Greetings! The snow is melting quickly in Prince George and spring in evidence. Given the sheer energy and fervor being expended on preparing for ICASS VIII here, it should have disappeared a lot faster! We are in high gear (Cher’s email box is continually overflowing), at just a month away from ICASS VIII! The planning has been exciting and challenging. Look forward to a diverse and fascinating range of papers. We expect over 400 delegates. Some 570 abstracts were submitted, though numerous members have had to withdraw their papers, for a variety of reasons. Still, the program is very full, as you will see below. There may be a few final adjustments to the schedule of sessions, which will be posted on the Congress website.

For those who have not yet registered, please do so online at http://resweb.res.unbc.ca/icass2014/registration.htm. Thank you to all who registered early – it really helps with planning!

Some highlights and key moments of the upcoming Congress:

**IASSA Elections**

The IASSA General Assembly will take place on Sunday, 25 May. Please plan to attend, and participate in the election of the next IASSA Council. Bids for positions on the Council are included in this newsletter, beginning on page 8. Members will still be able to declare their intent to run at ICASS VIII; we ask for a short statement (about 150 words) and a photo (this can be taken at ICASS VIII). Candidates will not speak, rather we will depend on the short statements, which will be made available electronically.

We received only one bid for hosting of the next Secretariat, from Peter Sköld at Umeå University. We are delighted by this bid, as ICASS has yet to be held in Sweden. Umeå University is home to the new ARCUM (Arctic Research Centre), and to a very strong group of Arctic social scientists and humanities scholars – a great place to convene ICASS IX.

The other major issue for the IASSA General Assembly is a vote on the proposed new by-laws. These have been published before in Northern Notes, Issue 40, but are also included in this newsletter. They are also available on our website, which includes a version that shows the old text and changes together. The new by-laws propose:

1) direct election of the IASSA President. (At present, the membership votes for the next location of the secretariat, then votes for new Council Members; then the Council appoints a new President.)

2) that candidates for President run with a Co-Convenor for the next ICASS; this person may be from the same institution, or from another. If a Presidential candidate would like to hold ICASS at a different institution then her/his own, this guarantees that someone from that institution is identified and included from the start.

Please review the proposed changes to the by-laws and come ready to vote!

**Four Keynote Speakers, and Three Sustainability Project Panel Roundtables**

Please see our Congress program at http://resweb.res.unbc.ca/icass2014/ for more details.
Welcome from the President continued

ICARP-III Townhall

The International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) launched the International Conference on Arctic Research Planning III (ICARP-III) process at Arctic Summit Science Week a couple of weeks ago (8 April). This is a year-long process, culminating at Arctic Science Summit Week 2015, aimed, inter alia, at identifying Arctic science priorities for the next decade (see http://icarp.arcticportal.org). An ICARP-III Townhall during ICASS VIII, hosted by the IASC Social and Human Sciences Working Group, will provide IASSA members with a chance to provide input into this process. A report resulting from the Townhall will be presented to the ICARP Steering Committee.

Arctic Human Development Report II (AHDR-II)

A double-session on the AHDR-II will include summaries of several chapters and then perspectives from several representatives of various organizations who will hopefully find the new report useful, including Sami Council, Gwich’in Council International, and representatives working with the Sustainable Development Working Group’s Social, Economic and Cultural Expert Group.

A Diverse Cultural Program

We have a night of northern symphony music, a film premier of a 1920s film recently restored, a night of DJs, a display of arctic-inspired art, a First Nations drumming session, and more. Prince George’s Exploration Place is hosting an exhibit, ‘Exhibition Arctic’, on the Arctic, from Canada’s National Museum of History. And we will enjoy a rollicking local Celtic band at our banquet. Academic papers, yes, but lots more too!

From the IASSA Secretary

On issues other than ICASS VIII, in early February I attended a working meeting of the International Polar Partnerships Initiative (formerly International Polar Initiative and before that International Polar Decade). The Initiative is aimed at identifying and addressing key polar issues of regional and global significance. While there is a strong emphasis on observation/monitoring, the initiative also underscores the need for collaborative work between social scientists and natural scientists, and between scientists and local communities. Goals of the initiative include increasing the efficacy of research and research funding, and capacity building among a new generation of polar researchers. More information is available at http://www.internationalpolarinitiative.org/.

I also enjoyed meeting up with a number of IASSA Councilors at Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW) 2014 in early April - Alona, Andrey, Chris, Peter, and Tatiana (see photo below). ASSW ended with a session on ICARP-III, where I made a few comments on the IASSA perspectives on ICARP-III. Toward the end of the last calendar year, councilors Peter, Andrey and I submitted a proposal from IASSA (as a partner organization of IASC) for the funding of a small trans-disciplinary workshop to produce a white paper on “Understanding Sustainability in the Arctic”, as part of the ICARP-III process. The proposal met with success, and such a workshop will be convened late in 2014 or early in 2015, with the white paper as one of IASSA’s contributions to the ICARP-III process.

Looking forward to seeing many of you in a month’s time! And for those of you who are unable to attend ICASS VIII, please remember that the keynotes and the ICARP-III Townhall will be livestreamed.

Gail Fondahl
President, IASSA

gail.fondahl@unbc.ca

* * * * * *

Only 30 days to go before we welcome you to Prince George for ICASS VIII! I just wanted to let you all know that I’m a little behind on sending out receipts for IASSA membership payments, but I promise to finish sending these out before the start of ICASS VIII. I just have the program to complete and a few other odds and ends and we are ready! Many thanks to all the wonderful IASSA members who continue to show their understanding, patience and support as we make preparations for our triennial Congress. As well, please be sure to say thank you to the ladies at UNBC’s Conference and Event Services, who have been assisting us with a lot of the preparations for ICASS VIII.

Cher :)

* * * * * *

My dog, Cedar, helping with the scheduling of sessions and papers for ICASS VIII.
The schedules for each day of the 5 day Congress are below and continue on the next two pages. A list of the 115+ sessions being presented during ICASS VIII, along with their respective papers will be posted on our website (http://resweb.res.unbc.ca/icass2014/) at the end of April. Please note that both the schedule and session program are still subject to change, but you will be able to find the most current versions on our website.

The ICASS VIII sessions are now organized under 13 overarching themes:

- Arctic Cultures (ACUL)
- Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability (CISU)
- Education (EDUC)
- Environmental & Climate Change (ENCC)
- Governance (GOVE)
- Health & Well-Being (HEAL)
- Knowledge & History (KHIS)
- Languages & Humanities (LAHU)
- International Relations & Law (INRL)
- Renewable Resources (REN)
- Research Methodologies (RMET)
- Resource Development (RDEV)
- Urban / Community Sustainability (UCSU)
ICASS VIII: Daily Schedule continued

### Day 2 | ICASS VIII

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<th>IASC S&amp;H WG Sponsored Reception</th>
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### ICASS VIII: Daily Schedule continued

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#### Evening Program

- **ICASS VIII Awards Banquet**, Civic Centre 1900 - 2200

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*ICASS VIII: International Arctic Social Science*
ICASS VIII: Keynote Speakers

We are pleased to announce that our Keynote Speakers at the Eighth International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS VIII) will be:

1) Chief Joe Linklater, Gwichin Council International (Canada), speaking on *Traditional Self Governance in a ‘Modern’ Context*;
2) Dr. Sverker Sörlin, KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory, Stockholm (Sweden) speaking on *Environmental Humanities and the Arctic: Transforming Knowledge, Transforming Sustainabilities*;
3) Henriette Rasmussen, Head of Radio, Greenlandic Broadcasting Corporation, and former Minister of Culture, Education, Science and Church (Greenland), speaking on *Inuit are Used to Change and to Adapt to New Places and New Situations: Our History Proves That. The Challenge is Elsewhere*; and
4) Dr. Alexander Pelyasov, Director, Centre of Arctic and Northern Economies, Council for Research of Productive Forces (Russian Federation), speaking on *Northern Futurology: The Next 20 Years*.

All keynote addresses will be live-streamed during the Congress, for those unable to attend in person. Please check the Congress website for details on how to access the live-stream and for photos and biographies of our Keynote Speakers.

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ICASS VIII: Sustainability Research Project Panels

Three Sustainability Research Project Panels will be presented during the Eighth International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences being held 22-26 May 2014 at the University of Northern British Columbia, in Prince George, British Columbia, Canada. These large-scale sustainability research projects will be held in the same venue as the keynote speeches, and will be scheduled, like the keynotes, so that all conference participants may attend.

1) *Arctic Futures, Sustainabilities and Strategic Environmental Research*
   Panel organized by: Lize-Marié van der Watt (Project Manager, Swedish Polar Research Secretariat)

2) *SakKijânginnatuk Nunalik*
   Panel organized by: Trevor Bell (Memorial University of Newfoundland), and Tom Sheldon (Director of Environment, Nunatsiavut Government & Nain Research Centre)

3) *From Staples to Sustainability: Can Extractive Resource Development Lead to Sustainability in the Arctic?*
   Panel organized by: Chris Southcott (Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic (ReSDA), Canada & IASSA Council Member), and Andrey Petrov (Arctic Frontiers of Sustainability: Resources, Societies, Environments and Development in the Changing North (Arctic-FROST), USA & IASSA Council Member)

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Central Mountain Air offers flights from Calgary, AB to Prince George

Having trouble finding a flight into Prince George from Vancouver, BC? How about flying into Calgary, Alberta and using Central Mountain Air, a local Northern airline to fly into Prince George. Daily flights are offered between these two cities. For a list of other destinations that Central Mountain Air travels from please visit their website at: [https://flycma.com/](https://flycma.com/).
IASSA Election 2014 Overview

The next election will be held during the General Assembly (GA) of the International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA), on Sunday, May 25, 2014, from 11:00 - 13:00 at the University of Northern British Columbia, in Prince George, British Columbia, Canada. The GA meets in connection with the Eighth International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS VIII).

Eligibility to Run as a Candidate for IASSA Council (2014-2017 term)

In order to qualify to run in the IASSA 2014 election, all candidates for IASSA council must:

- be a ‘member in good standing’ of IASSA;
- nominate themselves, or be nominated by others, with their explicit agreement;
- submit a brief statement (less than 200 words) with a photo of themselves to the IASSA Secretary, on or before 1600h on Thursday, May 22 (first day of ICASS VIII);
- must be present in person during the General Assembly on 25 May 2014; and
- must be ready to participate in IASSA Council meetings (face-to-face or via Skype or teleconference call), and commit a substantial amount of time for IASSA affairs, including extensive discussions via e-mail correspondence.

In the last issue of *Northern Notes* (Issue 40), the IASSA Secretariat put out a call to all members of IASSA encouraging them to submit a brief statement and photo if they wished to run for IASSA Council for the 2014-2017 term. This was so we could include them in this pre-ICASS VIII issue of *Northern Notes* (Issue 41). The submissions we received on or before 31 March 2014, are included on the next few pages (pp. 8 - 11).

Any other IASSA members in good standing still wanting to run for IASSA Council for the 2014-2017 term may declare themselves up until 16:00 (4PM) on the first day (22 May) of ICASS VIII. A table will be set up until 16:00 on 22 May, where you will be able to submit a brief statement (less than 200 words) about yourself to IASSA Secretary, Cher Mazo, and have a photo taken.

Candidates for the next IASSA Council will not be given an opportunity to address the General Assembly on 25 May; rather we will depend on the short statements submitted by each candidate, which will be made available electronically to our members prior to the election.

IASSA Election 2014 Process

As the proposed bylaws have not yet been adopted by the GA, IASSA Election 2014 will be conducted in accordance with the current bylaws, with the only exception being that the number of Councilors that will be elected in this year’s election will follow the practice of the past two elections (2008-2011 and 2011-2014).

This year, the GA will not be addressed by the candidates who are running for IASSA Council for the 2014-2017. We will instead post the candidate statements for everyone running on our website (www.iassa.org) for all members to review prior to the election. Then at the GA, each member of IASSA in good standing will vote for eight councilors to serve for the 2014-2017 term. The current IASSA president will remain on the IASSA Council as past president (2011-2014) and is therefore, not one of the candidates. The IASSA Council will have 9 members; 8 members elected by majority vote during the 2014 GA, plus the past president.

In addition, members will be voting on whether we should adopt the proposed amended bylaws that are included again on pages 12 - 16 of this issue of Northern Notes. Please make sure you review them prior to the GA so that you are informed of the proposed amendments to the IASSA bylaws.

Driving Distances to Prince George

For those of you coming to ICASS VIII and contemplating driving from a major city centre, please keep in mind the following driving distances and approximate driving times (base on my own personal experience):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From</th>
<th>km</th>
<th>miles</th>
<th>hours to drive (assuming travel at 100 km/hr - which is the maximum highway limit in a lot of BC and Alberta)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver, BC</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>8 to 10 hours (depends on construction &amp; traffic)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmonton, AB</td>
<td>737</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>8 to 10 hours (depends if you stop through the Rockies)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calgary, AB</td>
<td>789</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>8 to 10 hours (depends if you stop through the Rockies)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Candidates for IASSA Council, 2014 - 2017

Alona Yefimenko

Incumbent, running for 2nd term

For the last 18 years I have worked as a Technical Advisor for the Arctic Council Indigenous Peoples’ Secretariat. My work has focused on facilitating the Arctic Indigenous Peoples’ organisations in activities of the Arctic Council, assisting the Arctic Council and its bodies in communicating and networking with the Permanent Participants, six indigenous peoples organisations of the world’s most important body on Arctic issues.

Lately my work has been focused on building bridges between science and traditional knowledge. I had a privilege to serve on the Steering Committees of the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) and the International Arctic Social Science Association (IASSA, as Council member, 2011-2014). I firmly believe that we must work on many fronts to incorporate the traditional and cultural needs, values, rights and practices of Arctic Indigenous Peoples in all Arctic programmes and policies. I stand ready to continue to provide the support and coordination for IASSA and strongly believe I possess the qualifications and experience to honor this effort.

I hope my organizational skills and my experience to continue to provide the support and programmes and policies. I stand ready to facilitate the Arctic Indigenous Communities and their needs, values, rights and practices in a circumpolar perspective.

Andrey N. Petrov

Incumbent, running for 2nd term

I am a social scientist with a 'circumpolar' career. I was born, raised and educated in Russia, received my PhD in Canada (Toronto) and work as an Assistant Professor of Geography and as the Director of the Arctic Social and Environmental Systems Research Lab (ARCSES) at the University of Northern Iowa, USA. I also hold an Adjunct Professorship at Yukon College and served as a Visiting Lecturer at the University of Greenland this spring. I am a newly appointed U.S. Representative on the IASC Social & Human Sciences Working Group and Vice-Chair of the Polar Geography Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers.

My research primarily focuses on economic issues in the Arctic. I study human-environment relationships and Arctic socio-ecological systems, as well. I lead a number of circumpolar research initiatives, most importantly the NSF research coordination network in Arctic sustainability (Arctic FROST). I have also been a participant of the Arctic Social Indicators, Arctic Human Development Report II, and a steering committee member of the new NSF-funded Arctic FROST research collaboration network on sustainable development in the Arctic.

In other Arctic research efforts, I am a co-author of the education chapter of the forthcoming Arctic Human Development Report II, and a steering committee member of the new NSF-funded Arctic FROST research collaboration network on sustainable development in the Arctic.

I would like to see IASSA grow and increase its engagement with policymakers. With the U.S. taking on the chairmanship of the Arctic Council in 2015, I would like to see IASSA help inform the U.S. agenda. I also would like to see the next ICARP include more social science research, and will help IASSA champion that effort.

Diane Hirshberg

New Candidate

I am an associate professor of education policy at the University of Alaska Anchorage, USA and the founding director of UAA’s Center for Alaska Education Policy Research. My research interests include education policy around school reform, indigenous education, and circumpolar education.

My ICASS involvement has grown from attending in Fairbanks, to organizing one session in Greenland, to coordinating the education submissions for almost two full days of presentations in Iceland. This year, I recruited participants and helped organize submissions across seven education sessions. I’m really excited that participation by education researchers keeps growing!

In other Arctic research efforts, I am a co-author of the education chapter of the forthcoming Arctic Human Development Report II, and a steering committee member of the new NSF-funded Arctic FROST research collaboration network on sustainable development in the Arctic.

I would like to see IASSA grow and increase its engagement with policymakers. With the U.S. taking on the chairmanship of the Arctic Council in 2015, I would like to see IASSA help inform the U.S. agenda. I also would like to see the next ICARP include more social science research, and will help IASSA champion that effort.

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Candidates for IASSA Council, 2014 - 2017 continued

Florian Stammler

Incumbent, running for 3rd term

Florian Stammler holds Finland's only professorship of Arctic anthropology, based at the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Rovaniemi, where he coordinates the anthropology research team. He is also an Associate at the Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, UK. He received his PhD from the Max-Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Germany, specializing in post-socialist transition studies on the example of Siberian Yamal reindeer herders. His publications are mainly on human-animal -environment relations, reindeer nomadism and the impact of the extractive industry on northern livelihoods. His more recent works focus on Arctic people's life histories in the Soviet Union and its aftermath, and on the question what we can learn from such oral history for our understanding of how knowledge of the past shapes attitudes and decisions in the present. He has done extensive fieldwork in various regions of the North, with a special focus on West Siberia and European Russia, but more recently also Sakha/Yakutia and the Finnish North.

Florian's main role in IASSA has been the coordination of its Extractive Industries Working Group, the maintenance of the extractive industries content that we sent around to group members, and networking among IASSA members working on extractive industries issues, and with universities that participate in the Pan-Arctic extractive industries PhD program. If voted in to the IASSA council again, Florian will continue this work and hold the IASSA flag high in this important topic in the Arctic. He will also continue to promote IASSA among his Russian friends and colleagues, with whom he is going to do a lot of joint field and publication work over the next 3 years.

Gerti Eilmsteiner-Saxinger

New Candidate

I am a trained anthropologist and post-doctoral researcher/lecturer at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Vienna, Austria, where I work in a research team on "Environments, Mobilities, Technologies" with Peter Schweitzer. As a founding member of the new Austrian Polar Research Institute (APRI), and spokesperson of the Regional Group Circumpolar and Siberian Studies of the German Association of Anthropologists (DGV), I am actively promoting Arctic social sciences in non-Arctic countries. Serving on the IASSA Council would mean that not only would I represent scholars from these regions, but also that I would be able to foster scientific collaboration among newly emerging research groups and established scholars and centers.

Apart from my research with indigenous communities, I consider it critical to give more attention to non-indigenous residents of the Arctic. For the last four years, I was leading the research group “Lives on the Move” focused on fly-in/fly-out petroleum workers in the Russian Far North at the Department of Geography and Regional Research in Vienna. The key themes that interest me in the Arctic social sciences are mobility and multi-local livelihoods in the context of the extractive industries and - more broadly speaking - the material world. In this realm my approach is oriented toward the cross-cutting issues of politics, gender and power. As part of my research, I am interested in exploring opportunities for community based research. I am running for IASSA Council as a proponent of combining applied research and theory building in the Arctic social sciences.

Michał Łuszczuk

New Candidate

I am a political scientist specializing in international relations in the Arctic. Based in the Department of North European Countries, Jan Kochanowski University, Kielce, Poland, I conduct post-doc research aiming to explain developments in international Arctic affairs, applying role theory. I also am an Assistant Professor in the Department of International Relations, Maria Curie Skłodowska University, Lublin, Poland. As a member of the Committee on Polar Research, Polish Academy of Sciences, I represent it on IASC’s Social & Human Working Group. For two years, I also have been actively involved in the Thematic Network on Geopolitics and Security (University of the Arctic & NRF), and I am a Summer Arctic College Fellow.

I have assumed various roles in many international projects relating to Arctic research, including the Arctic Science Summit Week in Krakow, 2013 and IPY in Montreal, 2012. Recently I was involved as an expert in the EU Arctic Impact Assessment. I have worked to develop Arctic social sciences in Poland, and have edited the first Polish monograph book examining international affairs in the Arctic region from a multidimensional social sciences perspective. I feel that IASSA’s role should continue to develop significantly in coming years, given both the growing importance and scope of the Arctic transformation, and especially the continued involvement of IASSA members in bridging science, policy and outreach activities. As a member of the IASSA Council I would pay special attention to supporting and developing interdisciplinary cooperation between scientists working both in Arctic and non-Arctic countries.
Candidates for IASSA Council, 2014 - 2017 continued

Peter Sköld

Peter Sköld is a professor in history, Sami culture and society development at Umeå University, Sweden. He is the director of the Centre for Arctic Research and senior researcher at the Centre for Sami Research (CeSam). Sköld’s research profile includes historical demography, indigenous health transition and northern cultures. He has frequently been engaged as scientific expert in official, public and academic investigations. Sköld was a member of Working Group 11 (Arctic Science in the Public interest) in ICARP II, President for Demography/Family Network within European Social Science History Association 2004-2010, Swedish delegate in Barents Euro-Arctic Joint Work Group on Education and Research, and has been a council member of the University of the Arctic for more than ten years. He is vice chair for WG Human and Social Sciences in the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), founding chair of the Swedish Humanities and Social Science Polar Committee, and was in 2013 appointed Swedish delegate in Arctic Council Social, Economic and Cultural Expert Group. 2008-2012 he was director for the prioritized research area Northern Studies at Umeå University. Sköld is a member of the Scientific Working Group for Arctic Research chaired by the Foreign Ministry, and member of the Swedish Arctic Innovation Initiative chaired by the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat. He is one of the authors in the forthcoming Arctic Development Report II, and 2014-2018 strategic leader of the 4,5 million Euro project New Governance for Sustainable Development in the European Arctic, involving 40 researchers.

New Candidate

Thierry Rodon

I’m an associate professor at the Political Science Department at Université Laval, Canada. I’m currently holding a Research Chair on Northern Sustainable Development. The Research Chair’s mission is to analyze and define development models that put northern needs first, engage local communities and representative organizations, and respond to the imperatives of sustainable development in a northern context. I’m also Director of Centre Interuniversitaire d’études et de Recherches Autochtones de l’Université Laval (CIERA) and of the Journal Études Inuit Studies, and a member of IASSA’s Extractive Industry Working Group.

Over the last 20 years, I’ve specialized in northern policies and community development and I have extensive experience working with Aboriginal communities and northern institutions in Nunavut, Nunavik, and Eeyou Istchee, as well as Greenland and Nunatsiavut. I also have worked on education, renewable and non-renewable resource management, adaptation to climate change, policy development and evaluation, as well as community participation in environmental impact assessments. At present, my research projects (SSHRG, FORNT and ReSDA) are focusing on the impact of mining projects on aboriginal and northern communities in the Eastern North-American Arctic, but also in Fennoscandia, Greenland and Russia. I also have an ongoing project with ArcticNet on access to university education for Inuit students.

By bringing this experience to the IASSA Council, I plan to encourage participative action research based on strong links with Northern communities. I’m also interested in encouraging more research cooperation in the circumpolar north.

New Candidate

Tatiana Vlasova

Tatiana Vlasova is a leading researcher at the Institute of Geography, RAS, Russia where she received her PhD in social/economic geography. She graduated from Moscow State University’s Geographical Department as a physical geographer. Her experience in the Arctic is based on her field work and participation in several international multidisciplinary projects such as: Arctic Climate Impact Assessment where she served as a representative from RAIPON, Local Health and Environmental Reporting from the Indigenous Peoples of the Russian North (UNEP Grid-Arendal), Arctic Social Indicators, and the Arctic Resilience Report as an IASSA representative. She is currently a co-chair of the International Geographical Union Cold Regions Environment. During the IPY 2007-2008 she served as a member of the IPY Committee of Russia and on the Sub-Committee on Observations. Her current research interests include socially-oriented observations and assessments of quality of life conditions and human capital development involving traditional and local knowledge. She is the leader of the project team devoted to the construction of the “Integrated Arctic Socially-Oriented Observation System” (IASOS), a network of observation sites in the Russian North. If you want to be included in the IASOS mail list, or participate in its construction please come to the session (KHI3) during ICASS VIII or e-mail tatiana.vls@gmail.com.

Tatiana has represented IASSA on several projects, meetings (e.g. Arctic Environment Minister’s Meeting) and other initiatives and events. She would like to see her future role also as the linking nexus between IASSA, IASOS, and IGU CRE commission.
Dear Colleagues,

I would like to make a bid for Umeå University to become host to the next IASSA secretariat, and to organize and host ICASS IX in 2017. Sweden might have been the black sheep of the Arctic family, since we was the last member country to take on the Arctic Council chairmanship, the last to present an Arctic Strategy Plan, and the last to establish a university based Arctic research centre. But now we are up and running. The government and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are outspoken in their support of Sweden’s role in Arctic research collaboration – which was stated very clearly when President Obama and Prime Minister Reinfeldt made a joint statement last September.

Umeå is a beautiful city in northern Sweden at the Bothnian Gulf. It is the county capital of Västerbotten, and with more than 120,000 inhabitants the second largest city north of Stockholm. During 2014 Umeå is the European Capital of Culture. Located on the traditional territory of the Gran and Ran Sami villages, Umeå University is Sweden’s northernmost complete university. Next year the university will celebrate its 50 years anniversary. With more than 36,000 students, 4,000 employees including 365 full professors, and 50 departments a solid ground has been built for academic operation. Umeå University has been ranked first in Europe and ninth in the world for student satisfaction according to the latest International Student Barometer (ISB). The survey was responded to by international students from 170 universities in the world during the autumn of 2013. The university was ranked first in the world for campus environment and first in Europe for the learning and living categories. In addition, international students also indicated the highest satisfaction among the eight participating universities in Sweden within three of the four main categories including: learning, living and student support. QS50 and Times Top 100 ranking of universities younger than 50 years put Umeå University on place 29 respectively 27 in the world.

The strong emphasis on local and regional research has produced a tradition of innovative research and education rooted in social responsibility while also remaining at the cutting edge of global scholarship (evidenced by an increasingly vigorous network of international collaborations). With the opening of Arcum – Arctic Research Centre at Umeå University – in December 2012 this existing cluster of regional excellence now provides a world-leading environment for research into all aspects of the Arctic that is uniquely suited to hosting IASSA secretariat and organizing ICASS IX. The Centre’s strategic vision focuses on multidisciplinary responses to present and future demands for knowledge concerning long-term sustainable development, with access to strong research infrastructures and a record of successful engagement with northern communities and industries. Thriving research in fields as diverse as geography, history, indigenous studies, social health, law, economics, and political science provides a critical mass of scholarly activity that is constantly enhanced through the integration of younger researchers. Arcum has also established a solid administrative infrastructure for project management and research support, reflecting its function as a node to connect Arctic and northern research at Umeå University and beyond.

Arcum offers a research environment intertwined by cooperation in project management, publications, supervision, international networks, arrangements, seminars and strategic research planning. The centre consists of 200 affiliated researchers, and comprises the visions of Umeå University. It has an innovative and multi-disciplinary approach, the potential for international partnerships is apparent, the inclination of meeting the challenges of the Arctic is a distinct ambition, access to strong research infrastructures is present, and the willingness to interact with northern peoples, communities, and industries is pronounced. Curiosity, dedication, long-term perspectives and an inviting environment characterizes the activities.

We are convinced that Arcum highlights the willingness and capacity of Umeå University to host IASSA’s secretariat. Our vast experience of arranging international conferences, a hotel capacity with more than 3,000 beds, and well-developed communications (one hour flight from Stockholm and a new train system) guarantee that we are well prepared. Our region offers a beautiful setting, ideal for hiking, fishing and cultural experiences. Since Umeå is the European Capital of Culture this year the city is blooming with all kinds of initiatives; new museums, performances, sports, restaurants and indigenous cultures as important parts of the profile. The Arctic Centre will provide the resources necessary to support IASSA’s secretariat and to develop the organization to an even stronger position in Arctic academia. Collaboration cross the disciplinary borders, collaboration with the society outside the universities, collaboration with countries outside the Arctic, collaboration with indigenous organizations, and collaboration with students are all tools to accomplish the ambition.

Sincerely,

Peter Sköld
Umeå University
Proposed Changes to IASSA Bylaws

By Gail Fondahl, IASSA President, University of Northern British Columbia

Since the last ICASS in 2011, we have been working to update the IASSA Bylaws. Two compelling reasons have driven this initiative. First, sections of the current bylaws, adopted in 1992, have become outdated, and indeed have not been followed for a number of years. These include Council size and country representation on Council. Also, the exact wording of the IASSA objectives differs in the 1992 by-laws and on our website (iassa.org).

But most poignantly, the rather convoluted process of selecting a president became apparent at the last ICASS. Currently, the Council solicits bids for the hosting the IASSA secretariat. Any candidate who submits a bid runs for council. The General Assembly first votes for the site of the next Secretariat. Then it votes for council members. In the past the person from the venue that has just been chosen for the next ICASS secretariat has always received enough votes to be on Council. IASSA Council then appoints the president from among the council members. As you can see, although this process has worked up until now, it is awkward and potentially problematic. This was brought up by several of our members at the last meeting.

The proposed bylaws change the process so that the General Assembly votes for the president. Candidates for president submit a bid to Council prior to ICASS, including a statement of intention on where they plan to hold the next ICASS. For the first time in IASSA’s history, we had a bid last year for ICASS to be convened at a location that was not the institution of the candidate for president. We see this arrangement fully possible, but want to ensure that the institution hosting ICASS is involved substantially from the beginning (prior to election). Thus, the proposed by-laws have the candidate for president identify a co-convener for ICASS, from the institution identified as the site for the next ICASS. This may be the candidate-for-president’s own institution or another. The person identified as a co-convener can choose to run for council but does not need to do so. If s/he runs successfully for council, she will be a voting member; if she does not run (or runs and is not successful) s/he will be involved in Council meetings that deal with ICASS, but will not have a vote.

Among other benefits that the Council feels this arrangement offers, it allows for ICASS to continue to meet in Arctic countries (which we feel many of our members prefer) while enabling candidates who do not reside in Arctic countries to run for president.

In terms of the other proposed revisions, another substantive change is the size and composition of Council. The current bylaws stipulate 11 members, and require membership from each Arctic country, as well as at least one indigenous northerner. Aside from having at least one indigenous northerner as a Councilor, the bylaws have not recently been followed on this count. Recent Councils have been comprised of nine (9) members, including the president and past president. The proposed changes keep this practice of 9 members (including at least one indigenous northerner) and require that the majority of Councilors (5) be from Arctic countries. While less restrictive than the current bylaws, this is more restrictive than recent practices, which have not sought to apply requirements of ‘nationality’.

A third substantive change is the wording of the objectives themselves. The objectives listed on our IASSA webpage (http://www.iassa.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=128&Itemid=16) differ slightly from those in the bylaws: at some point there was slight editing. The objectives on the website are more familiar to most members, as well as our sister organizations (IASC, U Arctic, APECS, ISSC). However, two points that we consider important were dropped from the web version. The original bylaws also use the term ‘Peoples of the North’ – a term that was meant to be inclusive of both indigenous and other Northern people(s), but which we feel may be confusing (given the Russian term ‘numerically small Peoples of the North’ to identify indigenous Northern peoples). A check with Ludger Müller-Wille confirmed that the original intent was inclusivity: the term was meant to refer to both indigenous and non-indigenous northerners. Thus we suggest using the term ‘northern people’ (the term used on the IASSA website, but not in the original bylaws). The Council certainly does not mean to indicate any less interest in northern Indigenous peoples by this edit, but a continuing commitment to inclusivity.

We ask that members consider the changes carefully and prepare to vote on these at the upcoming General Assembly. In this issue you will find a draft of the proposed new bylaws. On the IASSA website you will find the same draft, but showing the original text, along with the modifications, and explanations (shaded in teal) of the changes and why they are being suggested (http://www.iassa.org/images/stories/files/bylaws/proposed_amended_bylawsnotated.pdf)

I would like to thank Piotr Grazcyk and Hannah Strauss for their work on an early version of the revisions, and my fellow Councilors for attending to countless e-mails regarding these revisions, and for debating and refining the revisions. The process have been a long one, but we feel that the new by-laws preserve the spirit of IASSA’s original bylaws, while updating and clarifying, to reflect IASSA’s development over the past 20+ years.

Proposed Amended Bylaws on next page
Proposed Amended Bylaws

Adopted by
IASSA Council, 27 October 1992 and
IASSA General Assembly, 29 October 1992
at ICASS I, Université Laval, Ste-Foy, Quebec, Canada

Amended and Adopted by
IASSA Council 25 November 2013, and to be voted on at the
IASSA General Assembly, May 2014
at ICASS VIII, University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, British Columbia, Canada

Preamble
The Arctic is defined as all Arctic and sub-Arctic (circumpolar) regions of the world. Arctic research is defined as all research relating to these regions. The social sciences encompass disciplines relating to human behavioural, psychological, cultural, anthropological, linguistic, historical, social, legal, economic, environmental and political subjects as well as health, education, the arts and humanities, and related subjects.

1. Objectives

The objectives of the IASSA are:

- To promote and stimulate international cooperation and to increase the participation of social scientists in national and international Arctic research;
- To promote communication and coordination with other related organizations;
- To promote the active collection, exchange, dissemination, and archiving of scientific information in the Arctic social sciences;
- To increase public awareness of circumpolar issues and research results;
- To promote mutual respect, communication, and collaboration between social scientists and Northern people, while recognizing these are not mutually exclusive groups;
- To promote the development of research and educational partnerships with Northern people;
- To facilitate culturally, developmentally, and linguistically appropriate education in the North, including training in social sciences;
- To follow the IASSA Statement of Ethical Principles for the Conduct of Research in the Arctic.

2. Membership

2.1. Membership in IASSA is open to any individual who is involved or interested in Arctic/subarctic social sciences and/or humanities research and issues, and who shares the objectives of IASSA.

2.2. A ‘member in good standing’ is defined as a member who has paid the membership dues for the current 3-year period. A member in good standing is entitled to hold office and to vote on the business of IASSA.

2.3. Membership categories shall be determined and dues fixed by the Executive Committee.

continued on next page
Proposed Amended Bylaws continued

3. Administration

The IASSA is directed by the Council and the General Assembly.

4. The Council

4.1 The Council will consist of seven (7) members plus the president and past president. At least one member of the Council will be a member of an indigenous Arctic/Subarctic people and at least five members will be from Arctic countries (including in this number the president and past-president). Council members serve a three-year period. The former president of IASSA will serve as an ex-officio member for the three-year period following her/his presidency. The former president will enjoy voting rights similar to other council members.

4.2 The Council meets at least once during each calendar year. Quorum is required and will be considered to be met if no fewer than five (5) persons are in attendance. The meeting may be held in person or via audio and/or video conference.

4.3 Decisions by the Council are by a simple majority of affirmative or negative votes of those present and taking part in the vote. In the event of a tie vote, the President has the deciding vote.

4.4 The Council serve as an executive group to facilitate the work of the IASSA between the meetings of the General Assembly, and to take appropriate actions in agreement with the policies and decisions of the General Assembly. The council is responsible for recommending a dues schedule.

4.5 The Council is responsible for organizing the International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences on behalf of IASSA and the General Assembly.

4.6 At the meetings of the General Assembly, the Council presents a report of actions taken and recommendations for further activities.

4.7 The President of the Council serves as a representative of the IASSA in dealing with other bodies, or may designate this responsibility to another council member.

4.8 If the President becomes unable to serve in the duties of the office, the Council will elect a temporary President from among its members until the next General Assembly.

4.9 The President will appoint a secretary to keep general records, including minutes of the meetings of the Council and General Assembly and financial reports and budgets for approval by the General Assembly.

4.10 The Council appoints among its members one member of the Council (excluding the President) and two IASSA members who are not on Council to audit the financial statement and accounts on a triennial basis, in advance of the General Assembly. The Council may choose to use the services of an external auditor.

5. The General Assembly

5.1 The General Assembly of IASSA meets in connection with the International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences organized at three-year intervals. The Assembly consist of all members of the IASSA attending the meeting. Each member of the Assembly has one vote. All decisions are by simple majority.

5.2 The General Assembly approves the Council’s reports of the activities and the financial statement and budget recommendations, and considers other matters.

continued on next page
Proposed Amended Bylaws continued

6. Elections of IASSA President and Council

6.1 The IASSA Council will serve as the Nominating Committee for the triennial presidential and council elections. The responsibility of the nominating committee is to ensure a suitable set of candidates for election.

6.2 Election of the President (and Co-Convenor for Upcoming ICASS)

6.2.1 A call for nomination for President shall be circulated among IASSA members by the nominating committee, via the IASSA listserv no less than 90 days in advance of the meeting of the General Assembly. Any nomination for President must be signed by five (5) members of IASSA in good standing (excluding the person nominated), who are not from the same institution as the candidate for President or the proposed Co-convenor.

6.2.2 Candidates for President will indicate their intention regarding where the next ICASS will be held, and present the name of a Co-convenor as part of their bid for presidency. The Co-convenor will come from the institution that is proposed to host the next ICASS. (If the candidate for President proposes her/his own institution as the site of the next ICASS, a Co-convenor will come from her/his institution.) ICASS will normally be held at academic institutions, and locations in Arctic states are preferred.

6.2.3 Candidates for President are invited to prepare a short biographical sketch, qualifications and statement on their reasons for wanting to serve as IASSA President. The statement should also provide the rationale for the proposed site of the next ICASS. The bid should include evidence of institutional support from the highest level. The statement should not exceed two pages of text (not counting supporting letters). These statements will be published in Northern Notes prior to the ICASS meeting.

6.2.4 Any candidate for President may also run as a candidate for Council. Any person identified as Co-convenor may run for IASSA Council.

6.2.5 Voting will take place at the General Assembly, by secret ballot.

6.2.6 If the Co-convenor is not elected as a member of Council s/he will be requested to attend IASSA Council meetings related to ICASS organization, but will not enjoy voting rights.

6.3 Election of Council Members

6.3.1 A call for nominations for Council Members shall be circulated among IASSA members by the Nominating Committee, via the IASSA listserv at least 90 days in advance of the meeting of the General Assembly. Any member in good standing is entitled to self-nominate as a candidate for the IASSA Council. If a member is nominated by another member (in good standing), then the nominator must confirm that the person nominated is willing to stand as a candidate.

6.3.2 Current and previous Council Members are allowed to run. A Council Member may hold the position of Councillor for up to three (3) consecutive terms. Past-Presidents may run for position of Councillor, with the similar restriction of three (3) consecutive terms in total. A Council Member who steps down from the position after serving three consecutive terms may run again in the following election (i.e. after having a 3-year period off of Council).

6.3.3 Candidates will be invited to prepare a short biographical sketch and statement on their reasons for wanting to serve on IASSA Council (less than 200 words).

6.3.4 Candidates who are indigenous are encouraged to self-declare this identity for purposes of election.

6.3.5 Council will submit a list of candidates to the General Assembly for election.

6.3.6 Voting will take place at the General Assembly, by secret ballot. Council may decide to allow electronic voting by members not able to attend; intent to do so will be declared to members 90 days in advance of the General Assembly.

continued on next page
Proposed Amended Bylaws continued

6. Elections of IASSA President and Council continued

   6.3 Election of Council Members continued

   6.3.7 Council positions will go to those receiving the highest number of votes, except in cases where this does not include at least five members from Arctic countries (including the Past-President and President) and/or at least one indigenous Northerner.

   6.3.8 A record will be kept of the election results by the IASSA Secretary. In the event that a Councillor must leave the Council during the three-year period of service, the person with the next highest number of votes will be approached to join the Council. In the event that there is only one indigenous Councillor, and this person must leave the Council during the three-year period of service, the indigenous Northerner with the next highest number of votes will be approached to join the Council. In the event that the person who must leave is from an Arctic country and there are only four remaining Council Members from Arctic countries (including the Past-President and President), the new Councillor should be from an Arctic country.

7. Secretariat

   The location of the Secretariat of the IASSA is normally at the home institution of the President of IASSA.

8. Changes to the Bylaws

   Any member in good standing may propose a change of the bylaws, provided that s/he has the signatures of ten other members in good standing.

   The President will circulate the proposal electronically to all members who have provided a current e-mail.

   Ratification of any change requires the approval of two-thirds of the members in good standing who return the ballot within the specified time. The specified time must be no less than four weeks from the circulation of the proposal, and a reminder must be sent at least one week before the deadline for voting.

   ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Proposed Amendments to IASSA Bylaws with Document Markups & Explanations Available on www.iassa.org

Siberian Historical Research


In 2013, two issues of a new journal “Siberian Historical Research” (ISSN 1998-6645; Russia, Tomsk) were released at the Department of History of Tomsk State University. Starting this year, an updated version of the journal will be published which presupposes not only its updated design but also the renewed composition of the Editorial Board, themes, genres and principles of selecting texts for publication.

The composition of the Editorial Board has changed drastically, with the overwhelming majority of its new members being distinguished Russian and foreign experts on social and cultural anthropology, archaeology, and history, all determined to actively contribute to the development of the journal’s new international profile. We are also seeking to engage young research fellows and scholars and will renew the Editorial Board on a regular basis.

We aim to have and will facilitate a lively dialogue between representatives of different branches of the humanities-based knowledge. As before, we will continue publishing research for the most part based on Siberian - in the broadest sense of the term – materials. However, we will not limit ourselves to the region of Siberia and thus, papers of theoretical nature, based on extensive comparative materials, are also welcome. Siberia as a postcolonial, postimperial and postsocialist territory is a region of great interest allowing for the comparative analysis of past and current local processes and those taking place in the arctic and subarctic regions worldwide, on the African continent, in Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Asia Pacific region. We hope to become a platform for fresh bright research with the underlying comparative analysis of materials covering wider geographical areas.

The journal will be changing structurally as well: we have introduced a new journal section “Reviews” and will seek its further broadening. Taking into account the still existing gap between domestic and international science, we believe, that will help engage our researchers more in the latest research discourses.

Starting this year – and this is one more novelty to mention – we are introducing a double blind peer review procedure to ensure the quality of papers to be published.

A principal, though not easy, decision to make was that all texts will be published in the journal only in Russian, though accompanied by extensive summaries in the English language. Bearing in mind the inability to provide high-quality research editing and proofreading of texts in foreign languages, we thought that would be the only reasonable thing to do. However, the international Editorial Board will be accepting for consideration texts in English and is ready to assist authors in case they are unable to ensure on their own high-quality translation of those into Russian.

While still filling in the journal’s portfolio, Siberian Historical Research issues – with four of them due to be released in 2014 – are planned to be thematic, edited by invited editors and dedicated to individual episodes of history, international relations, social anthropology and archaeology. We will afterwards seek to avoid this strict thematic division of journal issues, though special themes within some of them may be introduced.

The journal is indexed in the Russian Science Citation Index (RINTS/ellibrary.ru). The Editorial Board is now actively involved in getting the journal indexed in different international journal citation bases as well.

We do hope that publishing research papers, overviews, and reviews, and other contributions, including yours, we will be able to become one of the recognized and sought-after high-quality platforms for publications and discussions of academic work on the widest range of issues in Siberian studies and the humanities on the whole.

Journal Chief Editor
Professor and Chair,
Department of Ethnology,
Lomonosov Moscow State University
Research Fellow, National Research
Tomsk State University
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Attention: Conference & Workshop Participants

The editors of the Northern Notes are always wanting to hear from participants who have attended conferences and workshops relating to the international social sciences. If you’ve recently attended a workshop or conference and want to tell us about your experiences, please e-mail Cher Mazo, IASSA Secretary at mazo@unbc.ca
Up Coming Conferences, Events & Workshops

May 22 - 26, 2014
Eight International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS VIII): Northern Sustainabilities
University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, British Columbia, Canada
With over 115 sessions and 470 papers being presented during this 5-day Congress, you are sure to find something that will interest you. ICASS VII will be directly preceded by the University of the Arctic Council meeting 20-22 May 2014.

May 28 - 30, 2014
Northern Regions Mining Summit
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
www.institutenorth.org/programs/artic-advocacy-infrastructure/northern-regions-mining-summit
Hosted by the Institute of the North, an Alaska-based non-governmental Arctic think tank, this summit will address the social, cultural and economic impact and opportunity of mineral resource development for Northern peoples in Alaska, Canada and Greenland. The summit theme is “Evaluating Effective Governance and Frameworks for Successful Northern Resource Economies”.

May 30 - 31, 2014
The Postcolonial Arctic
University of Leeds, United Kingdom
www.arcticencounters.net/events
This two-day, cross-disciplinary conference aimed primarily at postgraduates and early-career researchers will engage with the application of postcolonial theories and methods in the European High North. For centuries, the ‘scramble for the Arctic’ has seen colonial and commercial powers endeavouring to extract material wealth and gain political purchase on the region, drawing attention to both the Arctic’s colonial past and its (neo-)colonial present. Meanwhile, the region has come to serve as an emblem for the age of global warming, one in which the hunt for resources has led to new battles for northern dominance over – among other things – nearly a quarter of the planet’s energy reserves.

More than two dozen panel and poster presentations and roundtables from early-career scholars will cover topics such as Arctic exploration, geopolitics, tourism, ecology and indigenous themes. Keynote speakers include author and publisher Kari Herbert, Michael Bravo (Scott Polar Research Institute), and Tero Mustonen, head of the Snowchange Cooperative, an organisation which documents and works with local and Indigenous communities of the Circumpolar North. The conference is being co-convened by Graham Huggan (University of Leeds), Simone Abram (Leeds Metropolitan University), Roger Norum (University of Leeds), members of the HERA-funded research project Arctic Encounters.

On the Sunday following the conference (1 June), a practice-based workshop about the nuts and bolts of travel writing will be held in the same venue, with master classes being given by editors from Lonely Planet Magazine and Bradt Publishing.

For more information on both the conference and workshop, please contact Roger Norum (r.norum@leeds.ac.uk).

August 3 - 7, 2014
Tenth Annual International Conference on Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change
Harris Manchester College, University of Oxford, Oxford, England
www.oxfordroundtable.com
Topics of discussion include: Environment and Sustainability, Global Warming and Climate Change, Climate Change Impacts, Environmental Risks, Health and the Environment, Biodiversity, Environmental Education and Ecological Effects of Climate Change.
Up Coming Conferences, Events & Workshops continued

August 20 - 23, 2014  
Tradition for Tomorrow - Celebrating Nordic Folk Music & Dance  
Akureyri, Iceland  
www.rha.is/folk/  
Organized by the Nordic Committee for Folk Music, this conference aims to be a platform for practitioners, scholars and aficionados to explore methods to safeguard Nordic folk music and dance in accordance with the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

August 23 - Sept. 3, 2014  
XXXIII SCAR Biennial Meetings including 2014 Open Science Conference  
Auckland, New Zealand  
www.scar2014.com/  
The SCAR Open Science Conference includes sessions on the themes of Social Sciences and Humanities, as well as, Education, Outreach and Communications.

August 25 - 27, 2014  
Third International Nordic Conference on Climate Change Adaptation  
Copenhagen, Denmark  
http://nordicadaptation2014.net  
The theme of this conference is Adapting to Change: From Research to Decision-making with the main topics being: IPCC AR5: So now what?, Mainstreaming, Limits and Opportunities, and Low Probability / High Impact.

September 24 - 27, 2014  
14th International Conference of the North Atlantic Fisheries History Association  
UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Tromso  
www.hull.ac.uk/nafha/Documents/NAFHA2014CallForPapersFinal.pdf  
Themed “Between the Commons and the Market: New Cultural, Social and Economic Perspectives on Fisheries History and Coastal Heritage”, this conference engages with new perspectives in fishery history and coastal heritage.

December 2 - 4, 2014  
Arctic Biodiversity Congress  
Trondheim, Norway  
www.arcticbiodiversity.is/congress  
Organized by the Arctic Council’s Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) working group, this congress will promote the conservation and sustainable use of Arctic biodiversity through dialogue among scientists, policy makers, government officials, industry, civil society and indigenous people.

August 17 - 21, 2015  
International Geographical Union (IGU) Regional Conference  
Moscow, Russia  
http://igu-online.org/events/event-moscow-regional-conference-2015
Forum Explores Remote Presence Applications in Northern Communities

Submitted by International Centre for Northern Governance and Development, University of Saskatchewan

Ongoing collaboration between the University of Saskatchewan’s International Centre for Northern Governance and Development (ICNGD) and the College of Nursing recently led to the delivery of a three-day Remote Presence Forum (3-5 March) that attracted global leaders in the application of remote presence technology in rural and remote communities.

“Our Centre is focused on working with Northerners to build strong communities,” said ICNGD Director, Ken Coates. “One of the first steps in accomplishing this is ensuring healthcare needs are met, including the availability of services and advancing health research. Northerners want and need to be involved in shaping their own training and service delivery systems and this forum was one way to help them do that.”

“Saskatchewan is well situated to be a global leader in using remote presence technology, both in health sciences education and in rural and remote clinical practice,” added Lorna. “By bringing together researchers, educators, technology experts and northern stakeholders, we’re hoping to create a global network of innovation leaders who are willing to advance an interprofessional application of remote presence technology in the health sciences.”

The ICNGD and College of Nursing have been working together for over three years on various projects designed to address healthcare challenges in northern and remote communities. Some of their other joint initiatives include:

The Summer Institute – A field school that matches students in the ICNGD’s Master of Northern Governance and Development program with northern nursing students for the purposes of: building a better understanding of northern health issues and discovering new approaches that overcome challenges posed by remoteness.

Distributed Learning – Through the use of technological innovations such as videoconferencing and robotics, the ICNGD and College of Nursing are working to overcome the obstacles presented by remoteness and to extend high quality training and service delivery in northern and other rural/remote communities.

To learn more about the Remote Presence Forum or other activities at the International Centre for Northern Governance and Development, visit usask.ca/icngd.

* * * * * * *
Aalborg University offers a new specialization under the CCG with a focus on Arctic communities and globalization.

The region of interest in “Arctic Studies” (AS) is the Circumpolar North, including Greenland, the northern parts of Scandinavia, Canada, Alaska and Russia, the North Atlantic and the Polar Sea.

This specialization gives particular attention to studies in the human sciences within the areas of social and cultural encounters and exchange, intercultural communication, nation building, geopolitics and globalization, governance and sustainable development. In lectures, relevant theories of identity building, intercultural communication, international relations and sustainable development will be applied to case studies from across the Arctic.

Read more about the modules and course description:
Arctic Studies http://www.arctic.aau.dk/
digitalAssets/85/85303_arctic-studies-ccg-aau-2.pdf
Culture, Communication and Globalization (CCG) at Aalborg University http://www.ccg.aau.dk/

Post-Doctoral Positions in Arctic Social Studies

The EUSP announces post-doctoral positions in Arctic Social Studies.

Eligibility

- A Ph.D. in anthropology or adjacent fields (Human Geography; Linguistic Anthropology; Urban Anthropology; Regional Studies etc.) from a foreign university with special focus on the Arctic (Siberia, North, Far East). Holders of the Russian equivalent of Ph.D. degree – kandidat of sciences – can also apply but in this case an important asset is professional education or professional work in one of the foreign centers;
- Fluent knowledge of Russian and English: knowledge of other languages (Finnish, Norwegian) is an asset;
- Not more than 36 months between the date of awarding of the degree (Ph.D. or kandidat) and the date of the application to the position.

Winners of the post-doc position will sign a four-year contract with the EUSP as post-doctoral researchers. The starting date of the contract is September 1st, 2014.

The contract can be terminated by the EUSP if the post-doctoral researcher violates its terms.

Conditions of the contract

Throughout the term of the contract post-doctoral researchers are expected to live in St. Petersburg, except for periods of fieldwork and visits home.

During the first year, post-doctoral researcher must complete and submit to the publisher a book based on their Ph.D. (kandidat) dissertation. It is preferable, although not compulsory, that the manuscript is submitted in English, to a leading international publisher. Throughout the first year of the contract the post-doctoral researcher has the right to decline any other work at EUSP.

During the second, third, and fourth years of the contract post-doctoral researcher will

- take part in the research projects of the Arctic Studies Program; the project can be joint or individual; the topic of the project must be coordinated with the head of the Program;
- if asked by the head of the program, prepare and teach courses on Arctic Social Studies (but not more than 28 classroom hours per semester);
- take part in the Program’s regular Summer Schools as instructors;
- publish not less than three academic papers in international peer-reviewed journals (preferably SCOPUS and/or Web of Science);
- if need arises, supervise MA dissertations of EUSP students in Arctic social studies.

Financial conditions of the position

- salary: between 1000 and 1500 USD per month, after social taxes, in ruble equivalent, depending on the post-doctoral researcher’s qualification and the year of contract (during the first year salary is less than in the following years)
- medical insurance (standard EUSP policy)
- if not a resident of St. Petersburg, funds to cover accommodation in the city (not to exceed 700 USD per month)
- if not a resident of St. Petersburg, funds to cover the costs of short visits home (not to exceed 600 USD)
- funds for short periods of fieldwork (not to exceed 2000 USD per year, in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th years of the contract)

In case the post-doctoral researcher wins an external grant for research project, the salary, fieldwork funds etc. of the grant are paid on top of the amount of the present contract.

Applicants should send their applications, CVs, and lists of publications to: nvakhtin@gmail.com before April 30, 2014.

Contact
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Department of Culture & Global Studies
Aalborg University
http://personprofil.aau.dk/profil/126631?
lang=en
CIRCLA - Centre for Innovation and Research in Culture and Learning in the Arctic
http://www.arctic.aau.dk/
UNESCO website based on Traditional Knowledge of Indigenous People of the Arctic

submitted by Andrew Wiget

“The UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education, with the support of the UNESCO Intersectoral Platform "UNESCO's Contribution to Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation", has developed a web site and open-access informational and educational resources based on the traditional knowledge of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic and the Far North of Russia.

The six multimedia modules in this program were developed with the contribution of experts and representatives of local communities. The introductory module outlines the natural and geographical features of the Arctic and the Far North, provides a brief sketch of the development of the region and the description of the indigenous peoples, who consider nature not as something apart from themselves but as a part of their communities. Specialized modules describe the most common modes of adapting to environmental changes by regional representatives of major types of traditional nature resource use:

- Tundra Reindeer People
- Chukotka Marine Hunters
- Fishermen, Hunters and Herders of Kamchatka and North-East of Russia
- Hunters & Herders of Eastern Siberia
- Hunters of the West-Siberian Taiga

The target audience of the project are teachers and students, representatives of local communities and indigenous peoples, and the general public. All information on the web site is available in both English and Russian languages. The site is accessible at the UNESCO IITE web portal with the use of any platform and mobile device at http://iite.unesco.org/courses/climate_change/en/index.html.

The Yugan Khanty Native Community Association has opened its own multimedia, content-rich website on the community's history, culture, and way of life, in both English and Russian languages, at www.yaoun-yakh.ru. Please drop by.

SakKijânginnatuk Nunalik shares $1 Million Award

Congratulations to Trevor Bell, Christina Goldhar (both of Memorial University), Tom Sheldon (Nunatsiavut Government), and their Sustainable Communities team for their recent win at the Second Annual Arctic Inspiration Prize ceremony that was held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada on 11 December 2013. Their project SakKijânginnatuk Nunalik: Healthy Homes in Thriving Nunatsiavut Communities shared a $1 million award with two other Canadian teams whose projects address pressing issues facing Canada’s Arctic and its Peoples. Lucky for us, they will be presenting their project as one of the three Sustainability Research Projects at ICASS VIII. For more information about their recent win and to watch videos of the all three winning projects see http://www.arcticinspirationprize.ca/laureates/2013laureates.php.

Yugan Khanty website

submitted by Andrew Wiget

The Yugan Khanty Native Community Association has opened its own multimedia, content-rich website on the community's history, culture, and way of life, in both English and Russian languages, at www.yaoun-yakh.ru. Please drop by.
New Publications


Editors: Oran Young, Jong Deog Kim, and Yoon Hyung Kim
Publisher: Seoul: Korea Maritime Institute; Honolulu: East-West Center
Publication Date: December 2012
ISBN: 978-89-7998-602-0
349 pages

The proceedings from the second North Pacific Arctic Conference addresses five major themes relating to the maritime Arctic: potential Arctic shipping, Arctic marine environmental protection, Arctic marine living resources, potential Arctic oil and gas development, and informal Arctic governance mechanisms. Bringing together prominent Arctic experts from the three North Pacific Arctic coastal states (Canada, Russia, and the US) and three leading North Pacific non-Arctic states (China, Japan, and Korea), the book goes beyond generalities: it addresses the details of major concerns in an effort to identify practical solutions to Arctic marine issues and move them from paper to practice.

The book contributes by filling gaps in knowledge regarding the maritime Arctic, identifying remaining uncertainties, and developing policy innovations that can promote peaceful and sustainable uses of Arctic resources in the future.


Becoming Inummarik: Men’s Lives in an Inuit Community

Author: Peter Collings
Published by: McGill-Queen’s University Press
Publication Date: March 2014
ISBN: 978-0773-54-312-6
424 pages

What does it mean to become a man in the Arctic today? Becoming Inummarik focuses on the lives of the first generation of men born and raised primarily in permanent settlements. Forced to balance the difficulties of schooling, jobs, and money that are a part of village life with the conflicting demands of older generations and subsistence hunting, these men struggle to chart their life course and become inummarit - genuine people.

Peter Collings presents an accessible, intelligent, humorous, and sensitive account of Inuit men who are no longer youths, but not yet elders. Based on over twenty years of research conducted in Ulukhaktok, Northwest Territories, Becoming Inummarik is a profound and nuanced look at contemporary Inuit life that shows not just what Inuit men do, but who they are. Collings recounts experiences from his immersion in the daily lives of Ulukhaktok’s men - from hunting and sharing meals to playing cards and grocery shopping - to demonstrate how seemingly mundane activities provide revelations about complex issues such as social relationships, status, and maturity. He also reflects on the ethics of immersive anthropological research, the difficulties of balancing professional and personal relationships with informants, and the nature of knowledge in Inuit culture.

Becoming Inummarik shows that while Inuit born into a modern society see themselves as different from their parents’ generation, their adherence to traditional ideas about life ensures that they remain fully Inuit even as their community has witnessed drastic upheaval.
New Publications continued

**Der Tag des Rentierzüchters:**
Repräsentation indigener Lebensstile zwischen Taigawohnplatz und Erdölstadt in Westsibirien.

Author: Stephan Dudeck
Published by: Kulturstiftung Sibirien, SEC Publications, Fuerstenberg/Havel
http://www.kulturstiftung-sibirien.de/bibliothek.html
Publication year: 2013
ISBN: 978-3-942883-17-7
http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/tdrz_E.html

The Khanty live as reindeer herders in the Western Siberian Taiga but their lifestyle is endangered by crude oil extraction on their land. Today their lives are divided socially as well as spatially between the town and the forest. By taking the celebration of the Day of the Reindeer Herder as an example, the book describes the indigenous strategies to keep cultural difference and autonomy alive by drawing boundaries and maintaining religious practices and social norms. The author shows how the people of the Taiga use their traditions of hiding and avoiding as well as new ways of public representation to cope with the changes.

**The Franz Boas Enigma: Inuit, Arctic, and Sciences**

Author: Ludger Müller-Wille
Published by: Baraka Books (Quebec, Canada)
Publication Year: 2014
ISBN: 978-1-77186-001-7
188 pages

"...Franz Boas has remained an enigma, so misunderstood as a person and so often misrepresented as an anthropologist." William S. Willis, Jr.

How did Franz Boas become the central founder of anthropology and a driving force promoting science in public life in North America? To answer this question, linguistic and cultural barriers must be overcome to grasp the importance of Boas’s personal background and academic achievements as a German Jew. Müller-Wille asserts that the key is in his publications in German on Inuit and the Arctic as related to environmental, geographical, and ethnological questions. These writings have remained largely unknown and neglected in the English-speaking world, yet they represent his emerging scientific interpretations of Inuit culture and the Arctic. They also provide insight into the crucial period of Inuit history 130 years ago at a time of European and North American colonial expansion into their homeland.

http://www.barakabooks.com/catalogue/the-franz-boas-enigma/

**Itel’menskie skazki – sobrannye V.I, lokhel’sonom v 1910-1911.**
(Itel’men tales – collected by V.I. Jochelson, 1910-1911)

Editors: Klavdia Khaloimova, Michael Duerr, Erich Kasten
Published by: Kulturstiftung Sibirien, SEC Publications, Fuerstenberg/Havel
http://www.kulturstiftung-sibirien.de/bibliothek.html
Publication year: 2014
ISBN: 978-3-942883-19-1
http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/itelskaz_E.html

New Publications continued

Polar Geopolitics? Knowledge, Resources and Legal Regimes

Editors: Richard C. Powell and Klaus Dodds
Publishers: Edward Elgar Publishing Inc. (Virginia, USA)
Publication Date: March 2014
ISBN: 978-1-78100-940-6
336 pages

The polar regions (the Arctic and Antarctic) have enjoyed widespread public attention in recent years, as issues of conservation, sustainability, resource speculation and geopolitical manoeuvring have all garnered considerable international media interest. This critical collection of new and original papers – the first of its kind – offers a comprehensive exploration of these and other topics, consolidating the emergent field of polar geopolitics.

The expert international contributors to this volume offer a range of insightful comparative, interdisciplinary and global perspectives on polar issues. Key topics discussed include resource extraction, regime formation, knowledge construction, border issues, governance and treaties, and indigenous livelihoods. Contributions from scholars of history, geography, political science, anthropology and international law make this a truly comprehensive take on the current state and future prospects of both the polar regions and polar geopolitics as a distinct discipline.

Students and professors of geopolitics, political science and geography – especially those with an interest in the polar regions – will find much of value in this book’s concrete expression of a new and fascinating field.


The Politics of Arctic Sovereignty: Oil, Ice, and Inuit Governance

Author: Jessica M. Shadian
Published by: Routledge Press
Publication Date: January 2014
ISBN: 978-0-415-64035-0
252 pages

Interest in Arctic politics is on the rise. While recent accounts of the topic place much emphasis on climate change or a new geopolitics of the region, the history of the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) and Arctic politics reaches back much further in time.

Drawing out the complex relationship between domestic, Arctic, international and transnational Inuit politics, this book is the first in-depth account of the political history of the ICC. It recognises the politics of Inuit and the Arctic as longstanding and intricate elements of international relations. Beginning with European exploration of the region and concluding with recent debates over ownership of the Arctic, the book unfolds the history of a polity that has overcome colonization and attempted assimilation to emerge as a political actor which has influenced both Arctic and global governance.

This book will be of strong interest to students and scholars of Arctic politics, indigenous affairs, IR theory and environmental politics.
New Publications continued

**Beschreibung von dem Lande Kamtschatka (1774)**

Author: Wilhelm Steller
New edition, Michael Duerr and Erich Kasten (eds.)
Published by: Kulturstiftung Sibirien, SEC Publications, Fuerstenberg/Havel
http://www.kulturstiftung-sibirien.de/bibliothek.html
Publication year: 2013
ISBN: 978-3-942883-86-3
http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/steller_E.html

Georg Wilhelm Steller (1709-1746) conducted natural and ethnographic studies on Kamchatka from 1740 to 1745. He arrived there as a member of the Great Northern or Second Kamchatka Expedition, led by Vitus Bering (1733-1743). His research methods were remarkable, even to present-day standards. In this classic book, Steller presented a comprehensive description of the Itelmens, hardly matched by later researchers. He was particularly impressed by the cautious and sustainable use of natural resources by means of traditional knowledge. He also distinguished himself by his humanist attitude to the native population. As a witness of drastic social changes he criticized the harsh course of action of the Russian conquerors. His detailed and emphatic descriptions are the most valuable source on the early history and ethnography of Kamchatka.

**“The Gwich’in Atlas: Place Names, Maps, and Narratives”**

Chapter Authors: Claudio Aporta, Ingrid Kritsch, Alestine Andre, Kristi Benson, William Firth and Del Carry
In: Developments in the Theory and Practice of Cybercartography
Editors: D.R.F Taylor and T.P Lauriault
Published by: Elsevier Science (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)
Publication year: 2014
ISBN: 978-0-444627-13-1
pp. 229-244

This chapter is based on 20 years of research carried out by GSCI with Gwich’in Elders living in the Northwest Territories. The Atlas and maps described in the chapter will be available later in 2014. An especially exciting aspect of this project (mentioned briefly in the chapter) is that 414 traditional Gwich’in place names that GSCI nominated were officially recognized by the Government of the Northwest Territories on June 21, 2013. This will substantially change future maps of the northwestern part of Canada, reflecting Gwich’in land use across the Gwich’in Settlement Area of the NWT. There is still work being done with the Yukon Government to recognize over 200 Gwich’in place names in the Yukon which relate to Teetl’it Gwich’in traditional lands in the Peel River watershed.

**“Offerings of Stewardship: Celebrating Life and Livelihood of Gwich’in Women in the Northwest Territories”**

Chapter Authors: Brenda Parlee, Alestine Andre and Ingrid Kritsch
Editors: C. Roderick Wilson and Christopher Fletcher
Published by: Oxford University Press (Canada)
Publication year: 2014
ISBN: 978-0-195430-13-4
pp. 220-243
End Notes

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