Northern Notes

The Newsletter of the International Arctic Social Sciences Association

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IASSA
INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SOCIAL SCIENCES ASSOCIATION

The IASSA secretariat is located at the Stefansson Arctic Institute in the Borgir Research Building – the white building to the right

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In this Issue

FROM THE COUNCIL AND THE SECRETARIAT

From the President

The official closure of the IPY has not meant a slowdown for the Arctic social science community, on the contrary; this continues to be a busy time for the Arctic social sciences and our association. In light of the scale and importance of the IPY and the large volume of Arctic social science research coming out of the IPY, the ICASS will provide once more an important forum for presenting and sharing our social science research including the extensive research produced during the IPY.

Announcements about the next ICASS, which will be held in Akureyri on June 22-26, 2011, have been circulated via the IASSA list server and posted on the new IASSA website at www.iassa.org. This will be the second IASSA Congress to celebrate the large volume of research produced during the IPY. Details on session proposals, calls for abstracts and ICASS VII congress information and updates will appear on the new IASSA website as they become available. The title of ICASS VII will be announced in a couple of weeks immediately following the IASSA Council meeting which is scheduled for June 3-4 in Denmark.

On the topic of the volume of Arctic social science research let me briefly highlight the upcoming Oslo IPY science conference which will take place on June 8-12. You can visit the draft programme at http://www.ipy-osc.no. Let me here provide a direct quote from the website on Theme 4: *Human dimensions of change: Health, society and resources:* "IPY 2007-2008 was the first international polar year with a designated field for the social sciences and the humanities, summarised as "The Human Dimension" in the IPY science program. This Theme presents the rich legacy of the impressive array of research that has been undertaken during IPY across fields such as culture, history, economics, human and social development, governance, heritage, health, community well being, and adaptation to change. The sessions will give evidence of interdisciplinary cooperation and of the participation of Arctic residents, and will demonstrate the growth and vitality of social science and humanities research on both Polar Regions." (for more information see http://www.ipy-osc.no). I hope to see many of you at the Oslo IPY.

In this issue of *Northern Notes*, Larry Hamilton presents a brief look at *Human Dimensions* at the State of the Arctic conference held in Miami in March. Larry notes that although the conference had a strong natural-science flavour "…Human Dimensions of Arctic systems were prominently featured as well in talks spread throughout many sessions. This prominence reflects a keen awareness by physical scientists (and by policymakers and stakeholders) that societal aspects of Arctic change have critical importance". (read more in this issue).

IASSA is currently in the process of formalizing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between IASSA, APECS (Association of Polar Early Career Scientists) and SHARE (Social Sciences and Humanities Antarctic Research Exchange). This will be the second letter of agreement IASSA has signed over the past few years. The first one was signed with IASC in 2008. These agreements are reflections of the increase in international collaboration between IASSA and other international science organizations and the increased profile of Arctic Social Sciences that have resulted in part from the IPY. The MoU will seek to identify a joint commitment to the professional development of early career social science and humanities polar researchers. More information on this will be presented in the next issue of Northern Notes.

IASSA participates in the scientific steering committee of the Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW). The website for ASSW 2011 is now up and running at www.assw2011.org. This year's ASSW was held in Nuuk, Greenland in April. Birger Poppel, IASSA councillor, attended the IASC Council meeting at the ASSW on behalf of our association. David Hik was elected new IASC president. On behalf of IASSA I would like to congratulate David on becoming the new President of IASC. We look forward to continued good relations and collaborations with IASC under the new leadership.

A brief update on SAON (Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks): Arctic researchers, representatives of intergovernmental, national and sub-national government agencies, representatives of indigenous peoples organizations, and residents of the Arctic were part of the process of developing the SAON report, including IASSA members. The SAON report calls for better access to data to facilitate the IPY legacy. The report can be viewed at www.arcticonserving.org.

A SAON agency officials meeting was held 18-19 March 2010 as a side meeting at the State of the Arctic Conference in Miami, Florida. It provided a forum for an international, inter-agency discussion of the role of agencies in the development of SAON. The objective of the meeting was to seek input from funding agencies on feasible mechanisms for harmonizing actions involving priority-setting, decision-making, and implementation regarding long-term observing activities in the Arctic. The meeting consisted of plenary and break-out working group sessions: human health and well-being and economic development; oceans and marine resources; land surface, land use, and terrestrial resource management; and climate, weather, and extreme events. Together with Eva Kruemmel from the ICC, I chaired the session on *Human Health and Wellbeing and Economic Development*. Within each group, discussions were focused on: Agency experiences with effective international collaboration; experiences with data management, including building data sets across agencies and across borders; experiences in supporting international observing networks; and Agency perspectives on potential value of increased partnering, data sharing, and integrated product preparation. The next SAON meeting will be held in Copenhagen on May 25-26.

On March 1-2 a roundtable workshop of the Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) of the Arctic Council (AC) was held in Copenhagen, Denmark, hosted by Canada. This was a roundtable on *Cross Cutting Pressures: Socio-economic datasets & social measure*. The objective was to identify practical approaches and options to best respond to the SDWG's current cross-cutting pressures, specifically those related to the circumpolar socio-economic statistical data and social measures knowledge gap**.** There is a growing awareness within the AC of the importance of better understanding human influences on the Arctic environment, both for scientific progress and to provide timely practical information to policy- and decision- makers. Together with Bernard Funston, executive secretary of the SDWG, I facilitated a session on: *External stakeholders: engagement, cooperation and outreach*. In this session the workshop participants looked at how the SDWG could benefit from being more inclusive of external stakeholders – including IASSA. As an external stakeholder, IASSA may contribute on many fronts, including providing intellectual and scientific content, advice, and assisting with finding social science expertise for AC projects. The discussion also addressed the question of how the SDWG can better engage Northerners and Indigenous Peoples more effectively in the work of the SDWG to build capacity at the community level to benefit from the opportunities, or to better manage current and future challenges in the circumpolar region.

This issue of Northern Notes also brings you a number of project updates. Please read the contribution by Bruce Wright on the *Community-based monitoring of paralytic shellfish poisoning* project, with research conducted in the Aleut communities in Alaska and Russia (Commander Islands). Also, see the article by Peter L. Pulsifer, Shari Gearheard, Henry Huntington, Chris McNeave, and Mark Parsons on *"Exchanging and Sharing Knowledge: Tools, Services and network Development in Support of Local and Traditional Knowledge Stewardship"* on the contributions made by Arctic residents and Indigenous peoples in many areas of research including social science, health sciences, environmental, physical and life sciences; local and traditional knowledge documentation and application; and community-based monitoring projects. This article brings an update on the ELOKA network (for more see the article by Peter L. Pulsifer et al. in this issue).

In the contribution by Halvor Dannevig, Grete k. Hovelsrud, Jennifer West and Stine Rybråten on *"Climate Projections Tailored to Local Needs"* you will get an update on the CAVIAR project, which by now has produced more than 30 different climate projection products for the period 2021-2050 for ten different municipalities. The next step in the CAVIAR project will be to evaluate how and whether the projections have been used in the various communities.

For an update on the Arctic Governance Project (AGP) see the contribution by Oran Young and Else Grete Broderstad – "Can Good Governance Save the Arctic?". The AGP has examined the role of governance in the setting of current challenges facing the Arctic, and has explored ways to adjust existing governance systems to maximize the prospects that the Arctic will move toward the more cooperative path. Also see contribution by Lassi Heininen on *Researching and Combining Geopolitics and security in the North.*

The announcement by Charlotte Wolfrey, Ashlee Cunsolo Willox, Sherilee Harper, and the *My Word* team about the Inuit community of Rigolet, Nunatsiavut, Canada and the *My Word: Storytelling and Digital Media Lab* – introduces us briefly to the first Northern centre dedicated to using digital media and storytelling to share

information about Inuit culture, history, and lifestyle through personal narrative.

Let me complete this greeting with a note on the importance of IASSA membership and payment of dues. Membership is open to anyone interested in Arctic social sciences, and membership is required to participate in the ICASS. Membership dues contribute towards secretariat costs and help support the representation of our association in various important activities and help us meet the objectives of IASSA, such as representation at the Arctic Council. Membership dues contribute to keeping IASSA an active organization on a day-to-day basis. Please visit the information on our membership payment structure at www.iassa.org.

Stay tuned for updates on ICASS VII which will be held in Akureyri, Iceland, on June 22-26, 2011. Calls for session proposals will be posted in June at the new IASSA website: www.iassa.org

Have a great summer!

Joan
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From the Secretary

The new IASSA website has been launched. Go to www.iassa.org and have a look. Of course, a website is just a website, but I would like to point out the following:

- The website is hosted and designed by Teikn, a company which also runs the Arctic Portal website. If you click on the Arctic Tern (top left corner of the IASSA website) the Arctic Portal banner will pop up (Arctic Council, science, people, business, organisations, maps, projects, acronyms, links).
- The content of the website is mainly the same as on the website which was hosted in Greenland. The website is still under construction. New stuff will be added as needed and we will appreciate your comments, ideas, photos, etc.
- On top of the index page you will see a banner where we can highlight books, events, etc. If you have any suggestions, please let me know.
- There are two news categories: IASSA News and AP (Arctic Portal) News. The IASSA News will only bring news concerning IASSA's activities and concerns. If you have a tip-off for the IASSA News category, please contact me .
- There is a page with links that should be of special interest to IASSA members. Please, send me suggestions of websites you think should be added to this list.
- The first eleven IASSA newsletters (1992-1998) have not been available on the website until now.
- Last but not least, you can become a member and pay your membership fees, which I hope most of you will do now. To participate in the IASSA conference – ICASS VII next year – you must pay your membership fee. So why not become a member now? It is easily done through a secure site on the web.

The seventh International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences will take place in Akureyri in 14 months from now. We have started planning and you should too! To help you get some idea about Iceland, Akureyri, and what you could do here if you decided to stay longer than just the congress days, you will find som helpful links on our website. We will of course add more information as we get closer to the conference.

Enjoy your summer!

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FEATURES

Human Dimensions at the State of the Arctic

by Lawrence Hamilton

More than 400 scientists, policymakers and stakeholders gathered recently in Miami for a conference on the State of the Arctic. Sponsored by the U.S. National Science Foundation and 14 other organizations, the conference had a strong natural-science flavor given urgency by the data flooding in about Arctic system change. Human dimensions of Arctic systems were prominently featured as well, in talks spread throughout many sessions instead of being concentrated in a few. This prominence reflects a keen awareness by physical scientists (and by policymakers and stakeholders) that societal aspects of Arctic change have critical importance.

"Human dimensions" in this context is a broad tent enclosing not just social science, but also local and traditional knowledge, outreach and education, and the engagement of Arctic residents in research. Even the social scientists at State of the Arctic represented diverse disciplines

including sociology, anthropology, economics, archaeology, geography and political science — with one or a few scholars from each, and none dominant. The interconnected nature of Arctic research attracts people who can think across disciplinary boundaries, such as oceanographers interested in what social scientists have to say, and vice versa. Many of the "human dimensions" people attending the conference were Arctic researchers or residents well known in IASSA.

As one example of this diversity, a session I chaired called "Responses to Arctic Change" included presentations on
- mapping local/traditional with scientific knowledge,
- reindeer herders amidst rapid energy development on Russia's Yamal Peninsula,
- marine mammal evolution through hybridization under rapid climate change,
- a circumpolar human-dimensions database,
- effects of temperature and snow depth on ecosystem CO2 exchange,
- risks from ship-borne invasive species in the Arctic, and
- rapid long-distance transport of ice, sometimes polluted, formed on continental shelves.

Human-related talks given in other sessions meeting at the same time included
- population of northern regions during the International Polar Years,
- optimizing the Arctic social observation system with an Arctic system model,
- Arctic marine transportation by 2030, and
- Arctic Ocean primary production in the next decades (with implications for fisheries).

Attending any of these sessions provided a sampling of innovative research from different fields.

Plenary sessions offered broad overviews covering new ideas or years of research, such as
- local indigenous perspectives on the Arctic,
- tipping points, positive feedback switches, and rapid change in ecosystems,
- human dimensions of the changing Arctic,
- linkages between the Arctic and Earth system: what should we be watching?
- socioecological state changes in the Arctic, and
- turning science into policy and action.

So what is the physical state of the Arctic? In two words, rapidly changing. The Arctic Ocean sea ice minimum of 2007 took scientists by surprise, making a seasonally ice-free state look decades closer than it had in the 2007 IPCC report. The IPCC report also underestimated the rate of sea level rise, because the Greenland Ice Sheet and large glaciers turn out to be wasting faster than expected. Worrisome new reports tell of methane emissions from huge deposits capped by subsea permafrost on the Siberian Shelf, some of that permafrost now thawing due to increased river runoff as pan-Arctic freshwater cycles accelerate. Terrestrial permafrost thaw and shrubification of tundra provide other positive feedbacks in which Arctic warming begets more warming. These things are all interconnected. The Arctic is Earth's fastest-warming region, with mechanisms that could increase climate volatility as well as averages to the south.

The Bering Sea ecosystem is experiencing a regime shift. Farther north some southerly species are moving into the low Arctic, while high Arctic or ice-specialized species are in trouble. Amidst all these changes stand the humans, affected already by social changes including steps towards indigenous self-government, decline of fishing and other historic industries, economic fluctuations, net outmigration and the quest for sustainable development. Climate change intensifies geopolitical and development pressure on the Arctic, with consequences for everyone. The conference highlighted many signs of danger and hope among human dimensions of the Arctic.

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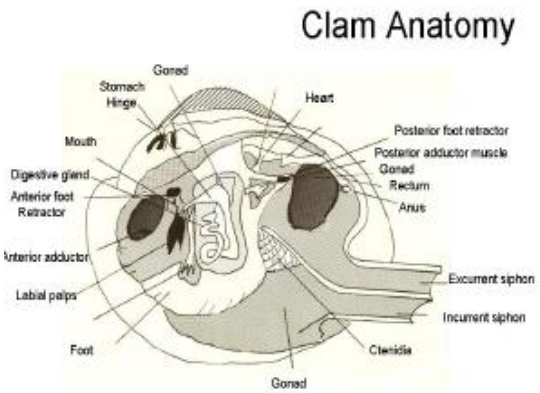
Community-Based Monitoring; Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning Project

by Bruce Wright

The potential for increased risk of paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP) such as a result of climate change is a growing health concern to Aleut communities. Subsistence users rely on their local knowledge to determine whether it is safe to consume shellfish. Increased variability of weather and extreme events, especially in the transition months in spring and fall make it difficult to correctly identify the time frame for gathering shellfish. This project will explore ways to supplement traditional knowledge with conventional scientific information through a complementary approach. Educating residents about the PSP in the Aleut region may reduce the threat of PSP poisoning.

PSP fatalities date back to 1799 when the crew of Alexander Baranof of the Russian American Trading Company ate contaminated blue mussels at the now notorious Poison Cove in southeast



Modified from Alice A Rich and Lynwood S. Smith 1978

Alaska (Fortuine 1989). Since 1973 over 163 cases have been reported. The Alaska Division of Epidemiology estimates there has been a 7-fold increase in PSP events since 1973. Three fatalities have occurred since 1994, the most recent on Kodiak Island in 2002. PSP has been observed on beaches near some Aleutian Island communities, and informal accounts show increases in the occurrence of PSP. Testing for PSP has focused on commercial shellfish operations in southeast and southcentral Alaska.

In 1997-98, reported PSP illnesses were occurred on Kodiak Island, the Alaska Peninsula, and near Juneau. In 1997, nine cases of illness occurred resulting in one death. Although most PSP illnesses happen during the summer months, the season for toxin conditions appears to be expanding. In the spring of 1999, another death occurred on Kodiak Island, and an illness requiring emergency attention was reported in February 2000. The alarming aspect of reported PSP illness is that the Alaska Department of Health and Human Services, Epidemiology Section estimates that the actual number of illnesses may exceed reported incidences by 10-30-fold (Gessner and Schloss 1996). Gessner and Schloss (1996) also estimated that coastal Alaska Native populations are 11.6 times more likely to encounter PSP than the Caucasian population because of their greater reliance on subsistence gathered seafood. In 2008 a PSP event made consuming clams in King Cove a life-threatening prospect; the levels increased to more than tens times the FDA limit (Costa 2009 and see Wright et al. 2008).

Despite the threat of PSP encounters, recreational and subsistence fisheries for bivalve shellfish are active throughout Alaska. The official policy of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) is that no recreationally harvested shellfish are safe to eat except those harvested from certified beaches. The only certified beaches are located in lower Cook Inlet and Kachemak Bay where commercial fisheries and shellfish aquaculture sites are regularly tested. These areas are used by nearby Native communities, but such certified areas are not available in the Aleut region.

The community-based monitoring of *paralytic shellfish poisoning* (PSP) project was developed to address the increased risks of PSP due to the toxin range expansion as a result of the warming of sea water in the Arctic and the shift of species distribution, including harmful algal blooms that cause PSP. The absence of PSP testing of subsistence harvests, combined with local and traditional knowledge on safe harvesting practices, perceived as being insufficient at a time of rapid environmental change created urgency for this research in the Aleut communities in Alaska and Russia (Commander Islands.)

The main objective was to develop methods for communities to monitor occurrence and distribution of toxin. Research efforts included educating residents about PSP, training local coordinators to use *Jellett Rapid Test* (JRT) kits, an inexpensive qualitative analysis tool, compiling data on spatial distribution of toxins and on local and traditional knowledge about shellfish harvesting. Specimens were collected and analyzed from 21 sites and all the communities extending the length of the Aleutian Islands where little baseline data is available on the prevalence of PSP toxin. The field tests were confirmed by the Jellett Biotek laboratory, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DOE), and National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Marine Biotoxins Program. Low levels of paralytic shellfish toxin were found throughout the region. Comparative analysis showed JRT as an efficient method for rapid screening in order to eliminate shellfish containing low levels of toxin, but this technique had a high percentage of false positives.

Two communities, Sand Point in Alaska and Nikolskoye in Russia, participated in the traditional knowledge survey. The data was analyzed by sociologists from Westat Inc., Rockville, MD. The current understanding by the

communities of safe practices of shellfish harvesting does not provide them with the means to determine the presence or absence of toxin.

Employing chemical analyses and sociological surveys, the project established a baseline for PSP occurrence and harvesting practices that led to recommendations for setting up PSP monitoring by the communities. This is the first time such baseline study has been accomplished in the Aleut region in Alaska and on Bering Island in Russia. The findings of this project support the need for long-term monitoring for PSP in the region.

During the 2006-2008 study some communities had high levels of PSP and many people have asked why the PSP levels were so high in 2008 and what can we expect in the future. The high levels are a result of a combination of several environmental parameters (water temp, nutrients, freshwater input, etc.) being just right and promoting a bloom of the organisms that cause PSP, but predicting PSP events in Alaska is very difficult due to the complex coastal topography, currents and ecosystem.

So far, we are not able to predict blooms in Alaska so we monitor the clams before we eat them. Had we not been testing in 2008, people could have died from those high levels. APIA recently received funding to expand the PSP monitoring project.

Remember, the majority of PSP cases have involved cooked clams and mussels. Usual cooking methods (steaming, baking, boiling, pan frying) do not reduce toxicity, nor will the toxin be eliminated by freezing. Cooking shellfish with a clove of garlic or a silver spoon to see if either turns black is also an unreliable method to determine toxicity. From http://w.dec.state.ak.us/eh/fss/seafood/psp/psp.htm

Beginning in 2009, the USEAP (Environmental Protection Agency) funded the Response to Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning in Aleut Communities project. This project is a multi-agency collaboration designed to develop methods for communities to monitor occurrence and distribution of PSP toxins that will increase communities' capacities in devising a mechanism to better respond to the threat and minimize the risks of poisoning. For more information on the PSP monitoring projects in Alaska go to http://www.apiai.com/CommSvcDesc.asp?page=PSP.

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Exchanging and Sharing Knowledge: Tools, Services and Network Development in Support of Local and Traditional Knowledge Stewardship

by Peter L. Pulsifer, Shari Gearheard, Henry P. Huntington, Chris McNeave, Mark Parsons

"I believe it is time for the harpoon and the computer to work together"

Peter Kattuk
Sanikiluaq, Nunavut

Introduction

Over the last decade, Arctic residents and Indigenous peoples have been increasingly involved in research. Through Local and Traditional Knowledge (LTK)[1] documentation and application, Arctic residents have made and continue to make significant contributions in many areas of research including social science, health sciences, environmental, physical and life sciences. Similarly, LTK has been recognized for inclusion in planning and management processes (Manseau et al. 2005) and is also the focus of many heritage preservation projects (see for example http://www.ihti.ca; http://www.gwichin.ca/). As a result, LTK is increasingly being documented using a variety of quantitative and qualitative methods and diverse tools including audio and video recordings of interviews, photographs, maps, diagrams, and written accounts of knowledge shared by Arctic residents. At the same time, Community-Based Monitoring (CBM) projects (e.g. Gearheard 2009, Krupnik and Jolly 2002, Kofinas et al. 2003) have been on the rise in the Arctic. Many projects are developing indicators for wildlife health, environmental parameters (Figure 1), and human health and utilizing local, year-round observations to assess various environmental and social systems. This increase in local, community-based research through LTK documentation and CBM projects is creating a wealth of information that is being increasingly recognized and used by researchers, policy makers, and members of Artic communities alike.

A key challenge of LTK research and CBM to date is having an effective and appropriate means of recording, storing, and managing data and information. Another challenge is to find an effective means of making such data available to Arctic residents and researchers, as well as other interested groups such as teachers, students, scientists, and decision makers. Without a network and data management services to support LTK and community-based research, a number of problems have arisen, such as, misplacement or loss of extremely precious data from Elders who have passed away, lack of awareness of previous studies causing repetition of research, research fatigue in communities, and wasted resources, as well as a reluctance or inability to initiate or maintain community-based research without an available data management system. Thus, **there is an urgent need for effective and appropriate means of recording, preserving, and sharing the information collected in Arctic communities**.

Figure 1. Teema Qillaq (left), Ken Qillaq (centre), and Lasalie Joanasie install a sea ice monitoring station outside of Clyde River, Nunavut. Community-based monitoring projects continue to grow in the Arctic and need data management support © Shari Gearheard.

There are a number of organizations and researchers coming together to address this issue, and a collaborative network is emerging. One of these is ELOKA, the "Exchange for Local Observations and Knowledge of the Arctic". ELOKA works to develop and implement data management methods and tools, and develop a network in support of collecting, managing, and preserving LTK in a way that keeps control of the data in the hands of the community data providers, while still allowing for broad searches and sharing of information. ELOKA seeks to serve a wide range of people from local citizens in small Arctic communities, to scientists in universities, to educators in K-12 schools. In particular, ELOKA seeks to connect LTK of the Arctic with science, and local experts with scientists, to further our collective understanding of the Arctic.

ELOKA began as an IPY 2007-2008 project (#187 - see http://eloka-arctic.org) and was launched in 2006 under the Arctic Observing Network (AON) program of the U.S. National Science Foundation. In 2009, ELOKA was awarded an additional 3 years of funding under the AON program. The first phase of the project was exploratory and aimed to sample the needs of communities and develop a preliminary set of processes and tools. The current phase aims to provide a broader range of services and develop a stable network of partners to realize a broad set of goals through the provision of support services, research, and capacity building.

ELOKA Research and Development

Along with partners, members of the ELOKA team are performing research and development in a number of a number of interrelated areas that range from data collection to dynamic representation of LTK.

Management and Preservation

ELOKA is supporting the establishment of data management processes that will maximize the value of documented LTK and collected CBM data for the participating community(s) and other potential users. This includes provision of data storage services where requested.

A strong emphasis is placed on data documentation as this helps ensure preservation in the short and long term by recording, for example, detailed information about the origin of the data, how the data were collected, constraints on usage, detailed specifications for the data formats, and organization of the data. Common to LTK research and collection projects is the risk that "[i]n an attempt to make very complex knowledge understandable, local knowledge is often separated from the context in which it is situated." (ITK and NRI 2007:4). A focus on detailed data documentation can help to mitigate the risk of exchanging or using data without suitable contextual information.

Data management support in this area may also include services and advice related to backup and technology migration strategies (to avoid losing data due to obsolete technologies). For older readers, you might ask yourself if you could still access data stored on a 5 1/4" floppy disk?

Lastly, ELOKA is investigating the development of a data repository system that could either be hosted at ELOKA, or by one or more interconnected partners.

Data Discovery

ELOKA is working to establish Web and database systems supporting search and access capabilities. These systems will make LTK and CBM data available to a wide array of user types and scientific disciplines. Where desired, ELOKA will help communities to promote discovery of the data by members of other communities, researchers, policy makers, and decision makers

and all levels of government. Establishing a broadly distributed system for data discovery can reduce the likelihood of duplication of research effort, thus maximizing the impact of investments and respecting the value of the time contributed by community members.

ELOKA is working to link data discovery systems with similar data management efforts emerging from a variety of research diciplines (e.g. polar science, health researchers, social scientists). This can facilitate stronger linkages between bodies of knowledge and improve our collective understanding of the world.

With this system, diverse groups of researchers, educators, and the public will become better aware of the wealth of information and research potential of the important compilations of elder knowledge and community-based research ELOKA and partners help to manage.

Exchange and Sharing

A central component of ELOKA is the development of tools and methods that facilitate data exchange and sharing in a way that is ammenable to contributors. Community Elders may feel that the information shared is very sensitive in nature, and should have limited or controlled distribution. If the data contains sensitive personal details, these can be removed. In some cases, exchange of some or all of the data may be limited to members of the local community (i.e. limit access to people with a username and password), whereas other communities may choose to broadly distribute their data (i.e. provide an open website).

Beyond exchange, we aim to promote sharing - whereas exchange can be seen as the transfer of the data, sharing presumes a certain level of understanding on the part of the recipient. The detailed documentation described previously is an important part of providing the context necessary for true data sharing.

Establishing effective and appropriate tools and methods for exchange and sharing will involve a wide range of expertise including, but not limited to, technical experts with the knowledge required to ensure data security, and Arctic residents and researchers with an understanding of the implications of data sharing in a variety of contexts.

Dynamic Representation

Using dynamic forms of data representation that promote effective communication is an important aspect of sharing. There are many current examples of how emerging technologies can be used to produce exciting visualizations, interactivity, and contributions of data in real time. Thus, there are many opportunities in the area of integrating a variety of forms of data - multimedia with Web-based mapping, for example. The challenge is to ensure that these tools are adapted to the needs of the community.

In the first phase of the project, the ELOKA team worked with community members and researchers to develop websites that made the data collected and managed accessible to a wide range of end users - members of Arctic communities, local and university-based researchers, government agencies, educators, and decision makers, for example.

In order to achieve this, the first phase of the project included work with two case study projects:

The Sanikiluaq Sea Ice Project (Nunavut, Canada)

The community of Sanikiluaq has been active for many years in researching and monitoring the local environment from both Inuit and scientific perspectives. ELOKA partnered with Sanikiluaq to provide data management for a small subset of their work – documenting local observations and knowledge of recent sea ice change. ELOKA was able to provide Sanikiluaq with data management services and in turn, we had an opportunity to learn about their needs and wants for data preservation, access, visualization, and communication.

Figure 2. Part of the Sanikiluaq Sea Ice Project subsite on ELOKA showing LTK maps and a video player featuring an interview with Peter Kattuk, a Sanikiluaq hunter.

The Sanikiluaq data consists of videotaped interviews with Inuit hunters and map overlays that hunters used to draw their observations of sea

ice change. These data are typical of many LTK projects that often use video, audio, and mapping techniques. We developed a subsite within the ELOKA website to display the Sanikiluaq data and provide background information on the community and project (Figure 2). The tools developed include a video player and maps created by professional cartographers in collaboration with community members. Together these tools provide a unique and customized means to store and present Sanikiluaq's LTK research.

Narwhal Tusk Research

ELOKA has also partnered with Dr. Martin Nweeia from the Harvard School of Dental Medicine who, in collaboration with Inuit hunters and Elders, is researching the narwhal for a project called, Narwhal Tusk Research (Figure 3). In particular, Dr. Nweeia and his partners are interested in the function of the narwhal tusk as a sensory organ. Hunters and Elders from Baffin Island and Greenland have worked closely with Nweeia, providing details on changes in hunting strategies for narwhal, observations of narwhal behavior including feeding and migration patterns, and task-related behavior.

ELOKA is developing content for online distribution for Narwhal Tusk Research that presents over 30 interviews conducted with Inuit along with complete translations (Figure 4). This allows one to view entire, unfiltered interviews in the context in which they were given. Along with the interviews, the website provides information on the science and laboratory work completed in the project (e.g. Figure 3) and summary information about narwhals.

The Sanikiluaq Sea Ice Project and Narwhal Tusk Research are the first two case studies of ELOKA. Work on *subsites for other projects is underway as ELOKA moves into serving more LTK and CBM projects.*

Building a Knowledge Exchange

While tools and methods are important, and the establishment of a physical data network is critical for promoting data exchange and preservation, at many levels establishing a network of communities, researchers, funding agencies, and other stakeholders is essential if we are to see long-lasting stewardship of LTK related data. If objectives are to be realized in the long-term, a diverse, multi-community, interdisciplinary, international network will be needed. To date, ELOKA has been participating in the

Figure 3. Part of the Narwhal Tusk Research subsite on ELOKA describing how the project integrates traditional knowledge and science to conduct research on the narwhal tusk.

development of such a network through partnership and dialogue.

We see the Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks initiative (www.arcticobserving.org), an initiative of the Arctic Council, as a logical focal point in such a network, and members of the ELOKA team are working with SAON to strengthen relationships and establish an action plan that ensures that LTK research and CBM projects are an integral part of an Arctic Observing Network.

We have established partnerships or dialogue with a number of organizations in the U.S., Canada, and internationally.

In the U.S.: The Bearing Sea Sub-Network (www.bssn.net/) ; Alaska Native Science Council (www.nativescience.org/) ; Aleut International Association (www.aleut-international.org/) ; Earth Institute at Columbia University (www.earth.columbia.edu) ; Seasonal Ice Zone Observing Network (http://www.sizonet.org/)

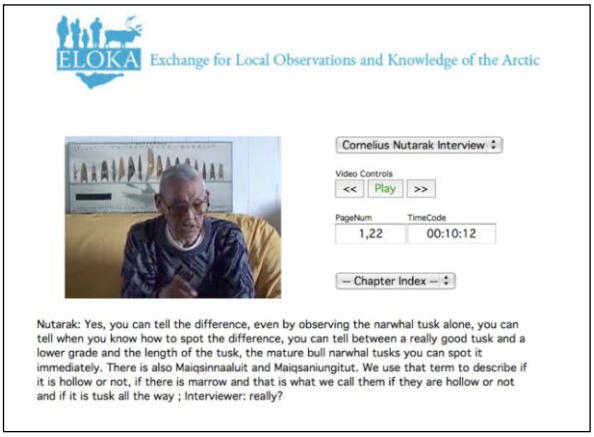

Figure 4. Presented in an on-line video/translation player, Cornelius Nutarak of Pond Inlet, Nunavut, discusses his life-long experiences observing and hunting narwhal.

In Canada: Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre (http://gcrc.carleton.ca); International Polar Year Federal Program Office (http://www.ipy-api.gc.ca/) ; The Inuit Knowledge Centre (http://www.inuitknowledge.ca/) ; Nasivvik (http://www.nasivvik.ulaval.ca/) ; Researchers from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans ; The Tåîchô Government (www.tlicho.ca) ; Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council (http://www.yritwc.org/)

Internationally: Circumpolar Bidodiversity Monitoring Program (http://cbmp.arcticportal.org); Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (http://www.raipon.org) ; Sea Ice Knowledge and Use project (http://gcrc.carleton.ca/siku)

The evolving network will need to address a number of challenges ranging from preservation to visualization; development of new methods to establishment of new policy; understanding database technology to understanding the social, economic and political implications of LTK documentation and dissemination in contemporary society. Collaboration and discussions with and within IASSA will be one way to share experience among many researchers and projects that are concerned with data management for LTK and CBM.

Significant effort will be needed, and long-term funding will be necessary. While some activities will thrive on the shorter timelines typical of research funding cycles, others, such as the establishment of critically important long-term repositories will require sustained commitment on the part of governments, funding bodies, and communities.

By providing data management and user support, and developing parterships among Arctic communities and other interested parties, ELOKA aims to help support LTK and CBM initiatives and ensure access to the irreplaceable information generated by these efforts for generations to come.

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Notes

[1] There of many definitions of Local Knowledge and Traditional Knowledge. Here we define Local Knowledge as knowledge "held by a specific group of people (i.e. community members) and generated through first hand experiences of one's surroundings". This group of people may be ethnically quite diverse but have shared social and environmental experience. (Gilligan et al. 2006:3,5).

We define Traditional Knowledge as a cumulative body of knowledge or way of knowing that is passed from generation to generation through cultural transmission. TK includes knowledge, practices and beliefs related to environment, land use, region, culture and language (Crowshoe 2005, Gilligan et al. 2006:3, Berkes 2008:7)

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My Word Storytelling and Digital Media Lab is Launched in Rigolet, Nunatsiavut, Canada

by Charlotte Wolfrey, Ashlee Cunsolo Willox, Sherilee Harper, and the *My Word* Team

For Canada's Northern regions, climate change poses challenges to the health and well-being of residents. In particular, Inuit communities are vulnerable to environmental changes, as many Inuit continue to live a lifestyle that is closely tied to, and reliant upon, the natural environment. The community of Rigolet, Nunatsiavut, Canada (54°N, 58°W) has reported climate change impacts on access to safe fresh drinking water and traditional foods, increased UV exposure, decreased physical activity, unstable travel conditions, ice changes, and unpredictable weather patterns, all of which impact health and well-being and livelihood strategies.

Rigolet residents brainstorming about the impacts of climate change in their community as part of the digital storytelling workshop process.

In 2009, the Rigolet Inuit Community Government in Nunatsiavut led a community-driven, participatory, storytelling project which examined the impacts of climate change on human health (physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual) and adaptation strategies. To support the research project, the community has received over $260,000, from two rounds of funding as part of the *Climate Change & Health Adaptation in Northern First Nations and Inuit Communities Program* (directed by Health Canada's First Nations Inuit Health Branch), as well as additional financial support from Nasivvik Centre for Inuit Health and Changing Environments (Canada). The community of Rigolet worked with researchers, epidemiologists, and a not-for-profit organization to use digital media to gather stories and data about climate change in the region, the climate-health relationship, and current and possible adaptation strategies. The 'digital dialogues' gathered created an innovative and powerful platform for health media campaigns and also for analyzing the impacts of climate change on health in Inuit communities.

Currently, the community of Rigolet is in the process of creating the *My Word: Storytelling and Digital Media Lab*, the first Northern centre in the world dedicated to using digital media and storytelling to share information about Inuit culture, history, and lifestyle through personal narrative. Upon completion, Rigolet will host a fully-equipped media lab, and can welcome individuals from other Northern communities to use digital media to create stories and archive knowledge and experiences. In addition, the *My Word* team will also have a travelling media lab, which will allow trained community facilitators to travel to other communities with all needed equipment, and facilitate workshops. This will create and encourage the sharing of oral stories between and among Northern communities, and facilitate the strengthening of networks throughout Northern regions.

These digital stories, the related narrative research, and the *My Word* Storytelling and Digital Media Lab will also be of interest to researchers, journalists, and citizens interested in learning more about Inuit culture and life in Rigolet, as well as the impacts of climate change on human health and well-being. For more information on the project, the digital stories created, and future events, please visit www.rigoletlab.ca or contact the *My Word* team at my.word.rigolet@gmail.com or Charlotte Wolfrey, AngajukKâk (Mayor) at charlotte.wolfrey@nunatsiavut.com. For more information about the research components of this project, please contact Sherilee Harper, University of Guelph at harpers@uoguelph.ca or Ashlee Cunsolo Willox, University of Guelph, at ashlee@uoguelph.ca

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Can Good Governance Save the Arctic?

by Oran Young and Else Grete Broderstad

Current challenges of the Arctic

The Arctic is experiencing a profound transformation driven by the interacting forces of climate change and globalization. Many believe the region is approaching a threshold or a tipping point that will set the Arctic on a new course for the foreseeable future. It is impossible to forecast the pace and trajectory of these developments precisely. Yet there is every reason to conclude that the Arctic today is in the midst of a watershed change or what scientists often refer to as a state change. Will existing governance arrangements prove adequate to handle both the challenges and the opportunities arising from this transformation in such a way as to permit sustainable uses of the Arctic's resources, while providing for the well-being of the Arctic's indigenous peoples and other permanent residents and protecting the environment? One possible path involves the emergence of an era of "high politics" marked by geopolitical tensions, a competition for the region's natural resources, and the emergence of a "great game" in which major non-Arctic states like China and Japan play prominent roles. But there is an alternative path in which the Arctic emerges as an exemplar for efforts to manage large and dynamic socio-ecological systems through the establishment of practices like ecosystem-based management and spatial planning and the use of new approaches to participation acknowledging the legitimate roles of non-state actors, such as indigenous peoples' organizations, environmental NGOs, and businesses.

Scientific Foundations for Policy Pathways

The Arctic Governance Project (AGP), an initiative rooted in civil society that brings together a group of scientists, policymakers, and indigenous leaders with long experience in the Arctic, has examined the role of governance in this setting and explored ways to adjust existing governance systems to maximize the prospects that the Arctic will move toward the more cooperative path. Coordination and synthesis of scientific governance studies are core elements of the AGP. Recent work on Arctic governance has benefited from the growth of knowledge regarding biophysical, socio-ecological and socioeconomic systems in the Arctic. Science has played an important role in the development of Arctic policy. The work of the Arctic Council's Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) is a clear case in point. But there is much to be done to improve our insight concerning governance challenges resulting from large-scale socio-ecological changes, to find ways to enhance participation of the part of non-state actors, and to increase the use of local and traditional knowledge in support of decision-making. We need to adapt governance systems, treated as collections of rights, rules, and decision-making procedures, to address these challenges. There is a need for a closer relationship between science and policy to ensure that research agendas focus on issues of clear relevance to policy and that scientific findings are conveyed on a regular basis to policymakers in a manner that emphasizes their implications for making and implementing policies. This should lead to the development of a broader Arctic science agreement to promote, on a cooperative and transparent basis, interactions between science and policy relating to the protection of ecosystem services, the pursuit of sustainable human-environment relations, and, more generally, the achievement of stewardship in the Arctic.

Reindeer herder, Sápmi © Mauri Nieminen

The complexity of governance

Governance is often associated with governments and what they do. But governance occurs at all levels of social organization and takes many forms. The AGP's main message is that we need to understand governance as a more complex process. Although governments often play a central role in the supply of governance, less formal arrangements are also important in meeting the demand for governance in many settings.

Many governance systems in the Arctic are unique in the degree to which they feature power-sharing and participatory decision-making, particularly with regard to local and indigenous communities. These points emerged clearly in the discussions at the AGP's Tromsø Arctic Governance meeting held in January 2010. The participants in this meeting identified challenges of implementation and the need to strengthen the role of civil society in decision-making processes as key issues in many settings. Existing governance systems vary in the extent to which

they provide opportunities for indigenous groups and local communities to participate both in the formulation of rules and regulations and in the implementation of key policies. There is considerable room for improvement in strengthening these elements of the mosaic of distinctive but interlocking arrangements to address needs for governance in the Arctic.

Conclusions of the Arctic Governance Project

Some observers argue that what is needed in the Arctic today is a comprehensive and legally binding treaty. But this approach is unlikely to succeed. The Arctic coastal states oppose this strategy, and it would be hard to incorporate the roles of important non-state actors in an intergovernmental agreement. An Arctic treaty would not address effectively major global forces affecting the Arctic (e.g. climate change). Treaties are also hard to adjust to changing circumstances, a feature that limits their value in settings calling for adaptive management. Good governance will

Avalance protections above the town hall in Hammerfest
© Grete K. Hovelsrud

thus be best served, at least for now, by honoring, implementing, and enhancing the provisions of existing treaties and other governance arrangements.

What is the way forward in the Arctic today? The AGP has developed an Arctic action agenda calling for efforts to:

- Honor, implement, and enhance existing Arctic governance systems, including agreements between states and indigenous peoples,
- Strengthen the Arctic Council,
- Establish regulatory mechanisms to address key functional and sectoral needs through appropriate international bodies,
- Institutionalize the science/policy interface in the Arctic, and
- Create non-governmental Arctic stakeholder forums or roundtables to build trust and promote dialogue on Arctic issues.[1]

[1] . Both the *Arctic Action Agenda* and a longer report providing the rationale underlying the recommendations included in the agenda are available at the AGP website – www.arcticgovernance.org..

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Climate Projections Tailored to Local Needs

by Halvor Dannevig, Grete K. Hovelsrud, Jennifer West and Stine Rybråten

In the CAVIAR (Community Adaptation and Vulnerability in the Arctic Regions) project, new methods for developing and using downscaled climate projections in community vulnerability research have been developed. Key components are continuous user involvement and a close cooperation between social scientists and the climatologists developing the projections.

When decision makers in municipalities are to consider vulnerability and adaptation to climate change for long term planning, they need as much detailed information as possible on future climate change. Types of climate information most often asked for are projections of future sea level rise and how much precipitation the drainage pipes should handle in the future. But the needs vary from one community to another. Therefore, a set of centrally selected projections will not cover the variety of local needs for climate change information. In the Norwegian part of the CAVIAR project, we have asked community stakeholders and decision makers in local government which weather- and climate phenomena they currently were concerned with. On the basis of these discussions climate projections were developed by the Norwegian Meteorological Institute. The case study communities are situated in Finnmark and Nordland counties, in Northern Norway.

The development of projections started with a meeting between the research group and users in the local communities, including representatives from local governments and stakeholders from key sectors. In this meeting, the concerns of the users about the possible consequences of climate change were identified, resulting in a "wish list" for climate projections. Subsequently, the "wish list" was interpreted by climatologists to identify which climate and weather elements were best suited for projections. Recurring themes were projections for floods, avalanches, high intensity rainfalls and strong winds. Weather elements in

certain combinations were also highly relevant locally, such as rain on frozen ground which can cause floods, rain followed by minus degrees or temperatures hovering around zero degrees. Some of the weather and climate concerns are currently not possible to model or project, such as wind direction, cloud cover and hourly precipitation. Policy makers and planners have little interest in weather and climate projections for 2100, as is currently used by IPCC. The CAVIAR project therefore developed projections for the period 2021-2050. The request for a high level of detail was met by a new statistical adjustment technique that made it possible to develop projections with a resolution of one by one square kilometer. Even though the uncertainty range is high, this method has made it possible to indicate, for example, which area within a municipality will have a larger or smaller increase, or decrease, in spring precipitation.

However, while the possibility to create high resolution projections for local communities has been a great improvement, how to make these understandable to practitioners is quite another question. Therefore, once finalized, the projections were presented to the user communities for feedback to ensure their user friendliness and understandability. Some of the users, particularly those involved in municipal water- and sanitation departments, prefer to have a concrete numbers to relate to for the planning of drainage pipe diameters, such as duration-intensity curves for precipitation. The researchers, on the other hand, are very concerned with communicating the uncertainty in the projections, and do not always feel comfortable providing numbers. To facilitate planning under uncertainty, the project proposed the use of threshold values, informed by the projections, but not derived from them.

Thus, the development of the projections have undergone a two step process of interpretation: First the researchers and climatologists transformed the concerns of the users into projections, which required interpretation by the researchers. Secondly, the projections had to be made understandable to the users, which required interpretation by the users.

Overall, the project has produced more than 30 different climate projection products for the period 2021-2050 for ten different municipalities. The next step in the CAVIAR project will be to evaluate how and whether the projections have been used in the various communities. Preliminary experiences suggest that it is challenging to directly adopt the information contained in the projections into municipal plans and regulations. There is a need to assess the consequences of the projected changes on the natural environment and infrastructure, such as impact on avalanche and flood risk. The projections have nevertheless led to an increased awareness among both elected and administrative officials in the local governments and other community stakeholders of the local character of future climate change risks. The projections clearly convey that climate change is something that not only takes place at a global scale or in the news, but also in peoples' own backyards.

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Researching and Combining Northern Geopolitics and Security in the North

by Dr. Lassi Heininen

At present there are two main discourses on geopolitics of the High North which deal also with security: The mainstream discourse emphasizes that the region is stable and peaceful without armed conflicts and reasons for war. This is based on transformation from confrontation of the Cold War into trans-boundary cooperation between states, and peoples and civil societies. Recently, another discourse surrounding northernmost regions has emerged that argues that the High North, mostly meaning the Arctic Ocean and its sub-seas, has high potential for a 'race' for natural resources, particularly dealing with continental shelves, and emerging conflicts related to this.

There are also two main phenomena that are closely connected: Less political tension, military presence, and military activities, and instead stability and more international cooperation and a certain confidence. At the same time the region continues to host important military structures and armies, such as the nuclear weapon systems of the United States and Russia, and the region remains strategically important for the testing of weapons and military maneuvers by arctic states. All this is much in line with northern geopolitics and security where there has been two basic points of discussion: that of conflict and cooperation.

In the High North there are, as has been the case for decades, disputes on maritime borders, particularly exclusive economic zones (EEZ)

division lines, between the littoral states, land claims by indigenous peoples, and asymmetric environmental debates and conflicts over the use of land and waters. None of these conflicts are, however, at least yet happening, since in the region there is neither armed conflict nor strategic race for natural resources. Yet, the Arctic region is not *terra nullius*, or no-man's land. On the contrary, much of its territories are under national sovereignty with fixed national borders and most maritime boundaries are agreed upon. Furthermore, according to the Arctic Human Development Report (2004) a state of geopolitics and international relations of the High North can be interpreted through three main themes: an increasing circumpolar cooperation by indigenous peoples' organizations and sub-national governments; a region-building with states as major actors, such as the Arctic Council; and final, a new kind of relationship between the circumpolar North and the outside world.

The two focus areas of the Thematic Network (TN) on Geopolitics and Security are the studies on northern Geopolitics and those on Security and security dimensions in the High North. To implement the aim and promote discourse on these focus areas, several members of the TN contributed to the Calotte Academy 2010, *The High North in World Politics and Economics*, which took place in Apatity and Murmansk, Russia; in Kirkenes, Norway; and in Inari, Finland in April 2010. The Calotte Academy is an annual, international travelling symposium in the European North for both academic discourse between junior and senior researchers, and political discussion between policy-makers and academics.

The second event is the 3rd conference of the UArctic Institute for Applied Circumpolar Policy which will take place in Rovaniemi, Finland in September 2010. It will be organized by Dartmouth College and the University of Alaska at Fairbanks together with the University of Lapland and the TN on Geopolitics and Security. The theme of the conference is "*Climate Change and Human Security"* with an emphasis of comprehensive definition of, and a more human-oriented approach to, security comparing to the narrow traditional interpretation of nationalistic and competitive security which still much dominates state politics.

The 21st Century's High North is not, however, isolated, but closely integrated into the international community and international politics. There is also a manifold growth in its geo-strategic importance in world politics both militarily and from the point of view of (global) energy security. Parallel to this, there is a growing global interest toward the High North and its rich resources, and new potential (global) trans-arctic sea routes between the North Atlantic and the North Pacific Rim, and options for them, due to global warming and melting sea ice, and consequently, a potentially bigger share of more accessible Arctic regions in the global economy. This has been shown by major powers from outside the region, such as UK and the European Union in Europe, and China, Japan and South Korea in Asia. The United Nations also plays an important role in northern regions through the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and through the UNs' Convention of the Law of the Seas (UNCLOS). Correspondingly, and partly as a reaction, there is also a growing interest by the Arctic states.

Furthermore, northernmost regions have become an environmental linchpin due to (global) environmental problems, such as long-range air and water pollution, and climate change with its physical and socio-economic impacts, and the related uncertainty. Climate change much precipitates physical change and contributes to Arctic vulnerability thus reinforcing the interdependence between the High North and the rest of the globe. Furthermore, of concern is protection of the fragile Arctic nature and the changing Arctic ecosystem as well as the diversity of rich northern cultures. Also, the very meaning of security in the entire Arctic region has been extended beyond traditional concerns with "military" threats to focus on environmental and societal problems as well as global security problems.

As a result, the Arctic has also become a 'workshop for science and research' on the environment and climate change. Furthermore, among northern residents and civil societies there are both an increased consciousness about the environment and a growing concern over security issues in their region. This has been accompanied by a degree of political empowerment that has the potential to transform traditional notions of security into more comprehensive and less mystifying ones, and as such significantly improve the real security of the region and its peoples.

All this indicates that instead of armed or other conflicts a new kind of multi-dimensional geopolitical, geoeconomic and environmental change is occurring in the High North. Or actually, the region has already entered into another significant geopolitical change. This is much revealed by physical impacts of climate change, which has also become a security issue, and global interest towards the region's energy resources, meaning at this stage new options for utilizing them, and other indicators. Furthermore, there is no one type of northern security but several, from the traditional notions of security via the increasing importance of energy security to more comprehensive notions of environmental and human security.

Finally, there is an increasing need to redefine security, have a new security agenda, and to combine geopolitics and security in order to draw up a more holistic approach to analyze the state of the Arctic region. This is much the main aim of the Thematic Network on Geopolitics and Security which is the first joint TN between the University of the Arctic and the Northern Research Forum.

This short article is partly based on the author's articles in a new book *Globalization of the Circumpolar North*, edited by Lassi Heininen and Chris Southcott, and published by The University of Alaska Press, Fairbanks 2010.

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CONFERENCES

The IPY Oslo Science Conference

Oslo, Norway
8-12 June 2010
www.ipy-osc.no

The IPY Oslo Science Conference will be the largest polar science gathering ever. The conference will emphasize the breadth and global impact of polar research during IPY. It will highlight the extraordinary interdisciplinary and multinational efforts in research and in communication of research to the public. Click here to access on the draft programme.

7th Circumpolar Agriculture Conference (CAC): Circumpolar Agricultural and Land Use Resources - Prospects and Perspectives for Circumpolar Productions and Industries

6-8 September 2010
Alta, Finnmark, Norway
www.caa-cac.org

The primary themes of the conference are:
- Global climate change; challenges and opportunities in Northern agriculture and land use
- Unique qualities in circumpolar food products - a basis for business development
- Traditional knowledge as a basis for commercial exploitation/business development of our natural resources.
- Rural tourism industries in circumpolar areas supporting multifunctional agriculture

Call for papers
Participants are invited to present papers or posters on any of the themes. Deadline for submissions was April 15th. A collection of papers presented at the conference will be published as an special edition in Acta Agriculture Scandinavica, Soil and Plant Science, entitled "Circumpolar Agriculture and Land Use Resources – Prospects and Perspectives for Productions and Industries".

Registration
Registration deadline is **June 1st.**

Agenda
We are working on it! Please check our website frequently for updates!
4 - 5 Sept: Pre-conference tour to Finnmark County Mountain Plateau (Maze, Karasjok, Kautokeino, Lakselv, Alta, learning about Sami culture and way of life)
6 - 8 Sept: The 7th CAC in Alta, Northern Norway
7 Sept: Mid-conference tour in Alta
8 Sept: post-conference tour Alta – Tromsø for all with departure from Tromsø Airport

Networking Expo
To solve present and future tasks in circumpolar agriculture, networking and teamwork across the country's borders are essential. One of CAA's aims is to increase cross border cooperation in agricultural projects. During this year's CAC in Alta, you will have the possibility to present projects and get in contact with possible project partners. The Networking Expo will take place at Rica Hotel Alta on September 8th.

Please send us information about the idea/project you would like to introduce to the conference participants. Deadline: **June 1st, 2010.**

Information
All information about the conference will be published on our website www.caa-cac.org. Questions? Please do not hesitate to contact the office for CAC:

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

7th International Kastelli Symposium

7th International Kastelli Symposium and pre-conference course *People in a changing world* will be held in November 15-19, 2010 in Oulu, Finland

The Kastelli Symposium is a scientific international conference that has been arranged biennially with changing themes since 2000. The 7th International Kastelli Symposium 2010 will be organised under the multidisciplinary theme *People in a changing world.*

The Symposium and Pre-conference course are arranged by Thule Institute, University of Oulu in a co-operation with University of Arctic Thematic Networks on Global Change and Arctic Medicine. The course is funded by Norforsk Top-level Research Initiative *Effect studies and adaptation to climate change* as the first course organized by the Nordic Network *People and Ecosystems in a changing world*. Number of PhD students for the pre-conference course is limited to 20. PhD students are asked to apply for free participation including the travel grant, free admission and free accommodation by submitting the form available at http://arctichealth.oulu.fi/suomi/kastelli2010.html by 2nd August, 2010.

The 2nd Announcement and Call for Abstracts will be released on August 2nd, 2010, after which the registration and abstract submission open at the Symposium website.

For further information, please contact:
Kastelli Symposium: Dr Hannele Savela, tel. +358 8 553 7555, hannele.savela@oulu.fi

Pre-conference Course: Dr Kirsi Latola, tel. +358 8 553 3565, kirsi.latola@oulu.fi
Symposium website:
http://arctichealth.oulu.fi/suomi/kastelli2010.html

A New Journal: The Polar Journal

Publisher: Taylor and Francis, London.
First issue: September 2011
Executive Editor: Associate Professor Anne-Marie Brady, University of Canterbury, New Zealand

Background
Antarctica and the Arctic are of crucial importance to global security. Their governance and the patterns of human interactions there are increasingly contentious; mining, tourism, bioprospecting, and fishing are but a few of the many issues of contention, while environmental concerns such as melting ice sheets have a global impact. The *Polar Journal* is a multi-disciplinary social sciences and humanities scholarly journal which will help to create a community among the considerable number of specialists and policy makers working on these crucial regions. Despite the importance of the issues, there is no comparable scholarly journal being published at present. The issues faced by the polar regions have global implications and require global solutions. Hence, the journal will feature an international panel of specialists on its editorial board and reach out to an international readership of specialists and practitioners.

Regional Editors
- *Antarctic:* Marcus Haward, University of Tasmania, Australia (Antarctic specialist)
- *Arctic:* Mark Nuttall, University of Oulu, Finland; University of Alberta, Canada (Arctic specialist)

Developing states with polar interests: Azizan Bin Hj Abu Samah, University of Malaysia (Antarctic specialist)
- *Australasia and Oceania:* Alan D. Hemmings, University of Canterbury. (Antarctic specialist)
- *North America:* Oran Young, University of California, Berkeley, USA (Arctic specialist)
- *Northeast Asia:* Guo Peiqing, China Oceanic University, China (Arctic and Antarctic specialist)
- *South and Southeast Asia:* Sanjay Chaturvedi, Panjab University, India (Arctic and Antarctic

specialist)
▪ *Scandinavia:* Aant Enzinga, Gothenburg University, Sweden (Antarctic specialist)
▪ *Russia, Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Baltic states:* Lev Voronkov, Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Russia. (Arctic specialist)
▪ *South and Central America:* Jack Child, American University, US. (Antarctic specialist)
▪ *Western Europe:* Cornelia Lüdecke, University of Hamburg, Germany (Arctic and Antarctic specialist)

Subject area editors
▪ *Anthropology and Indigenous Studies:* Deanna Kingston, Oregon State University, USA (Arctic specialist)
▪ *Arts and Culture:* Elizabeth Leane, University of Tasmania, Australia (Antarctic specialist)
▪ *Book Reviews*: Julia Jabour, University of Tasmania, Australia (Antarctic specialist)
▪ *Conference and Meeting Reports and Current Issues*: Daniela Liggett, University of Canterbury, New Zealand (Antarctic specialist)
▪ *Economics:* Joan Nymand Larsen, Steffanson Arctic Institute, Iceland (Arctic specialist)
▪ *Geography:* Klaus Dodds, University of London, UK (Antarctic specialist)

▪ *History:* Urban Wråkberg, Barents Institute, Norway (Arctic and Antarctic specialist)
▪ *Information Management:* Antti Syväjärvi, University of Lapland, Finland (Arctic specialist)
▪ *International Law:* Zou Keyuan, University of Central Lancashire, UK (Oceanic Law, Antarctic Law Specialist)
▪ *Law:* Kees Bastmeijer, Universiteit van Tilburg, Netherlands (Antarctic specialist)
▪ *Political Science:* Chris Joyner, George Washington University, USA (Antarctic and Arctic specialist)
▪ *Management:* Leo Dana, University of Canterbury, New Zealand (Arctic specialist)
▪ *Psychology:* Gary Steel, Lincoln University, New Zealand (Antarctic, Arctic, Extreme Environments specialist)

Graduate Fellowship Opportunities in Interdisciplinary Marine Ecosystem Studies

The University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) is seeking motivated graduate candidates for our Marine Ecosystem Sustainability in the Arctic and Subarctic (MESAS) program (www.uaf.edu/mesas). This interdisciplinary NSF-funded IGERT (www.igert.org) program incorporates social and natural sciences to explore new approaches to studying and managing marine ecosystems. In addition to interdisciplinary coursework, the MESAS program provides opportunities for an internship with a partner organization and mentoring of undergraduate students. Fellowships (available to US citizens or permanent residents seeking PhD degree) include $30K/yr stipend, tuition, and health insurance. Apply by February 15 for Fall 2011 enrollment; enrolling new cohorts through 2012. Interested students should visit our website for more information (www.uaf.edu/mesas) or contact the MESAS Office at mesas@uaf.edu.

Jan Carlile
MESAS Program Coordinator
mesas@uaf.edu

Mistra Arctic Futures in a Global Context: A New Research Programme

Mistra invites Swedish research groups to submit project proposals for research on the current and future state of the Arctic, with specific reference to geopolitical, economic and technological conditions in an environmental perspective.

Vision
The vision is to contribute to sustainable development in the Arctic by providing essential scientific information to institutions, decision-makers and people in the North.

Scientific issues
The Arctic is rapidly emerging as a major hub of world politics. Sweden extends far to the north, with roughly a quarter of its territory north of the Arctic Circle, but has no direct connection to the Arctic Ocean. As well as belonging to the UN and other international organisations, Sweden is one of the Arctic Council's eight Member States (but not in the group of five Arctic coastal nations), a Spitsbergen Treaty signatory, and in the EU (with its interest in the Northern Dimension). Sweden thus has a special position, and it calls for a solid knowledge base and ample support for political decision-making that acknowledges the geopolitical and strategic issues at stake.

Today, we face major challenges. From a global perspective, we must ensure that the process of change is politically and ecologically viable. Several fundamental trends can be observed, all pointing at increased accessibility and allowing

expanded human activity in the Arctic. Such a future scenario will include:

- An ice-free Arctic due to global warming
- Technological advances in resource extraction, communication and transportation
- Increasing global scarcity of vital natural resources
- Legal and geopolitical conditions

The International Study of Arctic Change (ISAC) is a long-term international, interdisciplinary science programme intended to provide society's decision-makers with scientific data on rapid Arctic change. Its draft Science Plan (recently posted online at www.arcticchange.org) forms the basis for the ISAC Science Program's further development.

The issues concerned relate to the whole spectrum of Arctic research. To some extent they may, however, indicate the type of problem-solving envisaged in the new Mistra research programme. The present call focuses on the socioeconomic and political aspects of the work and on its global linkages. These areas lie in relatively uncharted research territory.

The Mistra background paper "the Arctic Futures in a Global Context" gives a more detailed account of the scope of this call and the Arctic research required.

Project proposals
Research proposals are expected to be based on the state of the art in relevant research fields and, by highlighting certain aspects, to afford a more profound understanding of Arctic change.

Proposals should demonstrate strong scientific leadership, along with a commitment to developing Swedish capacity for interdisciplinary Arctic research driven by societal needs and global issues. Mistra also welcomes proposals that involve young scientists.

A competitive proposal is expected to have access to appropriate Arctic expertise and tie in with similar international efforts. Although the project should have its principal investigator and home base at a Swedish research institution, good international networks are essential.

The nature of the research area implies a systems approach and interdisciplinary connections, drawing on the global scientific knowledge base in climate and environmental research.

Applicants should also describe the methodological aspects of the study design and plans for data management, data sharing and dissemination of results.

The projects will be viewed as integrated parts of a comprehensive Mistra Arctic Futures research programme, to be coordinated by a programme manager based at the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat. This will foster liaison among the projects and potential added value that can guide the Mistra Arctic Futures research programme's future development.

Three to five projects are expected to be supported for three years, within the total programme budget of up to SEK 30 million.

Mistra's way
To fulfil the vision, Mistra invites applicants to build research platforms that engage researchers and users in generating new ideas, knowledge and best practice. Capacity building is therefore specifically called for in this research area.

Mistra seeks to promote sustainable development. One way is by investing in collaboration between researchers and users to solve major environmental problems. Mistra offers grants for addressing these problems through bridge-building research that links various disciplines, on the one hand, and academic research and practical applications on the other. Practitioners in Swedish companies and public agencies, legislators, international negotiators, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and researchers in different fields can all be involved in research programmes funded by Mistra. Researchers and practitioners from other countries, too, can participate alongside their Swedish counterparts.

Mistra now invites submission of research project proposals on the theme of Arctic Futures in a Global Context.

Overall, the key features of Mistra-funded research are its:
- potential for solving major environmental problems
- value to intended users, such as policymakers
- high scientific quality
- capacity to make Sweden more competitive
- contribution to Mistra's overall programme portfolio
- creation of strong research environments
- sound management and good organisation.

Mistra endorses flexibility in terms of size and duration, with programme design appropriate for the task concerned.

This call — a fairly small one compared with other Mistra programmes and centres — is for project proposals within the Mistra Arctic Futures in a Global Context research programme, which is designed to run for three years. Mistra's

maximum contribution to the total budget will be up to SEK 30 million.

Project proposals for the Mistra research programme must be received by Mistra not later than 4.00 pm on 9 August 2010. (See below information on how to apply.)

Contact persons:
Britt-Inger Andersson
Mistra/The Swedish Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research
britt-inger.andersson@mistra.org
www.mistra.org

Anders Karlqvist
Board Chairman, Mistra Arctic Futures
anders.karlqvist@polar.se

How to Apply for Arctic Futures Projects

Background
The vision is to contribute to sustainable development in the Arctic. The main purpose of the programme is to build Swedish capacity in the research area, and Mistra also has a strong ambition to connect Swedish scientists with their international counterparts. The call covers a complex area that includes many different perspectives. Please note that, in this programme, Mistra will not fund Arctic research in natural science.

Mistra strongly believes that many important new and exciting research questions have yet to be posed in encounters between scholars from different disciplines — not least the social sciences and humanities — on the one hand and various users on the other. Mistra therefore endorses proposals at the intersection of science, policy and practice. Merely supplementing existing research approaches is not enough to meet the challenges that lie ahead: new transdisciplinary approaches are required.

Mistra will award grants to some three to five projects in the Mistra Arctic Futures Research Programme. The total budget for the three-year programme is SEK 30 million. Accordingly, each project will receive an annual grant of between SEK 2–4 millions for a maximum of three years.

The ideas expressed in this call derive partly from experience of earlier Mistra prestudies, but chiefly from a planning process involving international scientists and based on Arctic Futures in a Global Context, a background paper.

Organisation
Mistra is responsible for the Mistra Arctic Futures Research Programme. It has appointed a Board to oversee the programme. After international evaluation of the scientific value of the projects proposed, as well as their value to users, the Board will decide which projects to fund. The Board is also responsible for monitoring progress in the research projects.

Mistra has appointed the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat to host the Mistra Arctic Futures Research Programme. A programme manager at the Secretariat will coordinate the work in the programme.

Announcement
This call is being announced on the websites of Mistra (www.mistra.org) and the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat (www.polar.se). It will also be presented at the Polar Week 2010 in Ånn, Sweden, and at an open meeting at Mistra in May 2010.

Time schedule
Call announcement: 22 April 2010
Deadline for proposal submission: 9 August 2010
Evaluation of proposals: September 2010
Grant decisions: September 2010
Signing of project contracts, start-up: Late 2010

Procedure
Applications, written in English and no more than 10 pages long, should be sent to Mistra. The application must include a description of the research proposed and the practical contribution it is expected to make, an account of the methods to be used, details of the planned research group's composition and international collaboration, a time schedule and a budget for the project. The participants' CVs, each no longer than two pages, should be appended.

The applications will be evaluated by a single panel in terms of both scientific value and value to users. Based on the panel's evaluation report, the Board of the Mistra Arctic Futures Research Programme, will decide which projects to approve for funding.

Fourth UArctic Rectors' Forum in Fairbanks - August 2010

The fourth UArctic Rectors' Forum will be held in Fairbanks, Alaska, from August 13-15, 2010. The forum will be hosted by the University of Alaska Fairbanks under Chancellor Brian Rogers.

The central theme of this year's Forum will be "Sustainability, Resilience and Community Adaptation to Climate Change in the North: Postsecondary Education's Role".

The Rectors' Forum 2010
In the on-going process of adaptation to climate change, postsecondary education will be a key factor for being prepared. All educational institutions in the Circumpolar North therefore share the responsibility to help raise adaptability and awareness of the related issues in their communities.

This year's Rectors' Forum will give the leaders of UArctic's Higher Education Institution members the chance to address various topics dealing with that main theme in different working sessions. They will deal with subjects such as Natural Resources, Tourism and Cultural/Indigenous Concerns.

Various cultural activities and excursions to explore the Alaska environment have furthermore been planned.

More information on the program and registration for the forum will be available on the UArctic website Member Area by March 2010. For further information, please contact the UArctic International Secretariat at secretariat@uarctic.org.

What is the Rector's Forum?
The Rectors' Forum is intended for the leaders of UArctic's Higher Education Institution members. It brings together college Presidents, Rectors, Provosts, Chancellors and Vice-Presidents in order to discuss specific themes. The Forum is reserved for institutional leadership and is not intended as an institutional representative forum; the Council of UArctic serves that function.

So far, the Rectors' Forum has been held three times, each time with a different main focus. Host institutions have been the Dartmouth College in Hanover, US, the University of Lapland, Finland, and the Yugra State University in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

People of the Lakes. Stories of Our Van Tat Gwich'in Elders / Googwandak Nakhwach'ànjòo Van Tat Gwich'in

Author: Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation and Shirleen Smith
Publisher: The University of Alberta Press
ISBN: 978-0-88864-505-0

Many people have a mental picture of the Canadian north that juxtaposes beauty with harshness. For the Van Tat Gwich'in, the northern Yukon is home, with a living history passed on from elders to youth. This book consists of oral accounts that the Elders have been recording for 50 years, representing more than 150 years of their history, all meticulously translated from Gwich'in. Yet this is more than a gathering of history; collaborator Shirleen Smith provides context for the stories, whether they are focused on an individual or international politics. Anthropologists, folklorists, ethnohistorians, political scientists, economists, members of First Nations, and readers interested in Canada's northernmost regions will find much to fascinate them.
Order:
www.press.ualberta.ca/UAP.asp?LID=41&bookID=769

Buriatskii mir: kontseptsii i strategii razvitiia iazyka i kul'tury: materialy mezhdunarodnoi nauchno-prakticheskoi konferentsii (g. Ulan-Ude, 10-11 maia 2008 g. - Choibalsan, 15-16 maia 2008 g.)

[English translation: The Buryat World: Conceptions and Strategies of the Growth of Language and Culture: Materials from an International Scholarly and Practical Conference, Ulan-Ude, 10-11 May, 2008 - Choibalsan, 15-16 May, 2008]

Editors: Mariia Sonomovna Vasil'eva, Valentina

Dugarovna Pataeva, and D. Tsedenzhav
Language: Russian, Buryat, and Mongolian
Publisher: Ulan-Ude: Izdatel'stvo Buriatskogo gosudarstvennogo universiteta, 2008
ISBN: 978-5-9793-0014-6

Readers of *Northern Notes* need no reminder of the grave situation of the cultures and languages of smaller Northern Siberian peoples such as the Itel'men, Even, and Yukagir. Yet larger Southern Siberian groups also face serious challenges in maintaining their cultural heritage. Among these are the Buryats, a Mongol-speaking group of whom 450,000 inhabit the Republic of Buryatia and Chita and Irkutsk *Oblasts*. (An additional 45,000 and 5,000 Buryats dwell in neighboring Mongolia and China, respectively.) During the *glasnost*' years, Buryat journalists and scholars began to rue the damage to cultural survival resulting from decades of state Russification policies (both direct and indirect); from officialdom's tendency to equate "Buryat" with backwardness and rusticity, and "Russian" with progress and modernity; and from some Buryats' internalization of these self-abnegating attitudes. Since Communism's fall, Buryat educators and scholars have energetically campaigned for cultural revitalization and national consciousness-raising. Yet the Buryat cultural heritage remains in a crisis situation: even Buryatia's ethnic-Russian president, Vyacheslav Nagovitsyn, has noted the native tongue's virtual absence in public urban spaces. ("Prezident Buriatii nachal ponimat' korennoe naselenie" *Klub regionov: internet-predstavitel'stvo glav regionov Rossiiskoi Federatsii* 7 Nov. 2009 http://club-rf.ru/r03/news/4619/ last accessed January 12, 2010).

Issues of cultural survival and language revitalization were the focus of "Buriatskii mir / Buriad ertönts" [The Buryat World], a conference of Buryat and Mongolian scholars held in Ulan-Ude, Siberia on 10-11 May, 2008, and in Choibalsan, Mongolia on May 15-16, 2008 under the auspices of Buryat State University and Dornod Institute: its proceedings have appeared under the title *Buriatskii mir: kontseptsii i strategii razvitiia iazyka i kul'tury.* The forty-five papers – in Russian, Buryat and (Khalkha) Mongol – span a wide range of disciplines and formats. Many of them treat specialized topics in Buryat linguistics and literature (D.D. Sanzhina; S.Zh. Baldanov; D.B. Ochirova; M.R. Sandanova; N.B. Badmatsyrenova; D. Soronzon; Iu.D. Badmaeva and N. Iumtarova; B.D. Bal'zhinimaeva; A.D Erdyneeva; D.B. Takhanova and R.S. Dylykova; B. Tsedenzhav; S.A. Oshorova; Ts.Ts. Bal'zhinimaeva; L. Tserenchimed; Z.D. Dambinova and E Batkhugiin; L.G. Khalkharova; D. Oiungerel; O.B. Badmaeva; and S. Altantsetseg); pedagogy (B.D. Zhambalov; B. Ch.-Ts. Khasaranov; I.G. Arzhitova; B.-Kh.B. Purbueva; I.I. Baglaev and N.V. Ochirova; L.S. Bardakhanova, L.I. Baenkhaeva, L.S. Urbatova, and V.A. Bardakhanov; and S. Mönkhtuvshin); sociology and anthropology (A.D. Ochirov and E.D. Chagdurova; D.A. Nikolaeva; E.F. Afanas'eva; E.V. Zhamtsueva; B.B. Budain; G. Ts.-D. Buiantueva; Ts.D. Dugarova; S.D. Budaeva; and E.I. Simonchik and V.V. Bardunaeva); and history and mythology (L. Tserenchimed; R.S. Dylykova; P.G, Barlukov; and B. Tsagdarzhav). Other papers investigate more general problems and possibilities of language and cultural survival (V.D. Pataeva; S.G. Oshorov; L.M. Baldueva; M.S. Vasil'eva; D.D. Nimaev; and E.B. Tsybenova). Some key themes include recent developments in native-tongue pedagogical methods (including use of localized computer programs); the lingering effects of late Soviet Russification policies; demographic changes in the Buryat lands over the twentieth and early twenty-fist centuries; the inadequacy of state funding for culture and art in Buryatia; obstacles to a common Buryat identity caused by tribal and clan loyalties; and recent cultural-education programs among Irkutsk *Oblast's* Buryats, long severed by administrative boundaries from the mainstream of Buryat cultural life.

Buriatskii mir provides a valuable, timely collection of current research by Siberian and Mongolian scholars concerned with the future of the Buryats' unique culture and language. (It would have been helpful if the work had provided more information about the papers' authors than just their names and cities, but this data can probably be found elsewhere.) The reader comes away with the sense that champions of Buryat cultural survival face challenging conditions, yet theirs is by no means an antiquarian reverie or a lost cause. As D.D. Nimaev argues, "we [Buryats] need not doubt the presence of enough material and technical or intellectual potential [for cultural and language preservation] in Buryatia. [But] we need a more organized and thorough coordination of efforts and materials, and a choice of concrete, prioritized directions of activity" (p. 75). The quality of the data, the promising collaboration between Buryat and Mongolian scholars, and the

fresh approaches displayed in these proceedings all suggest both the soundness of Nimaev's prescription, and the possibility of its realization.

Robert W. Montgomery
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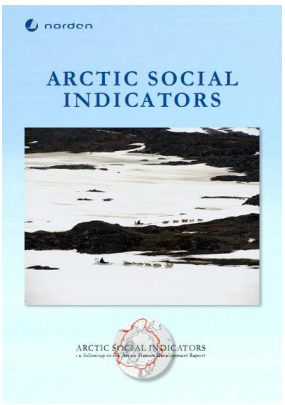
Berea, Ohio, U.S.A.

Arctic Social Indicators - a follow-up to the Arctic Human Development Report

Editors: Joan Nymand Larsen, Peter Schweitzer, Gail Fondahl
Publisher: Nordic Council of Ministers
Publication Year: 2010
160 pages
ISBN: 978-92-893-2007-8
Orders: www.norden.org
The ASI report can be downloaded from: http://www.norden.org/da/publikationer/publikationer/2010-519



ASI Preface

This report is a result of and follow-up to the Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR), which appeared in 2004 and had been conducted under the auspices of the Arctic Council's Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG). The AHDR marked processes of maturation within the Arctic Council and beyond. On the one hand, the AHDR represented the first social science-driven report prepared for the Arctic Council, indicating that various stakeholders, from politicians to Arctic residents, understood the importance of the "human dimension" for sustainable development in the Arctic. On the other hand, the processes leading to the AHDR marked new developments in the relationship between Arctic governance and scholarship, including coordinated support for the report from the Standing Committee of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region (SCPAR).

The AHDR was largely met with approval and enthusiasm, signalling that human development in the Arctic had become a matter of widespread concern and interest. In the years since, Arctic human development has become even more critical for stakeholders in the Arctic and beyond. One of the reasons is certainly the impact of global climate change on Arctic environments and communities (see, among many other reports, the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) of 2004). As the Arctic has become an "early warning" site for climate-induced changes to come (the figurative "canary in the coal mine" for much of the rest of the world), the effects of these changes on arctic residents have become a matter of general concern. Thus, tracking Arctic human development through a small set of indicators becomes a matter of significant practical and theoretical relevance in times of (climate) change.

While the first thoughts regarding an Arctic Social Indicators (ASI) project reach back to the years 2004 and 2005, the majority of work for the initiative was produced during the years 2006-2009. Thus, the ASI activities largely coincided with the research initiatives of the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007-2008, which officially lasted from March 2007 to March 2009. Actually, ASI was recognized as an IPY activity by the International IPY programme office. Given that the IPY 2007-2208 differed radically from its predecessors – by its inclusion of the social sciences and of arctic residents -, the co-occurrence of IPY and ASI was more than pure coincidence. It was indicative of increased research activities in the Arctic (and Antarctic), as well as of increased input from Arctic residents who consider the study of human development as critical as the study of changing sea ice conditions.

Similar to the AHDR, ASI set itself the task of combining state-of-the-art arctic social science research with applied concerns of arctic countries and communities and of arctic indigenous peoples' organizations, the so-called permanent participants of the Arctic Council. While the applicability (and usefulness) of Arctic research to northern communities is the ultimate test of research that considers itself appropriate within the context of the Arctic Council's SDWG, this relevance cannot be achieved without the input from a broad spectrum of scholars and practitioners, representing the best in their fields. We hope that this report will nourish the growing recognition that the study and tracking of human development is necessary for understanding the Arctic, as well as necessary for increasing well-being in the circumpolar North.

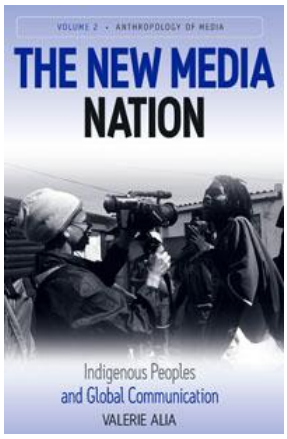
This first ASI report is, by design, focused on the development of a small set of social indicators in the Arctic and cannot provide the implementation of these indicators. Data challenges, as outlined in the final chapter of this report, need to be overcome in order to implement the set of social indicators proposed in this report. Thus, as we are now launching this first ASI report, preparations are under way for a follow-up focused on the

implementation of what is being suggested here. While we hope to have your undivided attention for ASI-I, we want to communicate that our task at hand will be incomplete if there were not an ASI-II report in due time.

Joan Nymand Larsen and Peter Schweitzer
Project Leaders, ASI

ASI Contents

The New Media Nation: Indigenous Peoples and Global Communication



Author: Valerie Alia
Publisher: Berghahn Books
Publication year: 2010
ISBN: 978-1-84545-420-3
Hardback
224 pages, 39 ills

Discount for individual orders placed directly with the publisher. Discount expires June 15, 2010

Summary

Around the planet, Indigenous people are using old and new technologies to amplify their voicesand broadcast information to a global audience. This is the first portrait of a powerful international movement that looks both inward and outward, helping to preserve ancient languages and cultures while communicating across cultural, political, and geographical boundaries.

Based on more than twenty years of research, observation, and work experience in Indigenous journalism, film, music, and visual art, this volume includes specialized studies of Inuit in the circumpolar north, and First Nations peoples in the Yukon and southern Canada and the United States.

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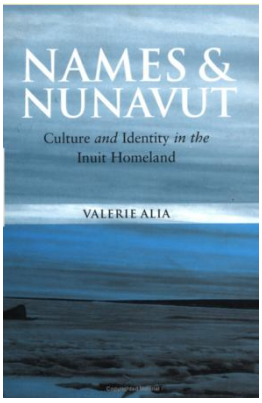
About the Author
Valerie Alia is Adjunct Professor in the Doctor of Social Sciences program at Royal Roads University (Canada) and Visiting Professor in the Centre for Diversity in the Professions at Leeds Metropolitan University. An award-winning scholar, journalist, photographer and poet, she was Distinguished Professor of Canadian Culture at Western Washington University, Running Stream

Professor of Ethics and Identity at Leeds Metropolitan University, a research associate of the Scott Polar Research Institute at Cambridge University, and a television and radio broadcaster, newspaper and magazine writer and arts reviewer in the US and Canada. Her books include: Un/Covering the North: News, Media and Aboriginal People; Media Ethics and Social Change; and Names and Nunavut: Culture and Identity in the Inuit Homeland. She is a founding member of the International Arctic Social Sciences Association.

Names and Nunavut: Culture and Identity in the Inuit Homeland



Author: Valerie Alia
Publisher: Berghahn Books
Publication year: 2008
ISBN: 978-1-84545-413-5
Now available in paperback

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

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Inuit Identity in the Canadian Arctic

Author: Edmund (Ned) Searles
Article published in Ethnology: An International Journal of Cultural and Social Anthropology, (volume 47(4): 239-255)
January 2010 ISSN: 0014-1828

Abstract
Contemporary Nunavut Inuit perceive their identity to be a combination of inherited substances as well as knowledge, skills, and values that one must learn in order to be considered authentically Inuit. Inuit

understand the latter part of their identity as examples of inuktitut, which is learning how to act in the Inuit way. Equally important for the expression of Inuit identity is knowledge of qallunaatitut, the way of "white people." This is why Inuit identity is best understood as an ethnic identity that influences how Inuit perceive themselves, their culture, and their relations to non-Inuit. The dominant discourse of Inuit identity rests on a reified notion of culture as well as a logic that equates the boundary between Inuit culture and Qallunaat culture as primordial and permanent. As such, Inuit identity is experienced as a set of primordial ties to specific places and persons and as a way of life that must be protected from the incursion of non-Inuit culture. Ethnic identity, Nunavut Inuit, Canadian Arctic.

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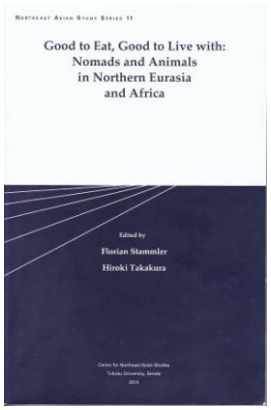
Good to Eat, Good to Live with: Nomads and Animals in Northern Eurasia and Africa



(Northeast Asian Study Series 11)
Editors: Florian Stammler (Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland & Institute Associate at Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge,UK)
&
Hiroki Takakura (Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University, Japan)
Publisher: Centre for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan
Publication year: 2010
ISBN: 978-4-901449-67-0
Internationally peer-reviewed publication, xiii + 243 p, maps, ill.

The social significance of animals has been at the heart of some of modern anthropology's most influential contributions, from the seminal works by Evans-Pritchard, Herskovits' *Cattle Complex in East Africa*, Rappaport's *Pigs for the Ancestors*, Itani's theory of the evolution of social structure, from a perspective combining primatology with anthropology, and recent interdisciplinary efforts such as Bekoff's four-volume *Encyclopedia of Human-Animal Relations*. Much of the ethnographic record in this direction was produced about nomadic pastoralist societies in different regions, while cross-regional analysis of social significance with theoretical integration was undertaken by fewer studies. Such works have produced significant insights in how societies of nomadic pastoralists in different regions define their systems of social hierarchies, prestige, and stratification through intimate relations of humans and animals. The idea for this volume was, therefore, to bring together scholars of pastoralism to focus on the significance that animals have for individuals, societies, and cultures, comparing the situation in the circumpolar North to that of other pastoralist areas. In doing so, this volume tries to build fruitful academic dialogue between 'south' and 'north' in studies of pastoralism. The authors focus on the field of human-animal relations in pastoralism as it actually is practiced in the Arctic, Africa and Central Asia for understanding human socio-cultural identity, similarity and diversity worldwide.

The volume contains the following four sections: "Reconsidering the border between wild/domestic or hunting/herding", "Socio-cultural factors and the subsistence dimension of human-animal relations in pastoralism", "Power of Animal symbolism in its gendered, religious and political dimensions", "Global significance of local animal species for humanity." The concluding article contributes with ethnographic data from two northern regions to a comparative framework of analysing closeness of humans and animals in pastoralism.

While the regional orientation is comparative, this volume, nonetheless, has a strong focus on the North. This is the first volume where scholars of the North take the lead to contribute to the comparative anthropological analysis of pastoralism in general.

Contributing authors:
Florian Stammler, Hiroki Takakura, Terhi Vuojala-Magga, Shinya Konaka, Shiro Sasaki, Nuccio Mazzullo, Tea Virtanen, Tomoko Nakamura, Anna Stammler-Gossmann, Leo Granberg, Juha Kantanen, Anu Osva

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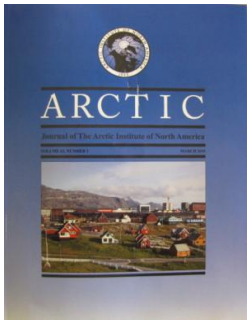
library.AC@ulapland.fi

Read-only non-printable pdf samples of articles will be made available through the following websites:
www.cneas.tohoku.ac.jp/e_data/publication03.html
www.arcticcentre.org/anthropology

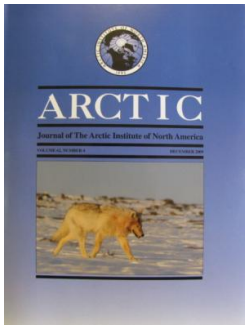
Population, Sex Ratios and Development in Greenland



Authors: Hamilton, L.C. and R.O. Rasmussen
Arctic 63(1) Pages 43-52 Year: 2010

Abstract
During the 20th century, Greenland society experienced a dramatic transformation from scattered settlements based on hunting, with mostly turf dwellings, to a urbanizing port-industial economy. This transformation compressed socioeconomic development that took centuries to millennia elsewhere into a few generations. The incompleete demographic transition that accompanied this development broadly followed the classical pattern, but with distinctive variations relating to Greenland's Arctic environment, sparse population, and historical interactions between two cultures: an indigenous Inuit majority and an influential Danish minority. One heritage from Danish colonial administration, and continued more recently undier Greenland Home Rule, has been the maintenance of population statistics. Time series of demographich indicatior, some going back into the 18th cnetury, provide a uniquely detailed view of the rapid hunting-to-post-industrial transition. Changing sex ratios – an early excess of females, shiftingmore recently to an excess of males – reflect differential impacts of social, econom, and technological developments.

Visualizing Population Dynamics of Alaska's Arctic Communities



Authors: Hamilton, L.C. and A.M. Mitiguy
Arctic 62(4)
Pages 393-398
Year: 2009

Abstract
Arctic demography has previously been reviewed on a large scale, across the circumpolar nations. We look instead at some recent population dynamics on sub-regional to community scales, focusing on Arctic Alaska. Detailed graphics depicting yearly population changes from 1990 to 2006 in 43 selected Arctic Alaska towns and villages and all 27 of the state's "county-equivalent entities" (e.g., boroughs) have been published online in connection with two International Polar Year projects. Seemingly comparable places within the same borough have taken widely divergent paths. Birth rates generally exceed death rates, although both are high. Year-to-year and place-to-place variations are dominated not by natural increase, but by differences in net migration. Population changes influence demand for resources such as water, electricity, fuel, and capital improvements, and probably for subsistence resources as well. Migration rates provide sensitive indicators that integrate diverse internal and external pressures.

Nuvuk: Point Barrow, Alaska: The Thule Cemetery and Ipiutak Occupation

Author: Anne M. Jensen, PhD, RPA
PhD dissertation in Anthropology at Bryn Mawr College, 2009.
On file at University Microfilms, Inc
Publication number: 3354842
389 pages

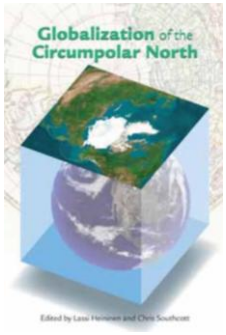
Abstract
This study presents a revised cultural chronology for the Nuvuk site, Point Barrow, Alaska. It is based on results of 10 years of work at the site, including the Nuvuk Archaeology Project.

First, the history and results of prior ethnographic and archaeological research on the North Slope are reviewed, with an emphasis on material pertaining to coastal North Alaska. Nuvuk is set in environmental context, and the results of geomorphological research associated with this project are presented.

Secondly, the findings of the pre-contact portion of the excavations are described. Notable results of this work include a previously unsuspected Ipiutak occupation, and a previously undocumented Thule occupation with an associated large cemetery. In addition, brief descriptions of various midden and activity areas resulting from the post-contact occupation of the site are provided. The detailed results of the 63 Thule burial excavations conducted to date are presented as an appendix.

Finally, the implications of the presence of Ipiutak and Thule at the Nuvuk site for the chronology of the site itself, as well as the broader chronologies of the Barrow area and the North Slope are detailed. The implications of this revised chronology for interpretation of Ipiutak and for the question of Thule origins are discussed.

Globalization of the Circumpolar North



Edited by Lassi Heininen and Chris Southcott
The University of Chicago Press
200 pages
ISBN: 9781602230781
Will be published in July 2010

The circumpolar north has long been the subject of conflicting national aspirations and border disputes, and with the end of the cold war and the coming era of potential resource scarcity, its importance will only grow over the next several decades. Anticipating that renewed prominence, Globalization of the Circumpolar North brings together an array of scholars to explore the effects of this increased attention, from the new opportunities offered by globalization to the potential damage to long-isolated northern communities and peoples.

ON THE WEB

New IASSA Website

www.iassa.org

A new IASSA (International Arcitc Social Sciences Accosiation) website has been launched. See more information under From the Secretary in this newsletter.

Journal of the North Atlantic – JONA

www.eaglehill.us/jona

The Journal of the North Atlantic is an archaeology and environmental history journal, focusing on the peoples of the North Atlantic, their expansion into the region over time, and their interactions with their changing environment.

Since it is a full-featured online-only journal, articles can be quickly published and made available to researchers worldwide. Journal content can be conveniently accessed both by subscription and on a single article basis. The journal has no publication fees, even for special volumes and large monographs. The journal is indexed in a full range of journal content databases.

Journal of the North Atlantic

The Journal of the North Atlantic has just successfully completed its second year of publication. In addition to its two regular volumes, there are now three JONA special volumes in production. Two of these, the Hvalsey Norse Greenland conference volume and the Archaeologies of the Early Modern North Atlantic invitational volume, are already partially uploaded. Both volumes are projected to be complete by the end of 2010. Articles for the third volume, Norse Greenland Isotopes and the Norse Greenland Dietary Economy, are in various stages of review. The first articles for this volume will be posted online in 2010.

Journal of the North Atlantic
Eagle Hill Foundation
59 Eagle Hill Road, Steuben, ME 04680-0009
United States
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FISHERNET: Fishing Cultural Heritage Network Project

www.fishernet.is/en

The second issue of the newsletter of the European project FISHERNET: Fishing Cultural Heritage Network in which the Stefansson Arctic Institute is a partner has now been published.

FISHERNET is a three year project (2008-2011) funded by the European Union Culture Programme. Key participants in addition to Iceland are Galicia (Spain), Norway, Bulgaria, Cyprus, and the Orkneys (Great Britain). The object of the project is the preservation, dissemination and utilisation of cultural heritage connected with European coastal fishing communities.

The Stefansson Arctic Institute contributes to the project in various ways but with a special focus on fishing cultural heritage in Iceland, Greenland and

the Faroe Islands. The Icelandic component is called ´Trossan´ and can in part be observed through the website www.fishernet.is/en.

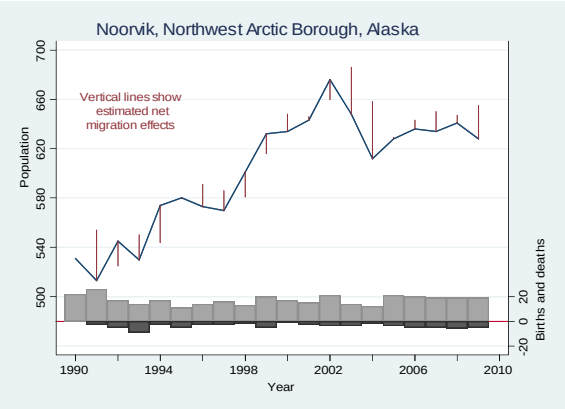
The FISHERNET newsletter provides contributions and news from project partners, including an item on the former Foldal fish factory in Finnmark, Norway, which is now used as a cultural centre with an arena for concerts and festivals, a living museum, a gallery and accommodation for tourists. There is a story concerning adaptive capacity in the Orkneys and information on the upcoming meeting of the project partners in Iceland in May 2010. During that time the group will be travelling to Reykjavík, Siglufjörður, Húsavík and Akureyri where an international seminar called ´The Wealth of Sea and Coast: Initiatives, innovation and use of cultural heritage‘ will be held on May 7th 2010.

The newsletter can be downloaded at www.fishernet.is/en where you can also find a variety of material useful for research or general interest, such as articles and essays related to fisheries and coastal culture in Iceland and the northern North Atlantic.

Population Dynamics of Arctic Alaska: Graphical Views of Community Change

www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu/alaska-indicators.html

This website provides a “graphical library” depicting population dynamics in 51 towns and villages of Arctic Alaska (also including Kodiak Island), along with 27 larger regions that together comprise all of Alaska. The community-level graphs, recently updated to cover 1990 through 2009, show yearly population, births, deaths and estimated net migration for each place. The graphs visualize patterns of change in the most basic “human dimensions” of Arctic communities, and could supply background information relevant to more detailed case studies, research on the impacts of environmental changes, or thinking about such topics as migration, sustainability, social and health indicators, or economic



development. A recent article in *Arctic* (Hamilton and Mitiguy 2009) describes the raw data and calculations behind these graphs. The article also suggests a few generalizations based on all of the graphs.

APECS Virtual Poster Session - New Opportunities for Social Scientists

www.apecs.is/virtual-poster-session

The Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) is an international and interdisciplinary organization for undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, faculty members, educators and others with interests in Polar Regions and the wider cryosphere. One of APECS’ main aims is to stimulate interdisciplinary and international research collaborations and to develop effective future leaders in polar research, education and outreach.

Constantly growing both in members and in new ideas, APECS counts now around 2000 members from over 45 countries. One of the most recent projects initiated by APECS is the Virtual Poster Session (www.apecs.is/virtual-poster-session), which enables APECS members to share posters they have presented at conferences. The presentation of their posters through the forum created by APECS allows young researchers to discuss their research further, to get feedback from their young colleagues and also senior researchers in their field and to find new potential collaborators. The Virtual Poster Session allows young researchers to keep their polar posters accessible and have an open discourse after a

conference comes to an end. It gives a permanent website presence to their work enhanced by a URL that can be communicated on a resume for future employers to review. New contributions to the Virtual Poster Session will also be listed in the monthly APECS newsletter, increasing the number of people who are exposed to this work from all around the world.

With the Virtual Poster Session, APECS is leading an effort towards e-conferences among polar researchers, where participants can present their researches' findings to an international audience through web-based settings using the APECS website. Every month, two posters are presented online using Adobe Connect Pro. The monthly presentations usually focus on one of five broad themes: human and social systems, marine systems, terrestrial systems, atmospheric systems and climate, and education and outreach. Each of the presenters is given approximately 10-15 min to present the poster, followed by 15-20 min of questions.

The first online Virtual Poster Session was arranged in February 2010 with a focus on marine systems. The most recent online Virtual Poster Session took place in March 2010 and was social sciences orientated. Russell Fielding (Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University - Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA) presented a poster on "Comparative Whaling Research: North and South, St. Vincent and the Grenadines vs. the Faroe Islands", and Erin Neufeld (Gateway Antarctica, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, NZ) presented a poster on "A place on the Ice: the stories, images, and experiences that make New Zealand´s Antarctica". The next Virtual Poster Session in late April will be looking at cutting edge e-learning approaches and alternative education and outreach methods.

Sponsored by Norden, the Nordic Council of Ministers, the APECS Virtual Poster Session does not require any registration or annual fee and is open to all Polar (Early Career) Scientists.

Rosa Rut Thorisdottir – APECS discipline coordinator for social sciences
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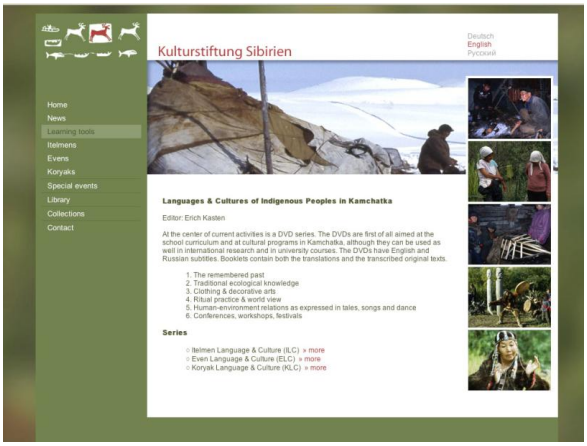
Kulturstiftung Sibirien
Foundation for Siberian Cultures
Фонд культуры народов Сибири

www.kulturstiftung-sibirien.de

The Foundation for Siberian Cultures was established in 2010. The idea for this foundation emerged from many years of research with the peoples of the North and from initiatives for the preservation of their cultures. More recently the focus has been on Siberia and the Russian Far East.

The aims of the foundation are: the preservation of indigenous languages and the knowledge (especially ecological knowledge) expressed in them; and the preservation and further enhancement of art and craft traditions of indigenous peoples.

Learning tools and teaching materials by and for indigenous communities may help to counteract



the forces bringing about the loss of cultural diversity and the dissolution of local and ethnic identities. Relevant materials have been and will be produced together with local experts using modern technologies.

Exhibitions, cultural exchanges by means of tours of artists and workshops, as well as conferences in Germany and Russia will serve to enhance mutual understandings of peoples with different cultural backgrounds and encourage valuable and productive dialogues between them.

A digital library and ethnographic collections on the world wide web shall provide above all indigenous communities open access to relevant scholarly resources and research materials. The portal for this will use the well-established domain name www.siberian-studies.org which has been online since 2004.

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Northern Notes

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