

Northern Notes

Issue 42 - Autumn / Winter 2014



A newsletter published by the International Arctic Social Sciences Association

The Norrsken (Northern light) at Umeå University campus.

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Welcome from the President

Winter has finally come to Umeå with temperatures reaching down to -20 degrees Celsius. That is definitely an appropriate setting for the new IASSA secretariat. I am proud to write this column as President of IASSA and so happy that the members chose Umeå University as the next ICASS venue in 2017. ICASS VIII that was arranged at UNBC/Prince George in May last year was a great success by many reasons. The number of researchers and nationalities present, the quality of sessions, the green and sustainable profile, the localities and social events, and the beautiful setting all contributed to make the conference a memory for life for all of us that were lucky enough to be there. I would like to express my gratitude to the former IASSA President Gail Fondahl and the organizing committee that put strong efforts in making it happen.

I am also pleased to have a skilled, competent and experienced IASSA Council on board for the next three years. Some were members of the previous Council (Gail Fondahl, Alona Yefimenko, Andrey Petrov, Florian Stammer and Tatiana Vlasova), while some are new (Diane Hirshberg, Gertrude Eilmsteiner-Saxinger and Grete Hovelsrud). Those who have left the Council will be missed, and I want to extend warm thanks to Joan Nymand Larsen, Birger Poppel, Chris Southcott and Peter Schweitzer. The new IASSA Secretariat is under control of Gabriella Nordin at the Arctic Research Centre here at Umeå University, and we are so grateful for the help and assistance we have received from the previous persons in charge, especially Cher Mazo and Lára Ólafsdóttir.

Social sciences and humanities have today a stronger position in Arctic research than ever before, emphasized by Admiral

Robert Papp, former head of the U.S. Coast Guard, and newly appointed by Secretary of State John Kerry as his Special Representative to the Arctic social sciences in his presentation in Alaska late last year. The council has discussed the opportunities for social sciences from the US Arctic Council Chairmanship Priorities. This is evident not least from the calls from research funders that in many cases direct themselves directly to our field of disciplines which is most encouraging.

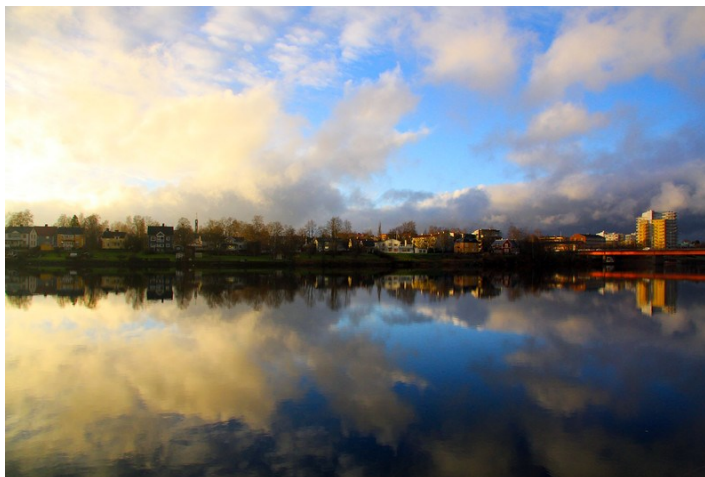
IASSA council members have been engaged in several important activities. The Arctic Human Development Report II will soon be published, the international workshop Indigenous Peoples and Extractive Industries was arranged in Umeå 26-27 November, with strong representation of IASSA Network on Extractive Industries, we have been represented at Arctic Resilience Report meetings, and the President has participated as IASSA observer at the AC Special Task Force on Scientific Collaboration (Tromsø 30 September-2 October) and Arctic Council SDWG Meeting in Yellowknife (18-19 October). He also presented IASSA at the Polar Day arranged by the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat in Stockholm, and represented IASSA with a presentation at the 1st Spanish Symposium on the Arctic Region in Madrid (read more about this event in this issue of Northern Notes). IASSA has decided to co-operate with the Arctic Frost project in arranging a sustainability workshop that will result in a white paper for ICARP III. It will be arranged in Charleston, South Carolina in February 2015. We are equally proud that we managed to co-arrange several social science sessions at the forthcoming ICARP III conference in Toyama, Japan in April this year.

Welcome from the President continued

Finally I would like to congratulate our Council member Alona Yefimenko that received the IPS Golden Medal for 18 years of service, and now I am looking forward to Arctic Frontiers in Tromsø, Norway next week that bring together an impressive number of researchers, policy makers, business people and stakeholders.

Best wishes for a productive 2015!

Peter Sköld
President, IASSA
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The Uman river late November 2014.

Photo credits: Paul Suprenand

IASSA Council Members 2014-2017

Peter Sköld

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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. Sköld's research profile includes historical demography, indigenous health transitions and northern cultures.

Apart from being newly elected president of International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA), Sköld is council member of UArctic and vice chair for WG Human and Social Sciences in the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC). He is also Swedish delegate of the Arctic Council Sustainable Development Social, Economic and Cultural Expert Group (SECEG). 2014-2018 Sköld is co-leader of the 4,5 million Euro project New Governance for Sustainable Development in the European Arctic, involving 30 researchers.



Gail Fondahl

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Gail Fondahl is Professor of Geography at the University of Northern British Columbia, and served as UNBC's Vice-President of Research, 2008-2012. Her research foci have been on indigenous land rights and legal geography in the Russian North, and working toward sustainable resource management with Tl'azt'en Nation in northern British Columbia. More broadly, she is interested in human development in the Arctic, and was a co-lead on the second Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR-II). She serves as Canadian representative and vice-chair of the Social and Human Sciences Working Group of IASC.

IASSA Council Members 2014-2017 continued

<http://www.iasc.info/home/groups/working-groups/socialahuman>, co-chair of the Social, Economic and Cultural Expert Group of the Arctic Council's Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG), and on the scientific council of the Institut Polaire Français <http://www.institut-polaire.fr>. Gail has been a member of IASSA since 1992.



Gertrude Eilmsteiner-Saxinger

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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 means that not only I represent scholars from these regions, but also to foster scientific collaboration among newly emerging research groups and established scholars and centers. Furthermore, I am active in the University of the Arctic's Extractive Industry Working Group and the Pan-Arctic Ph.D program on extractive industries.

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 five 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 at the University of Vienna and the ISR at the Austrian Academy of Sciences. 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 a proponent of combining applied research and theory building in the Arctic social sciences. This endeavour is reflected in the new three years ReSDA research project in the Yukon "LACE – Labour Mobility and Community Participation in the Extractive Industries" where Ph.D student Susanna Gartler and I are studying with community based methodology the relation of working in mines and subsistence activities.



Diane Hirschberg

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Diane Hirschberg is Professor of Education Policy at the Institute of Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA), and director of the UAA Center for Alaska Education Policy Research. Her research interests include education policy analysis, indigenous education, circumpolar education issues, and school change. She is co-author of the Arctic Human Development Report II chapter on Education and sits on the steering committee for the NSF-Funded Arctic FROST RCN. She has a PhD in Education from UCLA, a Master of Public Administration from Columbia University and a bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley.



IASSA Council Members 2014-2017 continued

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Professor Grete K. Hovelsrud is an anthropologist with a PhD from Brandeis University in Massachusetts, USA. She is Research Director/Research Professor at Nordlandsforskning (Nordland Research Institute) and Professor at the University of Nordland in Bodø, Norway. She is the Vice-President of the Norwegian Scientific Academy for Polar Research, Member of the Research Board, Division on Energy Resources and the Environment at the Research Council of Norway, and Lead Author of Arctic Human Development Report, Arctic Resilience Report, and Adaptive Actions for a Changing Arctic. She was a Lead Author and a Contributing Author to the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5), Member of the ICSU/WMO International Polar Year (IPY) 2007 – 2008 Joint Committee.

Grete's work focusses on interdisciplinary studies of vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, resilience and adaptive capacity of coupled social-ecological systems, and on the transformation of society in the context of climatic and societal change.

With her background as an anthropologist with extensive fieldwork experience from many parts of the Arctic, she brings the need for a bottom up approach to studying societal transformation. She considers the local context as critical starting point for understanding impacts, transitions and change, and continues to conduct fieldwork in Arctic communities in parallel with linking the results to national and international processes. She currently leads a number of major research projects taking place in the northern regions.



Andrey Petrov

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My name is Andrey Petrov and 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 Associate Professor of Geography and Director of the Arctic Social and Environmental Systems Research Lab (ARCSES) at the University of Northern Iowa, USA. I also hold Adjunct Professorship at the Yukon College. I am the 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 northern communities and policies of regional development in the Arctic. I also study human-environment relationships and Arctic socio-ecological systems. I lead a number of circumpolar research initiatives, most importantly the NSF research coordination network in Arctic sustainability (Arctic-FROST). I have also been participant of the Arctic Social Indicators, Arctic Human Development Report, ReSDA and other major international projects.

I was privileged to be first elected to the IASSA Council in 2011 and since have directed my efforts to supporting representative and transparent governance process in this thriving organization. One of my specific tasks was to be the IASSA representative on the ICASS VIII organizing committee and to assist in funding ICASS through NSF and SSHRC grants.



Tatiana Vlasova

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Tatiana Vlasova is a leading researcher at the Institute of Geography, Russia where she received her PhD in social/economic geography. She graduated from Moscow State University's Geographical Department as a physical

IASSA Council Members 2014-2017 continued

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. 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, supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR). Tatiana has represented IASSA on several projects (e.g. Arctic Resilience Report), meetings (e.g. Arctic Environment Minister's Meeting) and other initiatives and events.

She would like to see her future role in involving more Arctic communities and stakeholders of the Russian North in circumpolar cooperation through IASSA activities and in a long-term circumpolar socially-oriented monitoring network construction. Being a co-chair of the International Geographical Union Commission "Cold Region Environments" (IGU CRE). Tatiana Vlasova also see her place as a linking nexus between IASSA and IGU CRE Commission, which sessions are going to be held during the IGU Regional Conference in Moscow 17-21 August 2015 where Polar studies are announced as one of the main themes.

Alona Yefimenko

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Alona Yefimenko is Technical Advisor of the Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat (IPS), a support organisation for the Arctic Indigenous Peoples' Organizations that are Permanent Participants to the Arctic Council based in Copenhagen, Denmark. Prior to joining IPS in 1996, she served as the Director of the Koryak Ethnography Museum in Palana, Kamchatka, Russia.

Her experience includes fieldwork and archaeological excavations in the Koryak region of Kamchatka, training and research in Canada (DIAND/Quebec Province) and at the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford University. She received her Master's Degree in Philology from the Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia and the Far Eastern State University.

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Florian Stammler is a Professor for Arctic Anthropology at the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Rovaniemi, Finland, where he coordinates the anthropology research team.

He has been working publishing on Arctic extractive industries and indigenous people for the last two decades, particularly in the Russian North. More recently, he has been working on oral histories among Arctic indigenous peoples as well as among Arctic industrial workers in Russia.

He received his PhD from the Max-Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Germany, specialising in postsocialist transition studies on the example of Siberian Yamal reindeer herders.



And Introducing . . .

Arcum at Umeå University - the new home of IASSA Secretariat

The International Arctic Social Sciences Association's (IASSA) Secretariat is since the autumn of 2014 located at the [Arctic Research Centre](#) (Arcum) at [Umeå University](#), Sweden. The University campus is located in central Umeå. The city was founded in the early 1620's by King Gustaf II Adolf who wanted a tighter grip on trade in order to be able to levy more taxes and he therefore forced the merchants to move to the new cities.

In 1888 Umeå was devastated by a fire and about 2,300 of the city's 3,000 inhabitants were made homeless. When the city was rebuilt after the fire, wide avenues were laid out as fire protection and silver birch trees planted along them to prevent fires from spreading from one building to another. Since then Umeå is known as the "City of Birches".

Umeå University was inaugurated in 1965 and since then Umeå's population has doubled. Today people who have moved to Umeå are in the majority, totalling 54 percent of the population, many of them from other countries.

Arcum and Umeå University is pleased to host the 9th International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences in 2017.

Facts on Umeå University	
Total enrolled students (2013 figures)	32,482 (61% women, 39% men) including 1,231 at the postgraduate level (52% women, 48% men)
Employees	4,330 (53 % women, 48% men)
Professors	368 (29% women, 71% men)
Teachers/Researchers	2,106 (46% women, 54% men)
Departments/Units	47
Centres (equiv.)	18 (including Umeå School of Education)
Exchange agreements	800
Partner universities	399 (in 51 countries)
Total size of premises	242,324 m²

Facts on the City of Umeå	
Population	117,294
Average age	38
Area	2,317 square kilometres
Households	53,776
Companies in the municipality	11,000
Annual hours of sunshine	1,800
Number of birches in the city centre	3,000
Sunrise on 21/6	2.21 a.m.
Sunset on 21/6	10.59 p.m.

IASSA Secretary - Gabriella Nordin

The new IASSA secretary, Gabriella Nordin, is born and raised in Umeå. She started her career at Umeå University as a cleaner in the late 1980's, ending up as a student in 1999. Gabriella had a special interest in the humanities and after a series of courses in Religious studies, History of Ideas and History she got a position as a Student Counselor at the Department of Religious studies.

Despite an interesting position as Student Counselor, Gabriella's fascination with family history made her apply for a position as a PhD student.

In 2005 she started her postgraduate studies in History at the Centre for Population Studies., Umeå University Using digitized parish records she studied the marriage pattern among Sami and non-Sami during the years 1722-1895, a period of extensive colonization of Sami traditional land.

With the thesis *Sápmi Marriages* (translated title) she got her PhD in 2009. The post doc years were spent at Centre for Sami Studies (Cesam/Vaartoe) and resulted in a couple of articles on Sami fertility.

Being a true northerner Gabriella very much enjoy skating and downhill skiing but if she has to choose she favor warm summer days which preferably are spent in the summer house in the southern Sweden.

Please don't hesitate to contact gabriella.nordin@umu.se if you need information on IASSA, or have a contribution to Northern Notes or the IASSA.net mailinglist.



Gabriella on a crispy autumn day at Umeå University campus.



Amended IASSA By-Laws - adopted 25 May 2014

Original bylaws adopted by:

IASSA Council, 27 October 1992, and at IASSA General Assembly, 29 October 1992

ICASS I, Université Laval, Ste-Foy, Quebec, Canada

Amended and adopted by:

IASSA Council, 25 November 2013, and at IASSA General Assembly, 25 May 2014

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.

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 Past-President of IASSA will serve as an ex-officio member for the three-year period following her/his presidency. The Past-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 bases, 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.

Amended IASSA By-Laws - adopted 25 May 2014 continued

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

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.

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

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

8. Changes to the By-Laws

8.1 Any member in good standing may propose a change of the by-laws, provided that s/he has the signatures of ten (10) other members in good standing.

8.2 The President will circulate the proposal electronically to all members who have provided a current email.

8.3 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.

* * * * *

ICASS VIII: *Northern Sustainabilities*

By Gail Fondahl and Gary Wilson

In May 2014, 470 IASSA members from 26 countries converged on the main campus of the [University of Northern British Columbia](#), in Prince George, B.C., for the Eighth International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences. This proved to be the largest ICASS yet. Running from 22-25 May, the Congress included four keynotes, three plenary panels, 109 sessions involving 411 papers, and 38 posters.

The theme of this Congress, *Northern Sustainabilities*, encouraged a wide diversity of papers discussing environmental, social, cultural, political, and economic aspects of sustainability. Four keynote speakers were asked to address facets of sustainability. Chief Joe Linklater of Gwich'in Council International, whose talk was entitled 'Traditional Self-Governance in a Modern Context' spoke on the lessons elders have passed on through traditional knowledge that inform current Vuntut Gwich'in work toward self-determination in today's changing environment. Dr. Sverker Sörlin of Sweden's Royal Institute of Technology, in his address on "Environmental Humanities and the Arctic – Transforming Knowledge, Transforming Sustainabilities" made the case for the need for humanities research as key element of pursuing sustainability in the Arctic. Henriette Rasmussen, of Greenlandic Broadcasting, and former Minister of Culture, Education, Science and Church in Greenland provided riveting and personal reflections on development choices facing Greenlandic Inuit in particular, in her talk entitled "Inuit are Used to Change and to Adapt to New Places and New Situations: Our History Proves that. The Challenge is Elsewhere". Dr. Alexander Pelyasov, I Director, Centre of Arctic and Northern Economies at the Council for Research of Productive Forces, in the last keynote, did some crystal-ball gazing, in his talk on "Northern Futurology: The Next 20 Years", posing alternative models of development and their trajectories.

In addition to the keynotes, ICASS VIII hosted three plenary panels. The slots were awarded through a competitive process, and the chosen panels dealt with conceptualizing and practicing sustainability at different scales in the North.

In the first panel, definitions of sustainability were considered, and the role of social sciences and humanities research in pursuing sustainability studies discussed. The second panel addressed the question: "Can extractive resource development lead to sustainability in the Arctic?" The third panel gave concrete examples of community projects from Nunatsiavut that were directed toward enhancing sustainability at the local level. The keynotes will be available on the IASSA website (once challenges regarding updating the website are overcome).

Papers ranged from the consideration of sustainability of languages, to alternative food security strategies, from teacher education and sustainable development to stakeholder engagement, from extractive industries to data management in enhancing policy making for sustainability. ICASS VIII witnessed a significant increase in the number of papers on education, on health and well-being, and on the new non-Arctic states in Arctic geopolitics. Papers from the humanities are still few in number: increasing such might be a goal for the current IASSA Council in the lead-up to ICASS IX. The IASSA General Assembly was held on 25 May. New by-laws were approved (see [website](#) and this edition of *Northern Notes*) and the Council for the next three years selected ([see article above](#)). Umeå

University made the sole bid for hosting ICASS VIII in 2017, which was accepted. Dr. Peter Sköld of Umeå was elected to the IASSA Council, and then appointed President by the Council. According to the new by-laws, in the future the IASSA President will be elected directly by the membership (not appointed from the newly elected Council members), and candidates for president may choose to run with a proposal to host ICASS at institutions other than their own.

ICASS VIII involved a number of side events and meetings. The Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) hosted a day-long meeting on the day prior to the Congress. Anna Kertulla, Polar Programs office from US NSF, made herself available for one-on-one discussions at the meeting. Side meetings of the Arctic Language Vitality Initiative, Arctic Human Development Report Executive Committee, Arctic Domus Project, International Arctic Science Council's Social and Human Sciences Working Group, and Barents Studies Journal convened. The Canadian Polar Commission held an information session on its newly released report, *The State of Northern Knowledge in Canada*. ICASS continues to be a fruitful venue for not only the business of sharing knowledge, but for formal and informal networking.



ICASS VIII: *Northern Sustainabilities* continued

By Gail Fondahl and Gary Wilson

Congress participants enjoyed a rich and varied cultural program. Drummers from the local Lheidli T'enneh band welcomed delegates to their traditional territory. The Prince George Conservatory of Music provided a concert of northern compositions. *Romance from the Far Fur Country*, a reconstructed film that was originally shot in 1920 for the 250th anniversary of the Hudson's Bay Company, was screened, with an introduction and discussion by the director, film historian, and member on one of the communities in which footage was shot. Local and visiting drummers participated in a drumming circle. *Polar Perceptions*, an art show by local artist Judith Desbrisay, offered participants a view of one person's engagements with Arctic landscapes. And the inimitable D.J. Tundra (Bruce Forbes) spun some great tunes in UNBC's Thirsty Moose Pub – to which participants engaged in dancing and general cavorting. Thanks, D.J.!

As usual, the group celebrated with a conference banquet, which included awarding three very deserving IASSA members honorary lifetime memberships. Dr. Julie Cruikshank, Dr. Igor Krupnik, and Dr. Oran Young were feted for their contributions to Arctic social sciences and humanities. Laudations for these amazing colleagues, and their responses, will be available in *Topics in Arctic Social Sciences* 8, to be published later this spring.

In holding ICASS VIII in Prince George, we also wanted to make sure that the community at large benefited from having so many Arctic experts in town (and not only economically). An outreach program brought Arctic scholars into many local schools: in total around 1000 students heard from early career scholars about their work in the North. Community members were able to attend the concert and screening of the film. And a former professional ballet dancer from Siberia, who attended the conference with his wife (a professor), offered master classes at two local ballet studios. These events were greatly enjoyed and applauded by the local community.



Dr. Tristan Pearce

ICASS VIII did not run without hitches. Some 20 Russian citizens who planned to attend unfortunately did not receive their visas in time to do so. Some of these individuals planned to contribute more than one paper. Thus, last minute cancellation of papers, and in some cases merging or cancellation of sessions. At the same time, many Russian scholars were able to attend: the largest contingent, from North Eastern Federal University, numbered 14 scholars.

Once again, ICASS received very generous support from the US National Science Foundation (NSF), which allowed for the distribution of X travel stipends to early career scholars, indigenous participants, and Russian citizens. Funds for travel stipends were also provided by the Social Sciences and Research Council of Canada (SSRHC), the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), the Canadian Polar Commission (CPC), the Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies (ACUNS), the Oak Foundation, the Arctic Institute of North America (AINA) and the Arctic

Research Consortium of the United States (ARCUS). Further support was received from NSF, SSHRC, CPC, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), IASC's Social and Human Sciences Working Group, and the Korean Maritime Institute. As IASSA members we are indebted to all these groups for their assistance in helping to run the conference at an affordable rate and to subsidize the participation of over 100 members (early career scholars, indigenous participants, and Russian citizens).

As conveners of ICASS VIII we enjoyed throwing what felt like a very successful five-day party – and are looking forward to kicking back and relaxing at ICASS IX in Umeå!



NSF Arctic-FROST Research Network: Advancing Arctic Sustainability Science

By: Andrey N. Petrov,

The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded a five-year Research Coordination Network (RCN) Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability (SEES) grant to the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) for support of the project entitled "RCN-SEES Arctic-FROST: Arctic Frontiers Of Sustainability: Resources, Societies, Environments and Development in the Changing North." Arctic-FROST is an international, interdisciplinary, and collaborative network of environmental and social scientists, local educators, and community members from all circumpolar countries. Its primary purpose is to enable and mobilize research on sustainable Arctic development. The network aims to support improved health, human development, and wellbeing of Arctic communities while conserving ecosystem structures, functions and resources. The intellectual goal of the project is to contribute to conceptual, applied, and educational aspects of Arctic sustainability science by supporting the dissemination of knowledge and exchange of methodologies across the four Arctic-FROST themes: sustainable regions, economies, cultures, and environments.

Membership in Arctic-FROST is open to anyone with interests in sustainability and sustainable development in the Arctic. Since its inception in September 2013, the network has attracted approximately 250 members from the 20 countries including all Arctic jurisdictions with 55% coming from the U.S., 29% from Europe and Russia, and 15% from

Canada. Alongside seasoned academics and community members more than half of the RCN members are early career scholars or graduate students. The network also involves Indigenous scholars and members of underrepresented groups.

First-year Arctic-FROST events included side meetings, sessions and panels at the Association of American Geographers conference in Tampa, Florida; at the International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences in Prince George, British Columbia, Canada; at the European Regional Sciences Association in St. Petersburg, Russia. The first annual meeting and early careers scholars workshop entitled "Sustainability and Sustainable Development in the Arctic: Meanings and Means" took place in Anchorage, Alaska on September 18-20, 2014 hosted by the University of Alaska Anchorage.

The Annual meeting featured 35 presenters from USA, Canada, Russia, Austria, Germany, Finland, and Australia, including 12 early career scholars, who also participated in the follow-up workshop. Meeting participants were welcomed by U.S. Arctic Research Commission Chair Fran Ulmer, who talked about the importance of research to inform decision-making in the Arctic. The meeting also featured keynotes by Dr. Shauna BurnSilver, Senior Sustainability Scientist, Arizona State University Julie Ann Wrigley Global School of Sustainability,

and Gary Kofinas, UAF Professor of Resource Policy & Management.

Following the Arctic-FROST meeting on the evening of September 19, UAA hosted a public "sneak preview" of the Arctic Human Development Report II. This report, to be released shortly, provides an important updated assessment of the state of human development in the circumpolar region as of the first decade of the 21st Century. Following an overview of the report from AHDR-II Project Co-Leader Gail Fondahl (University of Northern British Columbia), several co-authors presented highlights. Alaska Lt. Gov. Mead Treadwell discussed and reflected on the presentations.

Arctic-FROST members are committed to deliver a number of key products, including two edited volumes devoted to sustainable development in the Arctic, a textbook on Arctic sustainability, other educational materials, academic publications, and a research plan for Arctic sustainability science for the next decade. The initial version of this plan will be presented at the Third International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP III) on April 23-30, 2015, where Arctic-FROST is co-organizing two panels.

Information on how to become an Arctic-FROST member is available at www.uni.edu/arctic/frost.

For more information about Arctic-FROST, contact Andrey Petrov (andrey.petrov@uni.edu).



Arctic-FROST Annual Meeting participants pose with Alaska Lt. Governor Mead Treadwell (far right), Anchorage, September 19th 2014

“Departures in the Circumpolar North and Siberia”

The coordinating team of the “GAA Group Circumpolar Regions and Siberia” invites to the next bi-annual conference of the German Anthropology Association (GAA) **“Crises: reconfigurations of life, power and worlds”** in Marburg, Germany: **30.9. – 3.10.2015**.

Submit your paper for the workshop “Departures in the Circumpolar North and Siberia”:

In situations of crisis established structures are breaking apart. Crises, however, also create opportunities for change and new beginnings. In the Circumpolar North, the preparation for crises involving complex decision-making and departures formed part of people’s daily lives for thousands of years. Moreover, survival strategies based on subsistence were part and parcel of a continual adaptation to changing environments and living conditions.

In the recent past, the circumpolar region has undergone far-reaching changes induced by colonialism and missionary activities leading to forced relocation and the introduction of a settled lifestyle, boarding schools and capitalist or socialist economic systems, accompanied by massive resource exploitation. Environmental pollution and climate change are becoming ever more acute, affecting subsistence and mobility practices, people’s environmental perceptions and sense of place, the stability of food security and cultural identities. Past crises have continued to affect the inhabitants over the course of many generations up until the present. A loss of indigenous traditions, languages and oral history as well as a lack of prospects, a rising propensity for violence, high suicide rates and drug abuse are some of the consequences. Across the Arctic region and Siberia various responses may be observed, and different solutions with regard to resource control, political self-determination and the recognition of

indigenous rights are being developed. They reflect national sovereignty and democratic processes and show that people are ready to actively shape their future. This workshop invites broader theoretical, applied and comparative contributions as well as thematic papers and ethnographic case studies from the Circumpolar North and Siberia (presentations can be held in English or German).

Submit 1, abstract (max 1200 words) and 2, a short abstract for the print booklet (max 300 words), **deadline is 15th of February 2015**:
zirkumpolaregebiete-sibirien@dgv-net.de

Workshop organisers: Verena Traeger, Sophie Elixhauser, Gerti Eilmsteiner-Saxinger, Joachim Otto Habeck

* * * * *

The Arctic Yearbook [www.arcticyearbook.com] is calling for abstracts for the 2015 edition.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS (DEADLINE): 1 MARCH 2015 (250-400 WORDS)

DRAFT PAPERS (DEADLINE): 15 JUNE 2015 (4000-6000 WORDS)

2015 ARCTIC
YEARBOOK

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 Gabriella Nordin, IASSA Secretary at gabriella.nordin@umu.se

The IGU Regional Conference in Moscow 17-21 August 2015

The International Geographical Union (IGU) will meet in Moscow this summer for the third time since the International Geographical Congress of 1976, when over 2,000 participants from around the world gathered in the Soviet capital for lectures, discussions, workshops and excursions. The pace of global change has since accelerated in directions that once seemed unimaginable. At the 2015 IGU Regional Conference, participants will have ample opportunity to discuss these changes in light of current political-environmental challenges. The conference theme is "Geography, Culture and Society for Our Future Earth." It will take place at **Lomonosov Moscow State University (LMSU) from 17-21 August, 2015.**

The IGU is one of the world's oldest international researchers' associations. The first International Geographical Congress was held in 1871, and subsequent meetings led to the establishment of the IGU in 1922. Today its members hail from over 90 countries, united in support of geographical research and education. In addition to the IGU General Assembly, Executive Committee and National Committees, the organisation includes special commissions and task forces engaged in ongoing collaborative projects. Dr. Vladimir Kolosov of the Russian Academy of Sciences Institute of Geography is serving as president of the IGU from 2012 to 2016.

Interdisciplinary collaboration is central to the IGU's operations and long-term objectives, as evident in recent initiatives on urban environment, geographical education and building a database of related peer-reviewed journals. The most ambitious is the UN International Year of Global Understanding (IYGU) aimed at fostering international cooperation based on awareness of the relationships between local actions and global problems. The IGU also supports the participation of geographers in world scientific communities through affiliation with the International Council for Science and the International Social Science Council. The IGU Congress is held every four years — in 2012 it was in Cologne and in 2016 it will be in Beijing. Regional Conferences are annual events hosted recently in Santiago, Kyoto and Krakow.

IGU Moscow 2015 will focus on five main themes: urban environment, polar studies, climate change, global conflicts, and regional sustainability. The programme is rooted in principles of diversity and interdisciplinary exchange. It will feature a variety of meetings, including plenary sessions, lectures, panel discussions, workshops and other events. There will also be opportunities to share ideas on IGU projects and the role of geographers in international initiatives such as Future Earth. Geographical education and integration of young scholars will be central to each of the conference themes. The programme will feature a day for young scholars as well as sessions on "Academic Geography for Secondary Schools" and "Teaching Geography in the University." IGU Moscow will also include the 2015 International Geographical Olympiad.

Conference proceedings will take place at the LMSU main campus, a distinctive work of Socialist Realist architecture that rises 236 meters above a park along the Moscow River. Views of the city from the Faculty of Geography and museums on the building's upper floors are among the most breathtaking of many in Russia's capital. At the core of a territory that spans nine time zones, Moscow's fabric embodies fascinating historical transformations and continuities. We encourage participants to join a host of excursions in and around the city. After the conference there will be planned trips

to other parts of Russia, including St. Petersburg, the Golden Ring, the Upper Volga, Sochi, Kazan, Novgorod the Great and Valday National Park. Excursions will provide many different options for informal conversation based on shared geographical, cultural and historical interests.

The 2015 IGU Regional Conference will be a chance for geographers from around the world to converse in a range of intriguing locations. This dialogue within and between disciplines will address critical issues in geography today, strengthening collaboration in response to global challenges through research and education. Registration began on 10 November 2014.

The 2015 Conference will have a tentative theme «Geography for Culture and Society for the sake of our Common Future» and focus on five main themes:

1. Urban environment
2. Polar studies
3. Climate change
4. Global conflicts
5. Regional sustainability

For more information and registration please visit: <http://www.igu2015.ru/>



IGUmoscow2015

Up Coming Conferences, Events & Workshops

January 18-23, 2015

Arctic Frontiers 2015: Climate and Energy

Tromsø, Norway

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

The 9th Arctic Frontiers science section Climate and Energy will address three main themes:

- Arctic climate change – global implications,
- Ecological winners and losers in future Arctic marine ecosystems
- The Arctic's role in the global energy supply and security.

March 18 - 19, 2015

6th Arctic Shipping Summit

Montréal, Québec, Canada

<http://www.wplgroup.com/aci/conferences/eu-mas6.asp>

Developments in Arctic Shipping Operations & Infrastructure

The 6th Arctic Shipping Summit will highlight the achievements of Canada's Chairmanship of the Arctic Council and discuss the USA's forthcoming plans. It will review the need for improvements in infrastructure and advancements in technology as well as operational and logistical challenges encountered by ship owners and OSV Operators in harsh Arctic conditions. It will address key developments in transport and regulation in the Arctic as well as commercial and safety issues.

This summit, through presentations, roundtable discussion and case studies will examine practical solutions to Arctic shipping issues and present the latest innovations of technology in this specialised area.

April 23 - 30, 2015

Arctic Science Summit Week 2015

Toyama, Japan

<http://www.assw2015.org/>

The Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW) is the annual gathering of the international organizations engaged in supporting and facilitating Arctic research. The purpose of the summit is to provide opportunities for coordination, collaboration and cooperation in all areas of Arctic science. The summit attracts scientists, students, policy makers and other professionals from all over the world.

May 27 - 29, 2015

New Narratives of the Postcolonial Arctic

Roskilde, Denmark

<http://arcticencounters.net/event.php?event=2015-05-27-new-narratives-of-the-postcolonial-arctic>

Arctic Encounters will hold its second international conference, New Narratives of the Post colonial Arctic, at Roskilde University from May 27-29, 2015.

May 29 - 30, 2015

The European Union and the Arctic

Dundee, Scotland

<http://www.dundee.ac.uk/law/events/details/call-for-papers--the-european-union-and-the-arctic-2015-eu-arctic-conference.php>

This conference will bring together academics and practitioners from relevant disciplines such as international law, international relations, political science and marine biology, NGOs, representatives from EU institutions and international organizations to discuss the EU's potential contribution to enhance Arctic governance.



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Up Coming Conferences, Events & Workshops continued

June 8 - 12, 2015

16th International Congress on Circumpolar Health

Oulu, Finland

<http://icch16 oulu.fi/>

The congress will focus on human health and well-being in the Arctic and northern areas. It is open for everyone interested in Arctic issues, especially scientists, researchers, health care professionals, policy analysts, government agency representatives and community leaders.

August 17 - 21, 2015

International Geographical Union Regional Conference

Moscow, Russia

<http://www.igu2015.ru/>

IGU Moscow 2015 will focus on five main themes: urban environment, polar studies, climate change, global conflicts, and regional sustainability. The programme is rooted in principals of diversity and interdisciplinary exchange.

See [page 15](#) of this issue of *Northern Notes* for more information

August 18 - 21, 2015

Nordic Ethnology & Folklore Conference 2015

Copenhagen, Denmark

<http://conferences.saxo.ku.dk/33-nordic-ethnology-and-folklore-conference/>

"CO" – Co-productions, collaborations, contestations coming together in Copenhagen. Taking inspiration from the conference location of CO-penhagen, the Öresund Region, and the conference being a result of a CO-laboration between ethnologists and folklorists from both sides of the Sound, we hereby invite our Nordic colleagues to reflect upon different forms and inflections of CO in both historic and contemporary contexts.

November 5 - 8, 2015

ACUNS 2015, the 11th Annual Student Conference - DUE NORTH: Next Generation Arctic Research & Leadership

Calgary, Alberta Canada

<http://arctic.ucalgary.ca/acuns-2015-student-conference>

The next generation of northern scholars and leaders are invited to attend ACUNS 2015, the 11th Annual Student Conference hosted by the Arctic Institute of North America and the University of Calgary. This interdisciplinary conference is a gathering of early career scholars working on all topics related to the circumpolar north.



Arctic Nexus in Asian-Nordic+ Relations Aalborg, Denmark, 5-7 November 2014

By Marc Lanteigne and Su Ping

The Arctic Nexus was an Asian-Nordic Relations workshop was held in Aalborg, Denmark, on 5-7 November 2014. The aim of the Aalborg workshop was to create new research collaboration and dialogue between academics and specialists from East and South Asia, the Nordic and other Arctic nations. The workshop was supported by the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation, Aalborg University, CIRCLA, the Obel Foundation, Letterstedtska Föreningen, the Port of Aalborg and UiT: The Arctic University of Norway. Among the participants were representatives from the Nordic states as well as Greenland and the Faroe Islands, other Arctic states including Canada, the United States and Russia, and Asian states including China, India and Japan.

The workshop encompassed panel discussions on four Arctic subjects, namely geopolitics, geo-economics, scientific diplomacy and transnational indigenous relations. The first panel theme was Arctic states, Asian states and Arctic international governance and security, which examined various issues of governance in the Arctic region from Far North and Asian viewpoints. Topics that were discussed in this session included the role of the Arctic Council and other regional regimes, bilateral and multilateral relations between Arctic and Asian states, including shared views on Arctic policy, and the question of 'stakeholders' in the Arctic. There were also debates on to what degree has the Arctic become internationalized in nature and how the region will adjust to new levels of global scrutiny.

The second panel theme was polar and Arctic science diplomacy and climate change, including new actors, interests, and transnational science relations. Many Asian governments seeking to improve their ties with the Arctic region have pointed to their long histories of scientific cooperation in polar affairs. Several Asian states, including China, India, Japan and South Korea, have maintained polar research facilities and have cooperated with Arctic governments in the areas

of climate change and other environmental issues specific to the polar regions. This has meant that for many Asian nations, 'science diplomacy has been at the forefront of their engagement with the Arctic. This panel also included discussion on the proposed Horizon 2020 application on 'European Arctic Science Diplomacy: Making Space for Europe and Accommodating Rising Asia'.

The third panel theme looked at the Arctic in a changing global economy and resource geopolitics: raw materials, energy, increased trade, shipping and fiber optic connections for a rising Asia. The researchers and Danish business representatives discussed the challenges and opportunities of Arctic resource exploitation and their impact on Far Northern and Asian states' Arctic policy at the Port of Aalborg Logistics A/S and the Center for Logistik og Samarbejde (Logistics and Cooperation).

The fourth panel theme looked at the peoples of the Arctic and Asia: indigenous rights and transnational connections. Two Arctic Council Indigenous Peoples' Secretariats introduced indigenous persons issues, while other scholars introduced their research on indigenous affairs. Some scholars have doubted the role of indigenous rights in Asia and Arctic relations, but many others believe in the key role of indigenous people in Arctic.

There was the agreement that in addition to scientific and economic issues, states in Asia should become more involved into indigenous affairs, especially those which have been granted observer status in the Arctic Council.

This workshop is part of a series of events, conferences and panels on the topic of Arctic governance and the roles of Asia, including the International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences at the University of Northern British Columbia in Prince George in May 2014, the Arctic Circle Conference in Reykjavik in October 2014, and the upcoming Arctic Frontiers Conference in Oslo in January 2015, the International Studies Association Annual Convention in New Orleans in

February 2015, the High North Dialogue in Bodø, Norway in March 2015, the Arctic Science Summit Week in Toyama, Japan in April 2015 and the Third China-Nordic Arctic Cooperation Symposium to take place in Shanghai in June 2015. As well, a book about 'The Arctic Nexus in Asian-Nordic Relations: Geopolitics, Geo-economics, Science Diplomacy and Transnational Indigenous Relations', based on this series of conference sessions, will be published after 2015.

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1st SPANISH SYMPOSIUM ON THE ARCTIC REGION: The Arctic facing International Law, Politics and Research

By Elena Conde Pérez

INTRODUCTION

The 1st Spanish Symposium on the Arctic region: the Arctic and International Law, Policy and Science was held on November 13th, 2014, in the Graduate Hall of the School of Law at Complutense University of Madrid. The Symposium was led by Professor of Public International Law, Elena Conde Pérez, and coordinated by the postgraduate student of Università degli Studi di Milano, Marzia Scopelliti, research assistant of Professor Conde during the academic year 2013-2014 (under an Erasmus Placement Programme).

OBJECTIVES

The 1st Spanish Symposium aimed to create an interdisciplinary space of discussion and debate among different Arctic and non-Arctic scientists, policymakers and stakeholders. It gave a general overview of the most relevant issues related to the North-Pole region derived from climate change. Noteworthy, this was the first Spanish Symposium on Arctic issues from the perspective of Human and Social Sciences, particularly, International Law and Political Science.

In addition to this, another important objective pursued by the Symposium was to raise public awareness and highlight the main research topics developed by the research project "The race for the Arctic: issues of international law arising in the light of climate change" (DER2012-36026), funded by the Spanish Ministry of Education, and headed by Professor Elena Conde. The volume *Global Challenges in the Arctic Region. Sovereignty, Environment and Geopolitical Balance*, E. Conde and S. Iglesias, eds. (Ashgate, 2015) will collect some of the contributions of the speakers at the Symposium. The Proceedings of the 1st Symposium are available on the website of the Spanish Institute for Strategic Studies, Spanish Defense Department (<http://www.ieee.es>)

The Congress not only intended to be a forum for scientific discussion, but also a way to make students aware of the main challenges present in the Arctic.

SPONSORSHIP

The Symposium owes gratitude for economic support given by generous sponsors as the Spanish Institute for Strategic Studies (IEEE, Ministry of Defense), the Royal Embassy of Norway to Spain, Canada Foundation and some others who wish to remain anonymous.

THE SYMPOSIUM

Invited speakers at the opening of the 1st Spanish Symposium were Professor R. Canosa, Dean, Faculty of Law, Dr. Juan Luis Muñoz de Laborde, General Deputy Director of Multilateral Economic Relations and Cooperation, Maritime and Terrestrial Area (TBC), Admiral Manuel Catalán, Secretary of the Spanish Polar Committee and Mr. Simon Cridland, Councillor of the Canadian Embassy.

Introducing the Arctic region from an international law perspective Professor Elena Conde, head researcher of the project "The race for the Arctic: International Law issues considering climate change" presented the main challenges due to climate change followed by a session on Burning Questions. The session included "Hot topics and knowledge gaps in the Arctic resource governance: Perspectives from Norway and Iceland" presented by Professor Schram Stokke, University of Oslo/ Fridtjof Nansen Institute and Dr. Niels Einarsson, Director of the Stefansson Arctic Institute. The session closed with presentations on "Security threats in the Arctic, still present?" by Professor Rob Huebert, University of Calgary and Lieutenant Colonel Ángel Gómez de Ágreda, Spanish Ministry of Defence.

The second session of the day started with Professor Nuria Arenas Higaldo, University of Huelva and Professor Soledad Torrecuadrada García Lozano, University Autónoma of Madrid who spoke



1st SPANISH SYMPOSIUM ON THE ARCTIC REGION: The Arctic facing International Law, Politics and Research

Photo credits: Peter Sköld

on "Arctic Peoples, how to balance rights, development and traditional values". Professor Peter Sköld, President of International Arctic Social Science Association (IASSA) rounded up the session with a presentation on present challenges to Arctic research.

The Spanish role in the Arctic area was highlighted in the session "Spain gets a northern dimension" which included a presentation by Navy Captain Ignacio José García Sánchez, Deputy Director of the Spanish Institute for Strategic Studies (IEEE) on "Spanish interests in the Arctic" followed by Admiral Manuel Catalán, Secretary of the Spanish Polar Committee speaking on "Spanish Polar structure". The session closed with "Compromising interest: Do enterprises face NGO's demands?" by Mrs. Pilar Marcos Rodríguez, Main Responsible of the campaign "Save the Arctic" of Greenpeace Spain.

From a Spanish perspective to EU, the last session "The European Union in the Arctic" comprised topics as "Europe playing an Arctic role: the participation of European States in the Arctic Council and the legal protection of Arctic Peoples" presented by Dr. Sara Iglesias, European Court of Justice and Postgraduate Marzia Scopelliti, University of Milan. Professor Marta Sobrido, University of La Coruña and Professor Marta Iglesias, University Pontificia of Comillas each gave presentations on "Sustainable development in the Arctic: Europe, marine governance and new navigation routes".

1st SPANISH SYMPOSIUM ON THE ARCTIC REGION: The Arctic facing International Law, Politics and Research continued

By Elena Conde Pérez



Closing remarks were presented by Ambassador Johan C. Vibe, Kingdom of Norway.

STATE OF ARCTIC RESEARCH IN SPAIN¹

a) Historical approach

The historical approach of Spain to the Polar Regions follows the discovery of America. In successive steps along the XVI, XVII, and XVIII centuries Spanish researchers charted the coasts of America and adjacent islands, from the northern Atlantic mid latitudes to Cape Horn, and from that Cape Horn to the farthest most northern extremities of America.² These ancient research voyages contributed, beside the geographic extension, to the scientific knowledge of the botany, mineralogy and navigation in both hemispheres covering all known latitudes.

b) Present polar scientific structure of Spain

After two centuries of polar research, Spain returns to its historical bipolar interest in high latitudes science and enters as an Observer State in the Antarctic Treaty in 1982, it becomes an Antarctic Treaty Consultative Member in 1988, SCAR member (Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research) in 1990, COMNAP member (Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs). Finally, Spain becomes an Observer State in the Arctic Council in 2006 and a member of IASSA in 2009.

At present the Spanish polar research infrastructures are two Antarctic bases and two oceanographic vessels.

To perform its scientific activities in the polar zones Spain has at present the following polar structure:

- The Polar National Authority is the Spanish Polar Committee (Comité Polar Español, CPE), depending on the Ministry of Science and Innovation, General Directorate of International Cooperation and Institutional Relationships. The Spanish Polar Committee has the representation of the main national organism that take

part in the Spanish Polar activities. The CPE has the responsibility to represent Spain in the main polar organisms (Antarctic Treaty, Arctic Council) including, among others duties, to give the authorisations for polar activities, the whole polar coordination and the maintenance of the data polar bank.

- The **National Research Program** (Ministry of Science and Innovation) rules all matters related with the scientific programs in both Polar Regions, including the approval of the research programs and its finance.
- The Council of Scientific Research (CSIC), through the Technical Marine Unit (UTM), gives the logistic support to the Antarctic campaigns and manages the Antarctic Base Juan Carlos I and the scientific equipment of the R/V Hesperides and Gabriel de Castilla Antarctic Base.
- The Army is the manager of the Spanish Antarctic Base Gabriel de Castilla (Ministry of Defense) and the Research Vessel Hesperides and the Support Vessel Las Palmas are Navy ships.

Although up to now, the main research activities of Spain in the polar region were performed in the Antarctic, currently a considerable number of researchers, from many Spanish research institutions and universities, are working in programs and projects related to the Arctic, mainly in campaigns developed in cooperation with centres and laboratories in the Arctic countries.

These projects practically cover all science polar branches including the study of present biodiversity of benthos in Arctic coastal ecosystems; the adaptations to the Arctic climate for some key-species, the sediment transport on European Atlantic margins, the continental slope stability submarine flow dynamics, the study of sedimentary processes, gas hydrates, and margin research, the fresh

water ecosystems in the arctic, ground and sounding globe observations to study the European arctic stratospheric ozone depletion, including field campaigns and modelling to quantify the CFC radicals over the ozone layer, the Arctic glaciology, permafrost, glaciology in all its different aspects.

The research project led by Professor Elena Conde "The race for the Arctic: issues of international law arising in the light of climate change" (DER2012-36026), funded by the Spanish Ministry of Education, is the only one in Spain that considers the Arctic region from the perspective of Social and Human Sciences.

Today, Spain is preparing its first Polar Strategy.

Footnotes:

¹ This part of the report has been mainly taken from the SPAIN'S REPORT ABOUT THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN THE ARCTIC AREA (2011), prepared for the Arctic Council by the Secretary of the Spanish Polar Committee, Admiral Manuel Catalán, one of the speakers at the 1st Spanish Symposium on the Arctic Region.

² In XVI century Spanish navigators, bordering the American Pacific high latitude north, search for the Northwest passage, Cabrillo (1542), Gali (1582) and Vizcaino (1596/1602). The development of a discovering enterprise, at such grand scale, was only possible with the Support of La Casa de la Contratacion founded in Seville at 1503, as an school for navigation, and the purpose to be a first Maritime University. The centre was also responsible for keeping the Padron Real, a top secret universal navigation chart, to which were continuously added all observations and discoveries made on each voyage. In relation to the Arctic, the expedition of Malaspina and Bustamante must be related like an outstanding reference of the Spanish marine researchers in the high north latitudes. On 30th July, 1789, the corvettes Descubierta and Atrevida, commanded by Alejandro Malaspina and

1st SPANISH SYMPOSIUM ON THE ARCTIC REGION: The Arctic facing International Law, Politics and Research continued

By Elena Conde Pérez

Bustamante, sailed from the port of Cadiz, in order to co-operate with the other maritime powers in the extension of the human knowledge, and more particularly, between others aims, to look for the possible Northwest Passage. Between lat 59°, 60° and 61°N they searched, in vain, for a passage to penetrate from Pacific toward the Atlantic Ocean and they, accordingly concluded, that the sound mentioned by Maldonado, an old Spanish navigator, had no existence. As a result of this part of these expeditions Malaspina's name is associated with the Nanaimo area, though he never came closer than Yaqui on Nootka Island. Finally at the beginning of the year 1792, two Spanish galliots, under the command of Dionisio Galiano and Cayetano Valdes joined the English squadron commanded by Captain Vancouver, with an intention to examine the immense Archipelago, known by the name of Juan de Fuca.

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Lill Rastad Bjørst travelled to University of Northern British Columbia, Canada from Aalborg University, Denmark.

Photo credits: Lill Rastad Bjørst

Research Exchange from Aalborg University to University of Northern British Columbia

By Lill Rastad Bjørst

Lill Rastad Bjørst travelled to University of Northern British Columbia, Canada from Aalborg University, Denmark, for a 6 day research exchange.

The funding from MobilityDK made it possible for me to participate in the International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS) VIII this spring at University of Northern British Columbia. The aim with the visit was to represent our new research center and upcoming specialization in Arctic studies at Aalborg University as well as present my research.

What kind of new opportunities did the mobility create?

- To participate in ICASS brought inspiration to our curriculum in Arctic Studies as well as concrete appointments with future guest teachers.
- I had the change to network with other scholars in the social and human sciences, who do work on mining, risk and tolerance from Sweden, Norway, Canada and Greenland.
- I ended up being invited to contribute to special issues on mining and sustainable development in the Arctic.

- I met up with other UArctic partners during the conference and had the opportunity to learn more about the networks and programs.
- I was furthermore invited to participate in the development of a new Nordforsk-application by colleagues from KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Sweden.
- After I returned to Denmark I got invitations to present my work at other UArctic Research centers.



Lill Rastad Bjørst and Pelle Tejsner from Aarhus University, Denmark.

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Recent Conferences & Workshops continued

IASC WG HUMAN & SOCIAL SCIENCE WORKSHOP - Extractive Industries & Indigenous Peoples in the Arctic: Past, Present and Future, Arcum, Umeå University, Sweden 26-27 November 2014

By Paul Suprenand

The Extractive Industries and Indigenous Peoples in the Arctic: Past, Present and Future workshop was a 2-day opportunity for indigenous citizens, students, and scientists from around the world to discuss the benefits and burdens of extractive industries for Arctic indigenous peoples. Throughout the many presentations it was clear that extractive industries have sometimes worked cooperatively with indigenous peoples to extract finite resources, and sometimes not. With examples of cooperation, trials of cultural identity frequently followed. Indigenous peoples that fared the best in many cooperative examples worked to balance the sustainable yield of finite resources while also using profits from extraction efforts to make long-term investments in themselves. Successful investments included improved healthcare and/or higher education.

Other indigenous peoples have begrudgingly endured the decisions of government and/or commerce, as they approved the extraction of natural resources from indigenous home lands, often against the wishes of the indigenous peoples. In a few cases, indigenous peoples are currently asking the world for help to stop government sanctioned extractions (e.g. nickel mining near the village of Rönnbäck, Sweden). In all examples, indigenous peoples' lives were forever altered once influenced by extractive industries. This workshop was also a wonderful opportunity for scientists and indigenous peoples to share intellectual resources and provided a platform from which to work collaboratively in confronting future deleterious influences from extractive industries. The platform for these opportunities is Sweden's Arcum, University an important research center

that provides the scaffold for Arctic multi-disciplinary research for years to come. The Extractive Industries and Indigenous Peoples in the Arctic: Past, Present and Future workshop was hosted by Umeå and funded by the International Arctic Science Committee.

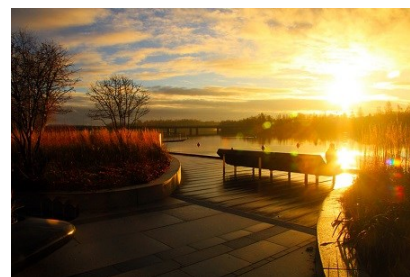


Photo: Paul Suprenand



'Thriving Northern Communities' symposium in Storuman, Sweden 9-10 December 2014

By Dean Carson

In early December, ARCUM co-sponsored the 'Thriving Northern Communities' symposium in Storuman. The symposium focused on sharing international research into the processes of social, economic and demographic change in communities in sparsely populated areas. There were speakers from Australia, Austria, Denmark, and Sweden. Over 80 people attended, included participants from fourteen countries. One of the aims of the symposium was to encourage new international research collaborations, and a number of new initiatives have begun since the symposium. ARCUM, for example, has formed a new partnership with the Northern Institute at Charles Darwin University in Australia which promises to involve student

and researcher exchanges and joint project proposals. ARCUM was represented on the stage by Peter Sköld and Doris Carson. Peter spoke about the Mistra Arctic Sustainable Development project, and Doris spoke about the ways in which small communities can thrive economically by acting as 'systems of



Peter Sköld gave a speech in Storuman.
Photo: Gabriella Nordin

innovation'. ARCUM honorary researchers, Professor Dean Carson and Professor Per Sjölander also spoke about their research into social and economic development in 'the north'. The symposium was also hosted by the Centre for Rural Medicine in Storuman and Akademi Norr. Plans are already under way for a repeat event in 2015 which will focus on the implications of internet technologies for the future of northern communities.



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 Gabriella Nordin, IASSA Secretary at gabriella.nordin@umu.se

CIRCLA-UArctic-ARC Summer School on 'The Negotiation of Change and Continuation in Arctic'.

The Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation and the UArctic Secretariat will be funding a coming UArctic-CIRCLA-ARC Summer School in the spring/ summer 2015. The project is supported financially with DKK 250,000.

At the previous UArctic-CIRCLA-Illisimatusarfik Summer School (Sisimiut, May 2014) a group of young, aspiring scholars from across the Arctic gather to learn from experts and exchange own findings about 'Comprehensive Sustainable Development in the Arctic'. A number of important issues were raised on this occasion that merit further exploration, but could not be fully developed under the school theme. One such issue was the conciliation of various groups, interests and values as the Arctic continues to rapidly change. Change-induced processes hold the potential for development in the Arctic – in areas defined as political, social, economic as well as cultural. The kinds of change imagined and desired by different groups within Arctic communities, however, do not always coincide. Further, the futures envisioned by central governments and 'outsiders' do not always mirror the visions held locally. In fact, they appear to be much more likely to clash. This will be the main theme of the summer school in 2015.

From within a broad palette of social science and humanities disciplines, and by creating a learning platform and a forum for the exchange of knowledge and ideas, the UArctic-CIRCLA-ARC Summer School on 'The Negotiation of Change and Continuation in Arctic' aims to:

- Inspire young/aspiring researchers to think (trans-culturally) about ways to bridge gaps between visions of the Arctic held by different actors.
- Address difficult questions arising from the growing presence of private sector involvement in the Arctic, related to profits, benefits and environmental, social, cultural concerns in connection with e.g. oil and mineral exploitation.
- Explore issues of social exclusion and inclusion with a focus on knowledge circuits, public involvement and prior, informed consent, as well as indigenous and citizenship rights.
- Inspire discussion about the dichotomous realities of modernisation and traditional ways of life, including conflicts arising from urbanisation processes and heritage interpretation.
- Assist young/aspiring researchers in exchanging experience and ideas between each other and with established experts in relevant fields of study. Ideally

this will result in the establishment of a strong, inter-regional Arctic network of junior and senior researchers, possibly in joint research projects and applications.

The summer school will be reserved for 'post-graduates' – i.e. any early career applicant with a relevant Master's degree, including Ph.D. students from within the social and human sciences. Ideally, a significant number of post-graduates from Arctic communities would attend. A Call for paper will be circulated in the beginning of 2015. (Lill Rastad Bjørst)

Organisers: Assist. Prof. Lill Rastad Bjørst, CIRCLA, Aalborg University; Pelle Tejsner, ARC, Aarhus University

Lill Rastad Bjørst, Assistant Professor
Department of Culture and 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/>



New Publications

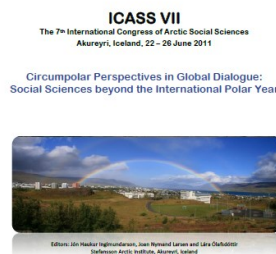
Circumpolar Perspectives in Global Dialogue: Social Sciences beyond the International Polar Year

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

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

A web publication - www.iassa.org

ISBN 978-9979-72-602-9



Topics in Arctic Social Sciences - Volume 7, 2014

New Publications continued

Arctic Yearbook 2014 Human Capital in the North

Editors: Lassi Heininen, Heather Exner-Pirot & Joël Plouffe
Publisher: Northern Research Forum.
Publication Year: 2014
ISSN 2298-2418

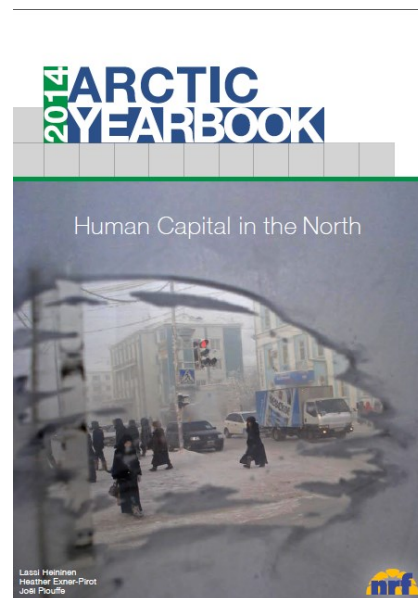
The Arctic Yearbook is the outcome of the Northern Research Forum (NRF) and UArctic joint Thematic Network (TN) on Geopolitics and Security. The TN also organizes the annual Calotte Academy.

The Arctic Yearbook seeks to be the preeminent repository of critical analysis on the Arctic region, with a mandate to inform observers about the state of Arctic politics, governance and security. It is an International and interdisciplinary peer-reviewed publication, published online to

ensure wide distribution and accessibility to a variety of stakeholders and observers.

Arctic Yearbook material is obtained through a combination of invited contributions and an open call for papers. For more information on contributing to the Arctic Yearbook, or participating in the TN on Geopolitics and Security, contact the Editor, Lassi Heininen.

The Arctic Yearbook is published online in an open-access format at:
<http://www.arcticyearbook.com>



Strategic Analysis Special Issue 'Arctic: Commerce, Governance and Policy'

Editors: Uttam Kumar Sinha and Jo Inge Bekkevold
Published by: Routledge
Publication Year: 2014
Published online: 18 Nov 2014
ISSN 0970-0161 (Print), 1754-0054 (Online)
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rsan20/38/6#.Vlqmok14FMu>

Routledge is delighted to introduce 'Arctic: Commerce, Governance and Policy', the second special issue of the year from Strategic Analysis. This special issue addresses issues around the geopolitics of the Arctic, focusing on Asian stakeholders' commerce, governance, policy and interests in the Polar Circle.

Volume 38, Issue 6, 2014

Special Editors' Introduction
By Uttam Kumar Sinha & Jo Inge Bekkevold.

Asian Stakes and Arctic Governance
By Olav Schram Stokke.

The Northern Sea Route: Smooth Sailing Ahead?
By Arild Moe

The Polar Code and Arctic Navigation
By Vijay Sakhuja

Arctic: The Next Great Game in Energy Geopolitics?
By Shebonti Ray Dadwal

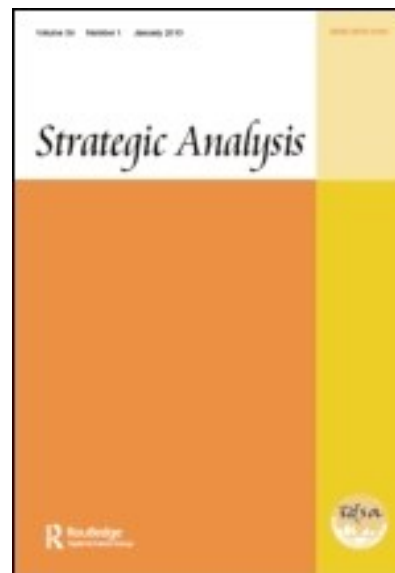
Norway's High North Policy and New Asian Stakeholders
By Jo Inge Bekkevold & Kristine Offerdal

Russia's China Policy in the Arctic
By Tom Røseth

Russia's Strategic Concerns in the Arctic and Its Impact on Japan–Russia Relations
By Shinji Hyodo

The Arctic and India: Strategic Awareness and Scientific Engagement
By Uttam Kumar Sinha & Arvind Gupta

The Maritime Tiger: Exploring South Korea's Interests and Role in the Arctic
By Mia M. Bennett



Editor: Timothy Heleniak
Published by: Taylor & Francis
ISBN: 1088-937X (Print)
1939-0513 (Online)

Polar Geography is a quarterly-peer reviewed journal which publishes the most recent scientific findings from both human and physical geography of the world's Polar regions. It is an interdisciplinary journal and welcomes submissions from both geographers and non-geographers. Questions about subscriptions, submissions, or book reviews should be directed to the Editor, Timothy Heleniak heleniak@umd.edu.

Issue 1, 2014

Special Issue: Local and traditional knowledge and data management in the Arctic

Guest editors: Peter L. Pulsifer, Henry P. Huntington, Gretta T. Pecl

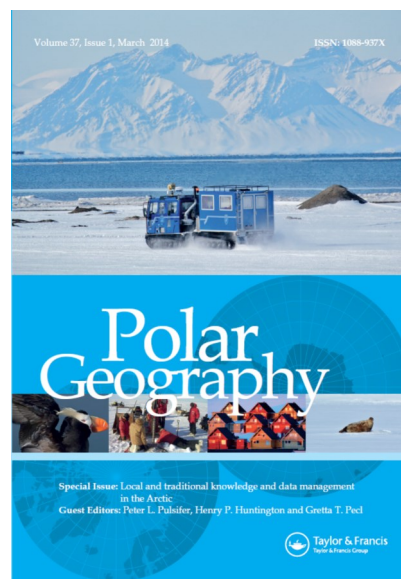
- Introduction: Local and traditional knowledge and data management in the Arctic.
- "A framework and database for community sea ice observations in a changing Arctic: An Alaskan prototype for multiple users", Mette Kaufman, Hajo Eicken, Krupnik, Igor, Pulsifer, Peter, and Weyapuk, Jr., Winton.
- "Participatory photo-mapping: a method for documenting, contextualizing, and sharing Indigenous observations of environmental conditions", Trevor Bennett et al.
- "Walrus harvest locations reflect adaptation: A contribution from a community-based observation network in the Bering Sea", Maryann Fidel, Andrew Kliskey, Lilian Alessa, Sutton, Olga (Olga) P., and Gofman, Victoria.
- "Counting what counts: using local knowledge to improve Arctic resource management", Finn Danielsen, Elmer Topp-Jørgensen, Martin Enghoff, Nette Levermann, Peter Løvstrøm, Martin Schiøtz, and others.
- "Linking Local and Global: Yup'ik Elders Working Together With One Mind," Ann Riordan.

Issue 2, 2014

- "Marine Accessibility Along Russia's Northern Sea Route," by Stephenson, Scott R., Brigham, Lawson, and Smith, Laurence C.
- "Polar Maps: Early 18th Century Vision of a Northeast Passage", Lawson W. Brigham.
- "Making Russian Arctic Islands Accessible for Tourists: Analysis of the Institutional Barriers and Assessment of Future Possibilities", by Albina Pashkevich.
- "The complex fertility of indigenous Sami and non-reindeer herding settlers in Jokkmokk" Peter Sköld and Gabriella Nordin.
- "Government closer to the people": On decentralization in Nunavut, Barret Weber.

Issue 3, 2014

- "Urban Sustainability in Russia's Arctic: Lessons from a Recent Conference for Further Investigations", by Robert Orttung and Colin Riesser.
- "The Rise of Asia in a Changing Arctic: A View from Iceland," Jesse Hastings.
- "Governing reindeer husbandry in Western Finnmark: barriers for using traditional knowledge in local-level policy implementation", Ellen Inga Turi and Eva Carina Helena Keskitalo.
- "Arctic State, Arctic Nation?: Arctic National Identity among the Post-Cold War Generation in Norway" by Ingrid A. Medby.



Issue 4, 2014

- "Covering Kiruna: A natural experiment in Arctic awareness", Philip E Steinberg, Johanne M Bruun, and Ingrid A. Medby.
- "Commercial Arctic shipping through the Northeast Passage re-examined: Routes, resources, governance, technology, and infrastructure," by Albert Buixadé Farré et al.
- "Social Stratification through the Capabilities Approach. The Case of the Inuit of Nunavik", by Gérard Duhaime and Roberson Edouard.



New Publications continued

Human Ecodynamics in the North Atlantic: A Collaborative Model of Humans and Nature through Space and Time

Editors: R. Harrison and R. A. Maher
Published by: Lexington Books
Publication Year: 2014
ISBN: 9780739185476
252 pages

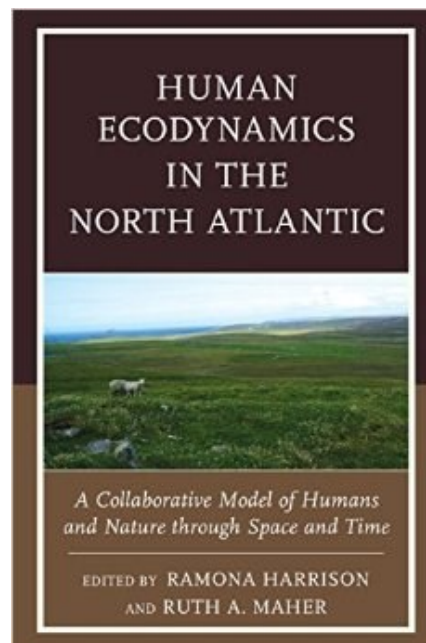
The Human Ecodynamics approach is utilized in a scientific investigation of the long-term relationship between humans and nature. The editors compiled a series of separate research projects conducted across the North Atlantic region that each contribute greatly to the area of study. Thus assembling a regional model through which the reader is presented with a vivid and detailed image of the climatic events and cultures who have occupied these seas and lands for roughly a 5000-year period. It provides a model of adaptability, resilience, and sustainability that can be applied globally.

Visiting the Northern Isles of Scotland, in the Orkney Islands the reader is taken through the Archaeology from the Neolithic Period through World War II in the face of sea-level rise and rapidly eroding coastlines. Moving to the Shetland Islands we see a deep-time study of one large-scale Iron Age excavation. We then go to the northern coasts of Norway to learn about late medieval maritime peoples. Next is Iceland, with human-

environment interaction and implications of climate change presented from the Viking Age through the Early Modern Era. Rounding out the North Atlantic Region, we have Greenland, where we shed light on the Norse in the late Viking Age and the Middle Ages.

Human Ecodynamics provides the framework to study the interactions of various human and natural entities in the past; and to use this knowledge to address global environmental issues today and in the future. In other words, "Looking Forwards From The Past." This book provides a contribution applicable to the social sciences, environmental sciences and the humanities. It is intended for readers interested in North Atlantic Research and/or Human Ecodynamics, and presents the works of some of the top researchers on the subject assembled in one place.

The volume can be ordered online at
<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9780739185476>



Even Tales, Songs and Worldviews Kamchatka, Bystrinski district

Editors: Erich Kasten and Raisa Avak
Published by: Kulturstiftung Sibirien, SEC Publications, Fuerstenberg/Havel
http://www.kulturstiftung-sibirien.de/bibliothek_E.html
Publication year: 2014
Languages: Even, Russian, English
ISBN: 978-3-942883-20-7
200 pages

http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/evenduch_E.html

This book provides a comprehensive documentation of the Bystrinski dialect of the Even language and of important aspects of their unique cultural heritage, such as their songs, tales and worldviews. In combination with accompanying DVDs (with audio- and video files of the recorded texts) this volume is aimed at sustaining indigenous language and knowledge in Kamchatka. To make the texts available to readers in other parts of the world, especially to northern communities outside Russia, in addition to Russian the book contains English translations. Moreover, a latinized transcription of the texts is posted in the net for those with particular linguistic interests.



New webpage: "Arctic Sessions at AGU Fall Meeting."

The Arctic Research Consortium of the U.S. (ARCUS) announces the availability of a new webpage, entitled "Arctic Sessions at AGU Fall Meeting." You can access the page by going to:

www.arcus.org/communitymeetings/agu/2014/arctic-sessions.

The website contains a list of Arctic-related sessions and posters that will be presented at the 2014 American Geophysical Union (AGU) Meeting in San Francisco, 15-19 December. It is designed for participants to use when planning their schedules, or to find last-minute sessions while at the meeting. We hope this will be a useful resource for the Arctic community during the Fall Meeting.

The listed sessions were largely compiled via requests for posting sent to the ARCUS mailing list, ArcticInfo. If you have a session you would like added, please send the relevant information to Judy Fahnestock (judy@arcus.org) at ARCUS.

For further information, please go to:
www.arcus.org/communitymeetings/agu/2014/arctic-sessions.

Or contact:
Judy Fahnestock
Email: judy@arcus.org
Phone: 907-474-1600



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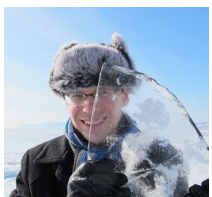
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