

# Northern Notes

The Newsletter of the International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA)

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## *From the Secretary*

This issue of *Northern Notes* marks the beginning of the one-year countdown to the sixth International Congress of Arctic Sciences (ICASS) to be held in Nuuk in August 2008. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who submitted proposals and ideas for ICASS VI (see announcement with further information below); your contributions constitute the most vital ingredient in a successful conference. Many of IASSA's resources are now invested in preparing this event. However, IASSA still manages to stay active in other areas. Below you can read about the Sustained Arctic Observing Networks (SAON) in an article written by Larry Hamilton who represents IASSA in the Initiating Group behind SAON.

This is also the first issue since the official beginning of the International Polar Year. This event and the following IPY activities are

described by IASSA council member and IPY Joint Committee member, Igor Krupnik, below.

In May 2007 the ICSU/WMO Joint Committee for the International Polar Year announced the adoption of ethical guidelines for IPY researchers. IASSA lobbied for more substantial ethical guidelines than were originally accepted by the IPY organizers. As a result, the guidelines refer directly to IASSA's ethical guidelines as an example to be followed *beyond* the legislation in the local area of research. The IPY ethical guidelines can be seen via this link: [http://www.ipy.org/index.php?ipy/detail/ethical\\_principles\\_for\\_the\\_conduct\\_of\\_ipy\\_2007\\_2008\\_research](http://www.ipy.org/index.php?ipy/detail/ethical_principles_for_the_conduct_of_ipy_2007_2008_research). This webpage also offers an opportunity to comment the guidelines.

In the beginning of 2007, IASSA introduced new membership fees, with reduced fees for certain categories of members (see *On IASSA* below). The

new fee structure includes a new student category which has been very well received; a step in the direction of securing the future of IASSA by welcoming the next generation of Arctic social scientists as early as possible.

IASSA and the daily running of the organization and its secretariat rely on the financial support of membership fees. In the years between ICASS the renewal activity is at times very low. This leaves us with a meagre budget for the daily work in the secretariat and other activities not directly related to ICASS, activities that constitute the 'backbone'

of IASSA as an active organization – also between the congresses. We kindly urge members to bear this in mind and thus help us keep IASSA an active and well-running organization.

With this brief introduction I wish you all a continued good and warm summer wherever you are!

Inge Seiding  
IASSA Secretary

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## *Fourth Announcement*

Sixth International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences

*ICASS VI in Nuuk, Greenland, August 22-26, 2008 - new conference dates!*

In exactly 13 months from the time of this writing, most of the IASSA constituency, hopefully, will be gathered in Nuuk for the ICASS VI to do presentations, to discuss research projects and findings, to consolidate existing networks and develop new ones within the Arctic social sciences, with colleagues from other research disciplines and with indigenous and other Arctic residents.

Being the major activity gathering arctic researchers from the humanities and social sciences in the International Polar Year, the IASSA council decided to propose ICASS VI as an IPY activity and at the end of November 2005. ICASS VI was among the first initiatives to be endorsed as an IPY activity. This decision has been proven right so far as the IPY endorsement has opened doors to funding that otherwise might have been more difficult to access.

The work so far has been focussing primarily on fundraising, calling for session proposals, and taking some basic planning and organising initiatives. We have succeeded getting funding for most of the administrative and logistical preparations but still need funding – especially to be able to offer some travel grants to those who will not be able to access other sources of funding.

### **Facts and dates about ICASS VI**

**When: August 22-26, 2008 – new dates!**

The dates for ICASS VI in Nuuk were originally announced as August 25-29, 2008. Please note that this has been changed to August 22-26. We apologise for the schedule change and the inconvenience this might cause. The change of dates is due to necessary alignment with the Air Greenland flight schedule for the new route between the US and Greenland flying between Baltimore and Kangerlussuaq. This direct route will only be available for participants on Thursdays until August 28 which is why the conference had to be moved by 3 days. Day of departure from Baltimore will be on Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> and the return flight from Greenland on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>.

Please be aware that both the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup> are conference days.

The reason why the congress lasts longer than usual is our intention to include special sessions and research team gatherings related to international research projects. At the same time it is our hope that the extra time will make it

possible to enjoy being in Nuuk and facilitate cross boundary networking.

### **Where: Nuuk**

Most of the sessions and workshops will take place at Ilimmarfik, the new university campus that is about to be completed by the end of August, 2007. Plenary sessions will be held in Katuaq, the community centre in Nuuk, and some activities will be carried through at other research institutions and educational establishments in Nuuk (transportation will be arranged for).

### **Sessions and workshops**

In the two latest issues of the newsletter we urged all project leaders to submit ideas and thoughts for workshops and sessions. The result has been very encouraging as we have received 49 proposals (of which one out of four are IPY endorsed activities) of sessions and workshops from as many project leaders from 13 different countries. The proposals cover a variety of disciplines and subject areas including: Material culture/archaeology; human ecology, economic development, the mixed subsistence based economies, living conditions, community viability, climate change and impacts on communities, politics, justice and governance, culture, religion, history, research strategies, language, literature and media as well as special focus sessions on young researchers, outreach and education.

We had planned to announce the approved sessions and workshops in this newsletter. We expect all proposed themes to be included in the final program. To get as much synergy out of the sessions and workshops as possible we plan, though, to cluster some of the proposed sessions. The approved sessions will be announced in the second half of September as a part of the fifth announcement (see below). Session and workshop organisers have received confirmation that we have received their proposals, and we would like to thank all of you.

### **Cultural events at ICASS VI**

As we informed you in the last newsletter it is our intention to make ICASS VI not only a forum for Arctic social science but also an experience of Arctic cultural life in all its diverse forms of

expression. We have received a little funding to implement this ambition but we will take the opportunity in this newsletter too to encourage all who have ideas for events and/or contacts to artists of all kinds from around the Arctic to let us know. Please contact us at [iassa@ilisimatusarfik.gl](mailto:iassa@ilisimatusarfik.gl) with ideas and inspiration for the planning of the ICASS VI cultural program.

### **ICASS VI Announcement on the IASSA web site – the fifth announcement**

The next announcement will be presented in the second half of September on the IASSA web site, and it will be preceded by a message on IASSA.Net. The 5<sup>th</sup> announcement will include:

- Registration form (conference participation; transportation to/from Nuuk; accommodation in Nuuk);
- Announcement of the approved sessions;
- First call for papers.

We are trying to ensure easy access at affordable prices through negotiations with different carriers and we suspect that we will be able to offer travels out of North America and out of Europe directly to Greenland.

All accommodation in Nuuk is booked for ICASS VI participants (more information will follow).

We will keep you updated via IASSA.Net and the IASSA web site [www.iassa.gl](http://www.iassa.gl) and urge you to contact us with any question, comment or proposal you might have in relation to ICASS VI.

We are looking forward to welcome you in Nuuk next August.

Birger Poppel – IASSA Vice president

# *Progress Report on International Polar Year 2007-2008: HOW ARE WE DOING?*

**By Igor Krupnik, IPY Joint Committee**

On March 1, 2007, after almost five years of discussions, planning and preparation, the International Polar Year 2007–2008 (IPY 2007–2008) was formally inaugurated at the main international Opening Ceremony at the Palais de la Découverte in Paris, France. This review is the sixth update in the series of the *Northern Notes*' coverage of IPY for IASSA members since 2003 (see *Northern Notes* Fall 2003; Fall 2004; Spring-Summer 2005; Fall-Winter 2005-2006; Summer 2006). It covers major activities related to IPY for almost a year: from July 2006 until June 2007. Technically, we are now in the *fifth* month of IPY 2007–2008, which is to last until spring 2009.

A future historian will, perhaps, view this past year as a sequence of three separate phases in the IPY process: the time of funding uncertainty (Summer-Fall 2006); preparation for the IPY Opening Ceremony and several national launch events (January-March 2007); and the rising tide of IPY science activities, following the official opening in March, 2007. At a more specific level, the past year featured several planning efforts, including two meetings of the IPY Joint Committee in September 2006 and March 2007; preparation and publication of the *Scope of IPY Science* document (Fall 2006–February 2007); submission of hundreds of funding proposals by individual IPY scientists; and a massive amount of daily groundwork performed by the IPY 'movers': IPY Programme Office (IPO), National IPY secretariats, funding agencies, various committees and initiative groups. As such, the unfolding 'Saga of IPY 2007–2008' includes many diverging stories recalled by various storytellers.

## **Funding Situation**

In the previous update on the status of social science research in IPY (*NoNo* Summer 2006, pp.5–6) I argued that "...Now, *funding* has become the key issue in the IPY process." I also predicted that scientists from some nations would

be 'more equal' than others, because of the differences in the level and timely delivery of the national research funding. That prediction happened to be true. During the rest of the year 2006, the IPY budget situation remained uncertain across most of the participating nations, with a few notable exceptions. Eventually, many planned initiatives did not materialize; some have to be scaled down or abandoned, due to budget shortages. For each IPY success story there is probably one of frustration and disappointment, if not more. This rate of success may seem as 'business as usual' in today's highly competitive science, except that the window for IPY research was narrowed down to just two years; on top, many countries had only one proposal cycle for the entire IPY period. Fortunately, the situation has improved by summer 2007; many people believe that the year 2008 will bring additional money and more energy into the IPY process.

The Netherlands, with a total IPY research budget of 7M €, was among the first nations to announce the list of its 17 funded IPY proposals in early summer 2006, including 2 projects in social sciences (see list:

[http://www.nwo.nl/nwohome.nsf/pages/NWOA\\_6\\_SJCA7\\_Eng](http://www.nwo.nl/nwohome.nsf/pages/NWOA_6_SJCA7_Eng)). In Norway, the National IPY

Committee released information on 26 funded Norwegian proposals in fall 2006 (see <http://www.polaryear.no/seksjoner/english>), of which 5 are in social sciences. The five Norwegian social science projects received a total of 23M NOK, out of the overall Norwegian IPY research budget of 289M NOK over 4 years (eventually, Norway funded 30 IPY projects). These were the rare exceptions. In Canada, one of the key players in IPY, according to the number of the Canadian-led projects and national resources invested, the official call for proposals for the CAD 150 mil governmental IPY allocation was issued as early as December 2005. Eventually, out of this budget CAD 97 mil were used for new research and the remainder for logistics and support. However, the results of the review

process remained unknown until early 2007, when 44 proposals were eventually funded. In many other countries the release of funding announcements by the national granting agencies was similarly delayed until spring or even summer 2007. In Denmark/Greenland, New Zealand, and the U.S. several IPY project leaders will not know about their budget situation until later this summer. No wonder, so many plans have been put on hold during the months preceding the IPY launch, as scientists anxiously awaited news on the status of their applications.

Still, according to the estimates compiled by the IPY Project Office (IPO) in Cambridge, as of June 2007, a total of US\$ 430 million was advanced by the participating nations in new IPY science funding in 2006–2007. Those new funds combined with roughly US\$ 800 million in existing polar research budgets applied to IPY provide a total of approximately US\$ 1.25 billion over the two IPY research years, 2007–2008 and 2008–2009 (see ‘IPY Monthly Report, June 2007,’ [http://www.ipy.org/index.php?/ipy/detail/update\\_f\\_or\\_project\\_coordinators\\_june/](http://www.ipy.org/index.php?/ipy/detail/update_f_or_project_coordinators_june/)). This total numbers track science funding only, and it thus excludes substantial additional funding allocated by several nations for their ice-breaking ships, new research stations, other logistics and support infrastructure. Also, we hope that some monies may still be added to the total IPY research budget by the participating nations for the concluding phases in 2008 and early 2009.

Since winter 2007, the IPO has been collecting records on the funding status of 230 individual IPY proposals endorsed by the Joint Committee in 2005–2006. As of this writing, the IPO information shows 78 IPY projects with, what it calls ‘substantial funding’ (i.e. 80% of the budget requested or funding from at least 3 nations) and 67 with ‘partial funding’ (20 to 50% of requested funds or only from one or two nations) – see [www.ipy.org](http://www.ipy.org). However, the IPO lacks budget information for nearly 80 endorsed IPY projects (if you have not already done so, people are kindly requested to submit this information to <http://www.ipy.dk/fundingstatus.htm>). The figures indicate that so far only 1/3 of the IPY proposals endorsed by the JC have succeeded in securing their requested funding, whereas 2/3 of all projects in the IPO database either still do not have full funds for implementation (though clearly have some resources) or have not yet reported on

their status. The ratio may change shortly with the U.S. and Danish proposal funding announcements released in a few weeks. Still, quite a few of the originally endorsed IPY projects have been withdrawn and some did not get funding they applied for (see below).

For this report I cross-checked the records on the funding status of 60 endorsed proposals in social, human health, and indigenous/community studies that Grete Hovelsrud and I sampled a year ago (Hovelsrud and Krupnik 2006: 345). Several colleagues were very helpful to this effort by sharing the up-to-date funding information from their respective national IPY committees (see *Acknowledgement*). I ended up with almost the same ratio: 20 out of 60 projects (or 1/3) have received adequate (‘substantial’) funding as of early summer 2007. The rest are still pending (12); have received partial or ‘seed’ funding only (7); have been rejected or withdrawn (14); or have not reported on their current status (‘unknown’ – 7). Here, again, a word of caution is needed since many IPY science teams keep looking for the alternative funding sources and may eventually launch their initiatives using other means of support.

In addition, the list of *funded* proposals in some key countries, such as Canada and the U.S., differs substantially from the official IPO database of the endorsed IPY ‘full proposals.’ In Canada, for example, 17 proposals in social, human health, and community studies have been funded so far; but only 6 of them can be matched to the endorsed ‘full proposals’ in the IPY program chart. The rest came from the earlier Canadian proposals submitted as ‘Expressions of Intent’ in 2005 (EoI), or even beyond the original IPY planning process.

Thus, a number of new initiatives, particularly in the human health and community field, have been added to IPY research; they have incorporated or replaced some of the efforts that did not succeed in securing funds. In the U.S., very much like in Canada, the list of IPY proposals funded by the National Science Foundation as of May 2007 and posted on the official U.S. IPY website (see: [http://www.nsf.gov/od/opp/ipy/ipy\\_awards\\_0607.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/od/opp/ipy/ipy_awards_0607.jsp)) includes several initiatives that are not in the IPO database. With these new additions plus several more IPY proposals still in review or pending funding announcement, we may expect the final number of *funded* initiatives in social,



human health, and community studies to be in the range of 40-45, if not more. Overall, we are doing pretty well in this IPY!

Whether people may see the ‘IPY glass’ as half full or half empty is another matter. Whereas the IPY was from the very beginning designed as the *International* Polar Year, and the Joint Committee endorsed proposals based upon the merits of their prospective international collaboration, the funding for IPY activities in 2006–2007 has been channeled primarily via national funding agencies and was awarded to *national* researchers and institutions. As such, major IPY developments during that period were delivered along the *national* lines, like the national funding announcements, the list of proposals funded by each participating nation, progress reports from the national IPY committees, etc. Also, some funding agencies followed strictly the rule that all funded IPY proposals should be reviewed and endorsed by the Joint Committee as a part of the overall IPY effort, whereas other did not. It now remains to the IPY scientists to reclaim the original global nature of the IPY 2007–2008 program and to ‘stitch’ back together the pieces of their internationally-designed projects – through concerted research, data analysis, and joint publications.

### The Opening Events

Amidst this time of anxiety about IPY funding in winter 2006/2007, the Joint Committee (JC) produced a new integrative outline of the IPY science program. The 79-page document titled “The Scope of Science for the International Polar Year 2007–2008” was co-authored by a 25-member team under the leadership of Ian Allison, one of two JC Co-Chairs. It was published by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in Geneva as its *Technical Document No. 1364* and was released in February 2007, on the eve of the official launch day for IPY (see: [http://216.70.123.96/images/uploads/LR\\*PolarBrochureScientific\\_IN.pdf](http://216.70.123.96/images/uploads/LR*PolarBrochureScientific_IN.pdf)). The ‘Scope’ document has 12 chapters, including six featuring official IPY science themes (‘Status of the Polar Regions,’ ‘Change,’ ‘Global Linkages,’ ‘New Frontiers,’ ‘Vantage Point,’ and ‘Human Dimension’). It also has an Appendix listing all 228 endorsed IPY projects, as of February 2007, in science, data management, education and outreach. All sections

on social and human studies in the ‘Scope’ document were written by Grete Hovelsrud and myself.

The main preoccupation for the winter 2007 was, nevertheless, the worldwide preparation for the opening events for IPY 2007–2008 in March 2007. Since the fall of 2006 and, particularly, since the beginning of 2007, the main IPY office, national secretariats, major funding agencies, and public groups have been fervently preparing for IPY opening events planned by the participating nations. Back in early 2006, the JC endorsed the idea of many *national* IPY launches to supplement the official IPY Opening Event on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 in Paris. This vision of multiple national launches gained enormous popularity. Eventually, more than 20 countries organized their national launch events (see the full list at <http://www.ipy.org/index.php?/ipy/detail/launch/>), between January 15<sup>th</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Many nations, like Canada, Norway, and the U.S., held several launches of IPY at various sites that featured public meetings, science sessions, press-conferences, concerts, live satellite links to the national research stations on polar ice sheets and vessels at sea. In addition, the European Parliament held the European ‘IPY launch’ in Strasbourg, on February 26<sup>th</sup>. The official International Opening Event in Paris on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 was organized jointly by the IPY Joint Committee and the two official co-sponsors of IPY, the International Union for Science (ICSU) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Interested readers may check numerous press releases and live reports from the Paris IPY Opening as well as from many launch events archived on the main IPY website at [www.ipy.org](http://www.ipy.org) and national IPY sites.

One of the many IPY launches was, perhaps, of unique symbolic importance and of greatest interest to the *Northern Notes*’ readers. It was the opening event for the ‘Indigenous Peoples’ International Polar Year’ that took place on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in the arctic town of Kautokeino/Guovdageaidnu, in the heart of the Sámi territory in northern Norway. The town itself has a special role in the IPY history as the site of one of the first IPY observational stations in 1882–1883. Planning and preparation for the ‘Indigenous IPY’ launch event have been done by the Sámi University College, Nordic Sami Institute, the Kautokeino Commune, International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry, and other local

institutions. Over 600 people, local residents and international guests, attended the opening event, including Helen Bjørnøy, Norwegian Minister of Environment; Ali Keskitalo, President of the Sami Parliament in Norway; Karsten Klepšvik, Chairman of the Senior Arctic Officials, Arctic Council. The event drew a wide range of Sami visitors, local people, school children, educators, policy makers and researchers (see <http://www.ip-ipy.org/programme/cms/109>). A beautiful IPY calendar for 2007 and 2008 was printed for the event. It features texts in three languages—Sámi, English, and Russian—and historical photographs of the local Sámi people and landscapes taken by the first IPY observer in Kautokeino, Sophus Tromholt, during his work in 1882–1883.

### **Summer 2007: The Rising IPY Tide**

In an ideal world, after the launch day the scientists are supposed to move into high gear and to depart to distant polar regions for fieldwork. This is how it mostly happened during the previous IPY ventures. In fact, two U.S. observational stations in Barrow, Alaska and in Lady Franklin Bay, Canada during IPY 1882–1883, were put to work in late summer 1881, almost a year prior to the official launch date. In IGY 1957–1958, preparatory efforts for the deployment of scientists in Antarctica were started as early as winter 1955/1956 (the ‘Deep Freeze’ mission). Many IPY 2007–2008 activities have likewise begun in winter 2007 or even in fall 2006 (with planning and logistics for them put in place even earlier – see [http://www.ipy.org/index.php?/ipy/detail/has\\_ipy\\_already\\_started/](http://www.ipy.org/index.php?/ipy/detail/has_ipy_already_started/)). Still, this IPY may, perhaps, be remembered for its relatively slow start.

The main reason, as stated earlier, was the delay in funding allocations under many national IPY programs. In fact, funding announcements kept coming during spring and early summer 2007, as were also notes of rejection for many projects. For example, the official list of 44 funded projects under the Canadian IPY program, the largest so far in terms of its *new* money, was disclosed at the Canadian opening ceremony on March 1<sup>st</sup>, held at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Québec (see [http://www.ipy-api.gc.ca/intl/index\\_e.html](http://www.ipy-api.gc.ca/intl/index_e.html)). Many IPY scientists were to learn about their funding status way past the official IPY opening date.

In the U.S., funding for IPY social science projects is coming out of various program announcements; so far, 12 U.S. social science projects have been already funded fully or partly (see: [http://www.nsf.gov/od/opp/ipy/ipy\\_awards\\_0607.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/od/opp/ipy/ipy_awards_0607.jsp)), including 4 IPY-related conferences and symposia (see below). However, there are still over 20 proposals under the ‘Humans in the Polar Regions’ program of the National Science Foundation that have been just reviewed; thus, more funding for U.S. IPY social research will be released shortly. In Denmark, the funding announcement for IPY-focused proposals (in the total amount of 23 M DKK, all for the JC-endorsed projects) has been delayed until mid August 2007 for the applications submitted to the Commission of Scientific Research in Greenland in spring 2007. Another installment of 23 M DKK will be granted to IPY initiatives in 2008. Many projects in other countries are similarly put ‘on hold,’ because of the funding uncertainty; they may not be operational until late 2007.

Nevertheless, the IPY scientists are doing their best to cope with budget shortages and delays. Here, the collaborative international nature of IPY becomes a great source of strength. Many, if not most of the project teams have applied for funding via several national programs; as a result, they often have multiple budget sources through their respective national channels. Thus even when some portion of the joint proposal is not funded other project efforts may proceed.

In addition, many IPY activities are going via other channels, like conferences and workshops, student training, and publications. The list of such IPY-focused events, both past and forthcoming, is very impressive. In May 2007, the Smithsonian Institution hosted a two-day interdisciplinary symposium “Smithsonian at the Poles: Contributions to IPY Science” (co-funded with NSF) in Washington, DC. It had sessions on history and legacy of IPY and on cultural research in the Arctic. The proceedings of the symposium will be published in early 2008. More IPY-focused meetings are coming shortly. In October 2007, the Smithsonian will host another international symposium, “Making Science Global: Reconsidering the Social and Intellectual Implications of the International Polar and Geophysical Years.” The 57<sup>th</sup> Arctic Science Conference organized by the American Association for the Advancement of Science

(AAAS) in Anchorage, Alaska in late September 2007 will be strongly focused on IPY; it is to have four social and human health-oriented sessions. During the same days, the International Polar Heritage Conference, 'Protection and Preservation of Scientific Bases in the Polar Regions,' (IPY project #135) will take place in Barrow, Alaska. Another polar heritage conference associated with IPY, "Polar Productions - Histories, Concepts and Visions of the North," will be organized on September 15-16, by the 'Foreign North' program and the Bildmuseet at the Umeå University in Umeå, Sweden. In recognition of the high role of human health issues in IPY 2007-2008, *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, the journal of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is preparing a special 'IPY' issue on new infectious diseases in the Arctic and Antarctica due January 2008.

Social science topics will be very strongly represented at the large "Sustained Arctic Observing Network" (SAON) meeting, to be organized jointly by the Swedish and Canadian IPY committees in Stockholm, Sweden in November 2007, and in Canada in 2008 (*see the contribution by Larry Hamilton, this issue*). And, of course, our focus will soon switch to the planning for the major IPY social science event, the Sixth International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS-6) in Nuuk in August 2008 (IPY project #69 - see Birger Poppel's paper, this issue). Overall, there will be plenty of IPY-related meetings and other activities to keep many of us booked for the next several years to come (please check the emerging IPY calendar at <http://calendar.arcus.org/upcomingevents.html>)

### **What Is Next for IPY 2007–2008?**

Whereas scientists from many nations are now working hard in IPY trenches, several groups have already started planning for the concluding events of IPY 2007–2008 and even for the post-IPY activities. The key players here are, again, the Joint Committee (JC), IPY Program Office (IPO), ICSU, WMO, as well as national IPY committees. The scope of the late- and post-IPY activities (2009–2011) was first discussed by the JC in September 2006. The JC unanimously agreed that IPY has to be completed with some major culminating event or even a series of events, like a big science conference or Congress. Letters have been sent to the National IPY Committees to

solicit ideas for prospective venues for such a conference in 2009 or 2010.

The JC also recommended that a major IPY event should, in fact, be held every two years, with the first taking place in summer 2008 (mid-IPY conference), the next in summer 2010, and a third in 2012. The mid-IPY science meeting in 2008 would be aimed at reviewing the progress in IPY research ("How are we doing?") and at identifying key issues in data processing, analysis, and post-IPY publications. The best format for such a meeting would be a joint session of two major polar science organizations, SCAR (Science Committee on Antarctic Research) and IASC (International Arctic Science Committee) that are actively involved in IPY. It happened that SCAR already had plans to hold its biennial Open Science Conference in St. Petersburg, Russia on July 8-11, 2008; it agreed to make it a joint SCAR-IASC conference titled "*Polar Research - Arctic and Antarctic Perspectives in the International Polar Year.*" Dr. Louwrens Hacquebord, Director of the Arctic Centre at the University of Groningen, Netherlands, and one of the IASC Vice-Presidents, will coordinate the social and human science agenda for that joint IASC-SCAR meeting in St. Petersburg in 2008, and IASC has already announced its intention to consult with IASSA on this matter.

By the opening date of IPY in March 2007, the JC received (and accepted) a proposal from Norway to host a major IPY science conference in Oslo in summer 2010. Such a culminating post-IPY event could bring together as many as 3000 scientists, educators, polar agency representatives, and Arctic residents. The Conference is to be held at the new Lillestrom Exhibition Centre; it is to cover all major research fields and educational/outreach activities advanced during IPY 2007–2008. It will become the first cross-disciplinary evaluation of the overall IPY science contribution ("What results did we achieve?"). Prospective themes for the conference are certain to dwell upon four "Urgencies for Polar Research" outlined in the *Scope of IPY Science* document (2007), such as Rapid change in polar regions; Linkages between the polar and the global environment; Polar neighbors (human well-being and community adaptations); and New frontiers in polar research. The IPY Joint Committee will work in partnership with the Norwegian IPY Committee, as well as IASC, SCAR, WMO and ICSU, to develop the agenda



for the Oslo conference. A substantial contribution may be also expected from the Arctic Council, which is to be chaired by Norway until early 2009 followed by Danish and, later, Swedish chairmanships.

The JC also recommended that all major disciplinary conferences and congresses to take place during 2009–2011 should be explored as venues for the post-IPY sessions and symposia. That includes several scheduled meetings of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) and European Geophysical Union (EGU), Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW), various meetings to be sponsored by SCAR, as well as the next International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS-7) to take place in 2011.

The final event for IPY 2007–2008 is now envisioned by the JC as a public- and/or policy-oriented forum (“IPY Science and Policy Conference”) in 2012 that would bring together policy makers, government managers as well as leading IPY scientists. The main goal for such a meeting should be the evaluation of key policy implications of IPY 2007–2008 regarding the impact of abrupt climate change in the polar regions; new international regime for collaborative science exploration in the Arctic (in the footsteps of the Antarctic Treaty, the key follow-up of IGY 1957–1958); strategies for economic development, navigation, and resource access as a result of the diminished sea ice and other environmental changes at the Poles; the role of polar residents in shaping policies in regional development, and the like. The meeting is almost certain to become a joint venture of many

interested parties and organizations; its scope is beyond any comparable events in polar science held since the IGY years. The contours of these and other post-IPY plans will be better seen next year. Stay tuned for more news on IPY 2007–2008.

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Many colleagues kindly shared up-to-date information on their respective national IPY programs cited in this paper. I am particularly grateful to Grete Hovelsrud (Norwegian IPY Committee), David Hik and Karen Edwards (Canadian IPY Committee), Henning Thing (Danish IPY Committee), Birger Poppel (Danish/Greenlandic IPY Committee), Riku Lavia (Finnish IPY Committee), Otto Habeck (German IPY Committee), Dag Avango (Swedish IPY Committee), Anna Kerttula and Martin Jeffries (U.S. National Science Foundation). Special thanks to Dave Carlson, Director, IPY International Programme Office in Cambridge, UK and to Yvon Csonka, for their many helpful remarks.

*Grete K. Hovelsrud and Igor Krupnik. IPY 2007–2008 and Social/Human Sciences. 2006. ARCTIC 59(3), 341–348.*

*Igor Krupnik* is a research anthropologist at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. He is a member of the IPY Joint Committee, as well as member of the IASSA Council.

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## *Sustained Arctic Observing Networks (SAON)*

By Larry Hamilton

One legacy of the International Polar Year (IPY) could be the development of networks for monitoring Arctic change that continue to collect, coordinate and evaluate data long after IPY itself ends. Ministers at the Arctic Council (AC) Ministerial Meeting in October 2006 articulated this goal by urging “all Member countries to maintain and extend long term monitoring of change in all parts of the Arctic,” and requested

“efforts to create a coordinated Arctic Observing Network that meets identified societal needs” (<http://www.arctic-council.org/Meetings/SAO/2007%20Tr/IPYforArcticCouncilApr07.pdf>). The Arctic Council requested the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP) to coordinate with other AC working groups, the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) and other partners in efforts to

create a coordinated Arctic observing network for this purpose.

IASSA was among the partners comprising the Initiating Group for this Sustained Arctic Observing Network or SAON (other partners besides IASSA include AC/AMAP, AOSB (Arctic Ocean Science Board), CLiC/WMO (Climate and Cryosphere/World Meteorological Organization), IASC, IPY and NSF). The SAON Initiating Group met for the first time in Tromsø last January, then again in New Hampshire in March, and most recently in Stockholm. I attended the January and March meetings as a representative for IASSA.

At the January meeting, five general aims of SAON were put forth:

1. Combining observational efforts by national agencies, research communities, local residents and others with a view to creating Sustained Arctic Observing Networks
2. Circumarctic focus and coverage
3. Inclusiveness
4. Accessible data (open, easy, timely, free)
5. Global connections

It was agreed that the next step should be to organize an inclusive, major workshop of “all interested parties” this fall, to begin mapping out how to facilitate the development of sustained observing networks in different domains. These domains include social science, with our interests in social and economic change, resources, human impacts of environmental change, and local observations of environmental conditions.

The first general SAON workshop will be held November 12–14 in Stockholm, with support from the Swedish IPY Committee. This workshop will

focus on whether current Arctic observing and data and information management activities are sufficient to meet users’ needs, and what should be done to improve them. Five thematic sessions are planned to discuss the following topics:

1. Climate and weather
2. Human health and wellbeing
3. Biodiversity and ecosystems
4. Social and economic development
5. Data and information management

The second and fourth topics focus explicitly on people, but all five hold clear interest for social scientists and Arctic communities. The agenda and lists of possible speakers for the Stockholm workshop are currently under discussion. Two future workshops, in Canada and Finland, are in the early stages of planning as well. By participating in these workshops, social scientists can help steer the directions that SAON takes so that it serves our needs, and those of Arctic communities, more effectively. Attendance is open to all interested representatives for organizations (such as IASSA) with an interest in sustained Arctic observation. The maximum number of participants will be limited to 150, with a smaller number of speakers selected by invitation. Voluntary contributions are welcome as posters.

Deadlines for the Stockholm workshop are September 15 for abstracts, and October 1 for registration. Visit the workshop web site, <http://www.arcticobserving.org/>, for the most up-to-date information. (*See the announcement of the first workshop in Sweden following this article*).

**Larry Hamilton** is a professor at the University of New Hampshire and represents IASSA in SAON

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### ***Announcement - Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON) First Workshop -November 12-14 2007, Stockholm (Sweden)***

Abstract Submission Deadline: 15 September 2007  
Registration Deadline: 1 October 2007

The need for a well coordinated and sustained Arctic Observing Network that meets scientific and societal needs has been identified in numerous high profile reports and at a variety of workshops

and conferences. In November 2006, the Arctic Council (AC) urged all member nations to maintain and extend long-term monitoring of change in the Arctic, with a view to building a lasting legacy of the International Polar Year (IPY). Further, the AC requested that its working group the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) work with other AC working

groups, the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) and other partners in efforts to create a coordinated Arctic Observing Network that meets identified societal needs. The goal of developing an Arctic Observing Network as a legacy of IPY (WMO/ICSU) was endorsed by the WMO XV Congress in May 2007.

In January 2007, the Sustained Arctic Observing Networks Initiating Group (SAON IG), composed of representatives of international organizations, agencies and northern residents involved in research, operational and local observing, has been formed to develop a set of recommendations on how to achieve long-term Arctic-wide observing activities that provide free, open and timely access to high quality data that will realize pan-Arctic and global value-added services and provide societal benefits.

The Swedish and Canadian IPY Committees have agreed to take the lead in the launch of the SAON initiative by running a succession of workshops together with the SAON IG. The first workshop will be held in Sweden (Stockholm, 12-14 November 2007) and the second workshop will be held in Canada (spring 2008). A third workshop in

Finland is planned for autumn 2008, hosted by the Finnish Meteorological Institute.

The members of the Workshop Organizing Committee invite you to the first workshop on Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks which will be held 12-14 November 2007 in Stockholm, Sweden.

Kjell Danell (co-chair), IPY Joint Committee  
Sverker Sörlin (co-chair), Swedish IPY Committee  
John Calder, AMAP  
David Carlson, IPY IPO  
David Hik, Canadian IPY Committee  
Volker Rachold, IASC  
Odd Rogne, AMAP and IPY IPO

For further information, please go to:  
[www.arcticobserving.org](http://www.arcticobserving.org)

or contact:

Anders Clarhäll at the Swedish Research Council  
Email: [Anders.Clarhall@vr.se](mailto:Anders.Clarhall@vr.se)  
Phone: +46 8 546 44 149

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## *News from Members*

### ***The Norwegian-Russian part of CAVIAR - Community Adaptation and Vulnerability in the Arctic Regions 2007- 2010***

Part of the International Polar Year – IPY 2007-2008 (Project ID # 157) CAVIAR Consortium  
Led by Barry Smit, University of Guelph, Canada  
and Grete K. Hovelsrud CICERO - Center for International Climate and Environmental Research, Oslo

The Arctic is experiencing rapid changes in environmental, societal and economic conditions. While there is a general agreement that changes in climate, and associated conditions, are likely to pose significant challenges for Arctic communities, the nature of these risks and the most effective means of dealing with them are poorly understood.

The particular conditions to which communities are sensitive have yet to be comprehensively documented. Additionally, the conditions that might facilitate or constrain the adaptive capacity in the face of interacting climate and socioeconomic changes need to be substantiated. Insight into the particular vulnerabilities of Arctic communities has not been compared across the Arctic countries, nor are these studies well connected with policy development. The CAVIAR Consortium is designed to meet these research gaps. Through interdisciplinary collaboration across the eight Arctic nations, CAVIAR will provide a deeper understanding of the particular socioeconomic, climatic and environmental conditions to which Arctic communities are sensitive – in the context of multiple factors of change.

Vulnerability and adaptive capacity to climate change is highly complex and can vary significantly with location. CAVIAR focus on place-based research well grounded in local experience, to get a broad and thorough picture of the complex relationships among the environmental, economic and social processes that drive change. The Norwegian-Russian CAVIAR project, led by Dr Hovelsrud, CICERO, will conduct place-based field work in Nesseby and Hammerfest in Northern Norway, and Lovozero and Nenets AO in Northern Russia. In these communities, local residents will take active part in shaping the project, from the beginning to the end, to ensure that relevant aspects needed to anchor the project locally are included. This will also make sure that the results of the study have local policy relevance.

The partners in the Norwegian-Russian project are CICERO, the Norwegian Meteorological Institute and the Institute of Northern Nations, Russian Herzen State Pedagogical University. The project involves researchers from a variety of disciplines, including anthropology and meteorology. The combination of research methodologies employed in the CAVIAR project, leads to knowledge about the processes that shape local vulnerability and adaptation to changing social and environmental conditions in Arctic communities. In the end, the common methodological and theoretical framework utilized in the different CAVIAR projects, makes it possible to compare and integrate results from the individual case studies in the CAVIAR consortium for a pan-Arctic assessment of community vulnerability and adaptability.

For further information visit

<http://www.cicero.uio.no/projects/detail.asp?id=30170&lang=en>

or read the IPY project description at

<http://classic.ipy.org/development/eoi/proposal-details.php?id=157>

**Grete K. Hovelsrud** is Research Director at the Centre for International Climate and Environmental Change (CICERO) in Oslo, Norway

**Stine Rybraten** is a Ph.D. student at CICERO

### ***Inuit Midwifery in Canada: Supporting its Restoration through Information-sharing***

The ***Irnisuksiiniq – Inuit Midwifery Network*** is an information-sharing network that seeks to contribute to the long-term goal of Inuit providing maternity care services to their communities with Inuit maternity care workers and Inuit midwives who combine cultural (traditional) knowledge and practices with effective, contemporary maternity care models.

The ***Irnisuksiiniq – Inuit Midwifery Network*** was developed by the Ajunnginiq Centre, which is the Inuit-specific department at the National Aboriginal Health Organization, to provide valuable, culturally relevant resources to Inuit midwives and maternity care workers.

The network is primarily a web-based technology service. The Web site, [www.inuitmidwifery.ca](http://www.inuitmidwifery.ca), (see *On the Web* section also) was launched in May 2006 in English and French – and is now available online in Inuktitut. Through an e-mail listserve, the ***Irnisuksiiniq – Inuit Midwifery Network*** provides subscribers with resources on the field of midwifery and maternal care, including health promotion information, research articles, training possibilities, and newspaper clippings. All resources are also posted on the companion Web site.

As the ***Irnisuksiiniq – Inuit Midwifery Network*** grows and gains momentum, it hopes to contribute to a greater awareness by policy-makers and others of the importance of in-community birthing and culturally-appropriate care. The network's Web site links to a variety of sources of Inuit traditional knowledge and to information on Inuit models that combine traditional knowledge and practices with modern maternity care methods. With the expansion of connectivity in Inuit communities, information about the practice of Inuit midwifery can be shared rapidly and freely through the network. Providing new research and information to community-based health providers is a vital contribution to the restoration of birthing in Inuit communities and improved birth outcomes.

**Denise Rideout**, Communications Officer  
Ajunnginiq (Inuit) Centre, National Aboriginal  
Health Organization



## *Conferences and Meetings*

### **November 1-3, 2007**

#### **15th Arctic Conference**

Idaho State University  
Pocatello, Idaho

Conference Announcement and Call for Papers

Abstract Submission Deadline: 1 October 2007

The 15th Arctic Conference will be held on 1-3 November 2007, at Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho. The annual conference is an informal symposium of archaeologists, anthropologists, ecologists, and geologists who gather once a year to share data and new findings and to plan collaborative research activities. Guest speakers at the conference are Robert McGhee and Patricia Sutherland of the Canadian Museum of Civilization. The conference is especially suited to student participants who are encouraged to present findings from thesis and dissertation research. A research workshop of the Sanak Biocomplexity

Project will occur during and following the conference.

For further information and to submit an abstract, please contact:

Herbert D. G. Maschner  
Department of Anthropology  
Idaho State University  
Phone: 208-282-2745  
E-mail: [maschner@isu.edu](mailto:maschner@isu.edu)

### **November 12-14, 2007**

#### **Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks, (SAON) First Workshop**

Stockholm, Sweden  
See above (p.10)

### **February 21-23 2008**

#### **Arctic Discourses 2008**

Tromsø, Norway

Conference Announcement and Call for Papers

Abstract Submission Deadline: 15 September 2007

Registration Deadline: 1 November 2007

The conference "Arctic Discourses 2008" will be held on 21-23 February 2008 in Tromsø, Norway. The conference is part of the research program of the Arktiske diskurser project, based at the University of Tromsø, and is funded by the Research Council of Norway and University of Tromsø.

Descriptions of the Arctic and sub-Arctic provide rich material produced both in the Arctic and in other parts of the world. The extent of this descriptive material has increased considerably since the Romantic period, hand in hand with the systematic scientific investigation of these regions. These descriptions will often correspond more or less to arctic realities, but also constitute their own reality: the way in which the Arctic has been understood and imagined throughout history. Taken together, they make up a discourse on the Arctic, formed both by actual arctic experiences and its own intertextual continuities – in addition to many other earlier and contemporaneous discourses, including the discourse of literature.

This conference will concentrate on arctic discourses after Romanticism up to the present day, using approaches developed within literary studies. It will focus both on arctic discourse in literary texts and literary discourse in non-literary descriptions of the Arctic. It will examine the development of arctic discourses; the use of narrative, figurative, and generic strategies in arctic discourses; and the effect of changing communication technologies on arctic discourses. It will also focus on contact zones between the European/American and the Arctic, and cultures that identify themselves as both Arctic and European/American.

Suggested themes for panels include:

- Romantic and post-romantic sublimes in arctic discourses
- Arcticism, arctic counter-discourses and arctic indigenous literatures

- Gendering the Arctic
- Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine discourses
- From exploration to sport: the history of arctic discourse
- Arctic travel writing
- Borders and limits in arctic discourses
- Living between the Arctic and the European/American
- Subject positions and identities in arctic discourse
- The Arctic in art and film
- Changing conceptions of northernness and arcticity
- Nature's discourses in the Arctic
- Arctic metaphors in fiction and poetry
- Approaching the Arctic with literary, cultural, and discourse analysis
- Changing technologies, changing media, changing arctic discourses
- Genre and the circulation of signs in arctic discourse
- Embodying/textualizing the Arctic in postmodern novels and popular fictions

- Narrative in arctic expedition reports, travel writing, and reportage

For further information, to register, and submit an abstract, please go to:

<http://uit.no/humfak/arkdisk/4?Language=en>

or contact:

Silje Gaupseth

E-mail: [silje.gaupseth@hum.uit.no](mailto:silje.gaupseth@hum.uit.no)

**August 25-29, 2008**

**Sixth International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS VI)**

Nuuk, Greenland

See Announcement above (p.2)

**See more Arctic conferences at**

**<http://calendar.arcus.org/>**

## *New Books, Dissertations & Film*

### Books

#### ***Apostle to the Inuit: The Journals and Ethnographic Notes of Edmund James Peck - The Baffin Years, 1894-1905***

Edited by Frédéric Laugrand, Jarich Oosten, and François Trudel

University of Toronto Press

Cloth, 420 pp

ISBN 978-0-8020-9042-7

For more information on the book:

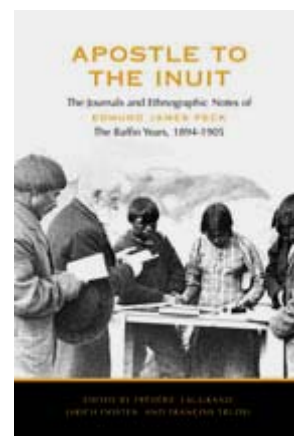
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*Apostle to the Inuit* presents the journals and ethnographical notes of Reverend Edmund James Peck, an Anglican missionary who opened the first mission among the Inuit of Baffin Island in 1894. He stayed until 1905, and by that time, had firmly established Christianity in the North. He became known to the Inuit as ‘Uqammaq,’ the one who

talks well. His colleagues knew him as ‘Apostle among the Eskimo.’



Peck's diaries of the period focus on his missionary work and the adoption of Christianity

by the Inuit and provide an impressive account of the daily life and work of the early missionaries in Baffin Island. His ethnographic data was collected at the request of famed anthropologist Franz Boas in 1897. Peck conducted extensive research on Inuit oral traditions and presents several detailed verbatim accounts of shamanic traditions and practises. This work continues to be of great value for a better understanding of Inuit culture and history but was never before published.

*Apostle to the Inuit* demonstrates how a Christian missionary who was bitterly opposed to shamanism, became a devoted researcher of this complex tradition. Editors Frédéric Laugrand, Jarich Oosten, and François Trudel highlight the relationships between Europeans and Inuit and discuss central issues facing native peoples and missionaries in the North. They also present a selection of fascinating drawings made by Inuit at the request of Peck, which illustrate Inuit life on Baffin Island at the turn of the twentieth century. The book offers important new data on the history of the missions among the Inuit as well as on the history of Inuit religion and the anthropological study of Inuit oral traditions.

**Frédéric Laugrand** is an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology at Université Laval.

**Jarich Oosten** is a professor in the Department of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology at Universiteit Leiden.

**François Trudel** is a professor in the Department of Anthropology at Université Laval.

### ***The Arctic Promise: Legal and Political Autonomy of Greenland and Nunavut***

By Natalia Loukacheva

University of Toronto Press, 2007

Paperback, 272 pp

ISBN 978-0-8020-9486-5

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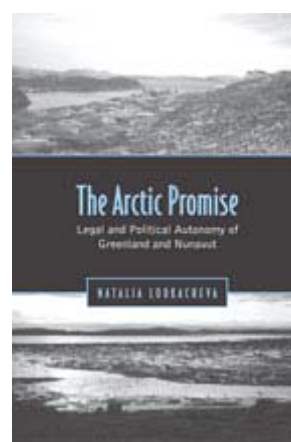
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Email: [utpbooks@utpress.utoronto.ca](mailto:utpbooks@utpress.utoronto.ca)

In Canada's Eastern Arctic and Greenland, the Inuit have been the majority for centuries. In recent years, they have been given a promise from Canadian and Danish governments that offers them more responsibility for their lands and thus control over their lives without fear of being outnumbered by outsiders. The Arctic Promise looks at how much the Inuit vision of self-governance relates to the existing public governance systems of Greenland and Nunavut, and how much autonomy there can be for territories that remain subordinate units of larger states.



By means of a bottom-up approach, involving cultural immersion, contextual, jurisprudential, and historical legal comparisons of Greenland and Nunavut, *The Arctic Promise* examines the forms, evolution, and scope of the right to autonomy in these Arctic jurisdictions. Loukacheva argues that the right to autonomy should encompass or protect Inuit jurisdiction in legal systems and the administration of justice, and allow the Inuit direct participation in international affairs where their homelands are concerned. *The Arctic Promise* deals with areas of comparative constitutional law, international law, Aboriginal law, legal anthropology, political science and international relations, using each to contribute to the understanding of the right to indigenous autonomy.

**Natalia Loukacheva** is a post-doctoral fellow at the Munk Centre for International Studies at the University of Toronto.

### *The Economy of the North*

Edited by S.Glomsrød and I.Aslaksen  
Statistics Norway, Oslo, 2006  
ISBN 82-537-7111-8 Printed version  
ISBN 82-537-7112-6 Electronic version  
ISSN 0804-3221  
99 pages  
180 NOK (incl. VAT)

The objective of *The Economy of the North* is to present a comprehensive overview of the economy of the circumpolar Arctic, including the traditional production activities of the indigenous people. The report discusses the importance of the Arctic economy from a global perspective, with particular focus on the natural resources in the Arctic region. Finally, likely effects of climate change on the Arctic economy are discussed.

This publication can be ordered at [www.ssb.no](http://www.ssb.no)

### ***Феникс из пепла? Сибирский шаманизм на рубеже тысячелетий.***

Харитонов В.И.  
Институт этнологии и антропологии им.  
Н.Н.Миклухо-Маклая РАН. – Москва: 2006.-  
***Feniks iz Pepla? Sibirskii Shamanizm na Rubezhe Tysiacheletii.***

Kharitonova, V. I.  
Institut etnologii i antropologii im. N. N.  
Mikluko-Maklaia RAN. Moskba 2006.  
372 pp.  
ISBN 5-02-033516-9.  
*This publication is in Russian*

*A Phoenix from the Ashes? Siberian Shamanism at the Turn of the Millennium* analyzes the “shamanism revival” of the last two decades. On the bases of her own field materials, local mass media, scholarly and popular materials, the author characterizes the processes taking place in different Siberian regions and as an echo the situation in Moscow. The author lays down her theoretical concept of shamanism and shamanizing, analyzing both traditional shamanism and its history, new forms positioning themselves as continuations of shamanic traditions (neoshamanism, city shamanism, experiential shamanism), as well as the usage of shamanic techniques in neoreligious sects. The book is meant for ethnologists, religious studies specialists, folklorists, psychologists, neurophysiologists,

historians, politicians and everybody who is interested in this field.

### ***International Handbook of Research On Indigenous Entrepreneurship***

Edited by Léo-Paul Dana and Robert Anderson  
Edwards Elgar Publishing, 2007  
Hardback, 640 pp  
ISBN 978-1-84376-834-0

To order visit [http://www.edgar.co.uk/Bookentry\\_contents.lasso?id=3449](http://www.edgar.co.uk/Bookentry_contents.lasso?id=3449)

The comprehensive and thoroughly accessible *International Handbook of Research on Indigenous Entrepreneurship* aims to develop a multidisciplinary theory explaining entrepreneurship as a function of cultural perceptions of opportunity.

The Handbook presents a multitude of fascinating, superbly illustrated studies on the facets of entrepreneurship amongst indigenous peoples. Chapters elaborating on the history, culture, values and objectives underpinning indigenous entrepreneurship introduce the subject, providing essential background information. A series of sections then convey the variances and idiosyncrasies of indigenous entrepreneurship in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Americas and the South Pacific. The Handbook concludes by drawing on its original, rich and varied empirical studies to explain why people from different cultures possess different indigenous values, and therefore different entrepreneurship experiences and practices, even when exposed to similar stimuli.

Proposing that what is an opportunity for some people is less so for others with different ideals, and that opportunity recognition is largely culturally determined, this unique, colourful account of indigenous enterprise will provide an intriguing read for those with an interest in entrepreneurship and development studies.

**Léo-Paul Dana** is an Associate Professor at the Department of Management, University of Canterbury, New Zealand

**Robert B. Anderson** is a Professor at the University of Regina, Canada



### ***Names & Nunavut: Culture and Identity in the Inuit Homeland***

By Valerie Alia

Berghahn Books, New York and Oxford (UK)

2007

208 pages

ISBN 978-1-84545-165-3

Available from: Amazon.com; Amazon.uk;

<http://www.berghahnbooks.com>

On the surface, naming is simply a way to classify people and their environments. The premise of this study is that it is much more – a form of social control, a political activity, a key to identity maintenance and transformation. Governments legislate and regulate naming; people fight to take, keep, or change their names. A name change can indicate subjugation or liberation, depending on the circumstances. But it always signifies a change in power relations. Since the late 1970s, the author has looked at naming and renaming, cross-culturally and internationally, with particular attention to the effects of colonisation and liberation. The experience of Inuit in Canada is an example of both. Colonisation is only part of the Nunavut experience. Contrary to the dire predictions of cultural genocide theorists, Inuit culture – particularly traditional naming – has remained extremely strong, and is in the midst of a renaissance. Here is a ground-breaking study by the founder of the discipline of political onomastics.

**Valerie Alia** is Professor of Ethics and Identity at Leeds Metropolitan University and a Senior Associate of the Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge University.

### ***Thin Ice: Inuit Traditions within a Changing Environment***

Edited by Nicole Stuckenberg

Exhibition catalog for 'Thin Ice: Inuit traditions within a Changing Environment', Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover NH, January 27-May 13, 2007.

With contributions by William Fitzhugh, Aqqaluk Lynge, Kesler Woodward, and Igor Krupnik & Ross Virginia & Ken Yalowitz.

Hood Museum of Art, 2007

80 p.

ISBN 0-944722-33-4

Distributed by University Press of New England, Hanover and London. [www.upne.com](http://www.upne.com)

### ***An exploration of the human dimensions of climate change***

The earth's Polar Regions have been the subject of three major research initiatives called "international polar years" (IPY). Beginning with the first IPY in 1882–1883, these initiatives have shared the goal of advancing basic scientific knowledge of the geography and geophysical processes of these remote lands and oceans. International polar year events have always captured the imagination of the public, yet the Polar Regions remain a distant and disconnected realm for most people.

The global science community is set to begin another IPY in 2007–2008 with a special sense of urgency: simply put, the Polar Regions are a critical part of the earth's climate system, which is now undergoing rapid change in response to human activities. The 2007–2008 events will extend beyond basic studies in the geophysical and biological sciences to focus on global climate change and the research presently underway to advance our understanding of the human dimensions of a shifting Arctic environment. Climate change is a pressing and much debated phenomenon of our time. *Thin Ice* accompanies an important exhibition, which opened on January 20, 2007 at the Hood Museum of Art, one of the first to explore the human dimensions of climate change in the Inuit concept and perception of the Arctic climate as part of their culture. The exhibition presents objects from the Hood's permanent collection—boat miniatures, harpoons, masks, clothing, prints, and canoes, along with photographs—that are deeply embedded in the social and spiritual fabric of Inuit society while addressing the global debate around climate change. The Hood Museum of Art has partnered with the John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding and the Institute of Arctic Studies in the development of what will be the first comprehensive exhibition of Dartmouth's Arctic collections and this accompanying catalogue.

The exhibition is curated by A. Nicole Stuckenberg, Stefansson Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute of Arctic Studies, Dickey Center for International Understanding, Dartmouth College, as part of International Polar Year. At every stage of the exhibition and catalogue project, the Hood Museum of Art, the Institute of Arctic Studies, and Dr. Stuckenberg received support from William Fitzhugh, Director of the Arctic Studies Center,

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Igor Krupnik, Curator of Circumpolar Ethnology at the Arctic Studies Center, Kenneth S. Yalowitz, director of the Dickey Center and Ross A. Virginia, head of the Institute and Professor of Environmental Studies, who generously supported the exhibition and catalogue throughout this project. Ross Virginia has spearheaded the

programs and conferences at the College in relation to the International Polar Year.

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## *On the Web*

### ***Arctic Forum 2006 - Abstract Volume***

Arctic Research Consortium of the United States (ARCUS)

For further information and to download the volume, please go to:

[http://www.arcus.org/annual\\_meetings/arctic\\_forum\\_archive/2006/contents.html](http://www.arcus.org/annual_meetings/arctic_forum_archive/2006/contents.html)

ARCUS is pleased to announce the publication of "Arctic Forum 2006," a volume of abstracts from oral and poster presentations at the Arctic Forum held 25-26 May 2006 in Washington, DC. The theme for the 2006

Forum was "International Arctic Research at a Turning Point: Innovations and Collaborations for the Future."

To receive this and future volumes of the Arctic Forum abstracts, please subscribe online at: [http://www.arcus.org/annual\\_meetings/subscription.html](http://www.arcus.org/annual_meetings/subscription.html)

You may also request copies of "Arctic Forum 2006" from the ARCUS office at 907-474-1600 or [subscriptions@arcus.org](mailto:subscriptions@arcus.org). All online ARCUS publications are available at: <http://www.arcus.org/Publications/index.html>

### ***Irnisuksiiniq - Inuit Midwifery Network website***

The Web site, [www.inuitmidwifery.ca](http://www.inuitmidwifery.ca), was launched in May 2006 in English and French – and is now available online in Inuktitut. Through an e-

mail listserve, the *Irnisuksiiniq* – Inuit Midwifery Network provides subscribers with resources on

the field of midwifery and maternal care, including health promotion information, research articles, training possibilities, and newspaper clippings. All resources are also posted on the companion Web site. See the *News from Members* section for more on the Irnisuksiiniq Inuit Midwifery Network.

### ***Human Dimensions of the Arctic System (HARC) Report***

International Polar Year Planning Report

The HARC report is available online at: [http://www.arcus.org/harc/dc\\_spring\\_07/index.html](http://www.arcus.org/harc/dc_spring_07/index.html)

A report on "Human Dimensions of the Arctic System (HARC) Open Meeting and Planning Core Office Activities for the International Polar Year" is now available online. The report provides a review of the HARC Open Meeting, held as part of the Arctic Forum in May 2007 in Washington, DC, and planning by the HARC Core Office of activities to further human dimensions research during and beyond IPY.

The HARC Open Meeting included an overview of the development and role of HARC within the National Science Foundation's Arctic System Science (ARCSS) Program and an introduction to the current organizational structure of the HARC Core Office and the members of the HARC Science Steering Committee. The meeting also included a summary of recent Core Office activities and accomplishments and information on funding opportunities for human dimensions research.

The report features proposed activities to further human dimensions research within the context of IPY and over the longer term, including proposal pressure on behalf of human dimensions-related research, entrainment of early career scientists, HARC participation in upcoming conferences and meetings, and establishing a publications database and survey of international human dimensions projects.

As part of the ARCSS Program, HARC aims to increase integration between social and natural science researchers, as well as contribute knowledge about the human aspects of the arctic system to ARCSS researchers, the global science communities, and decision-makers and stakeholders.

The HARC Core Office welcomes input on the report and its proposed IPY activities.

The HARC report is available at:  
[http://www.arcus.org/harc/dc\\_spring\\_07/index.html](http://www.arcus.org/harc/dc_spring_07/index.html)

For further information about HARC, please go to:  
<http://www.arcus.org/harc/index.html>

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University of Alaska Fairbanks  
E-mail: [ffmsm@uaf.edu](mailto:ffmsm@uaf.edu)

### ***Results from the Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic (SLiCA) available online***

As part of the launch of the International Polar Year, results from the *Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic* (SLiCA) has been made available (March 23<sup>rd</sup>) via the web at [www.arcticlivingconditions.org](http://www.arcticlivingconditions.org) (see "SLiCA Results"). The goals of the Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic are to: (1) measure living conditions in a way that is meaningful to Arctic residents; (2) document and compare the present state of living conditions among the indigenous peoples of the Arctic; and, (3) improve the understanding of living conditions in ways that will benefit Arctic residents. Available results

include an Overview Paper, 583 Tables, and the International Core Questionnaire.

The Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic is a partnership of indigenous peoples and researchers from the United States, Canada, Greenland, Russia, Norway, Sweden, and Finland. The results released to the public March 23<sup>rd</sup> are based on more than 7,000 interviews. The results can be generalized to all indigenous adults living in the three Iñupiat settlement regions of Alaska, the four Inuit settlement regions of Canada, all of Greenland, and Chukotka, Russia.

Major Findings include:

- A combination of traditional activities and cash employment is the prevailing lifestyle of Arctic indigenous people. It takes money to pursue traditional activities; households with higher incomes can, and do, choose to spend income on these activities. Nine in ten Inuit think traditional activities are important to their identity.
- Family ties, social support of each other, and traditional activities have a lot to do with why indigenous people choose to remain in Arctic communities.
- Well-being is closely related to job opportunities, locally available fish and game, and a sense of local control. Well-being and depression (and related problems like suicide) are flip sides of the same coin. Improving well-being may reduce social problems.
- Health conditions vary widely in the Arctic: three in four Greenlandic Inuit self-rate their health as at least very good compared with one in two Canadian and Alaska Inuit and one in five Chukotka indigenous people.

SLiCA exemplifies the goals of the International Polar Year. In the US IPY Press Release <http://www8.nationalacademies.org/onpinews/newsitem.aspx?RecordID=02262007> "The polar regions are central to many of the key scientific questions of our times," said Robin Bell, chair of the U.S. National Committee for the International Polar Year, and geophysicist, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia University, Palisades, N.Y. "IPY provides a framework to undertake projects that normally could not be achieved by any single nation, and it allows us to think beyond traditional borders -- whether

national borders or disciplinary constraints toward a new level of integrated, cooperative science.

Major funding sources for the 6.4 million dollar SLICA study include the US National Science Foundation, the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Statistics Canada, the Nordic Council of Ministers, and the Greenland Home Rule Government.

For further information, contact Birger Poppel ([bipo@ilisimatusarfik.gl](mailto:bipo@ilisimatusarfik.gl)) or Jack Kruse ([afjak@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:afjak@uaa.alaska.edu)).

***Samfundsøkonomen - The Economist -  
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Atlantic Regional Economies***

*This publication is in Danish*

Edited by Gorm Winther (guest editor), Ole Jess Olsen, Christian Borch, Niels Enrum, Anders Hede, Lotte Jensen, Niels Kærgård, Niels Ploug & Anita Vium

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## ***On IASSA***

### **Membership conditions and benefits**

Membership is open to anyone interested in Arctic social sciences. Membership is required to participate in the ICASS (International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences). Members receive the IASSA Newsletter, and may subscribe to IASSA.Net, IASSA's e-mail listserv. Membership dues cover secretariat costs and assist towards organizing the ICASS and other activities furthering the objectives of IASSA, such as representation at Arctic Council.

***Membership fees (all fees are for three years of membership)***

***Residents of Europe, North America, Australia, New Zealand and Japan***

### **Full membership: DKK 800 for three years**

Open to all individuals involved in Arctic social sciences research/issues

### **Associate membership: DKK 400 for three years**

Open to all individuals involved in Arctic social sciences research/issues who are retired or unemployed

### **Student membership: DKK 200 for three years**

Special promotional fee valid for the first three years of membership (this promotion is valid until August 2008). A student is a person whose main activity is to study or research at university level, up until obtaining their PhD.



*Residents of other countries, including Russia*

**Full membership: DKK 400 for three years**

Open to all individuals involved in Arctic social sciences research and issues

**Associate membership: DKK 200 for three years**

Open to all individuals involved in Arctic social sciences research/issues who are retired or unemployed

**Student membership: DKK 100 for three years**

Special promotional fee valid for the first three years of membership (this promotion is valid until August 2008). A student is a person whose main activity is to study or research at university level, up until obtaining their PhD.

**Affiliated membership**

There is currently no such category of IASSA

members. However, institutions may address themselves to the IASSA secretariat if they wish to subscribe to the IASSA Newsletter.

Approximate equivalents (November 2006):  
800 DKK = 138 USD = 156 CAD = 107 EUR  
400 DKK = 69 USD = 78 CAD = 54 EUR  
200 DKK = 35 USD = 39 CAD = 27 EUR  
100 DKK = 17 USD = 19 CAD = 13 EUR

Nota Bene:

1. If you have difficulties forwarding your membership fee to IASSA, please contact the IASSA secretariat at [iassa@ilisimatusarfik.gl](mailto:iassa@ilisimatusarfik.gl) to discuss a possible solution.

2. Only members who have paid the membership fee can attend ICASS and are entitled to voting privileges.

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*Notabene!*

**New ICASS VI dates!**

**Please be aware that the dates for ICASS VI in Nuuk in August 2008 has been changed. See the 4<sup>th</sup> ICASS VI Announcement in this issue for further information on this change of schedule. The new ICASS VI dates are August 22-26, both days included, in 2008.**