



**THIS ISSUE CONTAINS INFORMATION ON THE
THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ARCTIC SOCIAL SCIENCES
COPENHAGEN 21-23 MAY 1998**

EDITORIAL

During the last three years, the secretariat of IASSA has been located within the Department of Eskimology, University of Copenhagen. At the International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences in May, the location of the new secretariat will be selected. In this situation it is natural to ask what has been achieved and what has happened to the arctic social sciences during those three years.

Hopefully, the progress of Arctic social sciences itself will be made clear from the many presentations announced to be held at the congress in May. In this connection, we therefore want to highlight three different issues.

Recently, it has become clear that the Arctic Council will become a living reality. It is only natural that IASSA closely follows the development within the framework of the Arctic Council, and IASSA has therefore applied for NGO observer status to the Arctic Council. There is little doubt that the Arctic Council will become a central institution in relation to environmental and social sciences in the Arctic, and it is absolutely recommendable for IASSA to have a close relationship with this new institution.

Another issue which the outgoing IASSA council has spent time working on has been an effort to get social sciences placed within the framework of the International Arctic Science Committee. In practice, to break the monopoly of the natural sciences in this circumpolar institution. An important aspect of this process has been the involvement of Arctic communities in the planning of research priorities.

Finally, we should stress the increased role of the communities and peoples of the Circumpolar North in the planning and implementation of research projects. In Alaska, Canada, Greenland and Norway, the indigenous peoples now claim to be directly involved in the research processes. Indeed, this is endorsed and stimulated by IASSA. Additionally, it is IASSA's responsibility to secure a research process which strengthens the scientific integrity and quality of research projects. Neither science nor local peoples have anything to gain from uncritical research pursued on the basis of a single agenda solely, no matter how politically correct it might appear.

Jens Dahl
Frank Sejersen

INFORMATION ON ICASS

Papers and abstracts

All IASSA members are welcome to present papers at the congress. Membership in IASSA is open to everybody with an interest in Arctic social sciences; please send in the IASSA membership application form and membership fee (see this newsletter) in good time. The deadline for paper title and abstract was February 15, 1998, and the organisers prefer to correspond on e-mail (iassa@coco.ihl.ku.dk). The paper proposals will be reviewed by a committee. The congress language is English and there is no translation possibilities. A collection of paper abstracts will be given to congress participants upon registration. During the session each person will be granted 20 minutes of presentation and 10 minutes of discussion.

Registration

Congress registration takes place Wednesday afternoon (at the House of Greenlanders, Løvstræde 6) and Thursday at the congress location. Program, collection of abstracts and other congress materials will be available upon registration.

Congress location

The congress takes place in the beautiful, old buildings of the University of Copenhagen right in the heart of Copenhagen next to the cathedral. Address: Frue Plads.

Receptions

Wednesday the 21st a reception will be held at the House of Greenlanders (Løvstræde 6) from 6pm to 8pm. Thursday the 22nd, from 6pm to 9pm, the National Museum (Ny Vestergade) invites the congress delegates to the museum for a reception and to visit the exhibition *Art and Magic - A Journey among Eskimo Masterpieces*.

Transportation

It is easy to get to the congress location from all over Copenhagen, either by foot or public transportation (DKr. 11,- for a one way ticket).

Congress fee

The congress fee is DKr 600,- (US\$ 89); students pay DKr 300,- (US\$ 45). The fee can be paid in the following ways:

- a. Check in US\$ or in DKr send to IASSA secretariat. Make sure to enclose a note indicating name, address and that the amount covers the congress fee.
- b. US\$ bank account 3785 081811 in the Danish Bank (Den Danske Bank); make sure to indicate name, address and purpose on the transfer
- c. DKr bank account 3103 130263 in the Danish Bank (Den Danske Bank); make sure to indicate name, address and purpose on the transfer.
- d. Cash upon registration.

If necessary, the address of the Danish Bank is Den Danske Bank, Christianshavns afdeling, Torvegade 45, 1400 København K.

Please note that we *do not* take credit cards.

As mentioned earlier, only IASSA members can present papers at the congress. It is possible to include congress fee and IASSA membership fee on the same check or bank transfer. Please indicate that the amount covers both congress fee (amount) and IASSA membership fee (amount).

To help the organisers we urge all congress delegates to send in the congress fees in good time.

Travel funding

To a limited extent the organisers hope to be able to provide travel support. Priority are given to Russian researchers, indigenous representatives and students who present papers or organise sessions. Please send in a cv, paper title and paper abstract to be taken into consideration if such funding becomes available.

IASSA General Assembly

The General Assembly of IASSA will be convened May 23 in the afternoon, and a preparatory meeting May 22 in the evening.

Accommodation

With approximately 300 researchers attending the congress, the organisers have decided that all participants must take care of their own hotel reservation individually.

However, to help you, we have found some central located hotels in different categories. Hotels, addresses, and prices (including breakfast) are listed below (the prices may change after April 1). If you want to use one of the rooms you must do the following:

1: Fax or e-mail your booking directly to the hotel. Please indicate your name, address, telephone/fax and credit card number. The dates of arrival and departure (and if possible: the expected arriving time to the hotel).

2: All communication is between you and the hotel.

3: You pay directly to the hotel.

List of hotels:

Ansgar Missionshotel, Colbjørnsensgade 29, DK-1652 Copenhagen V.

Fax: +45 31 21 61 91.

Number of rooms in IASSA allotment: 40.

Price per. night: single room Dkr 700,-, and double room Dkr. 800,-.

Hotel Cosmopole, Colbjørnsensgade 5-11, DK-1652 Copenhagen V.

Fax: +45 31 31 33 99 and reservation nr: G050275.

Number of rooms in IASSA allotment: 20 single and 20 double.

Price per. night: single room Dkr 540,-, and double room Dkr 715,-.

Hotel Cab Inn Scandinavia, Vodroffsvej 55B, DK-1900 Frederiksberg.

Fax: +45 70 22 03 95, E-mail: cabinn@inet.uni2.dk, reservation no.:9929.

Number of rooms in IASSA allotment: 60 single rooms.

Price per. night: single room Dkr 435,- and double room Dkr 570,-.

Hotel Du Nord, Colbjørnsensgade 14, DK-1652 Copenhagen V.

Fax: +45 31 31 33 99 and reservation no.: G017050.

Number of rooms in IASSA allotment: 15 single and 15 double.

Price per. night: single room Dkr 340,- and double room Dkr 480,-.

Please note: All rooms are with bath/toilet except the rooms at Hotel Du Nord.

At Hotel Du Nord all rooms have got wash basin. Bathroom and toilets are located on every floor.

For cheap accommodation (hostels) please contact

Copenhagen Danhostel Bellahøj, Herbergvejen 8, 2700 Brønshøj

Phone: +45 38 28 97 15, fax: +45 38 89 02 10

Price: 135,- Dkr for a bed in a room with five beds.

Copenhagen Danhostel Amager, Vejlands Allé, 2300 Copenhagen S.

phone: 32 52 29 08, fax: 32 52 27 08

Price: 135,- Dkr for a bed in a room with five beds.

Sleep-in, Ravnsborggade 18, 2200 Copenhagen N

phone: +45 31 35 35 40, fax: 31 35 56 40

Price: 70-90 Dkr for a bed in a dormitory with 10-38 beds. Ecological breakfast 25 Dkr.

More information on accommodation in Copenhagen can be found on the internet:

<http://www.leisureplan.com/>

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AT ICASS III

The honourable Mrs. Marianne Jensen, Greenland Home Rule Government, Minister of Health, Environment and Research, will make the opening speech. During the congress the following keynote speakers will make presentations.

Aqaluk Petersen, Greenland

Social viability and health in Greenland

Despite ever increasing self-determination in the form of home-rule government since 1979, the Greenlandic society has been and still is plagued by social problems with relatively high rates of suicide, homicide and person-related violence. Although the per capita consumption of alcohol has been decreasing in recent years, alcohol abuse is still wide-spread.

A closer examination of the Greenlandic history coupled with a traditional sociological approach,

including basic demographic characteristics, reveals a relatively large group of people, that are under-educated, that do not have any persistent job experience, that have abuse problems, and that do not live with-in a strong family structure. The social problems in the Greenlandic society is almost exclusively confined to this group. The approach stresses the importance on the transition of the society from a traditional (in an European sense) village-based to a modern urban-based society as a major cause in the development of social problems. A transition, not from the traditional inuk culture, but after a 250 year long colonial period. The latent antagonism between Greenlandic and Danish is seen in this context as well as the possible means of resolving the social problems.

Susanne Dybbroe, Denmark

Researching knowledge:

The terms and scope of a current debate

The subject of "knowledge" and what separates and connects different "kinds" of knowledge - indigenous, local, scientific - has been a major issue for some time. The epistemological basis of knowledge, methods of collecting and representing knowledge and the relevance and utility of research results are central questions. Different schools have caught upon the subject. A split may be registered between research of an ecological and management related kind and research informed by the sociology of knowledge. An attempt is made to trace the foundations of the different streams of interests and evaluate the terms and scope of the debate.

Carol Geddes, Canada

Indigenous knowledge and climate change in the North

The Earth will heat up by 1.8-6.3 degrees Fahrenheit over the next century, according to an international panel of scientists. How will global warming affect the indigenous people of the rural areas of the Yukon? This paper will reflect and analyze the responses and concerns of 10 indigenous people from a village of 300. All of the 10 are involved in a mixed subsistence - cash lifestyle. Global warming will dramatically affect the plants and animals that these people still consider - for cultural as well as basic subsistence reasons - to be the backbone of their economy. Alert to the smallest

fluctuations in their environment and aware of the vulnerability of the land, what are their speculations on how dramatic change will impact on their lives? How does their place in the ecosystem inform ideas about environmental planning and political action on a scale broadened to include an arena beyond their communities? These are the basic issues that will be discussed in the paper.

Nikolai B. Vakhtin, Russia

Political dynamics, governance and self-determination

The paper will address political changes of the last decade among the Northern minorities of Russia against the background of earlier relations between indigenous and in-coming cultures. It will discuss the interplay between cultural values of the aboriginal cultures and twists and turns of the Russian/Soviet/Russian policy towards indigenous peoples. A complicated web of relationship between the two sets of values, the outsiders' and the aboriginal ones, values proclaimed and hidden, explicit and implicit, changing over time and influencing each other, interpreting (and misinterpreting) each other, -- all this may be a key to contemporary economic and social issues and problems of the area.

Nils Oskal, Norway

Normative foundations of claims on securing a voice and place for aboriginality in a context of a nation-state

The aim is to provide a political theoretic analysis of Saami claims of aboriginal self-determination in a context of a nation-state. These claims are not claims of regulation of legislative and territorial boundaries, that would enable the Saami to become majority within a local region. The realisation of claims on self-government supposes designing of institutional arrangements that treat different people differently and establishes different regimes in different parts of the same country with a intention to provide fair conditions for political participation for the Saami within the nation-state. The topic is the normative foundations of claims of aboriginal self-determination in regard to liberal democratic principles of equal respect and equal protection of everybody.

Eldon Yellowhorn, Canada*The implications for social science research in the changing political landscape of northern Canada*

In 1999 the map of northern Canada will be amended to accommodate a new political entity. The territory of Nunavut will be created as part of the final agreement between Canada and the Inuit of the eastern arctic. In the remaining portion of the Northwest Territories the Dene and Metis have also negotiated a settlement that will address their outstanding claims on their customary lands. In the Yukon Territory the fourteen Indian groups that comprise the Council for Yukon Indians have also negotiated a final agreement with the government of Canada. Although these agreements are referred to as "land claims" land is only one part of the package. They are comprehensive agreements that will transfer to local governments administrative control over lands and activities on settlement lands. Included in these agreements are guidelines that will affect the work conducted by social scientists and other researchers who venture into the arctic. These local governments will have a say in determining whose work will be supported, the type of work that will get support and the disposition of the research results. This paper will examine these land claim agreements and report on the implications for the future of social science research among the aboriginal people of northern Canada.

SESSION SUGGESTIONS

- The Northern Sea Route
- Management strategies and sustainable development
- The study of living conditions in the Arctic
- Globalisation in the North
- Indigenous peoples and ecosystem management
- Oral history
- Ethics, indigenous peoples and the integrity of science
- Sustainability in the Arctic
- Health issues and the Northern public
- Representation, discourse and identity of Arctic peoples
- Art and heritage
- Revival of culture and languages
- Demography
- Regional management and strategy in the Arctic

- Socialisation and education
- Traditional knowledge
- Self-determination
- Research in the Arctic
- Subsistence
- Rapid cultural change in the Circumpolar North
- Transnational cooperation
- Sustainable development and food security
- Adult education and social change
- Database approaches to Arctic social research
- Arctic economy
- Contemporary state of aboriginal people in Kamchatka and the process of self-determination
- Images, stereotypes, representation and consciousness
- Social viability
- Ethics, media and indigenous peoples

BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

- **From Middle Ages to Colonial Times - Archaeological and ethnohistorical studies of the Thule culture in South West Greenland 1300-1800 AD**
by *Hans Christian Gulløv*

In the series "Monographs on Greenland" (Meddelelser om Grønland) a new and comprehensive publication on Greenland archaeology and ethnohistory is now available:

1998, 504 pages with 144 figures and 853 drawings of artifacts. Price: DKr 475 excl. postage

Click here to see more about this publication
<http://www.dpc.dk/Sites/Publications/MoG/MS23.htm>

CONFERENCES

Arctic Seas: Currents of Change
Mystic, Connecticut, USA, October 21-24 1998

To mark the International Year of the Oceans, Sea Research Foundation, Inc., will host a symposium highlighting our current understanding of the Arctic marine environment and the nature and consequences

of changes to that ecosystem. The ASCC symposium will consist of plenary sessions with a multi-disciplinary character that spans physical, biological and sociological disciplines. The meeting will be held in Mystic, Connecticut, home of Mystic Marinelife Aquarium and the Institute for Exploration.

Six sessions will feature presentations on the following themes: *Climate* - Arctic seas and global climate; trends in Arctic climate; models. *Ice and ocean* - mass, nutrient and contaminant transport; residence times; ice dynamics and mass balance; ice formation and breakup, dynamics of leads and polynyas. *Productivity* - nutrient cycles; food web studies; ecosystem energetics; effects of altered physicochemical properties of Arctic marine systems. *Ecology of marine mammals* - whales, seals, walrus and polar bears as indicator species; consequences of habitat change on marine mammals; role of marine mammals in indigenous culture; changing patterns of marine mammal utilization in native society. *Contaminants* - sources, levels and distribution; historical trends in tissue burdens; impacts on animal and human health. *Development and human resources* - sustainable growth; historical perspectives; political transformation; natural resource extraction; transportation; economic projections; ecotourism; international jurisdiction

Abstracts for proposed talks must be received by March 1, 1998. For further information, or to be placed on a mailing list for registration materials, please contact:

D.J. St. Aubin, Director of Research and Veterinary Services, Mystic Marinelife Aquarium, 55 Coogan Blvd., Mystic, Connecticut, USA
Tel: 860-572-5955, ext. 102; FAX: 860-572-5984,
e-mail: <dstaubin@mysticaquarium.org>

The Sixth Circumpolar Universities Cooperation Conference: Northern development and sustainable livelihoods; towards a critical circumpolar agenda
Aberdeen, Scotland, June 24-27 1999

The Sixth Circumpolar Universities Cooperation Conference will be held at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, June 24-27 1999. The first call for papers will be announced shortly. It is expected that the workshop themes will include the following: Circumpolar trade

and tourism: cultural dimensions of development; Education; Indigenous knowledge: critical issues; Resource stewardship; Northern policy-making; Information and communication technology in circumpolar development; Health and social well-being; Facilitating northern business and enterprise; Circumpolar youth; Circumpolar technology; Cultural issues. Further information on submission of abstracts, registration etc. will appear in issues of the Circumpolar Universities Association Newsletter and will also be posted on IASSA.NET. Further details are also available from the academic organisers:

Professor David Arter, Nordic Policy Studies Centre, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, SCOTLAND AB24 3QY, e-mail: <d.arter@abdn.ac.uk>, and Dr. Mark Nuttall, Department of Sociology, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, SCOTLAND AB24 3QY, e-mail: m.nuttall@abdn.ac.uk

The History of Scientific Research in the Arctic: Research and Politics in the Far North
Tromsø, Norway, August 24-27 1998

This symposium will bring together scholars studying aspects of the history of Arctic polar research. The symposium will focus in particular on the last two centuries to investigate the background, the motives and the consequences of research in the polar north. Key topics are: The relationship between polar science, exploration and politics; Polar science and the emergence of regions and nations; Science and military research in the polar north; Consequences of polar science for man and the environment in the Arctic. For further information please contact Fredrik Fager-tun, Email: Fredrik.Fagertun@hitos.no, phone: +47 77 66 04 73, fax: +47 77 68 81 18

Endangered Languages - What Role for the Specialist?
Edinburgh, Scotland, September 25-27 1998

The workshop will provide a forum for researchers and activists working for the maintenance of indigenous languages that face an uncertain future. For further information please contact: Nicholas Ostler, Managing Director, President Linguacubun Ltd, Foundation for Endangered Languages,

<<http://www.bris.ac.uk/Depts/Philosophy/CTLL/FE-L/>>, Batheaston Villa, 172 Bailbrook Lane, Bath, BA1 7AA England, +44-1225-85-2865, fax +44-1225-85-9-258, <nostler@chibcha.demon.co.uk>

7th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women
Tromsø, Norway, June 20-26 1999

From "down under" to "the top of the world". Since the first Women's Worlds Congress was organized in 1981, these triannual conferences have developed into a truly world-wide affair: from Israel (Haifa) in 1981 to the Netherlands (1984), to Ireland (Dublin 1987), New York City (Hunter College 1990), Costa Rica (1993), to Adelaide, Australia in 1996.

Relevant Women's Worlds 99 addresses: e-mail: <womens.worlds.99@skk.uit.no>; web page: <<http://www.skk.uit.no/wwindex.html>>. Congress Secretariat: University of Tromsø, N-9037 Tromsø, NORWAY, phone +47 77 64 58 99, fax +47 77 64 64 20, <http://www.skk.uit.no/WW99/ww99.html>

Ethnosocial Processes in Siberia

Kyzyl, Republic of Tyva, Russian Federation, 14-16 September 1998

This conference will examine the following themes: The theory and methodology of studying ethnosociological processes; The contemporary geopolitics of Siberia; The contemporary interrelationships between the peoples of Siberia; The problem of Slavic/Turkic interrelations; Social and demographic processes in Siberia; Market reforms and their social consequences in minority areas; Traditional occupations of the peoples of Siberia. The challenge of protecting the environment; Problems of unemployment and migration; Educational and pedagogical challenges in minority regions; Problems in the development of minority cultures; Self-government and territorial autonomy; The legal foundation to ethnosocial processes; Foreign experience in addressing the problems of native peoples.

Please contact: Dr. Yurii Popkov, Institute of Philosophy and Law, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, 17 pr. Lavrenteva, Novosibirsk 630090 RUSSIA, Tel: +7-383-235-5786, Fax: +7-383-235-7791, Email: <popkov@philosophy.nsc.ru>

Bridging Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Ecosystem Science

Flagstaff, Arizona, August 13-15 1998

As indigenous peoples in the Americas struggle for control of their lands and resources, differences between traditional ecological knowledge and ecosystem science can be a barrier. Indigenous people and their potential allies and associates share a concern for sustainability, for a balance between man and the natural world. How can the differences in world views be bridged? How can expert traditional hunters and fishers communicate and work with university-trained scientists? Can western "management" and indigenous "caretaking" be the same thing?

Abstracts and descriptions should be 600-800 words long. Please submit them by April 1, 1998. Selections will be made on or before May 1. Contact: Ronald Trospen, Director, Native American Forestry Program, College of Ecosystem Science and Management, P.O. Box 15018, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ 86011, Fax: 520-523-6653, E-mail: <TEK-SCICConf@alpine.for.nau.edu> Webpage: <<http://www.for.nau.edu/TEK-SCICConf/>>

11th Inuit Studies Conference

Nuuk, Greenland, September 2-6 1998

The organisers have now opened a homepage. In the future all news of the conference will be made public in the homepage. Deadline for paper abstracts: April 1; Deadline for application: May 1; Deadline for payment: June 1.

11th Inuit Studies Conference, Organizing Committee, P.O. Box 1628, DK-3900 Nuuk, Greenland
Telephone: +299 32 45 66, Telefax +299 32 47 11
E-mail: isc98@gs.gh.gl or bib.unigreen@greenet.gl,
Homepage: <http://www.greenet.gl/~bibuni/11isc.htm>

IASSA INFORMATION SPRING 1998

Foundation

IASSA was founded in 1990 in Fairbanks, Alaska, at a meeting held in conjunction with the *7th. Inuit Studies Conference*. The creation of IASSA follows the suggestion, made at the *Conference on Coordination of Research in the Arctic* held in Leningrad in 1988, to establish an international association to represent Arctic social scientists. From its founding in 1990 until 1992, IASSA's secretariat was housed at the Department of Geography, McGill University, Montréal, Canada. The following three years the secretariat was situated at the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Rovaniemi, Finland.

Objectives

The Arctic is defined as all Arctic and sub-arctic regions of the world. The social sciences encompass disciplines relating to behavioral, psychological, cultural, anthropological, archaeological, linguistic, historical, social, legal, economic, environmental, and political subjects as well as health, education, the arts and humanities, and related subjects.

The objectives are:

- * to promote and stimulate international cooperation and to increase the participation of social scientists in national and international arctic research;
- * to promote communication and coordination with other research organizations;
- * to promote the active collection, exchange, dissemination, and archiving of scientific information in the Arctic social sciences;
- * to increase public awareness of circumpolar issues and research results;
- * to promote mutual respect, communication, and collaboration between social scientists and northern people;
- * to facilitate culturally, developmentally, and linguistically appropriate education in the North;

- * to adopt a statement of ethical principles for the conduct of research in the Arctic.

Administration

IASSA is governed by an elected eleven-member Council and a General Assembly consisting of all paid members. The secretariat is presently based at the Department of Eskimology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. The council is chaired by Jens Dahl (Copenhagen University, Denmark), and the secretariat is run by Frank Sejersen

Membership

Membership is open to anyone interested in Arctic Social sciences. Membership fees for one year are US dollars or Danish kroner. Membership is by calendar year. Membership in IASSA is required to participate in IASSA meetings. Please direct inquiries and payment to the IASSA secretariat.

Meetings

IASSA held its *First International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS I)* in Québec, Canada, on 28-31 October 1992. The congress was held on the campus of Université Laval immediately following the 8th. Inuit Studies Conference. More than 300 people participated in ICASS I, 235 of which presented papers. Sixteen countries were represented by paper presenters. Finnish, Greenlandic, Inuit, Sámi, Canadian, and American student groups also participated.

The next IASSA congress (ICASS II) was held jointly in Rovaniemi, Finland, and Kautokeino, Norway, in summer 1995. Abstracts and keynote speakers from ICASS II can be ordered without charge from the IASSA secretariat. ICASS III takes place in Copenhagen, Denmark May 21-23, 1998.

For further information, please contact:

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