstan who will be interested in research in Southern Siberia and the Far East, and in topics like economic anthropology, social geography, sociology of health, and the like. We should not exclude also scholars from other countries, such as Brazil or India.

Where

What part of the Arctic will be “in fashion” 20 years from now as sites for fieldwork? I have already mentioned that the Far East will attract more and more scholars from Japan, China, South Korea, and the United States, which means that Russian researchers from Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Magadan and other far-eastern cities will cooperate more and more with these countries and will less and less look towards Europe for academic cooperation. The same is probably true for places like Irkutsk, Novosibirsk, and Tomsk where cooperation with China, Mongolia, and Kazakhstan is already quite visible.

On the other hand, Russian scholars who live in the European part of the country, first of all in St. Petersburg, will pay more attention to the Barentz-Region, that is, European North and north-western Siberia, places like Kola peninsula, Nenets Okrug, Komi, Yamal and so on. They will cooperate more and more with scholars who

² Two important exceptions to this were Caroline Humphrey, a British anthropologist who visited Buriatia for two months in 1967 as an exchange student at Moscow State University, and Marjorie Mandelstam Balzer, an American anthropologist who joined a Leningrad University summer trip to Khanty territory in 1976 (Grey et al. 2003: 198; see also Habeck 2005: 13).

work in Nordic countries – in Finland, Norway, Sweden. Generally, I think that cross-border cooperation has a great future: “Arctic” parts of Russia, as you know, border on Scandinavia, China and Alaska, and the three regions will, I am sure, play an increasingly important role in Arctic social research in Russia. (This doesn’t mean of course that “traditional” research areas like Yakutia or Tuva will be abandoned).

Russian-Chinese border will become particularly attractive. The deficit of specialists on Russian-Chinese relations can already be felt today. I don’t mean high diplomacy or history, but simple down-to-earth things: cross-border trade and its influence on everyday life of people, mixed marriages, both permanent and temporary, migration and its influence on language processes, relations between various ethnic groups on both sides of the border and attitudes towards “the other side”, and so on. At present, research there is just beginning³, hampered by the lack of specialists who have sufficient command of both Russian and Chinese to be able to work effectively on both sides of the border.

The situation is slightly better in the north-eastern zone: some research is done here by bilingual scholars like Dasha Morgunova who just completed a Ph.D. dissertation comparing Yupik villages on both sides of the Russian-US border, or by teams of bilingual scholars like Peter Schweitzer and Evgenii Golovko. Some research of this kind is also done in the north-western zone, by Nordic and Russian scholars – here we find topics like languages and identity of Russians who live in Norway, or Saami cross-border contacts. The south-eastern zone is, as far as I can judge, the least developed.

The second question in the “Where” group is whether Arctic social scientists will continue to work at universities and research centres only, or jobs will be offered to them in business companies and in government agencies. I place my bet on the latter.

³ The work of Caroline Humphrey and her colleagues in *Mongolia and Inner Asia Studies Unit* at Cambridge is an obvious exception; see also works by Tobias Holzlehner, including his Ph.D. thesis on border economies, informal markets, and organized crime in Vladivostok and the Russian Far East (2006) and a recent publication by Sayana Namsaraeva published as Max Planck Working Paper in Anthropology No. 126 (2010); see also a small article by Kapitolina Fedorova (Fedorova 2010) on Russian-Chinese language contacts in the border area.

Laurence Smith whom I already quoted is predicting ascent of the northern part of the globe – Northern United States, Canada, Scandinavia, and Russia – because the north is becoming more and more important for global human survival and prosperity. He is foreseeing the emergence of a new Northern Rim, when, with the global warming, the Arctic Ocean will become a new Mediterranean Sea of the humankind.

If this forecast is correct, we have to alter our curricula and add new perspectives to what we teach our students. I will say more about this when we come to the themes and objects of research.

As Florian Stammler has it, this is a challenge to social scientists: it appears to be very difficult for oil companies (and others) to understand what social scientists do; and why what they do is relevant to oil and gas development. Industry people admit that companies are 'not there yet' on social issues: “they understand 'environment' but not 'social environment' ”.

It is hard to say if 'not being there yet' is a polite way to say that companies are not interested, or an indication of a growing awareness of a handicap on their part. Again, I place my bet on the latter.

The Object

As some of you will recall, six years ago Tim Ingold offered a “Manifesto for the anthropology of the North” challenging the profession to engage with all residents of the region. He urged his colleagues to look at *all* people of the North, not just indigenous people.

In the same year, *Sibirica* published a review of a round table in Max Planck Institute in Halle where the following suggestion was highlighted:

“This idea – that the social anthropology of Siberia should not only be limited to the indigenous peoples, that even urban population in Siberian cities should become a subject of social anthropological research to no less a degree than villages and nomadic groups – ran as a red thread through many of the discussions” (Gray, Vakhtin, Schweitzer 2003: 204).

This idea might appear a banality, but, as Nioby Thompson writes in his recent book on contemporary Chukotka, this is not so for social investigation of the post-Soviet North:

"It might appear self-evident that anthropology should show interest in the full range of actors in any social field. Yet, in social investigation of the post-Soviet North, this is no so. Its non-indigenous population is rarely examined in any depth" (Thompson 2008: 8).

In addition, social anthropology in Russia demonstrated over the last 20 years an obvious reluctance to shift from investigating "the tradition", something that one might call "a museum reality", to studies of everyday "real life". Consequently, it has concentrated mostly on indigenous people as "patent bearers of tradition". But today borders get fuzzy and unclear between "indigenous population" who have "always" lived in the area; "the old settlers" who have lived there for the last two, three, four hundred years; those who are sometimes called "entrenched" population who have lived in the area for two or three generations; "newcomers" who can actually have been born in the region, or at least their children were. In addition, for many regions, the very idea of independent, clear-cut and separate "ethnic groups" as subjects of research becomes void in many places.

My prognosis here is that the Arctic anthropological community will, in the next 20 years, move towards studying *territorial* groups, not ethnic ones, and towards investigating relations within and between territories rather than within and between ethnic groups.

In other words, there will be a shift from the traditional subject of *ethnography* (or *ethnology*, if you wish) to the subject of *anthropology* and perhaps even *sociology*.

Perhaps linguistics is a field where this shift is already more evident: a shift towards territorial approach to language studies is going very fast. It makes today less and less sense to study isolated, clear-cut languages as independent entities: multi- and bilingualism, language contact, interference of elements of one language into another are rapidly becoming the focus of linguistic and sociolinguistic approach.

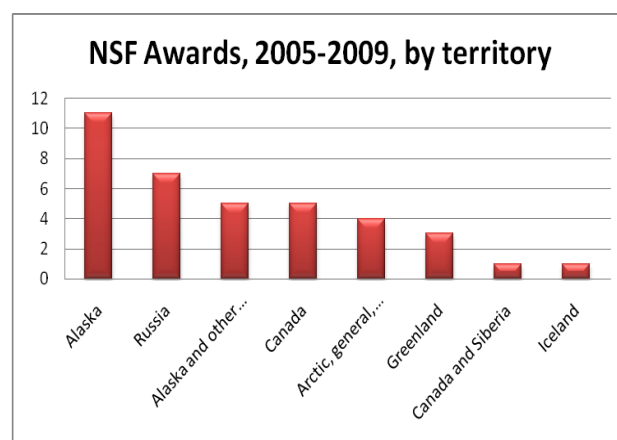
As Monica Heller puts it in her recent introduction to a collection of articles on bilingualism, "The constant emergence of traces of different languages in the speech of individual bilinguals goes against the expectations that languages would neatly correspond to separate domains, and stay put where they are meant to stay put" (Heller 2007: 15). We know that many

people who live in the North are natural bilinguals, so how can we study, for example, indigenous languages as if they were isolated islands?

I think that social anthropological approaches to the subject of study can learn something from linguistics here.

The Funding

Just a few words, because here it is very difficult to see the future. First of all, we see increasing role of large foundations, such as NSF, in supporting Arctic social research. And, as the graph below shows, it is becoming more and more internationally oriented regarding the areas of the Arctic where it supports research. This is a very positive fact.



Large Russian foundations are also quite active in the area: RGNF, for example, has announced a series of special grant programs, such as "Russian North: History, the Present, and the Perspectives" (2009), or a grant program of fieldwork support (2010) – many grants were given to support fieldwork in the North; a joint grant program with the Academy of Finland should also be mentioned.

I think that, if the expectations of an increasing role of the Arctic is correct, then in the coming years we will see, besides increasing support from *national* foundations, the growing role of private business in funding Arctic social research; the role of international corporations will also grow, and this will make the financial support of Arctic research even more international than it is today.

The Topics of Research

Many people have been predicting changes in the themes of research – in fact, it is already happening.

As Otto Habeck with his colleagues wrote in a recent article, in the Arctic “[r]are animal and plant species and indigenous people are considered to be vulnerable... Anthropology of the North has thus acquired a particular relation to other disciplines: it interacts and is aligned with Environmental Sciences and Life Sciences much more strongly than elsewhere in the world” (Habeck et al. 2010: 65–66). Anthropology of the North looks strong and innovative in such areas as land and resources, human-animal relations, long-term ecological archaeology, and the study of indigenous movements. On the other hand, “Conspicuously absent from Anthropology of the North are, as of yet, inquiries into global economic flows and markets, labour markets and conditions, the state as an actor, colonialism, border regimes, control of the state over its subjects and the latter’s responses, violence and issues of citizenship... Anthropology of the North needs to open up to a wider array of social sciences, namely to political theory, economic theory, and theory on globalization (ibid)”.

And the authors encourage anthropologists who work in the North to do “a more rounded research” about the region, by looking beyond the Arctic; they advocate stronger links to sociology, political sciences, economics, history, art and literature studies.

So, the first tendency here is a growing attention to interdisciplinary research. Just one small example. The European University where I work has a research *Centre for ecological and technological history*. Some time ago, this Centre announced, together with a Swedish Foundation MISTRA, a call for applications for two Ph.D. scholarships as part of their new research project in the Barents region. What is important is that a prerequisite for eligibility for the scholarship was the two students should come from different disciplines: one from history, the other from either anthropology or political science.

The second tendency is a general methodological change of approach to the subject of study. Let me now present results of a small “research” that I did with my class of students who attended the course “Introduction to Arctic Social Studies” this spring. As one of the course essays, they were asked to write a short proposal for a research project in the Arctic. I received 19 mini-applications and I was pleasantly surprised by their choice of topics. You realize of course that it is today’s students, rather than their professors, whose thematic preferences matter when we talk

about the future of Arctic research. Here are some example of what today’s Russian students would like to study: see slide.

Topics that are relatively traditional for Russian Arctic research:

- The image of Karelians in mid-19th – early 20th century Russian Press
- The Present Sociolinguistic Situation of Komi-Izhma
- Museum Artefacts as a Source of Information about Indigenous Cultures

Topics that are relatively new:

- Language Situation in Sakha: Interaction of Languages, language Attitudes and Code-Switching
- Institutionalization of Modern Tyva Shamanism
- Traditional Socialization of Ket-Selkup-Evenki Population of Krasnoyarsk Area and its use in Modern Secondary Schools
- Micro-Economics of White Sea Ter Shore Villages
- Identity of Norilsk Population: Interaction Between Discourse of “Conquerors of the North” and Discourse of “Indigenous Peoples”
- Permanent and Temporary Population of the Kola Peninsula and Modern Industrial Development
- Influence of Norwegian Saami on Revitalization of Culture and Language of Kola Saami
- Religious identity of Siberian Catholics
- Contacts and Conflicts of Shors, Chelkans and Old-Believers on the Border of Altai and Mountain Shoria
- Relations between Administration, Natives, Newcomers and Ecologists in the Economics of Nikolskoye Village (Commander Islands)
- Legal Activity of Yukagir Population of Sakha

Most topics are about the present rather than the past; many topics are relatively new for Russian social anthropology. What I like most is that there isn’t one single topic where the notorious “ethnos” would be mentioned: if there is a mention of ethnic names, research is always focused on contact, mixture, cross-border relations. There are topics about legal, economic, social circumstances and conflicts. If they want to study Shamanism – it is modern ‘institutionalized’ shamanism; if they want to study religion – they chose ‘exotic’, non-trivial groups like Siberian Catholics; if they speak about traditional socialization – they are interested in how it is used in modern schools.

In other words, young people understand – perhaps better than their professors – that the processes that take place in the Arctic today are different from everything that happened there over the last 100 years, and new methods and approaches have to be used there.

Let me list several topics that, in my opinion, require attention of Arctic social scientists working in Russia today:

- ethnic and language processes: an apparent shift, in many areas, from ethnic identity to territorial
- contacts, interactions, and political processes, first of all cross-border ones, in a practical perspective, as an important factor in everyday life of the people on both sides of the border
- economic processes in local settlements in connection with energy industries, in-migration and industrial development
- religious processes, such as “new shamanism”, or the influence of Protestant Churches, or new cults and “new religions”
- finally, social and demographic processes that are closely connected with those already listed

None of those processes have been systematically described, let alone understood.

What conclusion can one draw? Today’s students who begin to be interested in Arctic social research view their subject from a different perspective than the previous generation: it simply doesn’t occur to them to study “material culture” or “traditional beliefs” of indigenous people. Today’s students are perfectly aware of what Chris Hann wrote eight years ago: that «[w]herever one looks in Eurasia, the romantic anthropological goal of uncovering pristine socio-cultural forms through contemporary fieldwork in apparently remote places has to be abandoned as illusory» (Hann 2003: 9).

The third change is a change in attitude of social researchers to the dominance of “hard sciences”. The movement against the term “human dimension” so brilliantly presented in the latest issue of *Northern Notes* by many authors, especially Yvon Csonka, Florian Stammer, and Piers Vitebsky is the first swallow showing that the social scientists are beginning to demand respect to what they do, that they (or should I say we) are not going to put up with dependence and are ready to fight for liberation. I have already quoted Stammer who wrote that it appeared to be very difficult for oil companies (and others) to understand what social scientists do, but that we

were moving in that direction. In one of his articles, Yvon Csonka mentioned that “we should not blind ourselves” to the fact that our collaborations in multi-disciplinary projects often happen in the form of ‘add-on components’ (i.e. ‘human dimensions’). Vitebsky and Klein later wrote about the “lack of confidence among [humanities] scholars working on the Arctic, who after years of necessity have become perhaps too adept at subordinating research profiles to natural science agendas: has the view by now been so internalised that in large-scale international research, social sciences and humanities are at best a modest add-on, a token ‘human dimension’?”. And one more from Csonka quoted by Stammer:

“I know that today, to use an expression like “human dimensions” pays – again on politically correct grounds. But as human and social scientists, even though we may tactically applaud this newly gained recognition from colleagues in other disciplines, we also have to fight to have our disciplines and topics recognized in their own right”.

Is it possible to study the Arctic as a “huge iceberg with a lot of oil and gas inside” and no humans at all? Is it fruitful to study the Arctic and exclude social and human perspective? I am sure it isn’t: oil, gas, diamonds are prospected and extracted by humans, climate changes, ecological situation, environment pollution are all perceived through the prism of human beliefs, stereotypes, and myths. If we forget this, serious mistakes are inevitable.

To quote from the same article again,

“We need to put human affairs back on the same footing as the environment. And this notwithstanding the argument that humans are part of the environment, a fact which indigenous cultures had wisely never forgotten. Humans are part of nature all right, but without humans (and other conscious beings?) to be conscious of it, does it even matter that the universe ‘exists’?” (Ibid.)

So, my prognosis is that importance of social research in the Arctic will be – has to be! – more and more recognized by our colleagues from ‘hard sciences’, but the war for independence will be neither short nor easy.

In What Language?

In what language will the results of Arctic social research in Russia be published? We all know

that the new version of the old principle “publish or perish” now sounds “publish in English or perish”. However, I think that in the area that we are talking about, the Russian language will retain its role – at least for some time.

I looked through publication lists of many of you: practically all leading specialists in Arctic social research in Russia have more than one publication in Russian – and this is true not only for those of you whose first language is, or was, Russian. Some books about the Russian North are translated into Russian – such as Yuri Slezkina’s *Arctic Mirrors* or David Anderson’s *Identity and Ecology in Arctic Siberia*. It is a pity, in my opinion, that there aren’t more such books. Perhaps we could think about a special NSF program of translations of current Arctic social literature into Russian: in 1990-2000-s, over a dozen such books were published.

Some authors publish their books in two or more languages: Istvan Santa’s book about Evenki is now being published in Hungarian, English and Russian. It is clear why he has chosen Hungarian: he works for Hungarian Academy of Sciences. It is also clear why English: he wants his book to be read. But why Russian? I think the motivation here is deeper than simple pragmatic considerations, such as “my Russian colleagues and my Evenki friends should be able to read it”. I think that this is part of a rather complicated identity of Arctic social scientists who work in Russia. Somehow, it feels good to see your stuff published in Russian...

3. Conclusion

Finally, one more thing about Arctic social research in Russia. The interest towards such research is apparently growing. Not only the number of publications is growing; new centres are emerging in Russia. For example, Departments of Arctic Studies (*Kafedry severovedeniya*) were opened in Petrozavodsk in 1999 and in Yakutsk in 2008. In 2010, Herten Pedagogical University in St. Petersburg announced an MA program “Ethnic and Cultural Studies of the North”.

In 2011, the European University announced a professorship in Arctic Social Sciences. I applied, and was selected for the position. My task now is to develop a program for Arctic Studies at the Department of Anthropology. This, I hope, will help to get closer to what Piers and Otto called (to quote the announcement of the 2008 Max Planck conference) ‘Deprovincialising Arctic

research’, to link up with other regional studies. One of the steps I am making in that direction is placing the new post-graduate programme at the European University into the general context of our Department of Anthropology: if you work in Arctic anthropology you must realize that the Arctic is just a place where you do fieldwork, not another planet with its own laws, rules, and academic hierarchies.

In February, we launched a pilot open course on Arctic Social Research in Russia, and published an announcement. We expected 4-5 students to enrol: to our total surprise and joy, the course attracted *twenty five* students, about a half of them – from the European University, others – from all over the city.

When I watch these young people who came to learn more about Arctic social research in Russia, I am getting more and more convinced that today, a hundred years after Bogoraz and Sternberg, Arctic Social Research in Russia once again has a future. One precondition for this is that Russian Arctic should remain an international field: we should ensure collaboration between Russian and Western scholars in the next 20 years – just like we have been doing over the previous 20 years. Arctic Social Research in Russia will be international – or it will be not. And I sincerely hope that this future – and this collaboration – will be at least partly connected with the European University at St. Petersburg.

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Keynote Speaker:
Professor Gísli Pálsson
Department of Anthropology
University of Iceland
Reykjavík, Iceland



Gísli Pálsson is Professor at the University of Iceland and, formerly, at the University of Oslo. He holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Manchester, England (1982). He is Vice-Chair of RESCUE, an environmental program run by the European Science Foundation. Gísli has written extensively on a variety of issues, including arctic history and exploration, genetic history, biomedicine, the new genetics, biobanks, property rights, language, fishing communities, and environmental discourse. One of his recent articles is "Genomic Anthropology: Coming in From the Cold?" (*Current Anthropology* 2008). He has done fieldwork in Iceland, the Republic of Cape Verde, and the Canadian Arctic. Gísli is the author, editor, or co-editor of several books, including *Nature and Society: Anthropological Perspectives*; *The Textual Life of Savants*:

Ethnography, Iceland, and the Linguistic Turn; Beyond Boundaries: Understanding, Translation and Anthropological Discourse; and Travelling Passions: The Hidden Life of Vilhjalmur Stefansson. His latest book is *Anthropology and the New Genetics* (Cambridge University Press 2007).

Keynote Abstract by Gísli Pálsson: The invention of Homo islandicus

Emphasizing the shift from textual studies to physical and biological anthropology during the Twentieth Century, this talk explores anthropological discussions of the history and characteristics of Icelanders, Homo islandicus. The discussion is largely based on the works of several Icelandic scholars and the social memory they represent, the ways in which the past is collectively established and preserved. Drawing upon different takes on nationalist and academic agendas, the “thought styles” involved, to use a term launched by Ludwig Fleck, differ significantly on method and sources, the relative merits of



Gísli Pálsson giving his keynote speech.

Photo: Bjarni Eiríksson

texts, bones, and DNA material and the kinds of comparison explored. If for Scandinavian and German nationalists Icelanders represented the closest available link to the Norse past, a kind of radical Us, for Icelanders their neighbors in Greenland – “Eskimos”, as they used to be called – represented a radical Other. Thought styles do not develop from thin air; rather they are intimately connected to the contexts in which they are embedded, both constituting and being constituted by the imagined communities of nations, cultures, and disciplines and their traditions of remembrance and authority.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Igor Krupnik Arctic Studies Center Smithsonian Institution Washington, DC, USA



Igor Krupnik, Ph.D., is cultural anthropologist and Curator of Arctic and Northern Ethnology collections at the Department of Anthropology, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, in Washington, DC, USA. He has been coordinator of several projects studying the impacts of climate change, preservation of cultural heritage, and ecological knowledge of Arctic indigenous people, including the international project “SIKU: Sea Ice Knowledge and Use: Documenting Inuit Knowledge of Sea Ice,” under the International Polar Year 2007–2008 program.

Dr. Krupnik has published and edited several books and collections, including three volumes on indigenous observations of Arctic environmental change, “SIKU: Knowing Our Ice” (2010), “The Earth Is Faster Now” (2002/2010) and “Watching Ice and Weather Our Way” (2004). He was the lead curator for the Smithsonian exhibit “Arctic: A Friend Acting Strangely” (2006). He served on the Joint Committee for the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007–2008 and was instrumental in bringing the socio-cultural and humanities issues, ecological knowledge, and environmental observations of northern indigenous people to the agenda of IPY 2007–2008. In 2009–2011, he served as the lead editor of the major IPY summary volume, “Understanding Earth’s Polar Challenge: International Polar Year 2007–2008” prepared by an international team of over 250 contributors on behalf of the IPY Joint Committee. He has done extensive fieldwork in indigenous communities in Alaska, the Bering Sea region, and along the Russian Arctic coast.

Keynote Abstract by Igor Krupnik: Crossing Boundaries: What did we learn in IPY 2007–2008 and who learned it?

The International Polar Year (IPY) 2007–2008 was the broadest scholarly initiative in polar studies ever undertaken, and the social science and

humanities field in IPY was the largest and the most diverse program of its kind, judging by the number of projects, nations, and scientists involved, level of funding, and the breadth of research topics. It is estimated that 35 projects in social sciences and humanities implemented during IPY and scores of related initiatives engaged more than 1500 researchers, students, indigenous experts and monitors, and representatives of polar indigenous people's organizations. For the first time, physical, biological, social, and humanities researchers, and local community-based experts were encouraged to join forces under a common multi-disciplinary framework; dedicated efforts were made to encourage cross-disciplinary studies linking socio-cultural processes, climate change, and ecosystem health.

IASSA played crucial role in mobilizing Arctic social scientists for their participation in IPY 2007–2008, since fall 2003 and beyond. The paper explores the impact of multiple experiences learned in course of our interaction with the largest-ever group of scholars from many fields and in conducting joint projects during the IPY era (2002–2012). It covers the history of the belated social sciences entry to the IPY program in 2002–2004; new/old questions that social scientists asked in IPY; different vision of the science 'frontiers' and 'discoveries' by scholars from various disciplines; and the record of IPY cross-boundary partnerships, including those among academic researchers, community experts, and indigenous organizations; Arctic and Antarctic specialists; social scientists and scholars from physical and natural science disciplines. The lessons of IPY 2007–2008 will be instrumental to IASSA's future participation in other big multi-disciplinary initiatives, including the next IPY.

Keynote Speaker: Professor Kirsten Hastrup Department of Anthropology University of Copenhagen Denmark



Kirsten Hastrup is professor of anthropology, at the University of Copenhagen. She is the leader of an ERC-project, *Waterworlds*, designed at studying the social implications of global climate change across

the globe. Her own primary field is in North Greenland. Part of her earlier research concerned Icelandic history and society, and the intertwining of natural and social histories. She has also worked with human rights, with theatre, and with the general epistemological and theoretical foundations of anthropology.

Keynote Abstract by Kirsten Hastrup: Scales of Attention: Global Connections and Local Concerns in the Arctic

The social sciences face a set of complex challenges in an era of intensifying global connections, undermining the constitutive objects of these sciences. Cultures, nations, and even societies are not what they used to be, and the 'methodological nationalism' that once qualified the social sciences is no longer valid. Global connections are of many kinds, and their effects diverse; yet there is a general implication in that they force the social sciences to revisit their scaling practices and their notions of place. This evidently also goes for the Arctic.

One of the manifest global connections in the Arctic is embodied in the experience of dramatic climate change. Based on fieldwork in North Greenland, this presentation addresses the question of scaling through discussions of how to follow the leads provided by different situations in the field. Apparently localized encounters and stories transcend both the time and the space of the encounter and show the inherent complexity of scaling and of the field itself. Along the way it will be shown how local concerns about the melting ice are deeply implicated in global knowledge regimes.

Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Sven D. Haakanson, Jr.
Executive Director
Alutiiq Museum, Kodiak, Alaska
USA



Born and raised in the rural Kodiak Island community of Old Harbor, Alaska, Sven Haakanson is a member of the Old Harbor Alutiiq Tribe. He holds a BA in English from the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and a Ph.D. in Anthropology

from Harvard University.

Since 2000, Haakanson has worked to share Native American perspectives with museums and museum practices with Native people as Executive Director of the nationally acclaimed Alutiiq Museum, a Native cultural center in Kodiak, Alaska. Haakanson has made collections more accessible to Native communities by researching objects in the world's museums and developing traveling exhibits and educational resources around the information they hold. In 2007 his work was honored with a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship.

Haakanson serves on many cultural organizations and maintains an active research program. He is systematically documenting Kodiak's prehistoric petroglyphs and continues to publish his research on the Nenets culture of Siberia. In addition, he is an accomplished artist, known for his carvings and photography. Sven is married to Kodiak educator Balika Finley Haakanson. They have two daughters.

Theme of keynote address by Dr Sven D. Haakanson: The revitalization of indigenous language, culture, and customs.

SESSIONS

SPECIAL AND INFORMATION SESSIONS

Information on Montréal IPY 2012 conference

Peter Harrison

Launch of The Polar Journal

Anne-Marie Brady

IASC Social and Human Working Group Sessions

Peter Schweitzer, Sylvie Blangy and Gail Fondahl

International Polar Year 2012 “From Knowledge to Action” Conference in Montréal – an open information session

Kathleen Fisher, Stephanie Meakin, Gail Fondahl

The ICASS VII session on the IPY 2012 “From Knowledge to Action” Conference is being organized by IASSA members of the International Steering Committee in conjunction with Kathleen Fischer, Executive Director of the IPY 2012 Conference.

The International Polar Year 2007 – 2008 (IPY) has been the largest program of interdisciplinary polar research ever undertaken. The “International Polar Year Conference 2012: From Knowledge to Action” (Montreal, Canada, 22-27 April 2012) is the third and final IPY conference. The Conference will highlight the latest polar science findings and offer an opportunity to synthesize the disciplinary knowledge into system-scale understandings, with a view to engaging public and major stakeholders into informed action on the most important polar issues, see www.ipy2012montreal.ca. IASSA has been involved in the planning of the Montreal Conference and in the development of the program for this major polar science event to be held in April 2012.

The conference includes four major program areas: *Science Highlights* (Area 1), *Synthesis and Integration* (Area 2), *From Knowledge to Action*

(Area 3), and *Public Engagement, Education and Outreach* (Area 4).

Recognizing that the processes involved in translating knowledge to action are complex, a number of sessions at the Conference will explore current thinking on best practices for how knowledge is produced and translated into action. Sessions will include practical applications of knowledge emerging from the polar regions across a broad range of sectors, projects and geographical areas, including international organizations, national governments and Aboriginal and Northern communities, academia, business, non-governmental organizations, educators, etc. This presentation will elaborate on the goals, plans, and types of sessions that IPY 2012 envisions.

The *From Knowledge to Action* Conference will bring together Arctic and Antarctic researchers, policy- and decision-makers, and a broad range of interested parties from academia, international organizations, national governments, industry, non-government, education, Arctic communities, and circumpolar indigenous peoples. Together these groups will address the challenges, share and apply knowledge of the polar regions and discuss opportunities and solutions for adapting to global change.

The IPY 2012 Conference in Montréal will contribute to the translation of new polar scientific findings into an evidence-based agenda for action that will influence global decisions, policies and outcomes over the coming years.

FILM SCREENINGS

CARMA's Voices of the Caribou People Project – Ongoing legacy of the Indigenous Caribou users

A documentary (10 minutes) by Archana Bali and Gary Kofinas.

Northern Environmental Sensibilities and the Bomb

A film (60 minutes) by DJ Kinney.

Starik Petr (Old man Peter)

A documentary film (26 minutes) which takes us into the world of the last surviving Shaman of the Kazym River, who lives alone in the depths of the Siberian taiga. Director: Ivan Golovnev.

Post-horse

A documentary film (36 minutes) about seven-year old Lekha who lives in a remote Russian Pomor village on the Onega Coast of White Sea. Director: Andrei Golovnev.

Inuk

A film (90 minutes, adventure/drama) about sixteen year Inuk who lives a troubled life with his alcoholic mother and violent stepfather in Greenland's capital. Director, writer and producer: Mike Magidson. Writer and associate producer: Jean-Michel Huctin. Producer: Sylvie Barbe.

The Ship

A documentary film (75 minutes) showing the 2010 Campaign of the "Puerto Deseado" Oceanographic Ship in the Cape Horn and Southern Ocean, in terms of convergences between Nature, adventure, risk, mystery, Science and Circumpolarity. Direction and Script: Enrique del Acebo Ibáñez

PLENARY SESSIONS

Shaping your Arctic Social Sciences Career

Gerlis Fugman and Tristan Pearce

At the beginning of their scientific career, young researchers are always wondering what the prospects are for a career in their field of study. They first concentrate on their graduate research, their Masters and PhD, but are also wondering what comes afterwards? What potential jobs are there? Should I stay at a university and become a professor? What if I am not interested in academic research, is there anything for me? This panel brings together Arctic social scientists with various backgrounds and occupations. They will share show experience from their careers, experience they learned along the way, and advice they have to share with the next generation of Arctic social scientists.

Arctic Social Sciences Beyond IPY

Igor Krupnik

This panel focuses on major post-IPY developments that, from the speakers' perspective, will advance the legacy of IPY for polar social science and humanities research, and

will bring new partners to the Arctic social sciences and IASSA. The speakers will offer their personal insight to what may become the next major initiatives of the first post-IPY decade.

THEMATIC SESSIONS

THEME 01

Climate and environmental changes – impacts, adaptation and narratives



The Human Dimensions of Change to Arctic Sea Ice

Amy Lovecraft

The Arctic sea ice system can be holistically characterized as a social-ecological system that provides not only vital geophysical and biological services to climate and oceans but also provisioning services to people and industry. (Eicken et al. 2009). Furthermore, the annual cycle of sea ice across the circumpolar North has been a part of the spiritual and cultural aspects of human societies as far south as Japan and as long as a millennia. Myriad examples include the use of the ice as a place of teaching for indigenous cultures, a platform for petroleum extraction, a habitat for animals, travelways for whalers, a buffer to coastal communities, a regulator of ocean temperature, and a part of cultural identity. These services are under threat from the three major interconnected global forces: increasing traffic for shipping, security, and tourism; contaminant accumulation primarily from industrial production, but also related to some marine activities; and climatic changes, especially the warming at the poles which is diminishing the earth's cryosphere.

This expansion of human activity does not have a suite of institutions in place that comprehensively address a future open Arctic Ocean and the coasts of the circumpolar north. Consequently, as the amount of space that can preserve a diversity of sea ice system services shrinks and the use of that space becomes crowded with competing interests, people and their governments across scales from local communities to international organizations need to be able to envision the future. The social sciences can help to plan a balanced use of the preservation of services valuable to regulating

and supporting planetary processes in combination with the cultural and provisioning services more immediately tied to human flourishing (Lovecraft 2008, MA 2005). While governments may set rules many other social forces in the private and public sectors are a part of the strategies to recognize vulnerability to sea ice loss and plan for adaptation. This session proposes that while the research of geophysical and biological sciences have created important predictive models of sea ice in an era of climate change, the addition of the *human dimension* in the Fourth International Polar Year demonstrated the need to consider the societal effects of changes to the sea ice regime.

This session encourages a diverse set of social science scholars who study the role of sea ice in society from various disciplinary points of view such as anthropology, political science, sociology, psychology, and the humanities to dialog about their work. It is hoped that the recognition of the sea ice system as a social-ecological system that is complex and interactive can slow the race between stressors and human capacity to manage them by highlighting the importance of the ice to peoples across the North. Could we, for example, plan for a sea ice refuge through rules minimizing direct impact on the ice or preventing industrial entrance to an eventual “ice shed” bounded by a minimum summer sea ice cover? How can indigenous cultures that depend on the ice for enculturation maintain their social pathways? What art forms have sought to express the arctic ice, its meaning and attenuation? Ultimately, how can societies best adapt to the changes of ice cover?

Narratives of Vulnerability, Resilience and Adaptation among Circumpolar Communities in the Era of Climate Change

Jessica Graybill

In the current era, anthropogenic climate change has become a dominant rhetoric for framing socio-environmental concerns for multiple locales and communities worldwide. Climate change is an especially poignant issue in the northern and circumpolar regions, as transformation of existing environments may be occurring at a more rapid pace than in many other regions of the world. In some northern places and communities, signs of climate change are well documented and



THEME 02

Economic and social development

communities already feel the effects of change, or are concerned about impending change in the near future. However, other northern places and communities are not feeling the effects of climate change, and deny its effect on their daily lives and places of habitation and use of natural resources and landscapes. This panel seeks to explore the range of narratives about climate change circulating in, among and about northern and circumpolar communities, drawing out the concepts of vulnerability, resilience and adaptation as they are (a) expressed by inhabitants of northern communities across the circumpolar regions or are (b) developed by researchers of these regions in relation to research on this topic. Perspectives and participants from multiple disciplinary and interdisciplinary backgrounds are welcomed.

Circumpolar Perspectives on Changing Seasonality in the Arctic

Astrid Ogilvie and Susan Crate

Changes in seasonal timing of key events may be among the most important mechanisms driving change in the Arctic over the next decades, and it would appear that northerly regions of the world are experiencing the greatest increase in relative warming, and thus the greatest degrees of phenological change. This session will focus on examples of linkages and interactions between varying components and processes of the arctic system that relate to changing seasonality. Changes in climate are altering seasonal biological phenomena and recent research demonstrates recent associated changes in distribution patterns, flowering, breeding and migration, and extended growing seasons. Because these events are interactive and interdependent, and their occurrence is highly correlated within and across trophic levels, the “wrong” timing of one event may lead to a “decoupling of species interactions” affecting the whole array of events dependent upon it. Since these changes often intersect with the timing of migrations, such decoupling can occur from local to global scales. In the last decade, a world-wide interest in changing seasonality has led to the establishment of recording networks of phenological events. In order to understand the multiple stressors involved, it is essential to engage in rigorous interdisciplinary projects involving ecologists, climatologists, modelers, social scientists and local knowledge informants.

Salmon Fishing and Whaling Peoples of the North Pacific

David Koester, Nobuhiro Kishigami and Benedict J. Colombi

With the intention of developing a basis for future collaboration, comparative and parallel studies in the North Pacific in all areas of social science research, this panel will focus on northern societies that live with and make use of salmon and whales. The aim of this panel is to bring together researchers who have been working in the North Pacific region and have an interest in sharing their results for comparative and collaborative purposes. The specific focus on whaling and salmon fishing societies is intended to highlight both the similarities and contrasts among cultural groups associated with these bountiful yet periodic resources. Papers need not concentrate on whaling or salmon fishing practices but may discuss on any aspect of social life and culture directly or indirectly affected by the presence (or absence) of these aquatic sources of food, material and spiritual life. Time will be reserved at the end of the session for discussion of a potential future collaboration and cooperation on these and other themes in North Pacific studies.

How Can Small, Peripheral Places Profit from the Booming Tourism in the Arctic?

Daniela Tommasini

Demand for new forms of tourism, such as community-based tourism, arises from increased concern and interest in unique and fragile ecosystems, and there is a growing desire from the tourists to travel to new and exotic places. Tourism is a combination of travel and sightseeing as well as leisure and recreation and the environment is tourism’s resource. Every survey on motivations of tourists includes on the list of reasons for visiting destination areas, factors such as sightseeing, natural and cultural heritage, and landscape impressions and there is a growing seeks for new destinations, far away from the ordinary daily life that can give the visitors remarkably memories of places and

encounters. Tourism is considered one of the development doorways from many Arctic governments and the last two decades have seen a rapid expansion of tourist activity in the Polar Regions. Many places are now well established tourism destinations, with good infrastructures, good travel connections and a large offer of activities for the visitors.

Other places, small and more peripheral but just as scenic, are seeking for development options and tourism could represent “the solution”; they attempt to enhance their economic situation through the promotion of tourism in order to increase revenues and create a range of jobs. These peripheral, remote tourist destinations are per definition distant, rather expensive, often difficult to access, and have a limited tourist season. It is generally suggested that these regions should become “niche tourist destinations”, offering special products for a very specific tourist target. It is recommended the development of a very specific tourist product, a niche product offering unique experiences for a specific tourist target. Remote and quite unknown places, perceived as untouched and not always easy to reach have a great potential from a touristic point of view, one of the last frontiers in tourism. Hunting and fishing activities are an important part of the local economy, and some tourism activities are already going on in many small places.

One development option is represented by cruise ship tourism, which has seen a quick growth in the last years. Benefits are tangible and even increasing in some places such as Ilulissat in Greenland, a well known tourist place with good infrastructures and tourist offer, where cruise ship tourism is booming after being listed in the Unesco World Heritage.

There are examples of successfully stories also in small and remote settlements, as the village of Ukkusissat in North Greenland but often big cruise ship pass by villages and settlements, sometimes tourist come ashore for few hours of visit, often without any contact with the population. Usually the offer is not sufficient (lack of refreshment points, toilet, souvenirs etc) and the, sometimes, hundreds of visitors leave the place without any profit for the local population. Some places successfully tried to change the situation.

Cruise ship tourism has been encouraged by the authorities, but rarely the local population benefits directly from this business.

What kind of tourism development is suitable for peripheral, remote tourist destinations, per definition distant, rather expensive, often difficult to access, and have a limited infrastructure and a short tourist season?

- How is tourism perceived, by the inhabitants, and to what extent does communities wish to be involved in tourism activities, and how are the attitudes towards the visitors?
- Development of tourism activities at community level, involving directly the local population into the tourism (small) business.
- The role of women and young people, especially in small settlements, linked to the development of tourism activities.
- What are the major attractions that can be offered, and to what extent are there conflicts and common interests in relation to the environmental, economic and social impacts that may be caused by their exploitation?

The Best Possible Northern Economy? Rethinking the Viability of Inuit Community in Canada

Thierry Rodon, Frances Abele, Charles Dorais and Stephan Schott

The Canadian North has gone through different development models that can be summarized as follow: Best left alone, State driven development, Private sector led development, and most recently development through government activities. All these policies have not contributed to the development of viable communities but have created an environment where regional centres have reach fairly good standard of employment while the small arctic communities have to rely on a mixed economy based on subsistence hunting and gathering and waged employment. However, many development policies have at best ignored the subsistence activities and at worst have contributed to weakening them.

In this session, we will explore development models that will enhance the viability of the inuit communities in Canada. Our starting point is that cultural, social and economic well-being are linked in people's lives, and they must be explicitly connected in development modes as

well. For example, and most obviously, today's decisions about economic development projects will determine the quality of life in Arctic communities, with the potential to weaken or strengthen the productive base of the north's distinctive Aboriginal cultures. Less obviously, a series of minor decisions and specific choices, taken in various locations based upon situational analyses, can add up to a fundamental, historic choice. They may perhaps lead to perverse or unintended consequences, or simply to missed opportunities and even in some case in the destruction of the enduring economic base in the small communities.

Northern Fisheries: Managing Income, Nutrition and Cultural Values

Maria Nakhshina and Franz Krause

Fish have long provided a significant source of nutrition and income for the populations of northern coastlines and river banks. These areas have also attracted numerous incomers from other parts of the world, due to the growing popularity of fishing as a leisure activity. Local narratives and idioms related to fish reflect cultural values and aspirations of northern populations.

Over the past few decades, fishing communities have been strongly affected by developments in fishing technology, scientific intervention, and attempts at regulating fishing by the state. Through fish, Arctic and sub-Arctic people are often connected to wider fields of socio-economic and ecological relations, for instance through fishery management regimes, international demand for particular kinds of fish, the growing popularity of fishing as sport, the implementation of hydropower projects, and a changing climate.

As an increasingly limited resource, fish stocks have been subject to regulation on various levels, such as state institutions, private owners and individual communities. This often leads to a conflict of ideas regarding the management of fishing, in particular between formal legal structures and informal community arrangements.

Under these circumstances, how do Northerners negotiate their fishing interests with economic forces, state policies and a changing physical environment? What lines of conflict and

cooperation between various fishing groups exist in the North? How should fish resources be estimated, managed and distributed?

This session includes papers which address these questions from a variety of angles, including social sciences, policy-making and resource management. It will facilitate a discussion of various commonalities and differences between fisheries throughout the Arctic, focusing on the experiences, challenges and knowledge of actual fishers in the North.

Tourism, People and Protected Areas in Polar Wilderness

Edward Huijbens, Dieter Müller and Gunnar Þór Jóhannesson

The dynamic geopolitical and social constitution of polar areas is inherently intertwined with issues related to human mobility and tourism in particular. The remoteness of the polar areas promises tourists extreme climatic conditions, undisturbed wilderness, authentic heritage and exotism. These factors have been successfully used to lure an increasing number of tourists into the polar regions, manifesting national and regional governments' desire for regional development and sustaining livelihoods for polar peoples, but on the flip side created concern among environmentalists, academics and locals. Obviously, the needs and desires of tourists collide with local subsistence, global conservation interest and other resource exploitation. Hence in some cases mining, tourism, nature protection and indigenous traditions compete for the same spaces. The idea of 'peripheral' polar areas is thus increasingly contested and in the light of global change polar areas have been moved into the center of interest as never before.

The following papers address both theoretical and empirical issues pertaining to any of the below points.

- Tourism interaction with local cultures in polar regions
- Tourism documented environmental impact on polar regions
- Tourist perception of wilderness in the polar regions
- Tourism and regional development discourse in polar regions
- Tourism and climate change in the polar regions
- Tourism and land-use debates in polar regions

Human Aspects of Fisheries in the Arctic Coastal Regions

Peter Weiss and Bjarni Eiríksson

The University of the Arctic 2010 council meeting in Yakutsk has accepted the University of Akureyri's and University Center of the Westfjords common application for leading a UArctic Thematic Network (TN) on coastal and marine issues. UNAK and UWestfjords had planned to start the TN with a kick-off conference on the topic.

As this topic is highly relevant from a social point of view (rather than from a pure economic or biological one), it seems to fit well for the ICASS-conference in June 2011 in Akureyri.

Participating in this session at ICASS VII will be an excellent start for the University of the Arctic Thematic Network on coastal and marine issues. Furthermore, the topic is highly relevant around the Arctic and all participants should gain from the findings and the experiences of other researchers in this field. Optimally, this session could give politicians a broader perspective on the options in this area of research.

Collaborative Scenario Building Regarding Mining, Tourism, Climate Change and Local Livelihoods in the Arctic and Sub-Arctic Regions

Sylvie Blangy and Hannu I. Heikkinen

The session aims at gathering academics, community experts, and industry representatives, for exchanging lessons learned from collaborative research projects in developing local alternative scenarios of change regarding mining, tourism, local livelihoods and communities in the circumpolar arctic. We will focus on both local impacts of societal processes, such as mining developments, and environmental processes, such as climate change, but also on enhancing methodologies how to assess various multidimensional local trajectories of change. Targeted advancement of local participatory scenario tools are not so much for predicting any future changes per se, but focus more on increasing local potentials for adaptation in the terms of local context and prerequisites and for the future as it will finally appear in the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions. We will also look at new models of community-academic-industry

research collaborations for enhancing more sustainable local development.

Social and Economic Impacts of Megaprojects in the North

Hjalti Jóhannesson and Klaus Georg Hansen

Large industrial- and energy companies have increasingly been aiming at northern locations for their activities due to diverse opportunities in these locations, such as raw materials and unharnessed energy sources. These locations are however often delicate, not only nature itself but also the local communities. For reasons such as the large scale of the production units these northern locations may not be the optimal locations. Problems may arise e.g. due to size if firms compared to the size and characteristics of local labour markets and local culture and way of life may conflict with these industrial units and the organization which may suit different social conditions. Thus there are certain threats but there are also opportunities such as higher income, more diverse job and stronger service base in the respective region. The following papers address these broad issues.



THEME 03

Living conditions, community development, quality of life and human resources

Arctic Children and Youth in a Global Perspective

Tina Dam Rasmussen

Community Adaptation and Vulnerability in the Arctic Regions (CAVIAR): Lessons and Directions for Future Research

Grete K. Hovelsrud

This session will present the result of the CAVIAR project, with an emphasis on generalization from the rich variety of case study research. Case study researchers investigated aspects of livelihoods, economies, culture, geomorphology and infrastructure that influence the current exposure-sensitivities, current adaptive strategies, future exposure-sensitivities and future adaptive capacity. Some common features have emerged across many of the cases: These include, in broad terms, the consequences of

changes in coupled social-ecological systems with respect to: resource accessibility, allocation and extraction policy; limited economic opportunity and markets access constraints; demographics; attitudes and perception of change; local-global linkages; infrastructure; threats to cultural identity and well-being; transfer of local and traditional knowledge; economic and livelihood flexibility, and enabling institutions. Another dimension is that future adaptive capacity is contingent upon the connections between the local level and the broader socio-political institutional context of the northern regions. The regulation of natural resources, both access and productivity, is determined at regional and national levels, and may fail to address the combination climatic and societal changes at the local level. Capacity to adapt to future change at the local level is to a large extent dependent upon enabling institutions across societal levels.

Despite these variety of crosscutting features, to determine future vulnerability proved a reoccurring obstacle across the cases. This session includes presentation that:

- 1) Explore future vulnerability on the basis of case study research in the Arctic.
- 2) Explore policy trends in natural resource management and its implication for future adaptation to climate change in natural resource dependent sectors and communities in the Arctic.
- 3) Look at communities and integration to global markets – dependencies, opportunities and threats.

The Social Economy of Sharing in the North American Arctic

Peter Collings and Tristan Pearce

In recent years there has been a decided trend in addressing the social economy of subsistence in Arctic communities. Research has addressed the economic and social issues that influence subsistence participation and subsistence production. In this session, papers will address research in settlements in the Canadian Arctic and Greenland that addresses the social economy of sharing. This session pays particular attention to patterns of food distribution between households in communities, transmission of traditional knowledge and skills, and social capital between subsistence producers, and changes in household structure over time as they pertain to access to food and social capital. Implications for adaptation to changing economic and

environmental circumstances in both communities will be addressed. Special attention will be paid to the similarities and differences between the study communities and opportunities to enhance food security identified.

ASI – Arctic Social Indicators

Joan Nymand Larsen and Peter Schweitzer

The ASI-I project was formulated to fill a critical gap in knowledge identified by the AHDR (2004) on the construction of social indicators to help facilitate monitoring of changes in human development. The AHDR identified domains of particular relevance to Arctic residents important to incorporate in measuring human development in the Arctic. The ASI project team devised a set of indicators that reflect key aspects of human development in the Arctic, that are tractable in terms of measurement, and that can be monitored over time at a reasonable cost in terms of labour and material resources; and the six domains for indicator development are these that have been identified as reflecting key aspects of the most prominent features of human development: Human health and population, material wellbeing, education, fate control, closeness to nature, cultural wellbeing. Guided by the AHDR results, the first phase of ASI identified a set of Arctic-specific indicators to monitor Arctic human development and quality of life in the Arctic. The next step, which constitutes the ASI-II Implementation project, aims to implement the identified indicators, through testing, validating and refining the indicators across the Arctic, and then measuring and performing analyses of select cases, with the ultimate goal of moving toward to adoption by Arctic governments and the Arctic Council of the indicators for the purpose of long-term monitoring of human development. The focus on indicators and monitoring contributes to our increased knowledge and understanding of the consequences of global change for human living conditions in the Arctic. The case-study applications are: West-Nordic (including Sápmi, Norway), Yamal-Nenets, Sakha-Yakutia, Inuit Regions of Alaska; Inuit world – an application of SLICA data.

This session invites paper presentations from the ASI (I and II) project group as well as papers from other interested participants on topics related to social indicator construction, measurement, and implementation; human development monitoring or community based monitoring in the North; or other relevant topics.

The Social Economy and Community Economic Development in the Circumpolar North

Chris Southcott and Frances Abele

Communities in the Circumpolar North are currently facing substantial social and economic challenges, and it is plain that these will grow in the short and medium term. The impacts of climate change, intensified international pressure on northern non-renewable resources, and the substantial demands on human energy and ingenuity that will be required to realize the dreams embodied in the modern treaties and new forms of self-government will bring ever greater pressures to bear on the small populations and small governments of the region. In Canada, a research consortium, the Social Economy Research Network for Northern Canada (SERNNNoCa) has been working since 2006 on examining new forms of economic development based largely on the non-profit, volunteer, and cooperative sectors. The research project is based upon a holistic analysis of the contemporary northern political economy. It intends to explore the potential in civil society and in public policy for building upon the strengths of what has been called 'the social economy' to provide northerners with a means for responding successfully to the massive challenges they now face.

Although this term social economy is not widely used in the Circumpolar North, the ideas and relationships that are the foundation of what others are now referring to as social economy are prevalent throughout the region and are often referred to as community economic development. The central notion of both these terms is that they include economic activities that are not state-driven and not profit-driven. They include a large "third sector" that is often ignored. In the North, it can be argued that the traditional economy of indigenous societies can be considered part of the social economy in that much of its pre-capitalist values still play an important role in the region and act in contradiction to the profit-seeking values of contemporary "affluent" society.

The proposed session will discuss some of the findings of the Canadian project and examine similar issues in other areas of the Circumpolar North.

Living Conditions and Well-Being

Birger Poppel

Individual well-being is an inclusive concept, which covers all aspects of living as experienced by individuals, and includes the person's subjective evaluation of his/hers objective resources and other living conditions. It therefore covers both the material satisfaction of vital needs and aspects of life such as personal development, being in control of one's own life and destiny, and a balanced ecosystem. The individual experiences are however closely related to the collective well-being of social groups, communities and nations.

One of the hypotheses constituting the point of departure for the Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic, SLiCA, was that there is a discrepancy between the indigenous perception of well-being and that defined by traditional Western social science researchers and implemented in the social indicator systems used in main stream comparative studies of living conditions industrialised societies. Hence, the concept of well-being must reflect the ways of life and the priorities of the indigenous peoples in question.

The objective of this session is to present different approaches to developing social indicators and measuring living conditions and individual well-being among indigenous peoples and other Arctic residents. Furthermore it is the intention that results from these research efforts shall be presented.

THEME 04

Population, mobility, migration and borders



Mobility and Immobility in the Circumpolar North

Tim Heleniak and Lee Huskey

This sessions aims to bring together recent research on population mobility and immobility from across the Circumpolar North and Arctic. Many residents of the northern regions of the world are migrants from elsewhere and northern residents have a history of moving from the north. There is also considerable mobility of the indigenous population within the North. While most migration scholars study mobility, mobility is actually the exception. Most people don't move and across the North there is considerable

immobility. Some northern residents choose not to move and others would like to move but for various reasons find themselves stuck. This session welcomes both quantitative and qualitative research on mobility and immobility in the north. Topics include the effects of the global economic crisis on northern mobility patterns, the role of northern cities in northern population change, analysis of migration patterns based on the 2010 round of censuses in the north, and the results of recent fieldwork.

Identity Making in the Border Regions of the European North

Maria Lähteenmäki

Between the northern regions of Sweden, Finland, Norway and Russia there have been and still are so-called border people with special cultures and languages (Kvens, Torne Valley people, Finns in Kola peninsula, Sami etc). Also inside the national states (for instance Iceland) do exist cultural, social and economic borders between inhabitants.

Movement for Pleasure – the Pleasure of Moving

Joachim Otto Habeck and Ludek Broz

In Arctic Social Sciences, mobility has often been seen as something “imposed” by Northern environmental conditions, internalized by many Northern dwellers and lying at the heart of their way of life and identity. Forced migration or deprivation of the right to migrate have been studied intensively. Following the considerable amount of innovative research on migration and movement in the Arctic and Sub-Arctic carried out in the last few years we want to further widen the scope of arctic mobility studies by examining those forms of migration and movement that people pursue on a voluntary basis – in other words: travels connected with pleasure. Under this header, we expect contributions from different disciplines and regions. Studies on tourism in the Arctic, Northern residents’ motivations for spending time on the land or the sea, and the “lure” of certain places and destinations all bear relevance in this framework. This session includes presentations that deal with senses of walking, driving, and other forms of movement in Northern landscapes. By focusing on modes of mobility associated with free will rather than mere necessity, joy rather than trouble, and

curiosity rather than utility, we hope to develop a more nuanced understanding of the emotional, sensual and symbolic aspects of movement and migration in the Arctic and beyond.

Commute Work and Mobile Labour in the Circumpolar North

Gertrud Eilmsteiner-Saxinger and Florian Stammer

The remoteness of promising natural resources in the Circumpolar North as well as in Siberia has been a major challenge in terms of provision of labour force throughout history. States, individuals and companies adopted various strategies to exploit resources. Labour mobility was characterized by people dazzled from “Gold”rush, deportation and forced labour, state induced resettlement and other incentives. This resulted in a new population composition of the north with hybridized, newly formed and practiced identities. The legacy of 20th century mobile labour still shapes contemporary individual and collective perceptions of the north as a promising place of making a livelihood, as a new permanent or temporary home, or -most recently- as the new resource base of national economies in times of intensified geostrategic security discourses throughout the Circumpolar North.

A recent method for solving labour force shortage in remote areas is the so called fly-in/fly-out or commute work, either as long distance commuting (LDC) or shorter distance between base towns in the North and resource outposts. LDC in particular has been shaping new mobile lifestyles already since two or even three generations in the extractive industry of the North. So far little research is available on Commute work in the north and comparisons throughout the circumpolar regions are missing in particular. Throughout the north there is a large variety of forms of mobile work, including LDC, influenced by different national legal and political frameworks. In many cases LDC also entails lack of labour-flow organization and leaves individual workers as well as communities on their own regarding housing, social and labour security and other aspects.

This session aims to shed light on contemporary research on mobile labour throughout the circumpolar north. Paper submissions are invited that cover 'hard' and 'soft' issues of LDC and other modes of mobile labour in the various



THEME 05

Governance, politics, legal issues, and resource management

industries and professions from different perspectives: company decisions, controversy in political discourses on demographic structures and northern regional development, including potential frictions with earlier industry-related settlers, indigenous peoples, northern city administrations and the commuting population, as well as papers that highlight the positive aspects. More personal dimensions such as family and household strategies and community viability dimensions of mobile work, interrelations of the past and the present of mobile livelihoods are also welcome. Talks may present case studies, theoretical and definitional frameworks as well as very particular aspects of this broad issue. With a strong focus on comparison, this session can also take a limited number of papers presenting similar examples from other regions of the world.

Relocation: State Inducements and Ideologies versus Strategies of Resistance and Response

Peter Evans, Tina Loo and Peter Schweitzer

This session compares state-induced population movements and resistance to them throughout the circumpolar world. The conveners propose to solicit papers and presentations that examine both the mechanics of state-induced relocations as well as the resistance offered by affected peoples. Whether they are moved or lured, indigenous or non-indigenous, it's widely accepted that resettled people have encountered similar ideologies and techniques emanating from states and other agencies—whether in northern Russia, Alaska, Canada, or Greenland. As a result, relocated peoples have had to cope with a similar range of experiences, outcomes, and challenges in adapting resettlement. However, comparisons between different states can collapse important ideological, cultural, and practical distinctions that might yield better insights into how different states have worked-up and carried out resettlement programs, and how local people have responded. Format will include short presentations or papers, followed by a moderated panel discussion in which, it is hoped, presenters will engage the work of others alongside the key comparative theme of the session.

Indigenous and Nation State Land Attachment: Continuances and Assertions

Stephanie Irlbacher-Fox

At the root of assertions of state sovereignty in the Arctic lies the reconciliation of Indigenous peoples' land attachment with the legal and constitutional orders of nation states. The papers in this session present a nuanced depiction of the bases of Indigenous peoples' and nation states' notions of land attachment.

The notion of land attachment encompasses differing conceptions of human relations with the land, from differing positional subjectivities and bases of authority and legitimacy. In literature relating to Indigenous peoples, land attachment notions have centered on concepts such as *being*, *dwelling*, and *wayfinding*; for states, land attachment may be rendered in terms of management, regulation, planning and legal gradations of ownership or access as well as different ways in which northern land is incorporated in national mythologies.

The panel is composed of three papers but will conclude with a panel discussion and group question and answer session during which we return to the overarching question of how these differing notions of land attachment interact, compete and gain traction in the international politics of the Arctic.

Governing Changes in the North

Johanna Roto and Rasmus Ole Rasmussen

The ability of reacting to different types of changes in the environment has always been an established necessity for residents in the Arctic regions. During the last century the witness to rapid changes in relation to environmental, social, economic, and the cultural conditions has challenged northern communities even further. Further, the continued processes of globalization have added to the complexity of the development processes. In this process the interplay between individuals, communities, regions, nations and the global setting has

increased, therefore setting a scene where governance has become a key issue. The session will focus on how governance evolves, how it affects, and which possibilities it gives to the life in the North by looking into the topic from four different angles: In the first part of the session we will be looking into the overall characteristics of regional governance, encompassing the question of Scale and Distribution of authority. In the second part of the session the focus is on the consequences of different governance approaches, looking into a number of concrete fields where the processes of change has only partly – if at all – been met by proper governance approaches. In the last part of the session the question of how new constraints such as climate as well as social changes are impacting the governance structures.

The Political Organization of Arctic Space

Jeremy Tasch, Hannes Gerhard, Adam Keul, Elizabeth Nyman, Philip E. Steinberg and Barret Weber

The Arctic increasingly is an arena in which various actors from within and beyond the region, including states, indigenous groups, non-governmental organizations, and corporate interests project their visions for the political organization of northern polar regions. Prospective scenarios for Arctic governance range from those that extend state authority to the North Pole to those that institute multilateral governance. Other scenarios advocate self-determination for indigenous peoples through the creation of a new state or by affirming a circumpolar homeland that transcends territorial statehood. This session will address and evaluate the ways in which Arctic stakeholders' strategies reproduce, modify, challenge, or ignore the state-territorial ideal.

The Art and Science of Governing: Politics and Policy in the Polar Bear Regime

Chanda Meek

Governance as a mode of collective action, especially at the international level, has become increasingly common. Very few resource regimes in the North remain entirely implemented by government. Most, like the polar bear regime, are shaped by a variety of actors, and a multiplicity of policy approaches: collaborative

models, co-management, prohibitions, mandates, funding and incentives. Increasingly, attention is paid to how these approaches steer policy actors towards desired outcomes. This panel examines methods of steering as well as governing ideologies, through a series of presentations on case studies or experimental work related to polar bear conservation. After the presentations, the panelists and attendees will discuss building a social science agenda for better understanding social-ecological systems that include polar bears as well as governance options in this challenging era of rapid change.

We begin with a paper by Harvey Lemelin (Lakehead University), Brian Walmark, Mat Kakekaspan, Franz Siebel and Martha Dowsley that compares two polar bear management strategies in Ontario, Canada under varying socio-political arenas. While both regimes incorporate Aboriginal rights and traditional knowledge, the structure and operation of the regimes are quite different, leading to potentially divergent outcomes. Douglas Clark (U. of Saskatchewan) challenges us to consider whether or not social science is relevant to the polar bear regime, given the dominant narratives and power structure of (largely biological) scientific management systems. Clark argues that social scientists must confront multiple challenges in laying claim to a seat at the table if we are to realize our potential for informing and transforming the process of polar bear management. Chanda Meek (U. Alaska Fairbanks) presents a paper assessing existing frameworks and methodologies for evaluating the effect of policy context on governance strategies and outcomes. Meek presents four alternative frameworks for cross-country comparisons and discuss the trade-offs relating to data availability, scale and time-depth of observations.

After the presentation of the three papers and follow-up questions, the panel and others interested in a circumpolar comparative study of polar bear policy will engage in a workshop related to research design and planning.

Inuit in Leadership and Governance in Nunavut and Nunavik

Louis McComber, Frédéric Laugrand and Thierry Rodon

In the past 50 years Eastern Arctic Inuit have developed a tradition of political leadership

rooted in new lifestyles. From a nomadic existence centered on hunting and fishing camps, Inuit settled in larger communities with basic government services and a link to the rest of the planet through communication satellites.

The signing of land claims agreements in Nunavut and Nunavik and the development of self-government institutions in the eastern arctic has put pressure to develop more Inuit leaders and managers. As John Amagoalik once said, "If we're not there to make decisions impacting our lives, somebody else will!"

A multidisciplinary approach is needed to explore Inuit leadership and the new forms of governance developed in the context of different contemporary political projects. How these transformations are revealed in social practices, language, political structures and thoughts? How do the Inuit experience them? How these new forms of Inuit leadership relate to more traditional forms of leadership.

Today, it is clear that this rapid political development in the Arctic does not necessarily imply assimilation, nor the abandonment of local values and perspectives, although the self-government structures put in place are designed on non-Inuit models. It is often said that Inuit negotiators and leaders reached their goals thanks to their patience, pragmatism and will to compromise, while avoiding confrontation or avenues like legal actions or public demonstrations, but what kind of compromises could be done? At another level, what are the qualities requested for a leader and how leaders emerge in different contexts such as economy, political and social issues, religion, language, culture and arts? How Inuit leaders manage to reach their goals? What principles guide them in their actions?

Using various examples in the present as well as in the past, we wish to reflect on these issues in the context of a CURA project entitled Inuit Leadership and Governance in Nunavut and Nunavik: Life Stories, Analytical Perspectives and Training.

Governance in the Canadian Arctic: Reconciling Indigenous Experience and Western Governance Models?

Graham White

This session will draw together theoretical and empirical perspectives on the relationship between, on the one hand, indigenous conceptualizations of human society and its place in the natural environment and, on the other hand, institutional governance frameworks rooted in Western European values and experiences, which are common across the Canadian Arctic. Instances of Western-based government institutions and processes imposed on Arctic indigenous peoples will be explored with a view to assessing both the degree to which they have been reshaped by indigenous worldviews and the degree to which fundamental aspects of indigenous communities have been transformed by their influence. As well, the session will consider theoretical and practical approaches to developing and supporting governance processes whose starting point lies in indigenous values.

The boundaries of this session are widely drawn, so that topics such as the following would be suitable candidates for inclusion: forms of community participation in political decision making; contested science and resource management; indigenous-owned corporations as vehicles for economic development; traditional knowledge as a basis for self-government; cultural and institutional influences on public policy (such as education policy or suicide prevention); indigenous experience of political parties; 'cultural match' as a basis for effective governance institutions; the (in)compatibility of Weberian bureaucratic norms with indigenous approaches to governance.

Polar Law, Human Rights and Social Sciences

Natalia Loukacheva

In an attempt to open a new perspective on the nexus of legal studies/developments in the Arctic with various social sciences and humanities beyond the International Polar Year and on prospects for their inter-linkages in the addressing of issues of common concern in the North, this session aims to bring together people engaged in policy-making, academic and scientific

research involving the questions: To what extent are social sciences including law, and humanities efficient in dealing with questions of common concern in the region? How may the justice system, human rights and legal developments in the Arctic provide greater legitimacy among citizens of the North, including Indigenous groups? What are current and emerging issues that can be further addressed within growing cooperation between science and law in order to create more effective governance, justice, self-sufficiency and economic prosperity models in the Arctic and maintain the legacy of the International Polar Year?

Topics that are addressed in this session include the evaluation of various legal, human rights, governance and science developments that deal with local, regional and global challenges, matters of economic/legal/political sustainability of governance models and human/social change in the Arctic; the role of science and law in advancing circumpolar and global dialogue. The goal of this session is to establish learning experience from legal and other social sciences and humanities within the circumpolar region and globally.

Consultation in Arctic Extractive Industries Development: Lessons Learned for Arctic Resource Governance from the Local to the International Level

Florian Stammer and Jessica Shadian

The development of extractive industries in the Arctic has been constantly increasing in recent years, and wherever extractive industries go for new exploration and development, they meet with indigenous and local populations, whose livelihood will be severely influenced. This is true for all fields of such industrial development, including oil, gas, mining, aluminum or hydropower industries. The increasing implications of this development for Arctic resource governance on all levels has led to the establishment of the Extractive Industries Working Group (EIWG) of IASSA. The arrival of extractive industries to the North is also a meeting between incoming companies and local people, which is in most cases organised through the practice of consultation. This panel includes contributions on the experience, practice, theory and legacy of consultation in extractive industry. Presenters are also encouraged to reflect on how

experiences of consultation and co-management speak to broader issues of Arctic resource governance - be it on the local, regional, national or international level as well as in broader theoretical debates. Arctic Social Scientists have been accompanying, observing, facilitating or participating in many of such consultation processes and are herewith invited to share their insights of that process. Insights on legacy of consultations are particularly welcome, as existing cases show how difficult it often is to implement concerns of local people into project development practice. Knowing this, presentations may also well reflect on the knowledge-action gap that we researchers perceive when dealing with particular cases of consultations and broader issues of resource governance. What can we learn from these experiences and how might they help impart new and better governance practices for expected future Arctic resource development? Contributions are welcome from any geographical or disciplinary field and time, including past, present or future industrial development. While the focus in this session is on research content and theoretical implications, presenters are also encouraged to think about how their research is relevant for contributing to and implementing best-practice for impact assessment and governance in industrial development in the Arctic.

The Future of the Arctic: Governance in an Era of Transformative Change

Robert Corell and Oran Young

The Arctic is experiencing a period of transformative change that is likely to continue for some time and that will produce a new landscape of human-environment relations whose contours are difficult to foresee in any detail at this time. Achieving sustainability in this setting will require a willingness to reassess existing governance systems, to embrace innovations needed to cope with changing needs for governance, and to adapt existing systems quickly and efficiently. Building on the report and recommendations of the Arctic Governance Project (available at www.arcticgovernance.org), this panel will evaluate options and opportunities for meeting emerging needs for governance in a changing Arctic. The panel will devote particular attention to: (i) mechanisms designed to take into account the interests of non-Arctic states

while acknowledging the legitimate concerns of the Arctic coastal states, (ii) procedures like ecosystem-based management that facilitate efforts to think of the Arctic as a complex and dynamic system, and (iii) methods for ensuring that important non-state actors (e.g. indigenous peoples' organizations) have an effective voice in addressing issues of Arctic governance.

THEME 06 Health and wellness



Best Practices for Community Engagement in Health Promotion Research and Population Health Practice: Lessons from the North

Rhonda Johnson

A significant legacy for the human dimension of the International Polar Year rises from the increased capacity for population health promotion and research in circumpolar regions. This capacity has been demonstrated through advancements in community based participatory methods, the study of cultural features, social epidemiology and applications of traditional knowledge, knowledge translation and the development of frameworks (ethical, population health, well-being) that guide health research in our circumpolar regions. Each of these components contributes significantly to how complex determinants, health and wellness issues are addressed, studied, and understood in our regions. This session will break out components that promote both research and practice excellence and highlight the strengths and promising practices and lessons learned of circumpolar residents, communities and organizations.

The objectives of the session will be to:

1. Highlight community based methods and participatory models as they promote best practices for population health and wellness research with circumpolar peoples.
2. Demonstrate the applications of Indigenous knowledge and highlight research methods that build an evidence base which is responsive to the cultural context in circumpolar regions.
3. Highlight the engagement of circumpolar stakeholders and the development of health research capacity within polar research

institutes and academic programs, governments, health authorities and non-governmental organizations.

4. Recognize best practices as circumpolar partners engage in knowledge development, exchange, translation and applications of evidence to develop health policies, clinical guidelines and wellness programs.
5. Highlight the design and applications of ethical and population health frameworks for health and wellness research in circumpolar regions.
6. Support opportunities for increased collaboration and shared understanding for social scientists and human health researchers in the arctic region.
7. Examples of themes and potential presentations which could be solicited (based on a review of presentations at the 14th International Congress on Circumpolar Health) NOTE: Depending on interest and time constraints, one, some or all of these themes could be included in the session; conveners can be flexible based on conference organizers' direction.

THEME 07 Culture, art, knowledge, values, images, creativity, ideology, religion, history, heritage and archaeology



Living in the Arctic: a Creative Providence for the Global Challenge

Svetlana Usenyuk and Andrey Petrov

The session gives the floor to scientific concepts, forecasts & case studies of how people would live in the Arctic in the near future. Creative and practice-led disciplines (e.g. design & architecture, film & media, etc.) with their professional focus on working directly with emotions & impressions are expected to contribute to this challenge by predicting a New Culture of the Arctic.

Further to that, the session provides a "multi-voiced" dialogue by weaving together "classical" theory-based disciplines as follows:

- cultural & ethnological studies: to provide a conceptual framework for a Culture of Future

through the detailed analysis of the experience of the Past (i.e. Indigenous peoples) ; and
 - economic and political studies: to forecast positive and negative profits of residential living (the presence of human in general) in circumpolar regions.

Preferable format of the session is series of presentations with time for Q&A.

The expected outcomes of the session are going to be as follows:

- an open discussion of how to use the actual creativity of practice-led disciplines in case of circumpolar issues; and
- a presentation of their tools to evoke the creative potential of traditional theory-based social sciences.

Arctic Creative: Building Arctic Futures through Culture, Innovation, and Creativity

Svetlana Usenyuk and Andrey Petrov

In the 21st century Arctic faces tough choices in respect to balancing economic development and cultural vitality and reconciling traditional activities and lifestyles with the realities of modern capitalism. In the past, the Arctic has been a scene for unprecedented colonial efforts that scarred natural, economic, political, and cultural landscapes. With the growing interest in the Arctic as the “last frontier” abundant with resources and opportunities, we expect (and already witness) the return of ‘mega-projects’ on a new wave of a resource boom. However, this path of development has already proven to be problematic. Instead, there is an increasing attention to ‘alternative’ economic prosperity strategies focused on endogenous capacities, such as human capital, local creativity and Indigenous culture as new economic engines in the Arctic.

Mobilizing local modernities to serve the economic needs of Arctic people appears to be a more realistic, and, perhaps, the only possible way to reconcile the uniqueness of the Arctic locale with the re-energized capitalist regime in the region.

The papers in this session will consider emerging ‘alternative strategies’ of regional development in the 21st century Arctic, where culture, innovation, and knowledge become the drivers of future socio-economic prosperity.

Imagining the Supernatural North

Stefan Donecker

This panel contributes to the ongoing discussion on “perceptions of Northernness” in the humanities and social sciences. In the course of the oft-quoted “spatial turn”, the increased awareness of spatiality and its implications, scholars have devoted considerable attention to the cultural meaning of northernness. Which stereotypes, symbolisms and ideological connotations have been ascribed to the North in different historical periods, by different actors and in different discourse genres? How have the North and its inhabitants been imagined, constructed and described?

As a contribution to this debate, this panel intends to explore the notion of the North as a realm of the supernatural. From antiquity to the present, the North has been associated with sorcerous inhabitants, mythical tribes, metaphysical forces of good and evil and all kinds of supernatural qualities and occurrences. Such an approach, however, needs to bear in mind that the border between the natural and the supernatural has been viewed differently in different discursive traditions, and that a sharp delineation is often impossible.

Paper topics include, but are not limited to:

- The myth of the Hyperboreans in Ancient Greece
- The motif of “evil descending from the North” in the Old Testament
- Glæsisvellir and the mythical realms of the North in medieval Scandinavian cosmology
- Mount Hekla and other alleged gateways to hell
- “Northern witchcraft” in early modern demonology and juridical practice
- “Ex oriente lux” versus “Ex septentrione lux” - rivalling interpretations of the East and the North as origins of human culture
- The “pure Aryan North” in (Neo-)Nazi mysticism
- The spirituality of the North in modern esotericism and neo-paganism
- Northern shamanism as a topic of scholarship, indigenous self-perception and popular discourses
- Mysteries of the North in modern literature (e.g. H. C. Andersen's “Snow Queen”, C. S. Lewis's “The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe”, Philip Pullman's “His Dark Materials” series etc.)
- Gendering the supernatural north (contrasting

images of female witches and male sorcerers, sexual stereotypes of the “icy seductress”, “frigid beauty”)

- Supernatural interpretations of natural phenomena (polar night and midnight sun, Northern lights etc.)
- Exploration of the “supernatural North” from the perspectives of non-European traditions and cosmologies

Contemporary Circumpolar Art: Vehicles of Indigenous Knowledge

Anna Hudson

The purpose of this session is to look at the contemporary manifestations of traditional cultural communication in art to disentangle the cross-influence of southern (Western) and northern (Indigenous) practices.

In the Footsteps of the Giants – Honoring Ernest S. (Tiger) Burch, Jr., 1938–2010

Igor Krupnik

This session is dedicated to the seminal work of Ernest S. (Tiger) Burch, Jr., the leading Arctic ethnologist, who died suddenly at age 72 in September 2010. Burch’s many books and papers opened a new era in the studies of Arctic ethnohistory, kinship, cultural heritage research, and also changed how scientists collaborate with Native historians and use early documentary records. Burch was the recipient of the IASSA’s Life achievement award in 2008. He participated in the establishment of IASSA in 1990; produced the first *International Directory of Arctic Social Scientists* in 1997, and had the commanding presence in the field of Inuit studies for over 30 years.

The key tasks of this session are: (1) to generate the renewed interest in Burch’s work and his many contributions among younger cohorts of social scientists working across the circumpolar region, and (2) to initiate overviews of many fields in Arctic anthropology and social sciences that advanced over the past decades thanks to Burch’s influential research and writings. The latter include: history of human-Rangifer (caribou and reindeer) interaction, the topic of Burch’s last unfinished project; social organization of traditional indigenous Inuit societies, particularly the North and Northwest Alaskan Iñupiat and

Caribou Inuit; kinship and indigenous family structure; social geography and population distribution of indigenous Arctic groups in the early contact era (1800–1850); trade and warfare; indigenous knowledge and resource use; working with indigenous Elders; study of aboriginal place-names; and many more. Papers from the session will be considered as contributions to the forthcoming *Festschrift to Tiger Burch* that is being planned by the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center, with which Burch was affiliated for the past 20-some years.

Practice Power North

Sumarliði Ísleifsson and Kristinn Schram

This panel explores the cultural role of ‘the North’ in the circumpolar world through the analysis of various representations of the North, not least the high North. It focuses on the practice and performance of such images in the present, as well as their origins in the past.

Topics include images in general, their dynamics and relation to power and hegemony, gender and space, tourism, and locality, tradition and modernity, neoliberalism and nationalism. Also examined is the idea of the North in general, its construction and how it is appropriated to various cultural contexts.

Participants will address questions such as: How is the dialectic between self-images and images of “the other” configured? To what extent do structural constraints influence the emergence and form of images? How do media and tourism represent images of the North and how do people practise and perform them in everyday life?

The participants include, among many other speakers, members of an extensive international research project currently in its fourth year, which is a cooperative, interdisciplinary and international undertaking on the part of researchers in the humanities and social sciences. For further details, visit www.inor.is.

«Patrimonialisation» of Arctic Aboriginals' Territories. Promoting Cultural Heritage within Protected Areas

Thibault Martin, Julie Bibaud, Daniel Chartier and
Fabienne Joliet

Since the 1990s, Arctic Aboriginal territories are the object of major initiatives aiming to protect these unique ecosystems. Consequently, many parks and protected areas have recently been created in these fragile regions affected by climatic changes. It is actually in the Arctic that we can find the greatest concentration of large National Parks. In several countries of the circumpolar (especially Canada, Alaska, Norway, Sweden), the establishment of protected areas is often accompanied by the will to promote Aboriginal cultures. In Canada, the policy of National Parks is actually organized according to two objectives: protecting the environment and promoting the cultural heritage of the local people.

As they are increasingly involved in the planning and governance of parks and protected areas, Aboriginal communities take advantage of this situation to bring forward new initiatives aiming at promoting their cultural heritage strongly rooted in the territory. Parks are now used to promote culturally-significant scenery, customs, narratives, Aboriginal knowledge and way of life. As many opportunities enabling them to reclaim the governance of their representation as well as their territory.

Taking into account the above considerations, the session on « *Patrimonialisation* » of Arctic Aboriginal Territories : *Promoting cultural heritage within protected areas* will pursue the following specific objectives:

- Taking stock of existing knowledge and research concerning the dynamic between cultural heritage and territorial development to address Aboriginal Governance of representation.
- Identifying research gaps and developing a research agenda to advance analysis in this area that can help to address policy issues and challenges that Aboriginal communities have to tackle in the realm of patrimonialisation of their territory.
- Exploring opportunities for sustained sharing of knowledge on the dynamic between territorial development, cultural heritage and governance among the Aboriginal communities, academic

community and policy-makers.

Furthermore, this session addresses the following themes, grouped within three clusters.

- The first cluster is concerned with territorial dynamics and patrimonialisation processes among protected areas in the Arctic.
- The second cluster deals with specific aspects of intangible heritage. We would like to explore how the intangible cultural heritage (knowledge, values, tradition, cultural practices) contributes to the process of patrimonialisation of the territory.
- The third cluster will address the relationship between memory, history, and aboriginal narratives within the process of patrimonialisation of the territory.

THEME 08

Communication, media, and film-making



Arctic View: Reality & Visuality

Andrei Golovnev

The session focuses on visual research and presentations such as film, photo, 3D-model, museum exhibition, etc. encompassing discourses on identity and ethnicity, images of the North and Northerners, traditional values and global challenges, cultural heritage and other issues relevant to the Arctic and its people. The theoretical pivot is the adequacy and potentiality of visual approaches in anthropology and other social sciences.

We trigger presentations and discussions by questioning (viewing Arctic):

- How social sciences and visual technologies match?
- Which issues (scenes, stories, patterns) better to be recorded and interpreted visually?
- What footage contributes to knowledge?
- How might look the Arctic Panorama today?
- Does film-festival helps conference, and visa verse?

This session includes both pictures and papers, mostly by way of synthetic verbal-visual language. Two full films will be screened during the second timeslot of this session. Furthermore, recent arctic films connected with this session will be shown during ICASS VII on June 23rd.



Creative Circumpolar Collaboration across Cyberspace in the Arts and Sciences

Thomas Ross Miller

In the nearly two decades since the first International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences, a communications and media revolution has changed the way people work together on creative projects. These sessions will explore processes being developed by northerners, international scholars, students, museum professionals, and other specialists for circumpolar and global collaboration in the arts and sciences, with an emphasis on the use of new media and communications technologies to bridge physical distance. The reduced role of geographically determined limits on creative and intellectual partnerships encourages innovation, open exchange of information, and greater fluidity in crossing the disciplinary boundaries between science and art. Case studies and media excerpts will demonstrate recent examples of collaborative work produced by colleagues situated in widely separate locations. Presentations and discussion will consider possible future methods of co-creation in a world of ubiquitous instant connectivity.

THEME 09 Education



Schooling in the Arctic

Diane Hirshberg, Paul Berger and Helle Møller

This session focuses broadly on how communities, states, and nations can best provide quality formal schooling in rural, remote and Indigenous communities in the Arctic. Presentations explore various models of schooling, formal and informal knowledge resources, and specialty topics, with concentrations on culture and language, science education, distance education and teacher education.

THEME 10

IPY lessons and legacy, inclusive research, comprehensive topics, research collaboration and methods, and data management

Data Management and Knowledge Stewardship: Perspectives and Practice from Communities and Researchers

Peter L. Pulsifer, Shari Gearheard and Peter Schweitzer

In recent decades, information technologies and approaches to information management have had a great impact on the methods and results of social science research. From the efficiencies of automation of data collection and processing seen in the 1950s and 1960s, to the ability to broadly disseminate information enabled by the Internet in the 1990s and 2000s, information technologies have facilitated a new era of theory and practice in social science research. These changes are increasingly prominent in community-based research in the Arctic. For example, oral histories are documented using digital recording devices; survey results are managed and analyzed using sophisticated statistical software; locations are recorded using Global Positioning Systems and spatial patterns are identified using Geographic Information Systems; research is reported and stories are told on Web sites and through social media sites; and many other applications continue to emerge.

Accompanying this technological change, peoples of the Arctic are experiencing broader social, economic and environmental change. Seen as both an early warning system that will help to inform our predictions of and adaptations to future global change, and a region for intensive resource development, the region is increasingly at the center of international discussion and debate. Over the last decade, Arctic residents and indigenous peoples have been increasingly involved in, and taking control of the research informing these discussions and debates. Moreover, through Local and Traditional Knowledge (LTK) research and community-based monitoring, Arctic communities have made, and continue to make, significant contributions to monitoring and understanding recent change.

New technologies present possibilities for improving our understanding of the Arctic and ensuring that the voices of Arctic residents and social scientists are heard. If Northerners and researchers (resident and otherwise) are to continue to effectively engage in contemporary discourse, they will require systems that afford effective and appropriate means of recording, managing, using, and sharing data and information. Developing such systems presents challenges, including for example: promoting information autonomy within communities by supporting multiple forms of capacity building (e.g. infrastructure, human resources); supporting effective preservation of data and information; understanding the implications of documenting and digitizing local and traditional knowledge; ensuring that data and information emerging from communities is prominent within broader information spaces (e.g. observing networks, policy support systems).

The International Polar Year 2007-2008 saw a number of community-based and community focused projects with strong data and information components. These projects included the establishment of community-based environmental monitoring networks, documentation and innovative representation of local and traditional knowledge, and health and living condition surveys, to name a few. We are now faced with the challenge of how to manage, use, further develop and preserve these data and information resources in the post-IPY era. While the IPY Joint Committee and other initiatives are providing high-level guidance in this regard, developing detailed strategies, methods and tools that will meet the needs of communities and social scientists, will require the active engagement of community members and researchers.

Session Objectives:

This session combines presentations with hands on demonstrations and dedicated time for discussion to:

1. Share experiences in recording, managing, using, and sharing data and information in the context of social science and community-based research
2. Contribute to defining the data and information management needs related to social science and community-based research

The first objective will be met through a series of presentations by researchers and community members. The second objective will be met through facilitated discussion resulting in a vision and needs assessment document.

Presentations will be followed by facilitated discussion that builds on the material presented. Specifically, facilitators will encourage discussion germane to the development of a needs analysis for data and information management for community-based research.

In each case, presentations will be focused on results of projects or studies that have in some way addressed community-based data and information management needs. Presentation need not be limited to technical developments – submission of abstracts reporting on developments of new methods, theory or policy etc. will be encouraged. To encourage brevity in presentations, presenters will be provided the opportunity to concurrently present a poster or hands-on demonstration during breaks, lunch and at the conclusion of the day. These posters and demonstration can act as a point of reference during facilitated discussion.

Discussion will be documented and a draft needs document created during the session. Various brainstorming and concept mapping techniques will be used to support the synthesis process.

Claims on Sites and Knowledge in Cold Regions. Material and Immaterial Constructs of Nature, Nations and Industry

Urban Wråkberg and Dag Avango

The session aims for a fruitful discussion across the disciplines of history, archaeology, sociology of knowledge and cultural studies, inviting scholars to base themselves on their preferred fields of empirical verification, whilst encouraging interdisciplinary outlooks. Presentations will range across the spectrum of human meanings ascribed to sites and phenomena in the far north and south, and the consequences of these within and outside these regions.

The session will discuss the sometimes underestimated flexibility of the connotations, and even uses, of human-built material structures. It will go on to demonstrate the interpretational leeway also of mobile- and virtual objects of Arctic and Antarctic human

construct such as: logistic systems, scientific instruments, whaling stations, research agendas, novels, lacunas of knowledge, simulacra. All of these are mirrored by, and in turn influence, various ideological representations like images, maps, interchangeable geopolitical doctrines, overlapping territorial claims, colonialism and indigenous animism.

These are components among other in that which creates meanings of e.g. sites, travels or research projects in cold regions, and what shapes our knowledge about them. The experience of this in the field also depends on social relations between local residents and visitors, and the variability of natural polar phenomena like harsh weather, mirages, melting permafrost and electromagnetic storms

AHDR-II: Arctic Human Development Report: Regional Processes and Global Linkages

Joan Nymand Larsen and Gail Fondahl

The purpose of the AHDR-II project – *Arctic Human Development Report II: Regional Processes and Global Linkages* – is to move the study of human development in the Arctic beyond the AHDR (2004) baseline, to provide the second assessment and synthesis report on the state of human development in the Arctic, and to contribute to our increased knowledge and understanding of the consequences and interplay of physical and social global change processes for human living conditions and adaptability in the Arctic, and to strengthen the competence and international leadership role in human dimension scientific assessments and research. With the production of AHDR-II – ten years after the first AHDR - it will be possible to move beyond the baseline report and start making valuable comparisons and contrasts between critical time periods in an era with rapid change impacts in the North. The project will yield a report that include as overarching cross-cutting themes global change impacts; climate change; regional processes and global linkages. The preliminary list of AHDR-II themes include: *Arctic Populations and Migration; Societies and Cultures; Economic Systems; Political Systems; Legal Systems; Resource Governance; Community Viability and Adaptation; Human Health and Well-being; Education and Knowledge; Security; Sovereignty and Geopolitics; Globalization; and Arctic Social Indicators in the Arctic.* This session will include 10

paper presentations on topics related to the study of human development in the North. The purpose is to provide a forum for discussing issues of relevance to human development in the North that can also help inform the AHDR-II project – now in its start-up phase - and the AHDR project structure and content. This may include e.g., but not be restricted to, papers on evaluating trends that affect sustainable human development among residents of the circumpolar world over time; papers on comparing and contrasting cultural, economic, political, and social conditions; identification of innovative policies and institutions in specific areas that might offer lessons applicable to other parts of the Arctic; papers on the consequences and interplay of physical and social global change processes for human living conditions and adaptability in the Arctic. In addition to a series of paper presentations the session will also include up to five panels (estimated at 30 minutes each) on the preliminary themes of the AHDR-II. We will be asking panelists to briefly address the questions firstly of what are the key issues in these areas that remain highly pertinent 10 years after AHDR 1; and secondly, what key issues in these areas have evolved since the first AHDR, and need to be addressed in AHDR-2?

Roundtable: How Can We Build a Community of Polar Social Scientists?

Anne-Marie Brady

This roundtable brings together four leading polar social scientists to discuss their views on how to build a stronger community of polar--Arctic and Antarctic--social scientists. Each presenter will speak for ten minutes, followed by a general discussion.

Global Human Ecodynamics and the Circumpolar North: The GHEA Initiative

Thomas McGovern

In the past decade a series of projects and initiatives have raised the global profile of circumpolar research while accelerated global change impacts have focused world attention on the social and environmental consequences of rapid warming in the north. The recent IPY provided opportunities for unprecedented collaboration across disciplines and national boundaries and there are multiple successes to

report in connecting current and future human ecodynamics in the north to the deep perspectives of the *longue durée* and in using resilience thinking to better integrate natural science, social science and community involvement. Northern researchers are also connecting with human ecodynamics teams working in other parts of the globe, and in 2009-10 a new Global Human Ecodynamics Alliance (GHEA, www.gheahome.org) has been formed to promote connections and communication. This session will present current GHEA research projects and will highlight the highly successful Icelandic Kids Archaeology (KAPI) program engaging northern students and their teachers in global change science through place based learning and digital technology.

Exploratory Roundtable: Perceptions and Representations of Arctic Science

Joachim Otto Habeck, Gunnhild Hoogensen Gjørsvik and Peter Sköld

The Arctic figures strongly in TV documentaries, newspapers, and other media around the world. Polar researchers of many disciplines are an important part of this imagery as their travels and fieldwork make for visually attractive, exotic footage. Increasing interest in the Arctic has been triggered by the International Polar Year 2007-2008, and strong media coverage is one of its most beneficial outcomes.

However, the dialogue between scholars, Northern residents, the media, and the wider public is not without problems. "The public outside the Arctic has images of the North that are often formed by science, national identity, sovereignty, national pride, and resource pools, while people living in the Arctic have images of their homelands with their cultures, resources, and opportunities for a good life. Scientists' images of the Arctic may be driven by field seasons, access to funding, global politics, and science agendas" (ICARP II Science Plan, see below). Among researchers, there are complaints about misperceptions and misrepresentations of research findings in the media. Journalists and politicians, on the other hand, think that researchers could do a better job in making themselves understood. Residents of Northern communities see researchers flying in and out, but in many cases the latter cannot provide

results of immediate relevance for the communities concerned. Researchers, on the other hand, find that Northern residents' observations and explanations about change cannot always be easily connected with conventional scientific forms of knowledge.

Such examples of "messages not getting across" point to the multiple and contested perceptions and representations of Arctic science. There has been an increasing if not widespread awareness of potential and actual misunderstandings on all parts, but even though this issue has been raised on earlier occasions, the issue has yet to be discussed systematically. Therefore we believe it is time to explore in a roundtable format how to further address the interconnection of Arctic science, politics, stakeholders, the media, and the wider public. Everybody is welcome to attend the discussion.

In preparation for the roundtable, we encourage participants to get acquainted with the relevant ICARP II Science Plan, Arctic Science in the Public Interest:

http://aosb.arcticportal.org/icarp_ii/science_plan/Science%20Plan%2011%20_%20%20ICARP%20I.pdf.

This roundtable is held in conjunction with a session of the newly-formed IASC Social and Human Sciences Working Group.

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ICASS VII IN VIDEOS



Joan Nymand Larsen, president of IASSA.



Sven Hakaanson, Director of The Alutiiq Museum in Kodiak, Alaska.



Why Indigenous Peoples Need to Be Heard in the Global Debate on the Arctic.
Alona Yefimenko, Technical Advisor to Arctic Council Indigenous Peoples Secretariat.



Interviews with three native students from different backgrounds.



Martin Loughheed from The Inuit Knowledge Center in Ottawa, Canada.



Salmon Source of Life: Dr. David Koester of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks speaks with Victoria Petrasheva, Senior Scholar of the Pacific Ocean Geographical Institute, Kamchatka Russia about the importance of salmon to indigenous peoples of the Arctic.



Uummannaq Music Presentation.



Photo: Páll Jóhannesson



Photo: Bjarni Eiríksson



Photo: Bjarni Eiríksson

ICASS VII IN PHOTOS

Opening, Reception and Keynotes

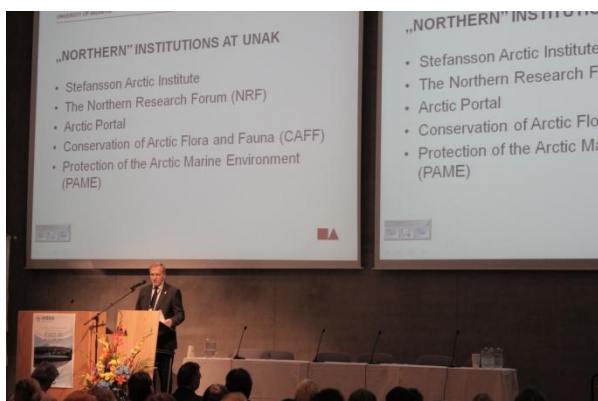


Photo: Páll Jóhannesson



Photo: Bjarni Eiríksson



Photo: Páll Jóhannesson



Photo: Bjarni Eiríksson



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Photo: Bjarni Eiríksson

Sessions, Breaks and Venues



Photo: Bjarni Eiríksson



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Photo: Bjarni Eiríksson



Photo: Bjarni Eiriksson



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson

Banquet and IASSA Award Ceremony



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson



Photo: Florian Stammler



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson

General Assembly



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson

Closing Ceremony



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson

Excursion



Photo: Joan Nymand Larsen



Photo: Joan Nymand Larsen



Photo: Joan Nymand Larsen



Photo: Joan Nymand Larsen



Photo: Joan Nymand Larsen



Photo: Joan Nymand Larsen



Photo: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson



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Topics in Arctic Social Sciences - Volume 7, 2014
(A series of the International Arctic Social
Sciences Association)

Editors:

Jón Haukur Ingimundarson, Joan Nymand Larsen
and Lára Ólafsdóttir

A web publication - www.iassa.org

ISBN 978-9979-72-602-9



Photo on cover page: Sigurgeir Haraldsson