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# Northern Notes

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

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## ***From the President***

Thirty students from eleven countries availed themselves of the reduced membership fee introduced in late 2007, to become members of IASSA. As more than two hundred members have not paid their membership dues in the past two years, our association is undergoing renewal, and a shift of generations. We may however expect that many lapsed memberships will be renewed, as happened in the past, in conjunction with registration for participation in our upcoming International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences in Nuuk, Greenland (ICASS, see the fifth announcement in this issue).

The International Polar Year (IPY) is in full swing now, and together with the prospects opened by rapid warming and melting in the Arctic, it attracts on the region the attention of the media and of the general public in the whole world. ICASS will be the main venue for taking stock of, and networking, social science projects in the IPY. In the meantime, science policy circles are already planning the

legacy of this polar year, under many aspects such as sustaining the observing effort and the research networks created, taking advantage of increased international collaboration, making data widely available, etc. The Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON) process is gathering momentum, and will organize two workshops in 2008 (see Larry Hamilton's contribution in this issue).

The IASSA Council had planned to set up an online database of social scientists, on the model of the International Directory of Arctic Social Scientists (IDASS) published in 1997 by Ernest S. Burch, Jr. Robert Wheelersburg came up with a project similar to IASSA's, at the same time. With funding from the US-NSF and fruitful collaborations with IASSA and other organizations, IDASS-2 has become a reality for the benefit of all (see the report from Robert Wheelersburg below).

The next, and long-awaited climax in the life of our association is coming up, with our congress next August in Nuuk. There will be

direct flights to Greenland from North America and from Copenhagen, and generous sponsors will probably allow us to offer travel subsidies to some of those who have lesser chances to access institutional funding. Information is available in the announcement

below, on our website and through our electronic list. Hoping to see many of you in Nuuk in August 2008!

Yvon Csonka

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## ***From the Secretary***

Though a lot of you have had plenty of contact with me through the last 3-4 months an introduction would be in place, since I've replaced Inge at the secretariat after she finished her studies at the University of Greenland Ilisimatusarfik with an outstanding degree on her thesis!

At the moment I'm studying Administration at Ilisimatusarfik and have 2 semesters left before I expect to receive my bachelor degree within a year. I was born in Tasiilaq East Greenland in 1972, but consider Nuuk my hometown. I've also lived 12-14 years in Denmark and in various towns in Greenland as part of my former career in the tourism industry.

During my board membership and secretary status of small associations here in Greenland I've had the opportunity to work with numerous secretary tasks and I'm looking very much forward to continuing Inge's former job as secretary of IASSA.

The secretariat and the university moved to the new university campus "Ilimmarfik" in December and January. It has been a bit chaotic at times, but must acknowledge that the idea of concentrating various educational and research institutions in a whole new setting, for among other reasons the synergy effect has proved very positive. In the next issue we'll have a more in-depth introduction of the new institution.

The preparations for the congress are running more or less smoothly – yes, must admit we've not gotten as far ahead on the

registration site as we had wished and it is due to the lack of an agreement with the Air Greenland, which are the main aeroplane operator to and within Greenland. We are hoping very much this will be settled very soon. We'll give a notice on our web-stie [www.iassa.gl](http://www.iassa.gl) and IASSA.listserv as soon as the registration site is ready!



*Ilimmarfik © Photo by Birgit Kleist Pedersen*

Also note that if you've sent mails to [iassa@ilisimatusarfik.gl](mailto:iassa@ilisimatusarfik.gl) it might have gotten lost among the round 300 spam-mails we receive EVERY day on this address. So in the future please use either [jack@adm.uni.gl](mailto:jack@adm.uni.gl) or [iassa@uni.gl](mailto:iassa@uni.gl)

Well, all for now, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you should have any questions at all regarding myself, IASSA or Greenland then I will to the best of my abilities try to help you.

Looking very much forward to working together with you and seeing all of you in Nuuk this summer!

Janus Chemnitz Kleist

## *1st IPY Workshop on Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON)*

*By Larry Hamilton*

IASSA members and Arctic residents, along with many natural scientists, were among the 115 participants from 18 countries who gathered in Stockholm November 12–14 for the 1st International Polar Year Workshop on Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON). The SAON process aims “to develop a set of recommendations for coordination and promotion of sustained, integrated Arctic Observing Networks that provide free, open and timely access to high quality data ... that realize broad societal benefits throughout the Arctic and around the world” (from the 1st workshop agenda). Much information about this open process can be found on the SAON website, <http://www.arcticobserving.org/> As described in our previous Newsletter, IASSA has been among the Initiating Group (IG) members of SAON.

The 1st workshop addressed the question: Are current Arctic observing and data and information management activities sufficient to meet users’ needs? The initial day and a half of the three-day workshop involved plenary talks on relevant subjects, including several by social scientists.

- Climate and weather — Erland Källén, David Bromwich, Laura Furgione
- Human health and well-being — Birger Poppel, James Berner
- Biodiversity and ecosystems — Terry Callaghan, Sune Sohlberg, Lene Kielsen Holm
- Social and economic development — Rasmus Ole Rasmussen, Sven Roald Nystø
- Data and information — Mark Parsons, Joan Nymand Larsen, Marie Robidoux
- Approaches for Arctic observation — Margareta Johansson, Morten Rasch, Oleg Anisimov

Slides and summaries from these presentations are available online: [http://www.arcticobserving.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=37&Itemid=51](http://www.arcticobserving.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=37&Itemid=51)

At the conclusion of plenary sessions, the workshop organized into five breakout groups that focused on information needs within particular realms of observation.

- Atmosphere
- Ocean and ice
- Hydrology and cryosphere
- Terrestrial ecosystems
- Human dimensions

Most of the social scientists present joined the human-dimensions group. IASSA president Yvon Csonka has drafted a summary report on these discussions, soon to be available, as well as those from the other groups at [http://www.arcticobserving.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=37&Itemid=51](http://www.arcticobserving.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=37&Itemid=51).

In brief, the human-dimensions breakout group noted three priority areas for improvement of data and information management.

Access to statistical agency data on a pan-Arctic scale. Statistical agency data are key sources for broadly tracking changes in material well-being, health, education and demography. Improvements in comparability, translation, free access and data detail (such as time series, community-level data, or ethnic subgroups) are needed. Statistical agency personnel should be involved in the 2nd SAON workshop, in Edmonton (see under Conferences and Meetings below). Implementation of local observation networks on a pan-Arctic scale. Local-scale observations are most relevant to Arctic residents, and most likely to engage them in research processes. Coordination of local-observation initiatives could expand their

value from local to regional and pan-Arctic scales. Experts in local observation systems and network development should be involved in the Edmonton workshop.

Synthesis and access of special study data. Individual case studies, site-level datasets and surveys could be organized to address wider geographic and time scale issues. Metadata should be available from IPY projects, and

IASSA could set up a listserv to help with networking among researchers.

The next major step in the SAON process will be a 2nd workshop held in Edmonton, Canada, April 9–11 2008. All interested IASSA members are encouraged to attend this open workshop. Up-to-date information about its program and other arrangements can be found on the SAON website.

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## ***The International Directory of Arctic Social Sciences (IDASS)***

is becoming reality at

<http://arcticcentre.ulapland.fi/idass/>

The International Directory of Arctic Social Scientists (IDASS) provides participants with an online, updatable, searchable database of the organizations and individuals conducting social science research in the Arctic. Using partners from organizations in Alaska, Canada, England, Finland, Greenland, Sweden and the United States, the International Directory of Arctic Social Scientists solicits information on the locations, topics, and methods of your research. The Directory is made possible by financial support from the Arctic Social Science Program at the U.S. National Science Foundation.

*Comprehensive online directory to help research*

The International Directory of Arctic Social Scientists (IDASS) establishes a tool to aid in creating interdisciplinary and/or multi-national research teams. The IDASS represents a significant contribution by providing a mechanism to involve several

disciplinary perspectives, transcend national research priorities, and expand the participation of indigenous peoples in Arctic social science research.

Although several organizations maintain a similar database, a central goal of the IDASS is to include indigenous organizations and individuals who have been underrepresented in past directories.

### *Timeline for the Directory*

We are currently compiling the information for the IDASS and you can submit your information using this form. The Directory will be demonstrated and information checked/added at the ICASS IV (International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences) in Nuuk, Greenland during August, 2008. IASSA is a sponsor and initiator of IDASS.

For more information you can contact:

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Elizabethtown College  
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## ***ICASS VI - fifth announcement, with session list***

### **First call for papers**

The sixth International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS VI), to take place in Nuuk August 22-26, 2008, hereby calls for individual paper proposals. ICASS VI is an IPY endorsed project, which will be reflected strongly in the planning and organizing of ICASS VI. However, papers without IPY affiliation are just as welcome.

### **Deadline: February 15, 2008**

#### **Paper proposals should contain:**

- Name and full contact details of the author(s)
- Title
- A 250 words (max) summary
- An indication of which session the paper should ideally be presented in (see list of sessions below); if the paper is already invited by a session leader, please indicate this.
- Prospects for the funding of your participation in the Congress. We hope to be able to provide some travel funding to students, indigenous participants, as well as participants from Russia (and neighbouring countries). Please indicate on your abstract submission if you want to be considered for travel funding and under which category. Also, provide a rough budget of your estimated travel expenses. We anticipate to be announcing the award of travel funding in April.

#### **The above information should be sent to:**

Janus Chemnitz Kleist, IASSA secretary, [jack@adm.uni.gl](mailto:jack@adm.uni.gl) as well as to the convener of the session for which the paper is intended (see session titles and contacts below) if you have specific preferences.

Please note that some sessions due to special funding situations and programs (e.g. IPY, BOREAS) are invited papers only (sessions are generally open to participation, though). Session proposers have been asked to fill out various data about their session proposals, but this information has not all been gathered, so please be aware that changes will occur and extra information will be added to some of the sessions later.

It is still possible to propose and include further sessions

**The deadline for reception of individual paper proposals is: February 15, 2008**

### ***Sessions accepted for ICASS VI: Prospects for the IPY 2007-2008 Era and Beyond***

#### ***Theme no. 01 Sustainability & Climate Change***

##### **Session no. 01.01 – Open**

**Social Issues and sustainable development in expanding the oil and gas activities in the Arctic**

Session Chair / co-chair

Aslaug Mikkelsen – TBC [aslaug.mikkelsen@uis.no](mailto:aslaug.mikkelsen@uis.no)

**Session no. 01.02 - Open**

**Indigenous Peoples and Extractive Industry in the Arctic**

Session Chair / co-chair

Elana Wilson Rowe, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Russian Studies at the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) [Elana.Wilson@nupi.no](mailto:Elana.Wilson@nupi.no) / Stephanie Irlbacher-Fox

The effects of climate change, the development of new technologies and the increasing value of many natural resources (i.e. oil, gas, minerals) found in the Arctic all contribute to an increasing pressure from extractive industry on indigenous peoples' lands and waters. In this panel, we will critically review a variety of governance measures, such as impact benefit agreements, environmental impact assessments/expertiza, 'development plans' and co-management boards, used to facilitate and monitor natural resource extraction in the Circumpolar North. Looking at case studies from around the North, this panel's presentations will focus on three key questions: What are the existing arrangements for preventing/facilitating and subsequently monitoring natural resource extraction in the indigenous North? If and how can/do these governance structures contribute to or hinder power-sharing and profit-sharing between local and regional governments, industry and indigenous peoples? Are there any 'best practices' that could be shared across the Arctic? The panel's concluding discussion will focus primarily on the last question posed. At present, it is quite common for northern actors facing new large-scale development (for example in northern Norway and Russia) to draw rather uncritically on the experiences of northern Canadians and Alaskans. Using the paper presentations as a point of departure, all participants will then debate the appropriateness and possibility of such transfer of North American governance institutions to new locations in the North during a discussion/question-answer period.

**Session no. 01.03 - Open - IPY**

**The Impacts of Oil and Gas Activity on Peoples in the Arctic**

Session Chair / co-chair

Gabrielle A. Slowey, Department of Political Science, York University [gslowey@sympatico.ca](mailto:gslowey@sympatico.ca) /

Over centuries, Arctic peoples have learned to adapt and thrive in an uncertain, harsh environment. Today, change is occurring at an unprecedented rate. Local peoples' capacity to cope and adapt is under pressure. Occurring amidst a changing climate, oil and gas activity poses critical challenges to peoples in Arctic communities. It affects local economies, traditional livelihoods and identities, health, food and the environment. However, while there is enormous strain on the factors that affect human well-being in the Arctic, it is essential to recognize that Arctic peoples have a capacity to determine what is needed for their well-being as well as the capability of developing resilience based on local knowledge. This session aims to bring together papers on these topics of critical importance to the Arctic that explore the effects of oil and gas activity, and its interaction with climate change, on the human security of Arctic peoples. Participation by indigenous people and from across circumpolar regions is greatly encouraged.

**Session no. 01.04 - Open - IPY**

**U.S.-Canada Collaborative Study of the Nearly Developing Arctic Natural Gas Industry**

Session Chair / co-chair

Mark Nuttall, University of Alberta [mark.nuttall@ualberta.ca](mailto:mark.nuttall@ualberta.ca) / Arthur Mason

There are so many changes occurring now in the Arctic and, fortunately or unfortunately, the broader context of these changes lie beyond the reach of local insight, but not necessarily control. Discussion of Arctic natural gas development, for example, focuses on building multi-billion dollar

pipelines to deliver energy to markets in mid-continental United States, Europe, and Asia. Such pipelines will travel south across indigenous communities, lands, and territories. Members of these communities will also want access to this natural gas, and to the benefits from its production. But to gain access, they must involve themselves in the discussions over how these projects move forward. This requires learning new ideas about technology, economics, and regulation. And because of the 20 year life-span of these projects, everyone involved must be thinking about the future.

As anthropologists, we see a real need for focused research on how these local and transnational visions come to play a part in defining these projects. We are concerned by the way economic and technical details often define a realm of thought concerning development. Such arguments over the best location of energy infrastructure, for example, can conflict with arguments about the identity of places, and their environmental and aesthetic quality, or be used to undermine the claims of local communities on choices about local access to natural gas.

This session addresses the cultural shifts brought forth by recent proposals to develop Arctic natural gas. We consider regional and federal policy on Alaskan and Canadian Arctic natural gas development, institutional commitments to economic principles of a newly restructured industry, and how the interplay between these different forces contributes to establishing a global natural gas energy market. We also place this discussion within broader circumpolar context by discussing northern European and Russian issues. The intellectual merit of the research relates to the practical aspect through which Arctic gas is shaped into the object of an image of global gas development. Like other anthropological attempts to frame the present, our concern is the conduct of institutions and the practices through which these proposals are brought to bear on the subjectivity of individuals. The broader context relates to studies of globalization that require a reconceptualizing of power that identifies the nation-state as the fundamental horizon of communal life. The work investigates the changing role of state control and governance by considering the emergence of a new global dynamics that is replacing social systems as central units of analyses in favor of the concept of flows and networks.

This session is part of a larger collaborative proposal that seeks funding through the National Science Foundation IPY among other sources, and has been submitted to the IPY committee for official recognition.

### **Session no. 01.05 – By invitation - IPY**

#### **Community Adaptation and Vulnerability in Arctic Regions (CAVIAR)**

Session Chair / co-chair

Johanna Wandel, Global Environmental Change Group Department of Geography, University of Guelph [jwandel@uoguelph.ca](mailto:jwandel@uoguelph.ca) / Grete Hovelsrud / Barry Smit

CAVIAR consists of case studies undertaken in Arctic communities by an interdisciplinary international team during the IPY. The case studies a) address how communities are vulnerable in the context of broad social, economic, environmental and political change; b) in what ways communities cope with hazards, and what determines relative adaptive capacities; and c) how can knowledge of adaptive capacities contribute, in a practical way, to improving the ability of communities to deal with conditions that may be exacerbated by changes in climate and other conditions. This session presents the underlying rationale and methodology for the CAVIAR case study approach followed by a series of case studies from across the circumpolar north. The last presentation summarizes the case studies, with a focus on comparison and integration of insights. Speakers are to be confirmed. The program is expected to have the following structure:

I

Introduction (30 Minutes): The CAVIAR concept and approach, including the methodological framework within which researchers operate. Barry Smit and/or Grete Hovelsrud

Case Study 1 (20 minutes): Northern Norway, CAVIAR Norway.

Case Study 2 (20 minutes): Northern Sweden, Carina Keskitalo  
Case Study 3 (20 minutes): Inari Region of Finland, presented by FIN-CAVIAR

II

Case Study 4 (20 minutes): Húsavík, Iceland, Niels Einarsson  
Case Study 5 (20 minutes): Qeqertasuaq, Greenland, James Ford  
Case Study 6 (20 minutes): Canadian High Arctic, CAVIAR Canada  
Case Study 7 (20 minutes): Western Canadian Arctic, CAVIAR Canada

III

Case Study 8: (20 minutes): Alaska (Gary Kofinas?)  
Case Study 9 (20 minutes): Russia – Siberia (Susan Crate or FIN-CAVIAR)  
Case Study 10 (20 minutes): Russia – Kola Peninsula (CAVIAR Norway/Russia)

Concluding Discussion (30 minutes): Comparisons, integration, overarching insights from case studies (led by Bob Corell, Grete Hovelsrud or Barry Smit)

Given the number of case studies in some regions (at least two in Kola Peninsula, three in northern Norway, six in the Western Canadian Arctic, four in the Eastern Canadian Arctic), some of the 20 minute slots may be joint presentations.

### **Session no. 01.06 - Open - IPY**

#### **SIKU (IPY #166): Polar Residents Document Arctic Ice and Climate Change.**

Session Chair / co-chair

Igor Krupnik Smithsonian Institution, Arctic Studies Center [KRUPNIKI@si.edu](mailto:KRUPNIKI@si.edu) / Lene Holm / Claudio Aporta

During the past few years, several major new initiatives have been launched in the documentation of local ecological knowledge and local observations of environmental and climate change by Arctic indigenous experts. Those projects make an important contribution to the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007–2008 science program and to the ongoing research activities of individual polar nations. Major work is being focused on the changing sea ice, snow, temperature, and wildlife regimes, and on the various ways Arctic indigenous communities are coping with the rapid shifts in their environment and usable resources. The papers in this session will cover wide range of issues, including changes in sea ice knowledge and use; transmission of ecological knowledge among generations; transitions in subsistence skills, orientation and navigation practices; local ecological terminologies under the new climate and sea ice patterns; local interpretations of environmental changes and people's views on their impacts and causes. Several papers will be co-authored with indigenous experts from northern communities, who act as critical partners and science advisers to science and documentation projects.

### **Session no. 01.07 - Open**

#### **Humans, Sustainability and the Biocomplexity of the Eastern Aleutian Island Region**

Session Chair / co-chair

Herbert Maschner, Department of Anthropology, Idaho State University [maschner@isu.edu](mailto:maschner@isu.edu)

The Sanak Biocomplexity Project is funded by the National Science Foundation to investigate the role humans have played in the engineering of northern ecosystem dynamics. The integrative efforts among archaeologists, anthropologists, ecologists, geologists, oceanographers, and others have been a key element of this research. We have found that the “natural” behavioural ecology of many species is a response to human harvesting and that some species appear to be adapted to human harvesting pressures. We have also found that trophic dynamics between species may also be conditioned by human adaptive strategies. We conclude that the natural Greater Bering Sea / North

Pacific environment has been both passively and actively altered by a long history of interacting feedbacks between the indigenous Aleut and the marine ecosystem.

**Session no. 01.08 - Open**

**Sustainable Arctic livelihood under environmental uncertainty: Conceptual challenges for sustainability indicators**

Session Chair / co-chair

Iulie Aslaksen Statistics Norway, Research Department [Iulie.Aslaksen@ssb.no](mailto:Iulie.Aslaksen@ssb.no) / Solveig Glomsrød, Statistics Norway, Research Department / Anne I. Myhr, Norwegian Institute of Gene Ecology, Tromsø

The purpose of this session is to gather and present papers with diverse interdisciplinary approaches to the impacts of climate change and other environmental problems on Arctic economy and livelihood, taking into account environmental and social resilience, addressing precautionary approaches to the environmental uncertainty and its consequences, and providing conceptual and empirical approaches to sustainability and measurement of sustainability. Diverse information bases are required to reflect how Arctic livelihood relies on the intertwined nature of the market economy and the subsistence economy. Precautionary perspectives are required to balance the economic, environmental, social and ethical values of the economic activities in the Arctic, in order to protect biological, environmental and cultural diversity. This requires processes for stakeholder participation, recognition of ethical values, integration of scientific and indigenous knowledge, multi-criteria approaches to valuation of nature, and integrated knowledge bases for evaluating sustainability.

**Session no. 01.09 - Open**

**Human Dimensions of Marine Mammal Management in the Arctic: Implications for Policy in a Changing North**

Session Chair / co-chair

Chanda L. Meek, Dept. of Natural Resources Management, University of Alaska  
[chanda.meek@uaf.edu](mailto:chanda.meek@uaf.edu)

Arctic coastal communities share a close relationship with their environment (termed here as a social-ecological system) consisting of the communities, their environments and the social institutions developed to sustain the system. Marine mammals constitute a large portion of the subsistence diet for these communities, and as such represent key ecological services provided by the system. At the same time, marine mammals have gained iconic status for climate change in the North. A tension results between the demands of balancing on the one hand good policy optics consistent with national and international norms and, on the other hand, flexible, adaptive institutions able to take on the task of managing in a dynamic, changing North. This tension and associated policy solutions such as co-management are explored in a series of papers focusing on marine mammal management dilemmas and policy practices around the circumpolar North.

**Session no. 01.10 - Open**

**Rangifer tarandus: How will be the future?**

Session Chair / co-chair

Robert B. Anderson / Leo Paul Dana, Editor, Journal of Enterprising Communities: People and Places in the Global Economy [leo.dana@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:leo.dana@canterbury.ac.nz)

Throughout the Arctic, Rangifer tarandus has been central to the survival of man. This species has been herded by 20 different Arctic peoples. Until the latter part of the 20th century, a self-employed

Sámi could subsist on 250 reindeer. Human existence reflected the needs of herds, and rather than manage their reindeer, herders read their queues and followed the herds. Non-breeding male reindeer were useful in that they helped females find food in winter. When an animal was slaughtered, care was taken to minimise pain and to avoid waste; every part of a reindeer was used. Today, snowmobiles, GPS technology, helicopters, and increased regulation are transforming the sector; many Sámi have already been pushed into other jobs. Will herding be reduced to an element of the food industry? If so, how will this change the essence and efficiency of their community-based entrepreneurship will be undermined?

### **Session no. 01.11 - Open- Boreas**

#### **Northern Narratives of Climate Change Impacts from Ocean and Lake Communities: A Synthesis Approach**

Session Chair / co-chair

Astrid Ogilvie, Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research, University of Colorado

[Astrid.Ogilvie@Colorado.EDU](mailto:Astrid.Ogilvie@Colorado.EDU)

With a firm basis in issues pertinent to the International Polar Year of 2007-2008, this session is based around themes central to three separate projects led by Astrid Ogilvie. These are: i) Human and Social Dynamics in Mývatnssveit, Northern Iceland, from the Settlement to the Present; ii) Northern Narratives: Social and Geographical Accounts from Norway, Iceland and Canada (NORSAGA); and iii) Syntheses of Sea-Ice, Climate and Human Systems in the Arctic and Subarctic (SYNICE). All three projects have an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approach and seek to synthesize elements from both the natural and social sciences. Data are drawn from such diverse areas as historical records, meteorological observations, and traditional ecological knowledge. The major emphasis of the session will be on a theme common to all three projects: the impact of climatic changes on environments dominated by water (both coastal and inland). The coastal communities to be discussed (in presentations by Gaston Demarée, Brian Hill, Niels Einarsson, Ingibjörg Jónsdóttir, Maxine Van Eye and Anna Heilman) concern changes primarily in sea-ice cover or related issues. The inland communities to be considered (in presentations by Brown, Nordli and Ogilvie) involve changes that are in some ways less direct and immediate but which are also far-reaching. The context for all the presentations lies in the social change of recent times, as well as the rapid climate change which is currently underway particularly in Arctic regions. Records of increasing temperatures, melting glaciers, reductions in extent and thickness of sea ice, thawing permafrost, and rising sea level all highlight the recent warming in the Arctic and Subarctic. Evidence for these changes has now become overwhelming (as documented in the recent IPCC Working Group I report) and covers many scientific disciplines spanning climatology and sea-ice studies as well as the documentation provided by the traditional knowledge of elders and hunters from all regions of the circumpolar north. One change that has become increasingly evident is the rate at which Arctic sea ice is melting. Very recent research suggests that, in fact, the observed changes are even more rapid than predicted by climate models (see <http://www.ucar.edu/news/releases/2007/seaice.shtml>). This endorses the concerns voiced by indigenous populations regarding the threat of diminishing sea ice to their traditional ways of life and what is occurring with *sila* – the Inuktitut word that means “climate and all things that surround human beings”. The changes are not limited to Polar ocean and coastal regions, but also affect other areas presently covered by ice and snow. Thus, for example, rivers fed by mountain glaciers could run dry or change their course. Clearly, human and animal populations are impacted across the Arctic. Using a synthesis of different types of evidence, this session will examine the nature of these changes.

## *Theme no. 02 Economic Development*

### **Session no. 02.01 - Open**

#### **Challenges in tourism today: ethno- and ecotourism in Kamchatka**

Session Chair / co-chair

Vikochka Churikova, Novosoft, Inst Mathematics [kronoki@ngs.ru](mailto:kronoki@ngs.ru) / Vladimir Sevostyanov

In this session "Challenges in tourism today: ethno- and ecotourism in Kamchatka" we are going to talk about new realities of life and tourism in Kamchatka. Vladimir Sevostyanov will present his report "Specially protected territories (reserves, refugees, parks) and aboriginal units as an effective structure to conserve biodiversity; development of ecological tourism, game-preserves and demonstration of principles of sustainable development in Kamchatka". Peter Bekkerov, the head of the Union of Itelmen Families, will talk about creation of the real ethno- tourist ground near Elizovo, Kamchatka. And Victoria Churikova will cover all the other activities and examples in this field in Kamchatka.

### **Session no. 02.02 - Open**

#### **The Social Economy and Community Economic Development in the Circumpolar North - SERNNOCA**

Session Chair / co-chair

Chris Southcott, [csouthco@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:csouthco@lakeheadu.ca) / TBC

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

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

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

### **Session no. 02.03 - Open**

#### **Aboriginal Business Issues in the Arctic**

Session Chair / co-chair

Leo Paul Dana, Editor, Journal of Enterprising Communities: People and Places in the Global Economy [leo.dana@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:leo.dana@canterbury.ac.nz) / Robert B. Anderson

Much business theory applies well to mainstream society residing in a robust environment, but not necessarily to Aboriginal people in remote communities of the Arctic. Empirical research suggests that traditionally the people of the Arctic identified more with the land and with sharing its resources, than with Western-style mainstream entrepreneurship; their activities are often forms of informal and subsistence self-employment, such as hunting caribou, polar bears and seals for food and for pelts. How will oil & gas exploration change this? How is technology causing change? Will entrepreneurship become universal as suggested by many? Or will entrepreneurship in the Arctic continue to be different in form and substance from the commonly accepted model?

*Theme no. 03 Politics, Justice & Governance*

**Session no. 03.01 - Open**

**Sustainable Governance and Justice - An Arctic Outlook**

Session Chair / co-chair

Peter H. Russel, Department of Political Science, University of Toronto / Natalia Loukacheva, SSHRC, Centre for Research in Public Law, University of Montreal [n.loukacheva@utoronto.ca](mailto:n.loukacheva@utoronto.ca)

In an attempt to open a new perspective on the concept of effective governance arrangements in the Arctic and on the efficiency of existing and developing models of Northern justice, this session aims to bring together people engaged in policy-making and research involving the questions: to what extent are governance arrangements in the North sustainable? How may the justice system be made more accessible and responsive to the citizens of the North as well as providing greater legitimacy among indigenous groups which are still struggling with the consequences of decolonization and legal acculturation? How much and what kind of autonomy and economic self-sufficiency are possible and desirable for Arctic peoples?

Topics that might be addressed in this session include the evaluation of various constitutional agreements that secure a measure of self-governance for indigenous groups and other Northerners, challenges in bringing justice to the Northern communities (Indigenous legal ways versus the mainstream legal systems), issues of economic/legal sustainability of governance models and their transformations.

The objective of this session is to establish a comprehensive dialogue and sharing a learning experience from the circumpolar regions.

**Session no. 03.02 - Open**

**The political economy of the regimes resulting from "regional agreements" in the Arctic**

Session Chair / co-chair

Jack Hicks, [jack@jackhicks.com](mailto:jack@jackhicks.com) / Graham White / Frances Abele

The Arctic now has several decades of experience with the implementation of the 'regional agreements' which restructured the relationships between indigenous peoples and the states they find themselves a part of. These agreements have resulted in a range of political arrangements - everything from the 'effective self-government by public government' of Greenland's Home Rule Act to the 'ethnic self-government' of the T&#322;&#303;ch&#491; and Nunatsiavut land claim agreements - and some also include co-management regimes.

This session will focus on the relationships between political institutions, the political environment and the economy under various regional agreements. Special emphasis will be placed on the effects that the agreements have had on critical issues such as the management of both renewable and non-renewable resources, the employment of indigenous peoples, and 'economic development' generally.

We are also interested in theoretical reflections on how national/regional specificities shaped the various agreements and regimes as well as in theoretical analyses of their contents. The session organizers encourage potential participants to contact them in advance so that a dialogue can be initiated in advance of ICASS VI.

**Session no. 03.03 - By invitation**

**Higher education and indigenous leadership in the Arctic**

Session Chair / co-chair

Gordon L. Pullar, University of Alaska Fairbanks [g.pullar@uaf.edu](mailto:g.pullar@uaf.edu) / Richard A Knecht

This proposed session will include a small group of faculty members and graduate students from the Department of Alaska Native and Rural Development and the Resilience and Adaptation Program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF). The members of the group will make individual presentations on issues of importance to Alaska Natives and rural Alaska based on their own research and personal experiences. These issues may be such things as impacts of climate change on indigenous communities in Alaska, challenges and successes in managing corporations formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, methods of addressing social problems facing indigenous communities, developing effective tribal governments, and delivering higher education to remote areas of the North. As any solutions to all of these issues require strong and effective Alaska Native leaders a central focus of this session will be developing effective indigenous leadership in Alaska.

The Rural Development BA Program at UAF has been successful in graduating Alaska Native students since the first graduates in 1986. Since that time 157 mostly Alaska Native students have received their BA degrees in Rural Development. An MA program in Rural Development began in 2000 and now has 38 mostly Alaska Native graduates. The graduates of these programs are successfully serving in many important leadership positions throughout Alaska including top management positions in Alaska Native corporations and community management positions at the local level. Many of the students in the program are already leaders in their communities and regions and are utilizing the program to enhance their leadership and management skills.

The UAF Resilience and Adaptation Program is an interdisciplinary graduate program offering both MA and Ph.D. degrees. The program “integrates ecology, economics, and anthropology to address regional sustainability in a systems framework.” Alaska Native Ph.D. students in the program will be a part of this session.

**Session no. 03.04 - Open**

**(Post)Colonialisms in the Arctic**

Session Chair / co-chair

Nicole Gombay, University of Canterbury [ngombay@hotmail.com](mailto:ngombay@hotmail.com) /

To varying degrees, and at varying times, indigenous populations across the Arctic have undertaken land claims and negotiated powers for themselves in an effort to ensure that they have greater autonomy from colonising forces. This session explores the impacts of these claims and powers. To what extent has self-government been realised? With what benefits and at what costs has self-government been implemented? What are people reacting to and how far have the limits been pushed? Ultimately this session aims to provide an assessment of the degree to which Arctic territories are (post)colonial states.

During this session we will seek to address these questions in a circumpolar context. These questions can be explored from a variety of perspectives—indigenous and non-indigenous—and using a variety of themes such as identity, language, health, resource use, governance structures, education, arts, museology, economic development, cognitive sciences, and so on.

### **Session no. 03.05 - Open**

#### **Is the North special? The ethnography of Northern Exceptionalism**

Session Chair / co-chair

Pamela Stern, Centre for Northern Studies at Sterling College (Vermont) & Centre for Sustainable Community Development at Simon Fraser University (Canada) [pamela\\_stern@sfu.ca](mailto:pamela_stern@sfu.ca) / Joslyn Cassidy Department of Anthropology, Drew University (New Jersey)

The occasion of the 4th International Polar Year provides an opportunity to reflect upon the history, practices, and consequences of a discourse of Northern Exceptionalism – the resilient notion that the Arctic environment, and consequently its peoples and cultures, are anomalies in the physical and social world. The extreme arctic climate, which presented enormous challenges to European explorers and other visitors, contributed to popular and scientific treatments of the circumpolar North as a unique social and ecological laboratory. These early impressions continue to inform the production of knowledge about the North. Indeed the very institution of International Polar Years suggests Northern Exceptionalism.

The northern research community is a clear beneficiary of special interest in and attention to northern peoples and places. In fact, national research agencies in both Canada and the United States have funding streams dedicated solely to polar research. At various times, however, northern researchers have been troubled by what is described as our failure to participate in social scientific theory-building. The challenges extend beyond concerns of scholarship to the conditions of life in the North today. Insufficient attention has been given to the ways that a discourse of Northern Exceptionalism shapes both the production of knowledge and the practices of northern administration.

This panel brings together a diverse group of scholars to consider questions of Northern Exceptionalism from multiple, but ethnographically-informed, perspectives. The 6-8 panelists will consider the history and discourse of Northern Exceptionalism as well as practices that emanate from an assumption of exceptionalism. In addition to considering the evolution and endurance of a discourse of Northern Exceptionalism, suggested paper topics include the role of exceptionalism in: 1) the administration of northern peoples and lands; 2) international indigenous rights and environmental movements; 3) testimonies of and redress for social suffering; 4) proposed solutions to environmental contamination; and 5) the application of “traditional knowledge” to governance.

### *Theme no. 04 Living Conditions*

### **Session no. 04.01 - Open - IPY**

#### **Arctic Social Indicators**

Session Chair / co-chair

Joan Nymand Larsen, Stefansson Arctic Institute Borgir, Iceland [jnl@unak.is](mailto:jnl@unak.is)

The background for the proposed session is the Arctic Social Indicators (ASI) project, 2006-2008, which is a follow-up project to the Arctic Human Development Report, and endorsed by the Arctic Council. ASI seeks to devise indicators to facilitate the tracking and monitoring of human development in the Arctic that acknowledge the distinctiveness of Arctic life and Arctic understandings of well-being. The project's main objective is to devise a limited set of indicators that reflect key aspects of human development in the Arctic, that are tractable in terms of measurement, and that can be monitored over time at a reasonable cost. Six domains have been chosen by the ASI working group for the construction of indicators: Fate control and or the ability to guide one's own destiny; Cultural integrity or belonging to a viable local culture; and Contact

with nature or interacting closely with the natural world; Education; Demography/Health; and Material Well-being.

The proposal is to hold a session where members of the ASI working group present their research findings. The proposed session will include an overview presentation followed by presentations by each of the six ASI domain teams. Formal discussants, possibly from relevant groups such as SLiCA, Arctic Stat and ECONOR, will be included. Following feedback from formal discussants the session opens up to a general forum with participation from the audience.

#### **Session no. 04.02 - Open - IPY- Boreas**

##### **MOVE (Moved by the state: Perspectives on Migrations and Relocations in the Circumpolar North)**

Session Chair / co-chair

Peter Schweitzer, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Dept. of Anthropology [ffpps@uaf.edu](mailto:ffpps@uaf.edu) / Yvon Csonka, University of Greenland, Department of Cultural and Social History

“Moved by the state” refers to the commonality of having to cope with relocations and other population movements triggered by outside decisions. This session addresses the phenomenon of state-induced population movements in the circumpolar North in the 20th and 21st centuries. It is part of an IPY project that undertakes a comparative analysis of local and regional contexts of state-induced population movements and their impacts on northern regions and on the identity of relocated people. The papers in this session analyze a broad array of case studies (small and large, indigenous and non-indigenous communities, in free market and central command systems, ranging from the mid-20th to the early 21st century), for their extent of commonality and diversity.

Particular attention is paid to the local expressions of moving, coping, rebuilding and remembering. The presenters use demographic, political, social and cultural variables to track the similarities and differences, both among communities facing being moved now and those that have been moved in the past. All papers base on data gathered during the first half of the “BOREAS-MOVE” project. In theoretical terms, the papers address the tension between the increasingly “translocal” and various “senses of place”. The question of how local identities, “in” or “out of place” (of origin) are constituted leads to a critical interrogation of the roles of “cultural” and “practical” engagements in creating and recreating place within a particular environment. The discussion will hopefully address the relevance of these research results for the ongoing negotiations between states and communities about location and relocation in the face of increasing social and climate change.

#### **Session no. 04.03 – Open - Boreas**

##### **Determinants and patterns of migration in the Circumpolar North**

Session Chair / co-chair

Lee Huskey [aflh@cbpp.uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:aflh@cbpp.uaa.alaska.edu) / – TBC

Migration is a major influence on the size and demographic structure of the population in Arctic regions. Modern migration involves long-term consequences for northern communities that reach far beyond the immediate effects on the migrants themselves. The pattern and scale of migration will affect public spending, community economies, and traditional activities within the region. Patterns of migration differ significantly across Arctic regions and between indigenous and non-indigenous populations. Three sessions will discuss recent research on migration and its consequences throughout the north. While most research on migration in the north has been disciplinary and country specific, the papers presented in these sessions will examine migration flows around the Arctic through interdisciplinary comparative research. Two sessions will examine: 1) The determinants and patterns of migration in the circumpolar north; and 2) The consequences and policy concerns resulting from northern migration. The third session will be a roundtable discussion of northern observations about migration.

**Session no. 04.04 – Open - Boreas**

**Northern migration: Consequences and policy concerns**

Session Chair / co-chair

Lee Huskey – TBC [aflh@cbpp.uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:aflh@cbpp.uaa.alaska.edu)

See above

**Session no. 04.05 – Open - Boreas**

**Roundtable on migration in the circumpolar North**

Session Chair / co-chair

Lee Huskey – TBC [aflh@cbpp.uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:aflh@cbpp.uaa.alaska.edu)

See above

**Session no. 04.06 – Open - IPY**

**Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic**

Session Chair / co-chair

Jack Kruse, ISER UAA, [afjak@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:afjak@uaa.alaska.edu) / Birger Poppel, Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic, Ilisimatusarfik - University of Greenland [bipo@uni.gl](mailto:bipo@uni.gl)

This session will focus on the application of results of the Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic. By applications, we include: interpretation of regional results; interregional comparisons; multivariate analyses; validation of measures; identification of social indicators; comparisons with ethnographic data, previous survey results, and other data sources; assessments of SLICA methods – including the effectiveness of collaborations between researchers and indigenous peoples and among researchers of different disciplines.

The session will begin with an overview of SLICA, including questionnaire design, sampling methods, survey administration, data processing, and release of results (see [www.arcticlivingconditions.org](http://www.arcticlivingconditions.org) ). Our intent is to promote the use of SLICA data and results.

Papers discussing planned and potential use and application of SLICA results are welcome as well as papers presenting empirical applications and qualitative assessments of SLICA. One or more sessions will be planned to allow time for an open discussion of future applications of SLICA data and methods.

**Session no. 04.07 - Open**

**Attitude measurement in the Arctic**

Session Chair / co-chair

Ailsa Henderson, Department of Political Science, University of Toronto

[ailsa.henderson@utoronto.ca](mailto:ailsa.henderson@utoronto.ca)

The session will be on attitude measurement in the Arctic and would cover three themes. First, it would cover the methodology of attitude measurement in the circumpolar region. This would include papers on sampling methods, questionnaire design, cost, and the impact of internet technology on survey design. Second, it would explore political culture in the circumpolar north. Papers would in this theme discuss the variation in political and social attitudes and behaviours within the circumpolar north. This section would be comparative in focus. Third, it would explore research on attitudes and behaviours within particular states and test whether the typical predictors of attitudes and behaviours function in the same way in the circumpolar north. This third section would thus test research derived from southern contexts to determine whether it can help to explain attitudes and behaviours in the Arctic region. It would draw on data from surveys conducted within particular states or sub-state units, such as the Nunavut Household Survey. The session stems from a SSHRCC funded social attitude survey in Nunavut and would approach members of SLiCA teams

and those at research institutes in Fairbanks (e.g. ISR) and Nuuk to deliver papers on relevant topics.

**Session no. 04.08 - Open**

**The Urban Arctic: Trends and Issues**

Session Chair / co-chair

Susanne Dybbroe, Aarhus University, Dept.of Anthropology/Etnography [etnosd@moes.hum.au.dk](mailto:etnosd@moes.hum.au.dk)  
/ Gitte Trøndheim, University of Greenland, Department of Cultural and Social History

A growing number of Arctic residents are moving into towns and cities. Life in general in the Arctic is influenced by decisions and movements originating faraway, connecting the Arctic globally by way of economic relations, the media, youth culture and geo-politics. There is nothing inherently new about this, however: the speed is stunning. Urbanism as a form of life and processes of urbanisation has changed regions and ways of life that until this generation was highly isolated. We see urbanization in terms of the development of urbanity, density, and complexity of organisation usually associated with an urban way of life. We also see the development of urbanism in places that in terms of size and demographic density are not usually thought of as urban. And we see the development of expectations of particular ways of life in regions that cannot produce these conditions on their own, without strong support from rich governments, whose elites may have different ambitions with respect to the utilisation of scarce resources.

The session invites presentations dealing with trends and issues relating to this state of affairs: the overall urbanisation of Northern society. Topics may be ethnographic specific, dealing with ways that individuals and groups deal with interventions and changes of different sorts; or broadly analytical, treating questions of theoretical importance relating to the development of the comparative study of Arctic urbanism.

**Session no. 04.09 - Open**

**Arctic welfare policies and practices**

Session Chair / co-chair

Mariekathrine Poppel, ISI, Institute of Social Studies [mkp@isi.gi](mailto:mkp@isi.gi)

Rapid economic, social and political changes have affected and have been generated by arctic communities. Relatively recent shifts from a high level of self-sufficiency among arctic communities to their incorporation into national states, different welfare systems and the global economy have challenged cultures that have coped successfully with severe environmental conditions over millennia.

Social scientists have tried to identify responses to social, economic, and environmental change by social systems and seek models for optimizing these responses.

Welfare research has traditionally been dominated by the social sciences, with sociology, political sciences and economics as the central disciplines. Scientific quality and originality can however be further increased through expansion to other fields, through interdisciplinary cooperation and including local knowledge and best practices. Major scientific breakthroughs can be gained using research approaches based on knowledge from several different areas of research and disciplines as e.g. cultural studies, social work, psychology and gender and generational perspectives.

Within this general framework, the session invites presenters from all disciplines and especially researchers and practitioners with experience from the social field to present themes and orientations for the development of welfare research.

*Theme no. 05 Language, Literature & Media*

**Session no. 05.01 - Open - IPY**

**Sociolinguistics: Language policy and language planning**

Session Chair / co-chair

Karen Langgård, University of Greenland, Dept. of Language, Literature and Media, TBC

[kala@slm.uni.gl](mailto:kala@slm.uni.gl)

The question of a general sustainable development in the local regions of the Arctic also includes the question of a sustainable development of intellectual culture and language competence.

'Glocalization' (globalization vs. localization) is the process where the impact of global tendencies is partially seen as opposed to local tendencies. Even at utmost remote settings the co-presence and interplay of both universalizing and particularizing tendencies is evident. This condition raises certain questions about the consequences of the interplay between the local and the global policy regarding culture, media and language. Who are the decision-makers and gatekeepers?

The session will focus on the diversity of the situation of Inuit languages and Saami languages and how Language Policy and Language Planning are in the different parts of the Arctic. Ongoing research, a subproject to IPY ID 123: "Glocalization – language, literature and media", will through individual projects gather new data on the circumpolar development of language that is taking place in the Arctic among Inuit and Saamis. Please, for IPY ID 123 see [www.uni.gl](http://www.uni.gl). The goal of the session is both to let the IPY project researchers present their research and to invite other researchers to present research on these themes.

**Session no. 05.02 - Open - IPY**

**Applied Linguistics: Computer assisted linguistics (Finite state automata and constraint grammar for Inuit languages)**

Session Chair / co-chair

Per Langgård, Oqaasileriffik - the Greenland Language Secretariat [pela@gh.gl](mailto:pela@gh.gl) / Aviaq Tobiassen

The question of a general sustainable development in the local regions of the Arctic also includes the question of a sustainable development of intellectual culture and language competence.

'Glocalization' (globalization vs. localization) is the process where the impact of global tendencies is partially seen as opposed to local tendencies. An example of local appropriation of global computer technology is going on in Nuuk:

Oqaasileriffik Nuuk has in cooperation with the University of Tromsø since the spring of 2005 worked on a finite state automaton for Greenlandic. In October 2006 the automaton was implemented as a spell checker (now with coverage above 90% most unrecognized words being loanwords and proper nouns of foreign origin – and thus very close to being robust). Next step is a disambiguating grammar for Greenlandic in a constraint grammar framework. As concrete applications of the project the Greenlandic automaton could be ported to other dialects of Inuit languages eventually paving the way for automatic translations of unedited Greenlandic text into such dialects and a mouse sensitive glossing tool into Danish could most likely be established within a foreseeable time. This research is part of IPY ID 123: "Glocalization – language, literature and media". Please, for IPY ID 123 see [www.uni.gl](http://www.uni.gl).

The goal of the session is both to let the IPY project researchers present their research and to invite other researchers to present research on these themes.

**Session no. 05.03 - Open - IPY**

**Literature: From oral tradition to rap**

Session Chair / co-chair

Karen Langgård, University of Greenland, Dept. of Language, Literature and Media, TBC  
[kala@slm.uni.gl](mailto:kala@slm.uni.gl)

The question of a general sustainable development in the local regions of the Arctic also includes the question of a sustainable development of intellectual culture and language competence.

'Glocalization' (globalization vs. localization) is the process where the impact of global tendencies is partially seen as opposed to local tendencies. Even at utmost remote settings the co-presence and interplay of both universalizing and particularizing tendencies is evident. This condition raises certain questions about the consequences of the interplay between the local and the global policy regarding culture, media and language. Who are the decision-makers and gatekeepers?

The session will focus on the diversity of literary texts including all kind of texts from oral tradition to modern rap. The development in the different parts of the Arctic differs from region to region concerning the writing down of the oral tradition, the further development of oral tradition and the rise and the development of written literature. Ongoing research, a subproject to IPY ID 123: "Glocalization – language, literature and media" (for IPY ID 123 see [www.uni.gl](http://www.uni.gl)), will make a survey over existing documentation and will gather new data on the circumpolar development of literature that has taken place in the Arctic among Inuit and Saamis with the Faroese literature included by way of comparison.

The goal of the session is both to let the IPY project researchers present their research and to invite other researchers to present research on these themes.

#### **Session no. 05.04 - Open - IPY**

##### **Media: Media, Youth and Globalization**

Session Chair / co-chair

Karen Langgård, University of Greenland, Dept. of Language, Literature and Media, TBC  
[kala@slm.uni.gl](mailto:kala@slm.uni.gl)

Media and information technologies in the circumpolar area are important agents for both national and global connections. Generally speaking, in the Arctic, people have been isolated as to economic, political, geographic and cultural matters. Media and the increasingly advanced information technology diminishes this isolated position; changing the concept of time and space; joining what is separated by distance and geography; separate and unite across gender, age and nationality; promote new dimensions for public and private existence and create new virtual communities based on language, culture, identity, interests etc.

Based on the thesis that media and information technologies are important factors for "glocal" processes, media researchers in Greenland, Canada, The Faroe Islands and Denmark plan to conduct an extensive comparative survey during 2008, concerning questions of media access, media use and consumption, participation in digital media scapes, content preferences etc. The focus of the study is the 12-19-year-olds at the elementary schools and at the high schools, divided by ethnic groups; gender; age; social stratification and geographic groups in the participating countries.

The collection of data will be carried out locally and will be shared by the participating researchers across countries in a joint SPSS database, which allows individual, national and joint comparative analysis of the results, as a subproject to the ongoing research project IPY ID 123: "Glocalization – Language, Literature and Media. For IPY ID 123 see [www.uni.gl](http://www.uni.gl). The goal of this session is partly to allow the IPY project researchers presenting their results and partly to invite other researchers to present their research on the themes in question

**Session no. 05.05 - Open**

**Visual Media in Research and Research Communication - workshop**

Session Chair / co-chair

Teresa E. Dana / Leo Paul Dana [leo.dana@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:leo.dana@canterbury.ac.nz)

Visual media is a helpful tool when doing research as it captures much more than possible with words alone. We also find it useful as a teaching medium to share our research findings with peoples of the Arctic. We invite scientists to discuss this and also to screen documentaries.

**Theme no. 06 Culture, Religion, History & Science**

**Session no. 06.01 - By invitation - Boreas**

**Creative Use of Religiosity in the North (NEWREL)**

Session Chair / co-chair

Patrick Plattet / Patty Gray [Patrick2.Plattet@unine.ch](mailto:Patrick2.Plattet@unine.ch)

Post-Soviet studies of social change in the Russian North have mainly focused on the socioeconomic and political dynamics of this phenomenon. Without neglecting these aspects, this session seeks to explore contemporary changes by presenting the variety of religious movements that has flourished from the Finnish border to the Bering Sea since glasnost' (revival of Russian Orthodoxy, (neo-)shamanisms, evangelical protestant groups, new age spiritualities, Mormons, Bahais, "ekstra-sens" practitioners, etc.). We invite contributors who can help highlight the creative use of religiosity in the Russian North today by identifying the nature of religious life in various cultural and historical contexts, and by documenting the dynamics of religious change among contemporary Arctic and sub-Arctic mixed communities. Participants are encouraged to focus on the "in-between" religious phenomena that have emerged more or less recently at the interstices of institutionalized religions in connection with rapid social change.

In a comparative perspective, the papers of this session will examine the following topics: the relationship between social organization and religiosity; the "inside" of religiosity (motivations, expressions, etc.); connections between religious and non-religious aspects of social life (where is the border?); verbality/literacy/language issues (durability of religious literary forms, consciousness of religious literacy, etc.); discourses about "authenticity" (what is a "true" believer?) and belongingness (what causes a sense of belonging in any religious practice?); ethnicity & religion; legitimacy & authority (from a religious perspective).

Papers which emphasize the "doing" of religion, and which explore the moral, intellectual, analytical and methodological implications that the study of religious change has in a reflexive approach, are especially welcome.

**Session no. 06.02 - Open**

**World history of the last century reflected in life stories of autochthonous minorities in the North**

Session Chair / co-chair

Olga Kazakevich [kazak@orc.ru](mailto:kazak@orc.ru) / Svetlana Burkova

The texts in the languages of autochthonous minorities of the North linguists and anthropologists record during their expeditions are interesting not only as linguistic phenomena, but also as documents of the epoch. In the life stories of the people living in the far tiny villages surrounded by the taiga and tundra the life of a person or of a family appears to be represented against the background of the events relevant for the whole countries. The stories give us a new dimension in understanding our history. They make us better understand how the decisions of the politicians in

the centre of the countries influence (or not influence) the life in their far-away corners. It seems it could be fruitful to join presentations on the topic from different parts of the Arctic and to see what elements of the country policy mostly affected the life of the Northern people from their own viewpoint. Along with the content analysis a discourse analysis of the texts could be presented, so that the form of life stories in different languages and the ways of presenting historical events in them could be compared.

**Session no. 06.03 - Open  
Circumpolar Shamanism**

Session Chair / co-chair

Marilyn Walker, Mount Allison University, New Brunswick, Canada [mwalker@mta.ca](mailto:mwalker@mta.ca) / TBC

This session explores the range and diversity of shamanism as practised across the spectrum of arctic and subarctic cultures in Central Asia, northern Europe, northern North America and Greenland. Topics may include the roots of circumpolar shamanism and its spread, universalistic versus particularistic approaches to its study, revitalization and retraditionalizing of shamanism today, and current issues in shamanic studies such as "who is a 'real' shaman, gender, and interactions between shamanism, Buddhism, and Christianity.

**Session no. 06.04 - Open  
The Power of Historical Narratives**

Session Chair / co-chair

Noel Broadbent / Patrik Lantto [BROADBEN@si.edu](mailto:BROADBEN@si.edu)

Historical narratives are powerful vehicles of cultural expression, and myths about prehistory and history have served to perpetuate attitudes about nationalism, racial stereotypes, cultural, economic and social evolution, territoriality and identity

The selection of a narrative is often a moral or social choice affected by beliefs about the inevitability of a given outcome, such as evolutionary and ecological ideas about cultural or economic development. Narrative "truth" thus serves as a basis for practical action and the promotion of national or community values. The narratives are often implicit in discussions of cultural identity and land-use relationships. Continuity with the past is also assumed.

Historians are beginning to deconstruct the narratives that have limited indigenous rights in Sweden, and archaeologists are producing new narratives through fieldwork. These results both challenge national interpretations of indigenous rights and the law, and help broaden the base of Saami cultural identities.

This session will focus in particular on the Saami in Sweden, but contributions from other regions will also be included.

**Session no. 06.05 - Open  
Iñupiaq engravings: Perspectives on Iñupiaq art and environmental knowledge**

Session Chair / co-chair

Birgit Paukztat [b.paukztat@rug.nl](mailto:b.paukztat@rug.nl) / TBC

Praised as small masterpieces of art, Iñupiaq pictorial engravings on ivory implements, made in the 19th and early 20th century, depict everyday life in cartoon-like sequences in engaging detail. First consultations with community members and biologists suggest that research on Iñupiaq pictorial engravings can provide fascinating insights on 19th century Iñupiaq everyday life, religious beliefs and environmental knowledge. Despite their importance as one of the great North American art

traditions, and the wealth of traditional knowledge they hold, Iñupiaq pictorial engravings have long been neglected by researchers.

In 2001, the British Museum initiated a research project on Iñupiaq pictorial engravings. The aim of the project is twofold. First, to build a comprehensive database with detailed drawings, photographs and documentation, in order to make the engravings accessible to north Alaskan communities, scholars, and the public. Second, to encourage the interdisciplinary study and interpretation of the engravings in close collaboration with contemporary Iñupiaq communities. Starting with the 43 engravings in the collection of the British Museum, the first phase of the project has been completed in 2006, and a database with drawings, photographs, and initial interpretations is now available online. At the moment, several research projects in Northwest Alaska, the Yukon Territory, and museum collections in Europe and the USA are underway.

**Session no. 06.06 - By invitation - Boreas**

**Constituting the North? History's Role in Understanding Uses and Production of Knowledge in the Arctic**

Session Chair / co-chair

Ronald E. Doel, Department of History, Oregon State University [doelr@geo.oregonstate.edu](mailto:doelr@geo.oregonstate.edu) /  
Urban Wråkberg

To ask a simple yet provocative question: what is Arctic knowledge? Who has it – and who has the right to talk about it? Who defines it today; who defined it in years past? In what ways is our understanding of the Arctic the sum of distinct professional perspectives: an ‘Arctic of disciplines’? Do we have a ‘big picture’ view?

History is a way of knowing the Arctic—and in this session, we will employ historical analysis as a way of understanding the north, in the past as well as the present. Our aim in this session is to place Arctic research within broad comparative perspectives: how were insights won from studies in the field across a wide range of disciplines? In what ways did cold war military concerns—and plans for potential northern warfare—influence what Arctic knowledge was acquired? How have the practices of colonialism and neo-colonialism in the north changed over the twentieth century? In what contexts should the international polar years—including the International Geophysical Year of 1957-58—be placed? How has Arctic knowledge been constituted by changing technological practices, strategies of resource management, and Traditional Ecological Knowledge?

This session integrates and synthesizes major research programmes underway within “Colony, Empire, Environment: A Comparative International History of Twentieth Century Arctic Science,” one of the seven projects supported by the Boreas initiative of the European Science Foundation. While we intend to raise questions and issues from our work, we also hope that this session will facilitate roundtable discussions.

*Theme no. 07 Health*

**Session no. 07.01 - Open**

**The Health Transition of Indigenous Peoples in the North**

Session Chair / co-chair

Peter Sköld [peter.skold@cesam.umu.se](mailto:peter.skold@cesam.umu.se) – TBC /

Health inequalities have become a prime target for global organizations such as the United Nations and the WHO. In their Millennium Declaration, the United Nations stress that no individual and no nations should be denied the opportunity to benefit from development. Nevertheless, the indigenous people of the world are not benefiting at all and the health situation that has long been cause for alarm continues to be alarming. In a number of resolutions the WHO has recently mandated to

devote special attention to the issue of indigenous peoples' health. The health disadvantages suffered by indigenous people today are profoundly connected to their history of colonization. Colonization is an experience that is shared by all indigenous peoples over the world. The time, extent, impact, and understanding of colonization vary among continents and cultures. Nevertheless, it is true that colonization always brings change to the indigenous cultures: sometimes positive changes, but often negative. Few researchers would dispute that the indigenous populations of the world experience demographic transitions much later than non-indigenous populations. Therefore a discussion of an indigenous health transition is often addressed but, due to lack of data, rarely examined. The purpose of this session is to problemize the health transition of indigenous peoples in the north. It is open for scholars from all social science disciplines.

**Session no. 07.02 - Open - IPY**

**Arctic human health initiative**

Session Chair / co-chair

Alan J. Parkinson [ajp1@cdc.gov](mailto:ajp1@cdc.gov) – TBC

The Arctic Human Health Initiative (AHHI) is an IPY (2007-2008) Arctic Council project that aims to increase the visibility and awareness of health concerns of Arctic peoples, to foster human health research, and promote health protection strategies that will improve the health and well-being of all Arctic Residents. The AHHI coordinating project (#167) seeks to advance the joint circumpolar human health research agendas of the Arctic Council (AC; [www.arctic-council.org](http://www.arctic-council.org)), an eight nation intergovernmental forum for sustainable development and environmental protection, and the working groups of the International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH; [www.iuch.org](http://www.iuch.org)). This special project session will review AHHI research, education and outreach progress, and plans for the 14th International Congress for Circumpolar Health to be held in Yellow Knife Canada, July 12-16, 2009- ([www.hlthss.gov.nt.ca/Features/Programs\\_and\\_Services/icch/about\\_icch\\_2009.htm](http://www.hlthss.gov.nt.ca/Features/Programs_and_Services/icch/about_icch_2009.htm))

**Session no. 07.03 - Open**

**Food Security in the Arctic**

Session Chair / co-chair

Gert Mulvad [GM@gh.gl](mailto:GM@gh.gl) / - TBC

Food security is to have “physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meet the dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life” (World summit on Food Security, 2003) Food security is a world wide challenge as states not least in the Arctic region.

Many groups work with food security in the Arctic and we invite to this workshop planed by the National Board of Nutrition and Environment in Greenland.

Some of the food security challenges in Greenland:

In the middle of “the Arctic dilemma” - recommendations of food and food security in Greenland The traditional diet in Greenland is to a large extent based upon marine animals and fish, but in the last generations has the diet been a mixture of traditional and imported foods. Even if about one quarter of the energy consumption still comes from the intake of from seafood, fish or sea animals are the imported foods expected to increase its share of the energy consumption in the future.

How food is produced, prepared and consumed is a major part of the culture in any community and is thereby of great importance to our identity as individuals and to the way people come together.

Food is much more than just getting the necessary nutrition; it is also essential for our social life and the ways families' function. Since an increasing part of our food is imported and arrive in full or almost full fabricated forms the quality of nutrition changes, affecting not only public health but also changing the social and cultural aspects of eating and preparing the meals.

### *Theme no. 08 Material Culture & Archaeology*

#### **Session no. 08.01 - Open**

##### **The Excavations on Ancient Eskimo Settlements on Chukotka of Last Years**

Session Chair / co-chair

TBC [Dnepr@orc.ru](mailto:Dnepr@orc.ru)

#### **Session no. 08.02 - Open - IPY**

##### **Outside influences, globalization and change in material culture**

Session Chair / co-chair

Cunera Buijs [aartjan.cunera@net.hcc.nl](mailto:aartjan.cunera@net.hcc.nl) / Daniel Thorleifsen

External influences lead to major processes of change in the Arctic affecting indigenous societies, their material culture included. Recently, global warming influences life in the Arctic in general but may also have impact on the availability of materials, the objects people make and use and might lead to unexpected changes. In this session we would like to investigate external influences that caused (historical) changes in material (and the interrelated immaterial) culture, such as colonization and baptism. The session focuses also on recent processes of change on objects that people make, such as the tourist branch (tourist art and kayak tourism etc), the art market, nation building and globalization, climate change and global warming.

### *Theme no. 09 Outreach & Education*

#### **Session no. 09.01 - Open**

##### **Initiation of cultural, developmental and linguistically suitable educations in the North**

TBC

Session Chair / co-chair

TBC Janus Chemnitz Kleist [jack@adm.uni.gi](mailto:jack@adm.uni.gi)

### *Theme no. 10 Inclusive Research*

#### **Session no. 10.01 - Open**

##### **Initiation of cultural, developmental and linguistically suitable educations in the North**

Session Chair / co-chair

Suzy Basile, First Nations Services, Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue  
[suzybasile@hotmail.com](mailto:suzybasile@hotmail.com) / Nancy Gros-Louis McHugh – TBC

In order to express its position regarding research carried out among First Nations, the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador (AFNQL) undertook the development of a research protocol so as to offer their communities a reference guide that would enable them to better monitor the various activities and numerous demands related to the research carried out in their territories. The development of this protocol is certainly not aimed at hindering sensitive research work or any form of investigative work likely to lead to undesirable conclusions, but rather to promote a precise and well-informed ethical form of research, whose whole process respects the will of the First Nations involved. The requirements expressed in this document will inform First Nations on research procedure and help them better identify their needs, limits and involvement, define research policies and establish means through which communities will manage said policies. The development of proper research principles and practices aims at guarantying good research processes in First Nation communities.

**Session no. 10.02 - Open**

**Indigenous Peoples and Research**

Session Chair / co-chair

Adelheid Herrmann, [hermann@gci.net](mailto:hermann@gci.net) – TBC

**Session no. 10.03 - Open**

**Voices from the field, voices of the field. Conducting fieldwork in the northern areas**

Session Chair / co-chair

Helena Ruotsala, Cultural Heritage Studies, University of Turku [helena.ruotsala@utu.fi](mailto:helena.ruotsala@utu.fi) / Tuula Tuisku

Ethnographic fieldwork is a very common research method to create material in many fields even though the researchers have not studied how to do ethnographic fieldwork. In this workshop we discuss questions concerning fieldwork in the northern regions. In Canada and Alaska there are clear regulations how to start and conduct fieldwork in northern communities, but in Scandinavia and Russia there are no such regulations and conventions. However, researchers conducting fieldwork face the same problems in both situations. Fields have often multiple voices, which cause special questions in conducting fieldwork. Each researcher has to reach different voices during the fieldwork, and later again, when listening tapes/audio files or studying archives. How do we succeed to hear the multivocality of the field(s) and how do the different voices effect on our interpretations. From the epistemological point of view researcher's duty is to describe the goal of the research from many angles, but the ethical frames of the study decide the interpretations and suitable ways to use the material. This space between the researcher and those been studied is called as 'ethical space'.

In addition to the multivocality of the field we'd like raise questions concerning entering the field. Some of the field researches use so called cultural mediators to get acquaintance to the field. What is the role of them and how do their opinions effect on the researchers' fieldwork and later on the results? Recently there have been co-researchers; local people have participated as co-researchers in the fieldwork. How does it e.g. prevent the gap between researchers and those been studied?

The third topic is the competence of the field researchers: especially is the knowledge of language and culture. How sensitive a person is to small cultural features even though one knows language? In northern cultures silence is one way of communication between people.

We invite researchers – both anthropologists and natural scientists as well as native and non-native researchers to share their experiences and expertise and discuss methodological and epistemological questions concerning fieldwork among northern people.

*Theme no. 11 IPY*

**Session no. 11.01 - Open**

**Early Career Workshop: Integrating Polar Sciences**

Session Chair / co-chair

Arthur Mason, University of Calgary [Arthur.Mason@asu.edu](mailto:Arthur.Mason@asu.edu) / Jen Baeseman – TBC

**Session no. 11.02 - Open**

**Young researchers session**

Session Chair / co-chair

Amy Wiita, [cinzaresearch@alaska.net](mailto:cinzaresearch@alaska.net) / - TBC

This session celebrates the research that early career scientists are conducting throughout the circumpolar North. Young researchers will present research findings and ideas on Arctic research. Audience members are encouraged to interact with the presenters to foster stimulating dialogue and provide feedback for the researchers. The presentations will be followed by a workshop to discuss the needs of young researchers—ideas for networking, the issues young researchers face, limitations to research, and how these and other concerns can be better addressed through established or new mechanisms such as the Northern Research Forum’s Young Researcher Network. Audience members and students will come together to discuss the state of research for early career scientists in the North.

**Session no. 11.03 - Open - IPY  
Interdisciplinary Communication, Outreach Across Boundaries and the Internet in the  
International Polar Year**

Session Chair / co-chair

Niels Einarsson [ne@unak.is](mailto:ne@unak.is)

**Session no. 11.04 - Open  
Science and stakeholders: Field station histories**

Session Chair / co-chair

Michael Bravo – TBC [mb124@cam.ac.uk](mailto:mb124@cam.ac.uk)

International field stations have become inseparable from polar research, often serving as geopolitical symbols of political, diplomatic and economic ambitions of the nations to which their founders belonged. Beneath the veneer of international cooperation, there have often been scenes of dramatic tension between national scientific traditions, with teams known to compete over shared facilities and resources, or working covertly with their own instruments and methods. And yet successive international polar years have promoted the idea that international cooperation and transparency is a precondition if the results of scientific research are to have global validity beyond national borders. Our project recognizes that this is no less a problem in historical and political cross-cultural understanding than it is of calibrating experiments across time and space.

The projects for this International Polar Year for the first time acknowledge the importance to science of the full range of stakeholders living and working in the polar regions: local experts, settlers, technicians, as well as scientists. The hidden labour on which the sciences depend is in fact a general feature of both the field and laboratory sciences. Our group aims to uncover these hidden histories across all of the international polar years, particularly the agendas, practices, and politics of the indigenous and settler land use and tenure around scientific field stations. By revealing the extent to which scientific research has depended on the knowledge and support of a wide range of groups, there is a much greater chance that research will continue to be respected and make a positive contribution to northern societies. Those high standards will be the measure by which international scientific events will be judged.

## ***Conferences and Meetings***

### **Second Workshop on Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks**

***Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
9-11 April***

Early Registration Deadline: Monday, 3 March 2008

<http://www.arcticobserving.org>

The second workshop on Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks will be held on 9-11 April 2008, in Edmonton, Alberta, and will address the question: How will Arctic observing and data and information management activities be coordinated and sustained over the long-term?

Attendance is open to representatives of organizations with an interest in sustained arctic observations. The number of participants will be limited to approximately 200. Speakers will be selected by invitation, however poster contributions from all participants are welcome. Abstracts from invited and contributing authors will form part of the workshop documentation. The deadline for early registration is Monday, 3 March 2008, but organizers request notification of intent to attend as early as possible at: [SAON2@ualberta.ca](mailto:SAON2@ualberta.ca).

Plenary and break-out sessions include:

- Earth Observation Platforms
- Community-based Observations
- Coordination of International Arctic Observing Networks and of National Funding (governments and agencies)
- Operational Observing
- New and Emerging Technologies
- Integration Across Networks and Modeling Observations, Modeling, and Data Management

Information about the conference program, registration, hotel booking, and travel advice

will be provided at:

<http://www.arcticobserving.org>

The need for well-coordinated and sustained Arctic Observing Networks that meet scientific and societal needs has been identified in numerous high profile reports and forums. In November 2006 at the Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting in Salekhard, Russian Federation, ministers welcomed the International Polar Year as a unique opportunity to stimulate cooperation and coordination of arctic research and increase awareness of the importance of the Arctic. Further, the Arctic Council Ministers requested the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) cooperate with the 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.

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 and operational and local observing, was 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 first workshop was held in Stockholm, Sweden, on 12-14 November 2007, and addressed the question: Are current Arctic observing and data and information management activities sufficient to meet users' needs? A third workshop is planned for 15-17 October 2008, in Helsinki, Finland. Reports from the first workshop and announcements and documentation for all three workshops are available at: <http://www.arcticobserving.org>.

For more information, please contact:

David Hik, Workshop Organizing Committee  
Co-chair  
E-mail: [dhik@ualberta.ca](mailto:dhik@ualberta.ca)

Karen Edwards, Canadian IPY Secretariat  
Coordinator  
E-mail: [SAON2@ualberta.ca](mailto:SAON2@ualberta.ca)

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**SCAR/IASC Open Science Conference**  
Polar Research - Arctic and Antarctic  
Perspectives in the International Polar Year

***St. Petersburg, Russia***  
***8-11 July 2008***

Abstract Submission Deadline: 15 January  
2008  
<http://www.scar-iasc-ipy2008.org>

The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) and International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) announce the SCAR/IASC IPY Open Science Conference, "Polar Research: Arctic and Antarctic Perspectives in the International Polar Year," to be held 8-11 July 2008, in St. Petersburg, Russia. The conference will be held in conjunction with the XXX SCAR Meeting that includes science business sessions (5-7 July) and the Delegates' Meeting (14-16 July in Moscow).

Topics for science sessions at the SCAR/IASC IPY Open Science Conference include:

- Status and Change;
- Polar/Global Linkages;
- A Sense of Discovery;
- The Poles as a Vantage Point for Observations; and
- People and Resources at the Poles.

Abstracts for oral and poster presentations are invited and should be submitted before 15 January 2008, at:  
<http://www.scar-iasc-ipy2008.org>

For further information, please contact:  
Alexander Klepikov  
E-mail: [klep@aari.nw.ru](mailto:klep@aari.nw.ru)

Julia Raiskaya  
E-mail: [scar-iasc-ipy2008@onlinereg.ru](mailto:scar-iasc-ipy2008@onlinereg.ru)

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## **2008 Northern Research Forum Open Meeting**

Anchorage, Alaska  
24-27 September 2008

[http://www.nrf.is/Open%20Meetings/Anchorage/Anchorage\\_2008.htm](http://www.nrf.is/Open%20Meetings/Anchorage/Anchorage_2008.htm)

The main theme and integrated sub-themes are under discussion and will be decided in fall 2007. The event will be organized by the Northern Research Forum, together with the 5th NRF Organizing Committee representing several US Federal and Alaskan state organizations, e.g. US Arctic Research Commission, University of Alaska, Anchorage, Office of the Governor of Alaska, Office of the Mayor of Anchorage and Alaska Native Science Commission.

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

***Nuuk, Greenland***  
***August 22-26, 2008***

See Announcement above (p.2)

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**Human Dimensions in the Circumpolar Arctic: An Interdisciplinary Conference under the Auspices of the International Polar Year**

***Umea, Sweden***  
***October 8-10, 2008***

<http://www.umea-congress.se/polar2008.html>

The IPY-conference "Human Dimensions in the Circumpolar Arctic" will be held on October 8-10 2008 at Umea University, Umea, Sweden.

The conference will pay particular attention to human life and conditions in the Arctic in the past, present and future. Questions that will be addressed are how the possibilities for various

kinds of social and economical developments have been understood at various times. Other important questions are how climate, ecology and different types of resource use have influenced conditions for life in the Arctic and the role of national and international politics for northern developments and conditions.

Policy questions concerning the Arctic region will also be discussed during the conference. Representatives for indigenous peoples and politicians are therefore especially invited to attend the conference.

A cultural programme including theatre, music and art illustrates some of the cultural expressions of life in the North.

Themes include:

- Indigenous peoples
- Gender Dimensions
- Culture and Science
- Resources and Climate
- Health and Welfare

Other suggestions for sessions and themes are welcome.

The conference will be held at the campus of Umea University. Founded in 1965 as Sweden's fifth university, it is located in the northern part of the country with a strong commitment to regional, international and interdisciplinary research. Today the university has 29 000 students and it is an important vehicle for the cultural and economic development of the Umea area and the entire region of northern Sweden. It's campus is conveniently accessible by air, and located close to the town centre with hotels and other facilities close at hand.

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**16th Inuit Studies Conference:**  
Imagining Inuit Imagining

***Winnipeg, Canada***  
***23-25 October 2008***

Deadline for Abstracts and Session Proposals:  
Friday, 29 February 2008

Abstracts for papers and combined abstracts for sessions are invited for the 16th Inuit Studies Conference to be held on 23-25 October 2008, at St. John's College at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. The conference theme, "Imagining Inuit Imagining," refers to investigations of Inuit culture that mark the place of Inuit within the western imagination (imagining Inuit); discussion and reflection on Inuit imaginative productions (Inuit imaginings); and examination of the place of Inuit imagination in Qallunaat constructions or the way in which Inuit imagination is imagined (imagining Inuit imagining). Imagining is to be taken in its broadest sense, not only as a reference to creative works but also how both Qallunaat and Inuit imagine each other through theory.

Organizers welcome brief abstracts (150 to 250 words) and sessions that reflect upon these themes. Organizers specifically encourage scholars interested in the work of the late Alooook Ipellie to form a session. Abstracts may be submitted from any academic discipline, crossing the social sciences and humanities, though interdisciplinary work is especially welcome. Proposals from Inuit scholars or cultural producers, including new imaginative productions, are particularly welcome. The deadline for submissions is Friday, 29 February 2008.

For further information, please contact:  
Chris Trott  
Phone: 204-474-8101  
E-mail: [trottcg@cc.umanitoba.ca](mailto:trottcg@cc.umanitoba.ca)

Peter Kulchyski  
Phone: 204-474-6333  
E-mail: [kulchysk@cc.umanitoba.ca](mailto:kulchysk@cc.umanitoba.ca)

See more Arctic conferences at  
<http://calendar.arcus.org/>

## ***Funding opportunity***

### **National Science Foundation Program Solicitation Human and Social Dynamics: Competition for FY 2008**

Type 1 Full Proposal Deadline: 19 February  
2008

Type 2 Full Proposal Deadline: 22 February  
2008

The National Science Foundation announces  
program solicitation 08-508,  
"Human and Social Dynamics: Competition  
for FY 2008."

#### **Synopsis of Program:**

The Human and Social Dynamics (HSD)  
priority area fosters breakthroughs in  
understanding the dynamics of human action  
and development, as well as knowledge about  
organizational, cultural, and societal  
adaptation and change. HSD aims to increase  
our collective ability to (1) understand the  
complexities of change; (2) understand the  
dynamics of human and social behavior at all  
levels, including that of the human mind; (3)  
understand the cognitive and social structures  
that create, define, and result from change;  
and (4) manage profound or rapid change, and  
make decisions in the face of changing risks  
and uncertainty. Accomplishing these goals  
requires multidisciplinary research teams and  
comprehensive, interdisciplinary approaches  
across the sciences, engineering, education,  
and humanities, as appropriate.

The FY 2008 competition will include three  
emphasis areas (Agents of Change; Dynamics  
of Human Behavior; and Decision Making,  
Risk, and Uncertainty). HSD encourages  
projects investigating complexity and systems  
thinking, with a goal of revealing the  
emergent properties of dynamic systems.  
HSD also encourages projects identifying  
human drivers of environmental change and  
exploring the consequences of environmental  
change on humans. Such research is central in  
equipping us to handle the most pressing  
environmental problems for our nation and  
the world.

#### **Cognizant Program Officers:**

Rita Teutonico  
Directorate for Social, Behavioral and  
Economic Sciences  
Phone: 703-292-7118  
E-mail: [rteutoni@nsf.gov](mailto:rteutoni@nsf.gov)

Elizabeth Tran  
Directorate for Social, Behavioral and  
Economic Sciences  
Phone: 703-292-5338  
E-mail: [etran@nsf.gov](mailto:etran@nsf.gov)

For further information, please go to:  
[http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.js  
p?ods\\_key=nsf08508](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf08508)

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## ***Course Announcement***

### **International Polar Year IV: Context and Promise**

Yukon College and University of the Arctic  
1 February-30 April 2008

For further information, please go to:

<http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/ipy/216info>

Yukon College and University of the Arctic  
announces an international offering of the  
online course, International Polar Year IV:  
Context and Promise.

This second-year-level, multidisciplinary  
course presents an overview of the historical  
and scientific context of the fourth  
International Polar Year 2007-2008 and offers

an examination of its development, planning, and execution. The overall orientation of the course is historical and descriptive rather than analytical or theoretical. The course will be of particular interest to individuals working in government, media, or business who seek a greater understanding of this international enterprise, as well as students of history, science, and contemporary issues of the North.

The course is offered asynchronously online, which means there are no set meeting times, though chats may be arranged. Students will visit the website to access course materials, including reading assignments, discussion boards, and online course resources.

The course runs from 1 February to 30 April 2008 (registration opens on 3 December 2007, and late registration will be accepted only until 5 February 2008).

Tuition for the course is \$150 CDN. Yukon College expects to offer the course again in September 2008 and February 2009.

IPY researchers, planners, and organizers are respectfully encouraged to pass along references or information that could support the goals of this course.

For further information, please contact:

Amanda Graham

Yukon College

E-mail: [agraham@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:agraham@yukoncollege.yk.ca)

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## ***New Books and Journals***

### **Børn og unge i Grønland - en antologi** (Children and Youth in Greenland—A Collection of Essays)

Edited by Wolfgang Kahlig and Nina Banerjee  
2007. Published by MIPI, Ilisimatusarfik, and milik publishing  
384 pages, illustrated with photos  
ISBN 978-87-91359-34-7



The living conditions of children and young people in contemporary Greenland is a frequently debated, but so far inadequately elucidated topic in the general Greenlandic and Danish publics, and this influences the

debate in the media as well as in political forums.

The deficiency is now made good by The Documentation Centre on Children and Youth in Greenland (MIPI) in collaboration with the University of Greenland (Ilisimatusarfik) and the publisher milik publishing.

In their anthology containing 23 articles, 25 contributors offer their descriptions and analyses of current and very diverse aspects of Greenlandic children and young people's reality—complemented by a couple of historical flashbacks.

Both scholars and practitioners are represented in the anthology, which broadly appeals to interested students, professionals, and scholars in Greenland and Denmark alike.

The four main themes of the book are: Children and Youth and the Political and Administrative System in Greenland; The Socialization of Children and Youth at the

Intersection Between Tradition and Modernity; Family Conditions and Health related Behavior among Children and Youth;

and finally Models and Tools for Working with Children and Youth.

The book is available through booksellers in Greenland and can be ordered at all Danish booksellers. Choose between a Greenlandic and a Danish version. The latter concludes with an English summary.

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### **Les civilisations du renne d'hier et d'aujourd'hui**

(Civilizations based on reindeer yesterday and today)

Sylvie Beyries and Virginie Vaté, editors.  
Antibes, Editions APDCA, 2007. 474 p. 40 €. ISBN 2-904110-44-5.

Whether one considers the peoples of the Arctic regions today or the hunters of the end of the Palaeolithic, the reindeer has played a fundamental role both in their economy and their modes of representation. The topics of the XXVIIe Rencontres internationales d'archéologie et d'histoire d'Antibes were formulated on the basis of the results of a collective programme called ACI-TTT, Biological and Cultural Adaptation: the reindeer system, which has been carried out with the support of the French Ministry of Research under the guidance of Sylvie Beyries. The articles presented herein take a comparatively multidisciplinary approach – including prehistory, ethnology, anthropology, medicine, biochemistry and archaeozoology – to the world of the reindeer and the cultures linked to it. Due to the fact that the participants come from a variety of disciplines and have a range of fieldwork experiences, their approaches in this conference are indubitably original. The majority of researchers involved in this project have worked with the peoples of the North for many years from very different perspectives. Additionally, all have for some time pointed to the need for an integrated approach. The realization of this collective programme provided a structural framework, for exchanges, which had previously taken place only occasionally. It has led to the

establishment of institutional relations between units affiliated with various CNRS departments and other foreign research institutes (Max Planck Institute, Fonds national suisse, Kunstkamera, the Russian Ethnographic Museum, etc.).

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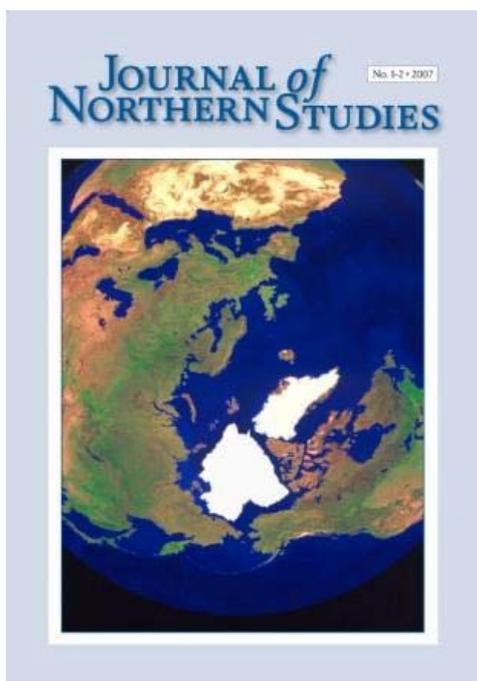
### **The Flexible Frontier: Change and Continuity in Finnish-Russian Relations.**

Ed. by Maria Lähtenmäki.  
Aleksanteri Series 5/2007. University of Helsinki. 265 pages

ISBN 978-952-10-4093-1, ISSN 1796-3192  
25,50 €. Aleksanteri Institute,  
essi.lindroos@helsinki.fi, <http://kikimora-publications.com>

The publication analyzes the Finnish-Russian/Soviet relations from the middle ages to the present day. During these centuries the 1200 kilometre-long border between the two countries has changed repeatedly, e.g. by the Treaty of Nöteborg (1323), the Finnish War (1808-1809), and the Second World War (1939-1945). In addition to territorial shifts, the scholars from various universities also discuss Karelia's history as a border area. Soviet-Finnish trade relations, and the region's development up to the present. The two articles concerning the Greater Finland ideology and the Finno-Ugric minorities' status in Russian Karelia provide their own perspective on the relations between the two countries. The projects of Finnish-Russian co-operation in nature conservation, the development of the north Barents region, and the European Northern Dimension policy, for their part, show the continuing trend towards Finnish-Russian border area co-operation.

## Journal of Northern Studies



Published by Umeå University and The Royal Skyttean Society. Editor-in-chief prof. Lars-Erik Edlund. ISSN 1654-5915.

[www.jns.org.umu.se](http://www.jns.org.umu.se)

The *Journal of Northern Studies* is a peer-reviewed academic publication issued twice a year. The journal has a specific focus on human activities in northern spaces, and articles concentrate on people as cultural beings, people in society and the interaction between people and the northern environment. In many cases, the contributions will represent exciting interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches. Apart from scholarly articles, the journal contains a review section, a section with reports from conferences etc. and information about upcoming events relevant for *Northern Studies*. Issue No. 1-2 appeared in 2007.

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### The Journal of the North Atlantic (JONA)

Journal of the North Atlantic  
Eagle Hill Foundation  
PO Box 9, 59 Eagle Hill Road, Steuben, ME

04680-0009 United States

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The Journal of the North Atlantic (JONA) is a new multi-disciplinary, peer-reviewed and edited archaeology and environmental history journal focusing on the peoples of the North Atlantic, their expansion into the region over time, and their interactions with their changing environment.

Since it will be a full-featured online-only journal, articles can be quickly published and made available to researchers worldwide. The journal has no publication fees, even for Special Issues and large Monographs. The first issue is expected to be available in the spring of 2008.

The journal will be indexed in a full range of journal content databases. Journal content can be conveniently accessed both by subscription and on a single article basis.

The Journal of the North Atlantic will publish a wide diversity of research papers, as well as research summaries and general interest articles in closely related disciplines, which, when considered together, will help contribute to a comprehensive multi-disciplinary understanding of the historical interplay between cultural and environmental changes in the North Atlantic world.

Specifically, the journal's focus will include paleo-environmental reconstruction and modelling, historical ecology, archaeology, ecology of organisms important to humans, anthropology, human/environment/ climate interactions, climate history, ethnography, ethnohistory, historical analyses, discussions of cultural heritage, and place-name studies. The journal will also publish field observations, notes, and archaeological site reports, as well as book reviews, summaries of important news stories, opinion papers, and free brief announcements of meetings, symposia, conferences, and grant opportunities.

The journal is part of the BioOne.org database. This database allows authors to include supporting files such as video, database, and audio files, and to freely include

color photographs and figures with articles.  
We welcome your interest and questions!  
Joerg-Henner Lotze, Publisher

Board of Editors - Affiliations are listed on  
the website.

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## ***IASSA membership***

See also [www.iassa.gl](http://www.iassa.gl)

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@uni.gl](mailto:iassa@uni.gl) or [jack@adm.uni.gl](mailto:jack@adm.uni.gl) to discuss a possible solution.

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