

# Northern Notes

Issue 39 - Spring / Summer 2013



A newsletter published by the International Arctic Social Sciences Association

What you might see during ICASS VIII! Wildlife sightings at UNBC are a regular occurrence.

## Welcome from the President

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Hello from northern British Columbia once again! After six months of living in various European cities, my husband and I have returned home, and once again are enjoying the beautiful walks in the forests, wildlife in the backyard (bear, moose, deer and fox in the past few weeks), and having a real kitchen! A 10-month administrative leave from UNBC allowed us to spend the winter/spring abroad. Thanks to the Canadian International Centre for the Arctic Region, and especially Dan Bristow, this turned out to be especially fruitful for IASSA activities. Dan worked with Canadian embassies across Europe to arrange for visits, and I spoke on the role of social sciences in understanding and addressing challenges in the Arctic (in a talk entitled "It's about Climate Change — But Also Much More"), at events sponsored by numerous Canadian Embassies. In addition to the ones noted in the last *Northern Notes*, versions of the talk were presented in Paris, Madrid, Girona, Berlin and Dublin. These opportunities allowed me to introduce IASSA as well as to discuss demographic, economic, social, cultural and political challenges and opportunities facing the Arctic — some distinct from climate change, others exacerbated/enhanced by it. I think some eyes were opened, and audiences proved very receptive to the message.

As you know, a significant undertaking of IASSA over the past decade has been to promote the need for a greater role for Arctic social sciences within the context of Arctic research. The significant inclusion of Arctic social sciences in IPY 2007-8, and other such achievements has indicated that these efforts have paid off, if there is still work to be done and pressure to be maintained.

However, it is now time to showcase Arctic social sciences and humanities on a different stage — to enter into productive dialogue with social scientists whose research focuses on other regions. To this end, IASSA applied successfully to become a member of the **International Social Science Council**. Please see the article on [page 4](#) of this issue by Heide Hackmann, Executive Director of ISSC, which introduces ISSC.

ISSC holds a bi-annual **World Social Science Forum**, with the next Forum convening this autumn in Montreal. The theme is "Social Transformations and the Digital Age". To showcase IASSA members' work in, and Arctic contributions to, this area, I have organized two panels on "Social Transformations and the Digital Age in the Arctic", with a wide range of papers. If your work fits under this theme, drop me a line ([gail.fondahl@unbc.ca](mailto:gail.fondahl@unbc.ca)) with a short description — I would like to know about as many other projects as possible when preparing opening remarks. Thanks!

This past April several IASSA members attended the Arctic Summit Science Week 2013, in Krakow Poland. IASSA Councilor Alona Yefimenko and I were on the Scientific Steering Committee (Alona representing the Indigenous Peoples Secretariat), and she played a key role in ensuring excellent representation of indigenous co-conveners and speakers at the meeting, as well as moderating sessions and providing introductions. Councilors Joan Nymand Larsen and Peter Schweitzer presented on the Arctic Social Indicators Report and Arctic Human Development Report-II (see their reports on [page 6](#) and [page 7](#) of this issue). Councilor Chris Southcott gave one of the keynote addresses.

### Welcome from the President continued



(From left to right) Gail and IASSA Councilors Joan, Peter, Chris, Alona (and Florian by Skype) discussing IASSA Council business while in Krakow, Poland for the Arctic Summit ScienceWeek in April 2013.

I was asked to take part in a political panel, "Arctic Dialogue: Science-Policy Interface. We also used the opportunity to have a quick IASSA Council meeting, with Florian Stammler patching in by Skype. The event was organized magnificently, and certainly had a much greater social sciences content than previous ASSWs.

Prior to the ASSW, IASC held its annual business meeting. Peter Schweitzer, chair of the IASC Social & Human Sciences Working Group of IASSA provides a short report of that group's activities on [page 17](#) of this issue. IASSA and IASC renewed their Letter of Agreement on Cooperation at the general Council meeting. This LOA, along with others that IASSA is party to, will be posted shortly on our website.



Gail and David Hik (President of IASC) posing for a photo after signing the renewed LOA on Cooperation between IASSA and IASC.

Planning for **ICASS VIII** proceeds. Gary Wilson (UNBC Political Science) has agreed to act as co-convenor; our local organizing committee includes also from UNBC Ross Hoffman (First Nations Studies), Pat Maher (Outdoor Recreation & Tourism Management), Paul Michel (First Nations Centre), Alycia Mutual (Masters student, Interdisciplinary Studies), and Jamie Reschny (PhD student, Health Sciences). Andrey Petrov (IASSA Councilor) from Northern Iowa State University is also on the organizing committee. As you likely noticed, we have put out the **First Call for Sessions Proposals** with the Second Announcement (on 22 May, one year to the commencement of the Congress), with a due date of 23 September for submission. We have already received our first proposals! Do remember that we will be updating the conference website regularly with more information about the Congress (<http://resweb.res.unbc.ca/icass2014/index.htm>). We hope to see you there!

With a focus on 'Northern Sustainability' at ICASS VIII we have decided to substitute a couple of the keynote addresses with panels that showcase a couple of major research projects which focus on sustainability in the North. Thus we are inviting applications for such panels. The call for **Sustainability Research Project Panels** at ICASS VIII, circulated on IASSA's listserv, is reproduced in this newsletter on [page 3](#), and will be posted on our website shortly. The due date for the submission of proposals is **3 September**.

A critical event at ICASS VIII will be an **ICARP-III** (International Conference on Arctic Research Planning) town hall – a means for social scientists' voices to be heard early in the ICARP III planning process, which will be launched the month before, in April 2014, at the ASSW meeting. See Volker Rachold's note on [page 7](#) of this issue about ICARP-III. The townhall is generously supported by IASC's Social and Human Sciences Working Group.

At the last two ICASS meetings an **IASSA Award** has been presented, "in recognition of sustained and significant contribution to Arctic Social Sciences and Humanities." Previously the IASSA Council handled this award, but the Council has decided to open the process of nomination for the award to all IASSA members. More information, including a nomination package, will be available on our website in the next few weeks. The due date for **nominations** is **1 November**.

We are also working on a **new version** of the **IASSA by-laws**. As IASSA has developed over the past 20 years into an organization of over 600 members, such changes are needed. These include, in brief, separating the election of the president from the choice of ICASS venue, changing somewhat confusing membership categories, modifying Council membership to reflect current numbers and practices (which are currently not in conformance with the by-laws), setting terms for councillors, and other more minor changes. The draft revised by-laws will be published on the IASSA website (and members will be alerted when these have been posted) and also in the next *Northern Notes*. We will encourage you to provide feedback. IASSA Councilors will consider any feedback, and post an updated draft-bylaws by early next Spring. The proposed changes will then be voted on at our upcoming General Assembly at ICASS VIII. We are also looking into electronic voting to allow those members unable to attend the AGM to vote on the by-law changes. Sincere thanks to **Hannah Strauss** and **Piotr Grazyk** for contributing to a first draft of the by-laws revisions – their work greatly facilitated this project. I also thank Graham White, who early on provided thoughtful comments.



### Welcome from the President continued

As you know, IASSA has observer status at the **Arctic Council**. I try to attend as many of the Sustainable Development Working Group and Senior Arctic Officials meetings, as possible, and in May attended the Ministerial meeting. But at times other IASSA Councilors are asked to represent our organization. Tatiana Vlasova did so at the second Arctic

Environment Ministers Meeting earlier this Spring and has provided a report of her attendance on [page 14](#) of this issue of the newsletter.

Finally, a reminder – don't forget to check both the IASSA website [www.iassa.org](http://www.iassa.org) and our conference website <http://resweb.res.unbc.ca/icass2014/index.htm> occasionally for updates!

Enjoy your summer! (or for our few members south of the Equator, stay warm!)

Gail Fondahl  
President, IASSA  
[gail.fondahl@unbc.ca](mailto:gail.fondahl@unbc.ca)



### Call for Proposals for Sustainability Research Project Panels at ICASS VIII

At ICASS VIII we plan to schedule time for two dedicated panels/roundtables on large-scale sustainability research projects. Each panel will be allocated one hour. The panels will be held in the same venue as the keynote speeches, and will be scheduled, like the keynotes, so that all conference participants may attend (i.e., at a time with no 'competing' sessions).

This call is for proposals for such panels. We invite short proposals that

- provide the title of the project
- describe how the hour will be used
- describe who will take part in the panel

We encourage innovative proposals for such roundtables/panels. We also suggest that a minimum of 15 minutes be dedicated to audience feedback (question and answer following the presentation, and/or other form of discussion/interaction).

There is no prescribed format for the proposals, but please keep such proposals to a maximum of two pages.

Proposals are **due on 3 September 2013**.

The IASSA Council will review the received proposals, and choose two sustainability research projects to be showcased via such panels. Those whose proposals are not successful for these events are very welcome to have their proposals considered for the regular sessions. Decisions will be communicated by 10 September (ahead of cut-off for proposal of sessions on 23 September).

Please direct any questions to Gail Fondahl ([gail.fondahl@unbc.ca](mailto:gail.fondahl@unbc.ca)).



### IASSA Award - Call for Nominations

The IASSA Award is granted in recognition of sustained and significant contribution to Arctic Social Sciences and Humanities. The Award is presented at the triennial International Congress of Social Scientists (ICASS). Multiple awards are possible.

The first set of IASSA Awards were presented at ICASS VI in Nuuk, to Ernest S. (Tiger) Burch Jr., Ludger Müller-Wille, and Roger Petersen. Anna Kerttula Echave received the IASSA award at ICASS VII in Akureyri.

Nominations for the IASSA award(s) to be presented at ICASS VIII in 2014 may be submitted to the IASSA Secretariat by IASSA members at any time prior to the deadline. A nomination package can be found on the IASSA website [www.iassa.org](http://www.iassa.org). The **deadline** for nominations is **1 November 2013**.

# An Introduction to ISSC (International Social Science Council)

By Heide Hackmann, Executive Director, ISSC



Dear colleagues,

As Executive Director of the International Social Science Council, it is my great pleasure and honor to welcome IASSA as one of our new members for 2013. I would like to offer you a brief overview of the ISSC's background and primary activities.

The ISSC was founded in 1952 by a UNESCO General Conference resolution, in order to bring together the international disciplinary bodies in the social sciences, like the International Political Science Association, the International Sociological Association and the International Economic Association, amongst others. For many years the ISSC Executive Committee collected high-profiled social scientists (our first secretary-general was Claude Levi-Strauss, for instance) and acted as an advising body to UNESCO and a voice for the social sciences within this organization. Over time this pyramidal structure became obsolete, forcing the ISSC to reinvent its mission, enlarge its membership base and expand its programmes and partnership profile.

The ISSC is now a fully independent council, with formal associate relations with UNESCO, and strengthened by the support of its various international members. We have vastly diversified the member basis, with many research councils, universities and foundations joining the ISSC's ranks – including IASSA. With a growing body of national and international members, the ISSC has become the primary body representing the social, economic and behavioural sciences at an international level, notably by rendering year by year an increasingly cross-disciplinary approach to the global challenges relevant to social science research.

ISSC's purpose, in the words of our mission statement, is to "represent and advance the social sciences – their quality, novelty and utility – in all parts of the world; to bring the best social sciences to bear on the biggest challenges of our time." In other words, the ISSC works as a coordinator, catalyst, and instigator to increase the production and use of social

global change. Over the past few years, science knowledge in all parts of the world in order to contribute to solving global priority problems.

With regards to its cross-science vision, the ISSC is now built around three flagship activities:

1. **The World Social Science Fora (WSS Forum)**, which are scheduled to take place every three years, addresses topics of world significance, and helps determine future priorities for international social science research. The next WSS Forum will be held in Montreal, Canada, on 13-15 October 2013, on the theme of "Social Transformations and the Digital Age". IASSA will be represented there. For more information visit [www.wssf2013.org](http://www.wssf2013.org).
2. **The World Social Science Report (WSS Report)**, also published every three years, addresses some key challenges presented to the social sciences by fast-changing global realities, evaluates social science contributions and capacities to respond to them, and makes recommendations for future research practice and policy. The next WSS Report, entitled, "Changing Global Environments," will be published in October 2013.
3. **The World Social Science Fellows Programme (WSS Fellows)**, is the ISSC's contribution towards building new generations of social science leaders. The programme organizes various activities for international early career social scientists doing cutting edge social science research, and tries to foster the creation of new and innovative research networks on different priority questions.

You can find information on these and all our other activities on our website: [www.worldsocialscience.org](http://www.worldsocialscience.org).

In addition to these flagships, the ISSC actively promotes international research programmes on a number of priority topics. I would like to call your attention to the programming work that

we do to promote social research on global change has become one of the ISSC's major areas of focus, with the aim of fully integrating recent social science knowledge to international research on changing socio-environmental systems.

These efforts include the development of a knowledge framework for social research on global change (<http://www.worldsocialscience.org/documents/transformative-cornerstones.pdf>), and also the involvement in some major attempts at coordinating research efforts on environmental changes. The ISSC was recently formally appointed as a co-organizing partner for the **Scientific and Technological Community Major Groups within the United Nations** system, one of the highest levels of stakeholder engagement in an intergovernmental process. The ISSC is also a founding member of the international Alliance of partners (including ISSC, ICSU, UNESCO, UNU, UNEP, the Belmont Forum and WMO) that has established **Future Earth**, a new 10-year international research initiative (<http://www.icsu.org/future-earth>). Additionally, and to top off its work in this field, the ISSC is now in the process of fundraising for a new programme of support for social scientists working on global change, the **Transformations to Sustainability Programme**. The Transformations program is intended to mobilize researchers from all the social science disciplines to bring solutions-oriented, transformative knowledge to bear on integrated global change research, and allow social scientists to take the lead in framing innovative integrated research projects within the context of Future Earth.

I hope this short description is helpful. You can find more information on our website. I would like to reiterate on behalf of the ISSC, my warm and heartfelt welcome to IASSA, and look forward to us working together towards the improvement of social science knowledge and its impact worldwide.



## ARCSUS: ARcTic Urban SUStainability

by Aileen Espiritu, Director, Barents Institute, University of Tromsø

The Barents Institute at the University of Tromsø in Northern Norway is leading a study on Arctic Urban Sustainability in the Arctic from 2012 to 2015. Led by Aileen A. Espiritu, the main goal of this three-year research programme and research network project is to evaluate climate and socioeconomic factors related to the sustainability of Russian Arctic urban communities. The proposed activities directly relate to the Norwegian Research Council's NORRUSS (Russian and the High North/Arctic) Programme objectives of developing interdisciplinary approaches combining aspects of physical and social science. It will have a high level of societal relevance in the internationalization of research regarding the High North, especially in Russia, and with Russian partners. Moreover, our planned outreach activities will lead to understanding, dialogue, and co-operation among stakeholders in urban environments in the Arctic -- residents, policy-makers, businesses, and scientists. It goes beyond this by including the comparative element with the other Arctic states, and to examine Russia's place in the mediation of the pressing challenges in the governance of the Arctic and the rich natural resources –land and human, found there.

The key research question that will structure the research network's activities will be: *Given the on-going and future extraction of Arctic resources, what kinds*

*of urban settlements and their related infrastructure are best suited to ensure sustainability?* Our main hypothesis is that: While socio-economic and climate factors can greatly impact the sustainability of Arctic urban settlements, effective resource extraction policies can greatly reduce adverse consequences to the local and global environment. The analysis will be focused on several urban communities in the Russian Arctic compared with other urban communities in the High North and Arctic regions of Finland, Norway, Sweden, Canada, and the United States. Chosen urban communities will be representative of diverse climatic, environmental, and socio-economic conditions. Thus our consortium covers this geographical reach with partners from Norway: The Barents Institute at the University of Tromsø (lead); Russia: Lomonosov Moscow State University, St Petersburg State University, the State Hydrological Institute (Roshydromet), Center of Arctic and Northern economies at the Council for research of productive forces (SOPS) and the Luzin Institute for Economic Studies of the Kola Science Centre RAS; from the USA: The American Geographical Society and George Washington University; from Canada: The University of Saskatchewan; and from Finland: The Arctic Centre, University of Lapland. We also have associate partners in Sweden based at Luleå Technical University.

One of our first tasks is to create a research tool-kit, a survey, that will reflect the state of sustainability planning with regards to urban development and climate change in the High North/Arctic. In focus will be urban centres such as Murmansk, Salekhard, Yakutsk, Khanty-Mansiisk, compared with Tromsø, Kirkenes, Longyearbyen, Rovaniemi, Kiruna, Whitehorse, La Ronge, etc. We will engage Masters students and other young scholars to implement the survey throughout our study regions. We will also have a doctoral position for ARCSUS. Bridging the disciplinary divide between natural and social scientists, we are working together to explore urban sustainability in its multi-faceted forms, with the ambition to engage with Northern communities, and local and national policy-makers to show best practices in the management of the relationship between Arctic urban areas and their surrounding environment.

Concurrently, George Washington University has parallel funding from the American National Science Foundation to widen and deepen the networking aspect of our Arctic Urban Sustainability project. For more information, please contact Aileen A. Espiritu, The Barents Institute at the University of Tromsø, [aileen.a.espiritu\(at\)uit.no](mailto:aileen.a.espiritu(at)uit.no) and on our website still in development: <http://site.uit.no/arcsus>.



Photo of an Nikel, an urban space in the Arctic.





# Arctic Social Indicators Volume II (ASI II) - Now Complete

by Joan Nyman Larsen, Project Leader, Stefansson Arctic Institute (Iceland)  
and Peter Schweitzer, Co-Lead, University of Alaska Fairbanks (USA)

The Arctic Social Indicators (ASI) project has devised a set of indicators that reflect key aspects of human development in the Arctic, that are tractable in terms of measurement, and that can be monitored over time at a reasonable cost in terms of labour and material resources; and the six domains for indicator development are these that have been identified as reflecting prominent features of human development.

In this second volume of ASI we have moved the process of monitoring change in Arctic human wellbeing to the next phase. In the ASI-I report – which we launched in 2010 – we identified domains for constructing Arctic social indicators, identified the criteria for selecting indicators, and based on a careful selection process – including consideration of trade-offs in selecting specific indicators – we presented a suite of indicators which as a collective can tell us something useful about the level of wellbeing among Arctic residents. In addition, we aimed to produce a suite of indicators which could provide us with the critical information necessary to draw conclusions about changes in wellbeing overtime, and enable careful comparison within and between regions.

In ASI Volume II we have presented the results of the second phase of ASI, which includes the measurement of individual ASI indicators and an evaluation of their applicability based on five carefully chosen regional case studies. Our original ambition had been to produce extensive sets of comparable data featuring ASI indicators for each of the six ASI domains. However, this task soon proved to be impossible given the current state of data quality and lack of data availability both at the pan-arctic level and at different geographical scales. We soon realized that we had to limit our analysis to select regions, and furthermore, that our set of indicators could not be compared between regions in any meaningful way given existing differences in data protocols in addition to other data issues. Furthermore, all five regional case studies required our teams to deviate at some

level from the technical definitions of at least some individual ASI indicators. It was necessary to make adjustments to tailor the analysis to meet the regional availability of data, and hence, to settle for best possible proxies, or in some cases substitute with second-best alternative indicators – though without compromising the validity of the analysis.

For each of the ASI domains; *Fate control, Cultural Wellbeing and Cultural Vitality, Contact with Nature, Material Wellbeing, Education, and Health and Population*, ASI indicators were identified (ASI 2010), and based on selection criteria a small suite of ASI indicators were selected:

- i. i. Infant Mortality (Domain: Health/Population)
- ii. ii. Net-migration (Domains: Health/Population and Material Wellbeing)
- iii. iii. Consumption/harvest of local foods (Domains: Closeness to Nature and Material Wellbeing)
- iv. iv. Per capita household income (Domain: Material Wellbeing)
- v. v. Ratio of students successfully completing post-secondary education (Domain: Education)
- vi. vi. Language retention (Domain: Cultural Wellbeing)
- vii. vii. Fate control index (Domain: Fate Control)

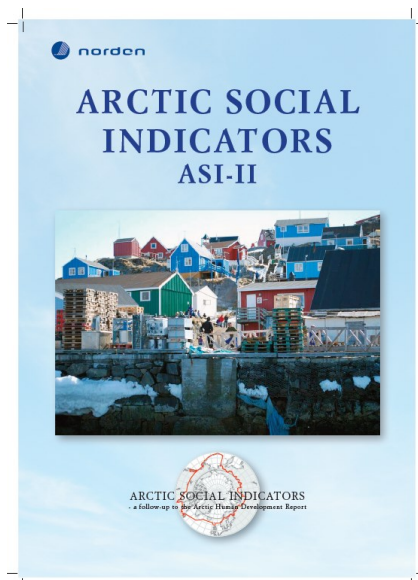
The suite of ASI indicators developed has been applied to five case studies representing different regions in the Arctic:

- i. i. Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russian Federation
- ii. ii. West-Nordic region
- iii. iii. North West Territories, Canada
- iv. iv. Inuit regions of Alaska, USA
- v. v. Inuit Nunaat - Inuit world – an application of SLiCA data (Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic)

Our application of ASI indicators to five select case study regions reveals that significant data challenges persist in the Arctic. However, these challenges do not prevent us from drawing useful conclusions about the state of human development and wellbeing. We were able to not only draw important conclusions

about human wellbeing for each of the five case study regions, but also demonstrate the strength, applicability, and value of the suite of ASI indicators and the proposed ASI monitoring system. Our analysis has also demonstrated that if more complete data sets were available, including primary data collection on harvest, the ASI system could provide a highly relevant and useful tool to inform the policy level, and for engaging in regional and local priority setting including debates on issues of wellbeing and human development for Arctic stakeholders and local users in general. The implementation of a more complete system of ASI monitoring might be costly indeed, but as far as addressing existing data limitations however, the direct and indirect cost savings in terms of the potential value created by such a system should not be ignored.

The final results of ASI-II were presented at the ASSW 2013 in Krakow, Poland, and at the Arctic Council Ministerial side event in Kiruna, Sweden, on May 14. The ASI-II Report will be available in print and on the web in June/July.



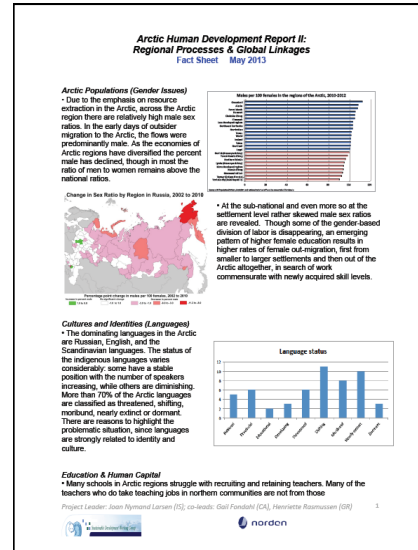
## Arctic Human Development Report II (AHDR-II): An Update

by Joan Nymand Larsen, Project Leader, Stefansson Arctic Institute (Iceland)

The purpose of the AHDR-II project – Arctic Human Development Report II: Regional Processes and Global Linkages – is to move the study of human development in the Arctic beyond the AHDR (2004) baseline, to provide the second assessment and synthesis report on the state of human development in the Arctic, and to contribute to our increased knowledge and understanding of the consequences and interplay of physical and social global change processes for human living conditions and adaptability in the Arctic, and to strengthen the competence and international leadership role in human dimension scientific assessments and research. With the production of AHDR-II – ten years after the first AHDR – it will be possible to move beyond the baseline report and start making valuable comparisons and contrasts between critical time periods in an era with rapid change impacts in the North. The project will yield a report that include as overarching cross-cutting themes global change impacts; climate change; regional processes and global linkages. Human Health and Wellbeing is one among several themes included in the AHDR-II.

The AHDR-II project is led by Joan Nymand Larsen (Iceland), with Gail Fondahl (Canada) and Henriette Rasmussen (Greenland) serving as co-leads. The project is endorsed by the Sustainable Development Working Group of the Arctic Council. The report is scheduled for completion in June 2014, with a launch event at ICASS in Prince George, Canada. AHDR disseminated its second 'fact sheet' at the Arctic Council Ministerial meeting in Kiruna, Sweden on May 14-15, 'fact sheets' being a expedient and preferred way to keep the Arctic Council informed about the project (the first sheets were submitted in Fall 2012). Fact sheets provide policy makers with succinct summaries of important trends in the Arctic. A copy of the fact sheet is available at: [http://iassa.org/images/stories/northern\\_notes/ahdr/factsheet\\_may\\_2013.pdf](http://iassa.org/images/stories/northern_notes/ahdr/factsheet_may_2013.pdf)

In the upcoming months several events around the report are planned. A session at the Canadian Association of Geographers in August will focus on AHDR-II, with presentation of parts of the Report, followed by comments from two discussants (as well as audience input). AHDR-II will co-host an Action Forum



AHDR-II Factsheet.

together with UArctic at the NUNAMED Conference in Nuuk, Greenland, on Sep. 5-7, 2013 on Health and Well-being. AHDR-II will also be co-hosting a session at the Arctic Energy Summit in Akureyri, Iceland, on Oct. 8-10, 2013. Please see the [Upcoming Conferences, Events and Workshops section](#) of this issue of Northern Notes for more information on these events. ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄

## Preparing for the Third International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP III)

by Volker Rackhold, Executive Secretary IASC

Over the past few months, the International Arctic Science Council (IASC) Executive Committee developed the concept of a third International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP III) to be held in conjunction with IASC's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the ASSW 2015. IASC's many partner organizations, including IASSA, and IASC Working Groups were invited to contribute to this major initiative and at the ASSW 2013 IASC Council gave the go-ahead for the implementation of the plans.

ICARP III will provide a framework to identify Arctic science priorities for the next decade and to better coordinate various Arctic research agendas. It will be designed to inform policy makers, people who live in or near the Arctic and the global community, and to build constructive relationships between producers and users of knowledge. It will be a process

for integrating priorities for forward-looking, collaborative, interdisciplinary Arctic research and observing, and for establishing an inventory of recent and current synthesis documents and major developments in Arctic research. ICARP III will not undertake the development of new science plans but rather build on the many comprehensive science plans that exist already and complement those with processes to identify gaps that may need attention. Engaging all partners in shaping the future of Arctic research needs, ICARP III will produce a consensus statement identifying the most important Arctic research needs for the next decade. ICARP III will include a series of meetings and events during 2014-2015, starting with a formal launch at ASSW 2014 in Finland and ending with a final conference during ASSW 2015 in Japan.

As part of the process, an ICARP III

'town hall' will be held at ICASS VIII, with support from IASC's Social & Human Sciences Working Group. This will provide an early opportunity for IASSA members to have input into ICARP III. For those IASSA members who will not be able to attend the Congress, but wish to participate in this town hall, you will be able to connect remotely. (Closer to the date, we will ask you to send a note to IASSA Secretary, Cher Mazo, indicating your interest in participating so we know how many to expect.)

Councillor Florian Stammerl will represent IASSA at the September meeting of the Steering Group, which will be responsible for finalizing the planning for ICARP III activities, ensuring strong support from communities, Arctic Council, Arctic Parliamentarians, etc., and developing an outreach and communications plan.

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### Barents Studies: Peoples, Economies and Politics

This is a call for papers for the second issue of the journal *Barents Studies: Peoples, Economics and Politics*. The theme for the second issue is: the social dimension of sustainability in the Barents region.

*Barents Studies: Peoples, Economies and Politics* is an international, multidisciplinary academic journal for delivering and discussing original and current research results concerning the peoples, economies and politics in the Barents Euro-Arctic region. The journal provides information about different aspects of regional development within the region itself and outside affecting the region. The journal is based on empirical research in the Barents Region but with strong connections to social science theories and methodologies in general. The

journal is meant for researchers, students and readers interested in current issues and developments in the Barents Region.

This call for papers for the second issue of the journal has a submission deadline of October 15th, 2013 and the second issue will be published in spring 2014. For the issue we welcome submissions related to the social dimension of sustainability in the Barents region. We are open to new, innovative approaches to the study of the social aspects of development in the region. Submissions should be sent by e-mail to: Larissa Riabova, Head of Department of Social Policy in the North at the Luzzin Institute for Economic Studies, Kola Science Centre of Russian Academy of Sciences [larissar@iep.kolasc.net.ru](mailto:larissar@iep.kolasc.net.ru). Riabova is the editor-in-chief for the second issue.

The journal will be published twice a year electronically and as a paper version. It will be easily accessible, free of charge, and will be distributed widely across the region and beyond. The journal will contain 3-4 peer-reviewed scientific articles. We also welcome reviews on recent regionally relevant books, news, announcements, presentations of current research, institutions and significant projects. The three issues to be published in 2013-2014 will cover different aspects of sustainability in the region: the political, the social and the economic. The fourth issue will be a popularized one, consisting of a selection of academic articles, news, reviews and presentations. The project is funded by the EU Kolarctic ENPI CBC programme.

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### ICASS VIII Sponsors Welcome!

Interested in being a sponsor for ICASS VIII or encouraging and organization with which you have contacts to do so? Contact Gail Fondahl at [gail.fondahl@unbc.ca](mailto:gail.fondahl@unbc.ca) or visit our website (<http://resweb.res.unbc.ca/icass2014/sponsors.htm>)."



## Up Coming Conferences, Events & Workshops

July 1 - 5, 2013

### SCAR History Expert Group & SCAR Social Sciences Action Group Joint Workshop: Focus on the Past, Present & Future of Human Connections to the Antarctic & Polar Regions

Cambridge, United Kingdom

[www.scar.org](http://www.scar.org)

The SCAR History Expert Group and the SCAR Social Sciences Action Group will hold a joint workshop that will focus on the past, present and future of human connections to the Antarctic in particular, and the polar regions in general. We welcome participation from our Arctic colleagues to stimulate debate, academic engagement and future dialogue. The workshop will be held in Cambridge, UK, from 1-5 July 2013.

July 2 - 6, 2013

### 10th Congress of Ethnologists & Anthropologists of Russia

Moscow, Russia

[www.iea.ras.ru/cntnt/main\\_right/nauchnye\\_m2/n1335.html](http://www.iea.ras.ru/cntnt/main_right/nauchnye_m2/n1335.html)

Panel title: "Urban way of life of small numbered indigenous peoples of the North: the phenomenon and methods of its analysis".

The research questions to be considered at the panel include but are not limited to:

- Urbanization: models of migration and residence of indigenous numerically small peoples of the North;
- Strategies of socio-economic and cultural adaptation of indigenous people to the urban conditions;
- Social infrastructure of Northern cities & spheres of occupation of indigenous population;
- Interethnic relations, nationalism, and formation of cultural and ethnic stereotypes in the urban environment;
- "Gender shift" and transformation of family and kin relations among indigenous urbanites;
- "Traditional" industries, new occupations, and social networks of material support and exchange between urban, rural, and nomadic indigenous populations;
- Peculiarities of material culture, consumption, and lifestyle among urban indigenous residents;
- Territorial, cultural, and ethnic identities of aboriginal urbanites;
- Forms of representations of ethnic cultures and languages and new urban subcultures of indigenous peoples;
- Public movements and institutes of indigenous leadership in Russian Northern cities.

We are looking forward to a stimulating discussion and a dialogue between ethnologists, social anthropologists, sociologists, geographers, sociolinguists, as well as other experts whose research covers the issues suggested for discussion at the proposed panel.



### Attention: Conference & Workshop Participants

The editors of the *Northern Notes* are always wanting to hear from participants who have attended conferences and workshops relating to the international social sciences. If you've recently attended a workshop or conference and want to tell us about your experiences, please e-mail Cher Mazo, IASSA Secretary at [mazo@unbc.ca](mailto:mazo@unbc.ca)



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## Up Coming Conferences, Events & Workshops continued

July 8 - 10, 2013

### Symposium on Contemporary Issues in Long-Distance Commute Work in the Extractive Industries and Other Sectors

University of Vienna, Austria

<http://raumforschung.univie.ac.at/en/research-projects/lives-on-the-move/>

Labour force provision in remote and climatically harsh regions around the polar circle has been a major issue in the creation of a successful energy sector since the Soviet Union era onwards. Today extraction sites of hydrocarbon resources in Russia continuously shift northwards and arctic off-shore deposits are being prospected. Although in the Russian Far North the number of urban settlements exceeds that of other sub-arctic regions, the growing labour demand is met only through long-distance commuters (LDC).

This interdisciplinary research by Social Geography, Social Anthropology, Political Science and, History, explores the itinerant lifestyles of LDC workers in the hydrocarbon industries of north-western Siberia, the Komi Republic and, the sending regions such as the Republics of Bashkortostan, Chuvashia and the town Belgorod.

July 16 - 19, 2013

### 11th SCAR Biology Symposium: Life in Antarctica

Barcelona, Spain

[www.icm.csic.es/XIthSCARBiologySymposium/](http://www.icm.csic.es/XIthSCARBiologySymposium/)

The main theme for this symposium is "Life in Antarctica: Boundaries and Gradients in a Changing Environment". This symposium links the functional importance of land and water ecosystems and their biocomplexity, under and ecosystemic perspective in order to understand the Antarctic trophic web, effect of human impacts such as the ozone hole, climate change, the increase in tourism activities, the flexible boundaries and dynamic gradients in Antarctic ecosystems, as well the Antarctic marine biodiversity through its patterns, processes and trends. An important aspect of this symposium is the outreach and education section which will emphasize the importance of communication between polar researchers and educators in order to improved understanding and connections between scientists and society.

August 11 - 15, 2013

### 2013 Canadian Association of Geographers AGM "Critical Geographies of the Canadian North"

St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada

[http://www.cag-acg.ca/en/cag\\_annual\\_meeting.html#](http://www.cag-acg.ca/en/cag_annual_meeting.html#)

Some of the questions that this session seeks to address are: what is the place of "critical geography" in contemporary northern research? How might some of the hallmarks of critical geography - engagement with political-economic, feminist, postcolonial, anti-racist, and other theories; oppositional and critical engagement with dominant formations; challenging the politics of knowledge production, emphasizing the colonial present, advancing critical methodologies, etc - help us understand past and present northern geographies? How might critical geography itself be transformed by engagement with northern peoples, places, and concerns? How does critical scholarship intersect with demands from northerners that research be engaged, policy-relevant, and inclusive, that it attend to their most pressing concerns, and that northerners maintain ownership and control over their knowledges? Finally, how might these community engagements both necessitate and inform critical methodologies?

August 12 - 18, 2013

### Institute of the North's "Week of the Arctic"

Anchorage, Alaska

<https://www.institutenorth.org/calendar/events/2013-week-of-the-arctic>

The Week of the Arctic provides venues for learning more about, and contributing to, an expanding role for Alaska in the Arctic. Presentations, roundtable discussions and workshops are held as part of the Week of the Arctic, varied in form to reach different audiences and achieve multiple goals. The Robert O. Anderson Sustainable Arctic Award dinner is the signature event for the Week of the Arctic.



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August 22 - 23, 2013

Climate Change in Northern Territories: Sharing Experiences,  
Exploring New Methods and Assessing Socio-Economic Impacts

Akureyri, Iceland

<http://www.nrf.is>

The aim of the event is to turn attention towards aspects of territorial challenges for European regions by organizing a conference where the focus will be on existing evidence and the need for future research in the northernmost regions of Europe and the Arctic, and the challenge of translating scientific knowledge into action.

August 26 - 27, 2013

101<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the US Arctic Research Commission

Dutch Harbor/Unalaska, Alaska, USA

[http://www.arctic.gov/upcoming\\_meetings.html](http://www.arctic.gov/upcoming_meetings.html)

September 5 - 7, 2013

NUNA MED 2013

Nuuk, Greenland

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

The conference language is Danish/Scandinavian, but there will be parallel sessions in English. We invite presenters of PhD projects from the Summer School and presenters of Arctic health issues to present in English.

A PhD Summer School will be held September 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in association with the conference with a theme "Health, Society, & Environment in Relation to Large-Scale Industrial Projects".

September 11-13, 2013

Protecting the Sacred: Conference on Indigenous Sacred Sites in the Arctic

Rovaniemi & Pyhänturi, Finland

<http://www.arcticcentre.org/sacredsites2013>

The "PROTECTING THE SACRED: Recognition of Sacred Sites of Indigenous Peoples for Sustaining Nature & Culture in Northern & Arctic Regions" conference gathers sacred sites custodians, scientists, indigenous people's organizations, policy makers & other interested people, to talk and better recognize, legally protect, conserve & manage Sacred Sites & Sanctuaries of Indigenous Peoples in Northern & Arctic regions. Participants will come & speak related to the entire circumpolar area.

Besides academic & practitioner discussions, the conference aims to produce recommendations for policy-making related to Sacred Sites & Sanctuaries in the Arctic, as well as start a participatory educational research project to advance the transmission of spiritually relevant culturally embedded knowledge & practices related to sacred sites to younger generations. A publication on the protection of the SNS in Northern & Arctic regions will also be published.

September 16 - 17, 2013

Arctic Exchange Conference

Stockholm, Sweden

<http://www.arctic-exchange.com>

The Exchange brings an evolutionary concept in networking and business information delivery. The concept is designed to meet specific business objectives during two days for promoting cooperation, coordination, and interaction among the Arctic communities addressing key issues such as sustainable business development and regional protection. As more and more data has confirmed that the Arctic is extremely rich in oil and gas reserves, locations such as Greenland and the Barents Sea have seen a huge growth in interest from the hydrocarbon industry. Despite the opportunities offered, there are many challenges that may hinder operations.



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## Up Coming Conferences, Events & Workshops continued

September 29 -  
October 3, 2013

### 8th Circumpolar Agricultural Conference - UArctic Inaugural Food Summit

Girdwood, Alaska, USA

<http://www.uaf.edu/cac>

The Conference and Summit theme is "Advancing food security and sustainable agriculture in the circumpolar north; Building an integrated vision, creating a process for sustainable food security in northern communities". The objective of this conference is to: educate world leaders on the critical nature of food supplies in the Circumpolar North; encourage the exchange of information, material and technology of agriculture and rural development in circumpolar areas; establish and maintain relations with other organizations whose interests are related to the objectives of the Circumpolar Agriculture Association and the thematic network on northern food security, University of the Arctic; and discuss and define the barriers/challenges/opportunities of expanding the regional food economy.

The Summit will discuss the barriers/challenges and develop solutions/opportunities across key critical areas, such as : i) Food Production; ii) Food Access and distribution systems; iii) Sustainable Practices; iv) Land Use Planning; v) Food Policy and Food Safety issues.

October 2 - 5, 2013

### Circumpolar Regions and Siberia: Anthropological Perspectives Workshop

Mainz University, Germany

<http://www.dgv-net.de/english.html>

This workshop is hosted by the Regional Group for Circumpolar & Siberian Studies at The German Association of Anthropologists.

October 8 - 10, 2013

### Arctic Energy Summit

Akureyri, Iceland

<https://www.institutenorth.org/arcticenergysummit/papers>

The 2013 Arctic Energy Summit is a multi-disciplinary event expected to draw industry officials, scientists, academics, policy makers, energy professionals and community members to collaborate and share leading approaches on Arctic energy issues. This summit will address energy extraction, production, and transmission in the Arctic as it relates to three thematic areas and key questions including richness, resilience & responsibility.

October 11 - 14, 2013

### Heritage & Change in the Arctic

Nuuk, Greenland

<http://www.arctic.aau.dk/>

This is an interdisciplinary conference of the humanities and social sciences. The conference program is currently being developed and will be posted soon on their website.

October 12 - 14, 2013

### Inaugural Meeting of the Arctic Circle

Reykjavik, Iceland

<http://www.arcticcircle.org/#details>

The mission of the Arctic Circle is to facilitate dialogue and build relationships to confront the Arctic's greatest challenges. It also aims to strengthen the decision-making process by bringing together as many Arctic and international partners as possible under one large "open tent." By facilitating circumpolar meetings of leaders across disciplines, it seeks to identify truly sustainable development practices for the Arctic, the world's last pristine environment.

The agenda for the first Arctic Circle gathering will include plenary sessions with international leaders on topics such as: sea ice melt & extreme weather; Arctic security; fisheries & ecosystem management; shipping & transportation infrastructure; Arctic resources; and tourism.



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- October 12 - 19, 2013      DISCCRS VIII Interdisciplinary Climate Change Research Symposium  
Colorado, USA  
<http://disccrs.org>
- October 28 - 30, 2013      IX International Siberian Studies Conference  
St. Petersburg  
<http://arcticdomus.org/events/2147/>  
The theme of the conference is "Dimensions of Social Life: Anthropological Perspectives on Social Relations and Culture". The main themes of the conference are: Studia Tungusica and Social Theory; Siberia as a Laboratory: Academic and Political Concepts and Social Reality; Social Relationships in the Past; Power and Social Relations; Gender, Family, and Kinship Studies; Human-Animal Relations as a Social Phenomenon; Industrial Development and People of the North: Transformations of Sociocultural Landscape; and Presentations of Current Research Projects. The conference is dedicated to the Memory of Nadezhda Vsevolodovna Ermolova.
- December 2 - 4, 2013      International Conference In the Spirit of the Rovaniemi Process:  
Arctic Cities, Global Processes and Local Realities  
Rovaniemi, Finland  
<http://www.arcticcentre.org/rovaniemiprocess#.UcokFRXn-M9>  
The goal of the conference is to present the latest research results about the "global processes as local realities. Scientific sessions include: The Rovaniemi Process: past, present, future; Arctic responses to global environmental problems; People and extractive industries; Tourism in the Arctic; The Arctic in the global economy; Climate change in the Arctic; Indigenous peoples in cities; and Arctic global flows. All the sessions will address each of the three cross-cutting themes: Arctic Cities and global processes; Management and governance in the Arctic; and Arctic together with non-Arctic.
- January 19 - 24, 2014      Arctic Frontiers 2014: Humans in the Arctic  
Tromsø, Norway  
<http://www.arctic-frontiers.com/>  
As with previous years the policy section will run for the first two days, followed by three days of science. The science section will have four parts under two main sections: Health, Society & Environment, and Maritime Operational Challenges. Further information on the themes is available on the website noted above.
- May 22 - 26, 2014      Eight International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS VIII):  
Northern Sustainabilities  
University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, British Columbia, Canada  
<http://resweb.res.unbc.ca/icass2014/index.htm>  
ICASS VII will be directly preceded by the University of the Arctic Council meeting 20-22 May 2014. A call for sessions went out in May 2013 and submissions are due September 23, 2013. A call also went out for Major Sustainability Research Project Panel/ Roundtable Proposals at ICASS VIII with a submission deadline of September 3, 2013. For more information, please visit the conference website above.



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### Interlinking Aims for Improving Arctic People's Quality of Life and Achieving Global Environment Sustainability as a Principle for Collective Action, Arctic Environmental Minister's Meeting, Jukkasjarvi, 5-6 February 2013

By Tatiana Vlasova, IASSA Council Member, Institute of Geography RAS, Leader RFFR Project

The second Arctic Environment Ministers Meetings (AEMM) took place in Jukkasjarvi, on 5-6 February 2013, and was chaired by Sweden during its presidency of the Arctic Council. I agreed to attend as the IASSA delegate.

IASSA's statement submitted to this AEMM for consideration stressed that improving Arctic residents' quality of life and further developing Arctic human capacities must be prioritized above other considerations, in decision-making regarding the Arctic and its linked socio-ecological systems, to help ensure their resilience in the face of future predicted and unpredictable changes. This is extremely important in the face of not only Arctic but global challenges for achieving environment sustainability. The global importance of the Arctic socio-ecological systems is evident for many sciences, both natural and social, as well as to politicians. Indeed, it was symptomatic that the theme of discussion at the AEMM was titled "Arctic Change – Global Effects".

The Chair's conclusions from the AEMM underlined that "climate change is a major concern and causes fundamental changes in the Arctic, with cascading effects on biodiversity, ecosystems and human living conditions in the Arctic with repercussions around the world. Rapid economic development and social transformation can also have significant impacts. Ministers acknowledged that it is crucial to advance work on assessing Arctic change and improving resilience and to adequately prepare for change in order to minimize negative effects on the environment and on human wellbeing, including traditional lifestyles".

It was recognized at this AEMM meeting that the Arctic currently is experiencing not only unprecedented rapid change but threshold changes, which are generally difficult to reverse because they involve feedbacks that reinforce the changes. The rapid decline of Arctic sea ice is an example of such a threshold change, where large new expanses of open water prime the Arctic for further warming.

In prioritizing measures to adapt to such threshold changes and to mitigate negative forces and processes contributing to them it is extremely important to consider their impacts on local people's quality of life (including health, access to food and drinking water, medical services, education, traditional and scientific knowledge, spiritual and cultural ecosystem services, etc.). Major interlinking aims should be established and steps made in trying to investigate and control such spatially and temporarily cross-cutting forces and impacts that have both global ecological and local quality-of-life concerns of people living in the Arctic. How can the Arctic Council and Arctic countries increase Arctic capacity to adequately address rapid change and resilience, and what is the Arctic states environment ministers role in doing so?

At the meeting many ways for doing this, such as resilience assessment, ecosystem based management and others, were discussed by the Ministers of Environment of the Arctic states, the permanent participants and observers of the Arctic Council.

An important concrete step forward taken at the meeting was the discussion on strengthening the joint work on short-

lived climate pollutants, and in particular reduction of black carbon from the Arctic states. These pollutants accelerate the warming of the Arctic and at the same time produce a serious risk for human health, says Lena Ek, Swedish Minister of the Environment. Such interlinking aims for improving Arctic people's quality of life on one side, and achieving global environmental sustainability on the other, could be considered as priority practical steps for the Arctic states and for collective actions.

In the KIRUNA DECLARATION, "On the occasion of the Eighth Ministerial Meeting of the Arctic Council," signed on 15 May 2013 the decision was taken "to establish a Task Force to develop arrangements on actions to achieve enhanced black carbon and methane emission reductions in the Arctic, and report at the next Ministerial meeting in 2015". The Declaration also "welcome[d] the on-going work on the Arctic Resilience Report was welcomed, and emphasize[d] the need for forward-looking cooperation with a view to increase Arctic capacity to adequately address rapid change and resilience".



IASSA Councillor Tatiana Vlasova at the Arctic Environmental Minister's Meeting this past February.



### The Inaugural Arctic Observing Summit, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 30 April - 2 May 2013

By Lize-Marié, Van der Watt, Project Manager, International Study of Arctic Change (ISAC)

The inaugural Arctic Observing Summit (AOS, see [www.arcticobservingsummit.org](http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org)), held from 30 April to 2 May 2013 in Vancouver, BC, Canada, brought together a cross-section of the arctic community to deliberate on community-driven, science-based guidance for the design, implementation, coordination and sustained long-term (decades) operation of an international network of arctic observing systems. The AOS is a task of the Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON, [www.arcticobserving.org](http://www.arcticobserving.org)) process, which is led jointly by the Arctic Council and the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC). The International Study of Arctic Change (ISAC, at [www.arcticchange.org](http://www.arcticchange.org)) is responsible for leading the AOS task. The AOS is part of the implementation of the 'observing change' component of the ISAC Science Plan, which also encompasses understanding and responding to arctic change (Murray et al. 2010).

The AOS2013 addressed four themes: the status of the current observing system; observing system design and coordination; stakeholder perspectives on observing system design and integration, and mechanisms for coordination of support, implementation and operation of a sustained arctic observing system. The goal during the summit was drafting specific recommendations to foster the coordination of observing activities and help implement collaborative networking of arctic observing systems. Over the medium term, an AOS2013 report and series of peer-reviewed papers will be produced along with plans for the next summit. The long term goal of the Arctic Observing Summits is to complement the SAON process in developing sustained dialogue, coordination and implementation of an international Arctic observing network.

The format of the AOS did not follow that of a conventional conference. The scaffolding of the summit was community-driven white papers, which were tabled several months prior, reviewed, and made available for online public comment at [www.arcticobservingsummit.org](http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org). A

total of sixty white papers and statements were posted, with observing system design, stakeholder perspectives on system design and integration and issues surrounding data management strongly represented. Papers are still available on the AOS website.

At the summit, the organizers sought to create a space for lateral and creative interaction between the more than 170 summit participants. The participants came from a diverse array of backgrounds, representing funding agencies, northern residents, policy makers, industry, science planners and a variety of scientific disciplines, and from 12 different nations. The organizing committee distilled broad synthesis along the AOS2013 themes from the papers and statements. Keynote speakers and panel discussions further elaborated on the AOS2013 themes.

The strong representation from China, Japan, and South Korea, including several plenary presentations, highlighted the importance of Arctic observing programs for operational weather forecasts in eastern Asia as well as growing economic interests in the Arctic particularly with respect to resource development and shipping activities. The AOS program balanced international and national level perspectives with the interests of northern residents and indigenous peoples from the Canadian and U.S. Arctic especially. An international panel to provide important perspectives on international collaboration brought together agency representatives from four countries and the EU. This panel stimulated a vigorous question and answer session from AOS participants, particularly with respect to opportunities and limitations of funding strategies for international observing activities. Panel contributions by representatives from North American Arctic indigenous organizations on stakeholder engagement with observing system design emphasized both the need and the benefits to be derived from an early engagement of these groups in the design and execution of an observing network that does more than pay lip service to information needs by Arctic residents. A



strong presence by participants in a range of different community-based observing networks suggests that there is critical mass to advance on these issues.

Drawing on the plenaries, panel discussions, and white paper syntheses, participants were divided into thematic working groups, to address the status of the observing system, stakeholder perspectives, funding, observing system design and coordination. Each group consisted of a cross-section of the participants, which resulted in difficult, but rewarding and multi-faceted discussions in which various stakeholders, including academics, had to make recommendations on how to move forward in coordinating and implementing an international, integrated Arctic observing system.

The ISAC International Program Office will release policy briefs and shorter articles derived from the AOS2013 over coming months. The full report from the Arctic Observing Summit 2013 is expected in autumn 2013. Subsequent summits will take in conjunction with the Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW), starting with the ASSW in April 2014, Helsinki, Finland, and thereafter biennially. The AOS 2014 will build on the strong foundation laid in 2013 and will continue to be a key platform for SAON and the arctic community to address the observation needs of arctic stakeholders and to foster international communication and coordination of long-term observations for improving understanding and responding to system scale arctic change.



### Arctic Patrol and Reconnaissance Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark, 21 - 23 May 2013

By Gunhild Hoogensen Gjorv

Interest in the Arctic is increasing rapidly. Who hasn't heard the expression (perhaps all too often now): "The Arctic is hot"? The list of the recent addition of six new observers (China, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea and Singapore) to the Arctic Council is just one illustration of the increased focus on Arctic matters. This is no less true with regard to Arctic geopolitics and security, the ways in which Arctic states perceive and portray their security interests, the efficacy of Arctic governance tools to address these interests, and resulting analyses about whether the future of the Arctic will be characterized by cooperation or conflict. Mechanisms of Arctic governance such as the Arctic Council and the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) should not be underestimated in their capacities to regulate much of the activity between Arctic states, and for all the excitement that new military procurements have generated about a "remilitarization" of the Arctic, planting of flags on sea bottoms or rhetoric about "use it or lose it", states have acted within the boundaries of the law to address disputes and conflicting interests, as well as have ensured a focus on cooperation in the region including through military exercises (such as between Norway and Russia). We should also not undervalue the extent of cooperation between Arctic states through the important activities of non-state actors such as between indigenous peoples and northern communities more generally, and through the extensive research cooperation that is supported through such venues as the Northern Research Forum, the University of the Arctic, and the Arctic Council itself.

The potential for any significant conflict (ie: military) in the Arctic is characterized as unlikely by most analysts. This does not mean that Arctic states can be or are complacent about a secure future for the region. The Arctic Council, despite its role as a primary governance tool, does not allow for discussions about military security, whereas its focus on environmental issues, energy, and peoples of the Arctic addresses environmental, energy and human security. All of these approaches to security should be included as a part of a broader Arctic security dialogue. In addition to the

structures and institutions that are already in place such as the Arctic Council, additional fora for dialogue, particularly for Arctic security, are crucial to ensure transparency, communication, and cooperation.

A recent initiative was launched in May 2013, the Arctic Patrol and Reconnaissance event hosted by Defence IQ. The event was held at the Royal Danish Defence College in Copenhagen from 21-23 May, with the intention of bringing together primarily military/national stakeholders, researchers and industry representatives to discuss the implications of climate change, melting ice, and opening Arctic waterways for national/military and broader security interests. The conference included keynote lectures by, among others, Major General Stig Oestergaard Nielsen, Commander, Arctic Command Danish Defence, Rear Admiral Georg Kr. Lárusson, Director General, Icelandic Coast Guard and Commodore Nils J. Holte, Chief of Plans, Norwegian Joint Force Headquarters. Central themes included addressing procurement challenges for the changing Arctic environment, improving situational awareness through improved surveillance systems, and building upon multinational cooperation and Arctic security partnerships, including international exercises (see website: [www.arcticpatrolandrecon.com](http://www.arcticpatrolandrecon.com)).

While high level and/or closed military meetings between the eight Arctic states are to be expected (and welcomed, as such meetings at the very least imply an open corridor of communication about high level security issues), the Arctic Patrol and Reconnaissance initiative has the potential to be an important complementary contribution to more open and transparent dialogue about military and broader security concerns. The conference indeed served as a platform to inform about future plans, but also to address controversial claims regarding "the race to the North Pole" or "the militarization of the Arctic". A number of the speakers emphasised that modernization of defences and armed forces did not constitute an increased interest in fighting power, but rather a redesign and reorganization of units within current parameters, as well as procurement of new vessels or equipment to replace older

older versions. Further emphasis was placed on the differences between resource extraction (which is taking place for the most part on already established boundaries) and perceptions of a territory grab by different Arctic states. To the extent that there are any disputes regarding borders and territory, the current dispute mechanisms in place through UNCLOS and particularly the EEZ regulations have been effective regimes. Paraphrasing the words of one of the keynote speakers of Rear Admiral Nils Wang, Commandant, The Royal Danish Defence College: "if you accept the Arctic Council, you accept the rules governing the area" which significantly enhanced cooperation in his view.

The melting of ice and opening of waterways in the Arctic warrants greater attention to the region, to monitor any increasing activity, not least for search and rescue requirements. It was acknowledged by a number of speakers that despite the rapid thawing of ice, and resulting expansion of waterways in the Arctic, that this does not mean that there will be sudden and drastic increases in shipping. The region cannot be equated to the Mediterranean (despite attempts to do so – see Scott Borgerson, "The Coming Arctic Boom" *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2013) and the waterways will be dangerous and very difficult to negotiate for the near foreseeable future. It was also recognized that despite the "opening" of the Arctic, it was still too expensive in many parts of the region to consider the development of extractive industries, even if we are certain there is potential there. Communication is still difficult in many parts of the Arctic, mobility is difficult and wear and tear on vehicles and machinery is high. Infrastructure is difficult and expensive.

A forum with a military audience in mind, the Arctic Patrol and Reconnaissance conference included a number of presentations from industry highlighting new advances in technology that allows for increased surveillance potential and land and sea mobility. The defence strategies of a number of Arctic states were also presented. In all of these, the general defence of territory and protection of sovereignty were cornerstone principles,

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### Arctic Patrol and Reconnaissance continued

which was not unexpected. In each case however these principles were embedded within an understanding of cooperation and collaboration between Arctic states, where military activity would be conducted in close cooperation with civilian counterparts, emphasizing the importance of civil-military interaction in the region. The impacts of climate change were emphasized as not only potentially opening up the region for shipping, transport and resource extraction, but also for presenting new demands on military services in search and rescue and safeguarding the environment and the needs of local inhabitants. There was a recognition of the links between different security perspectives in the Arctic setting, including environmental, energy, economic and human security. Considerable emphasis was placed on search and rescue capabilities, the importance of which has been recognized through the recent SAR agreement.

Military-military cooperation was also emphasized, and it was noted by the

keynote speaker Holte that the Arctic militaries are in regular contact with each other, using the Norwegian and Russian militaries as an example. It was unfortunate therefore that not all the Arctic states were represented at the meeting, with Russia having the noticeable absence. Given the sometimes enthusiastic speculation of some analysts about Russian remilitarization in the Arctic, a dialogue with Russian military participants at an open forum such as this has both a practical as well as symbolic function that communication and cooperation is functioning within a context of important national interests. The symbolic nature of the event should not be under or over estimated either. To a degree one has to be prepared to hear the expected political platitudes by high ranking military officials, which include an emphasis of cooperation in the Arctic. However thankfully even an open forum has the ability to go beyond platitudes and into concrete discussions about experiences and

challenges, which makes such an open forum important.

It will be interesting to see how this forum develops. It has the potential to be an open venue for different actors to engage with the primary audience for this activity, that is, Arctic military actors. It is important that all Arctic states are represented and if Russia does not participate here then it is a glaring and deficient omission. As well (although this may not be the main goal of the hosts) the issue of accessibility should be addressed. The costs of attending this event are prohibitive. This greatly reduces the efficacy of having an otherwise "open" venue to discuss defence and military security perspectives in the Arctic if only a select few have the ability to attend.



### 2013 IASC Social and Human Sciences Working Group Meeting, Krakow, Poland, 15 April 2013

By Peter Schweitzer

The Social and Human Sciences Working Group (SHWG) of IASC met during the Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW) in Krakow, Poland, on April 15, 2013. On that occasion, the working group conducted its first review of scientific focus areas since the SHWG was founded and its list of priorities adopted in 2011. The most important revision was the addition of the focus area "The Arctic in a Global Context". The wording of some of the other foci was slightly modified; the most significant of these changes concerns the topic "Arctic Residents and Change: Dynamics of Mitigation and Sustainability", which replaces "Indigenous Peoples and Change: Adaptation and Cultural and Power Dynamics". The revised wording is more inclusive and points to the important process of mitigation within an overall sustainability framework.

As in 2012, the working group reviewed the status of tasks and activities identified in the previous year and discussed a number of new initiatives. Among the successfully completed activities were a SHWG workshop "Between Discourses and Modernities: Histories and Methodologies of Arctic Social

Sciences, Humanities and Arts" (Umeå, December 2012), a joint IPY 2012 session (with the Atmosphere Working Group) on "Perceptions of Arctic Change" (Montreal, April 2012), participation in the ISAC workshop "Responding to Arctic Environmental Change" (Kingston, Ontario, January 2012), support for an authors' meeting of the Second Arctic Human Development Report (Roskilde, Denmark, November 2012), and joint support (with the Terrestrial Working Group) for a workshop of the Circum Arctic Rangifer Monitoring and Assessment Network (CARMA) (Vancouver, December 2012).

Plans for new activities included the workshops "Russia and Arctic Anthropology: Toward an Agenda for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" (St. Petersburg, May 2013), "Social Science Contributions to Follow-up to the State of the Arctic Coast Report" (Halifax, September 2013), and events under the umbrella term "People and Rocks" (including a workshop in Groningen in 2014). The latter activities are in response to the formation of an IASC Geosciences Action Group, as well as among the SHWG contributions to the ICARP III process, which will span

2014-2015. Of particular relevance for IASSA members might be the SHWG support for the town hall session "Roadmap for Research Priorities in the Arctic Social and Human Sciences" at ICASS VIII, which will also feed into the ICARP III. Support for Arctic Human and Social Science sessions at the *Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF)* in Copenhagen in June 2014 was decided, as was the continued support for the Second Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR-II).

The meeting also included elections of the SHWG steering group. Peter Schweitzer (USA) and Gail Fondahl (Canada) were re-elected as chair and vice-chair. Peter Sköld (Sweden) was elected to the other vice-chair position and Louwrens Hacquebord continues as past chair. We want to thank Sylvie Blangy (France) who served as vice-chair from 2011 to 2013 and was unable to run again for office. The next meeting of the SHWG will be held on April 5, 2014, in Helsinki, Finland, during the 2014 ASSW. Further information can be found at <http://iasc.info/home/groups/working-groups/socialahuman>.





### New Research Project Announcement

By Tristan Pearce

*Project Title:* Inuit Traditional Knowledge for Adapting to the Health Effects of Climate Change (IK-ADAPT)

*Funding agency:* Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) – Aboriginal Health Intervention Grant

Inuit Traditional Knowledge for Adapting to the Health Effects of Climate Change (IK-ADAPT) is a trans-disciplinary project that combines scientific research and traditional knowledge to inform policy and programming relevant to adaptation to the health effects of climate change. The 3-year project was launched in May 2012 by researchers at McGill University, the University of Guelph, Trent University, Mount Allison University, and the Institute for Circumpolar Health in partnership with five northern communities, Ulukhaktok and Yellowknife in the NWT, Igloodik in Nunavut, and Nain and Rigolet in Nunatsiavut.

The project is examining ways to document, conserve, and promote Inuit traditional knowledge (IK) to prevent, prepare for, and manage the impacts of climate change on health. A variety of methods are being employed including, documentary and feature film, radio and podcasts, social media, and digital story telling. The



IK-ADAPT researchers Dr. Tristan Pearce and Adam Kudlak are leading the Ulukhaktok case study and are pictured here on the land near Ulukhaktok in January 2013.

focus on IK reflects the continued importance of traditional approaches to health, where 'health' captures physical, mental and social wellbeing. It also reflects recognition of the importance of IK for climate adaptation, and concern across the North that this knowledge is being incompletely transmitted to younger generations. It is hoped that lessons learned in IK-ADAPT can be shared with communities across the Circumpolar North. Please visit [www.ikadapt.ca](http://www.ikadapt.ca) to

follow the project. For more information on IK-ADAPT please contact Dr. James Ford [james.ford@mcgill.ca](mailto:james.ford@mcgill.ca) or Tristan Pearce [tpearce@usc.edu.au](mailto:tpearce@usc.edu.au), Geography, CRN Research Fellow, Sustainability Research Centre, Faculty of Arts and Business, University of the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, Australia.

\* \* \* \* \*

### University of Saskatchewan's Master of Northern Governance and Development Students in Northern Norway

Submitted by the International Centre for Northern Governance and Development (University of Saskatchewan)

It was an experience one student referred to as one of the best in her life. Nine University of Saskatchewan (U of S) students have recently returned from Northern Norway, where they attended a 10-day international field school (March 15-24) as part of the U of S Master of Northern Governance and Development program. The field school is an important part of a program designed to train Northerners to lead the future governance and development of northern communities. The experience is intended to give students the chance to see another northern region of the world and how it deals with issues particular to the North.

"The opportunity to learn from another part of the world, and share experiences,

is vital to developing best practices and successes at home," said Thomas Sierzycki, an MNGD student who took part in the field school. "I took away insight on challenges and opportunities that are present in one of the world's wealthiest countries."

The field school is part of the course requirements for an MNGD class in resource economics and policy. Students study the theory and models related to the topic area, and then get the opportunity to travel and witness what these international models look like in practice. This year, the students travelled to Northern Norway where there are a number of approaches to economic development and organizing government they've never had a chance to see firsthand.

"It's the chance to see communities thrive all because they've adopted an entrepreneurial spirit," said Emmy Neuls, the ICNGD's International Project Officer, who also accompanied the students and represented the Centre on the field school. "To ensure survival of communities, people are coming together to support traditional economic activities such as reindeer herding and salmon fishing, while also moving forth with mining projects and new and inspiring business opportunities. It's such a great thing to see and discuss with the same people who made it happen."

The MNGD program – developed in partnership with northern communities, First Nations, industry and government –

Article continues on next page

## University of Saskatchewan's Master of Northern Governance and Development Students in Northern Norway continued



Two MNGD students overlooking the open iron ore pit at the Sydvaranger Mine in Bjørnevåtn, Norway.

provides training in such areas as public administration, governance, communications, resource economics, and strategic planning and entrepreneurship. It's designed to accommodate northern professionals who are living and working in the North by offering a flexible schedule and classes by videoconferencing. In addition to the regular coursework and 10-day international field school, students also take part in an applied research internship within a northern community. The program holds a few spaces for international applicants each year. To learn more, visit [www.usask.ca/cngd](http://www.usask.ca/cngd).



## Northern Saskatchewan Nursing Students Learn With Remote Presence Technology

By Heather Exner-Pirot

The College of Nursing at the University of Saskatchewan completed a successful first year of offering its full nursing degree to the northern communities of La Ronge and Ile a la Crosse. Although distance learning in the humanities and social sciences has a long history in northern Saskatchewan, new technology is allowing faculty in Saskatoon to teach northern students skills such as clinical assessment using remote presence. The Remote Presence Technology system was designed for clinical practice and has been used predominantly in neurosurgery

and for establishing Stroke Networks in the United States. It has also been used for remote patient assessment in Nain, Labrador. The University of Saskatchewan is the first to extend the application to education in the health sciences.

The new technology makes health education, specifically a nursing degree, much more accessible to northerners, but at a cost that is sustainable for centralized or southern institutions. Northern students are able to live and study in or close to their home communities, reducing financial and social barriers to getting

a university education and improving their chances for academic success.

By training northern and aboriginal residents in areas with an acute shortage of health care professionals, it is more likely that they will continue to practice in those communities, minimizing prospects for turnover, and improving the cultural appropriateness of care. In addition, existing local nurses are by necessity involved with southern faculty in many aspects of the nurse education, increasing their ownership in and capacity of the local health system and providing new opportunities for local leadership and input.

As the experience with telehealth demonstrates, technology is only as useful as practitioners make it. Northern nurses trained with this technology will be well positioned to adapt the technology at a clinical level. Remote telemedicine can be a game changer for improving accessibility and responsiveness in remote health care, in education as well as assessment and treatment.



Students in Ile-a-la Crosse Stand Beside the RP-7 TelePresence robot.  
Photo credit: Kylie Dietrich.



### Look to Norway! By Linda Rutledal, Advisor, Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Education (SIU)

The Norwegian government believes the potential for higher education collaboration between Norway and North America is very high, and should be further explored. That is why the government has launched the North America Strategy for Higher Education Cooperation (2012-2015). The strategy emphasizes the importance of collaboration with the USA and Canada.

As part of the North America strategy, SIU administers funds for increased institutional cooperation; available for partners to collaborate on joint education activities and increased student mobility.

The deadline for the current call for applications for project funds is September 4, 2013. Here, Norwegian institutions with North American partners can apply for up to USD 25,000 for collaboration activities. We will continue to announce annual calls for project funding in the years to come, and welcome more projects within the Arctic social sciences.

Norwegian institutions offer more than 220 master degree programs in English, opening up many new opportunities for North American students. Norway and the US and Canada are similar enough to be "safe" destinations and different

enough to be exotic study abroad alternatives. Students from our countries have not yet opened their eyes fully to these possibilities. We would like to work with you to help them do so.

Please find more information about the project funds below or at [www.siu.no/northamerica](http://www.siu.no/northamerica) and more information about studying in Norway at [www.studyinnorway.no](http://www.studyinnorway.no). You may also contact us at [noram@siu.no](mailto:noram@siu.no).

### Project Funds for North America

SIU has an open call for applications for project funds for collaboration in higher education between institutions in Norway and the US and Canada.

The goal of the project funds is to:

- To contribute to the establishment and development of institutional partnerships through academic collaboration between higher education institutions in Norway and North America
- To contribute to increased mobility of students and staff between Norway and North America.

The project funds are provided by the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research, through the North America Strategy for Higher Education Cooperation (2012-15). The funds are administered by the Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Education (SIU).

A total of 2.4 million Norwegian kroner (NOK) is available through the call. The maximum allocation per project is NOK 150 000. The project period is January 2014 to June 2015.

#### Who may apply:

Accredited Norwegian institutions of higher education may apply for funds with accredited institutions from the US or Canada. Applications in all fields of education and all education levels are welcome.

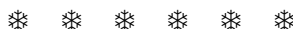
#### How to apply:

Interested faculty at Norwegian institutions should submit applications to SIU, based on proposals jointly prepared by the collaborating institutions. All proposals must include objectives, activities, work plans, budget and reflections on the sustainability and risk factors of the project/cooperation.

Applications must be submitted through SIUs online system Espresso: <http://espresso.siu.no>.



The application deadline is **September 4, 2013 at 3 pm**.  
For more information: [www.siu.no/northamerica](http://www.siu.no/northamerica) or [noram@siu.no](mailto:noram@siu.no)



IASSA  
INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SOCIAL  
SCIENCES ASSOCIATION

Northern Notes

Issue 39 (Spring / Summer 2013)

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## New Publications

### Polar Law Textbook II

Editor: Natalia Loukacheva  
Published by: Nordic Council of Ministers  
-TemaNord: 535 (Copenhagen)  
Publication Year: 2013  
ISBN: 9789289325509  
303 pages

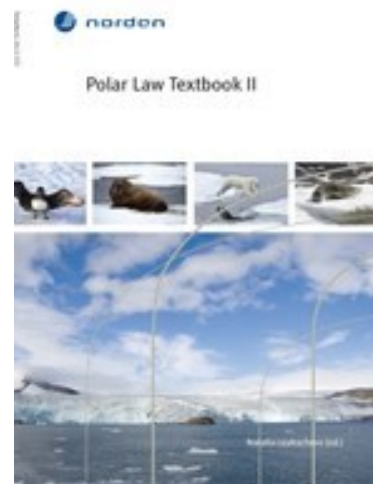
The idea for Polar Law Textbook II emerged from a further recognition of the need to disseminate information about Polar law as a developing field of legal studies in intersection with various areas of law and other social sciences. The first textbook came out under the auspices of the Polar Law Program at the University of Akureyri, Iceland in 2010 (see: Polar Law Textbook, N. Loukacheva ed., Copenhagen: Nordic Council of Ministers, TemaNord 538, ISBN 978-92-893-2056-6; 245pp).

This new textbook reflects on important changes that have taken place since 2010 in the area of Polar law and focuses on actual questions of: major trends in polar law, geo-politics, security, climate change, marine biodiversity, polar bears agreement, continental shelf, energy, indigenous peoples of Scandinavia,

search and rescue agreement, devolution in the North, good governance, self-determination of small nations and governance (i.e. Faroe Islands), tourism, etc.

Polar Law Textbook II is a result of international collaboration of the world-recognized experts in Polar law and related studies with many years of academic and practical experience in this field (i.e., G. Alfredsson, N. Banks, B. Baker, K. Bastmeijer, M. Fitzmaurice, L. Heininen, T. Koivurova, N. Loukacheva, M. Lykke Thomsen, T. McDorman, O. Ravna, K. á Rógvi, M. Pettersson, T. Penikett, and A. Vasiliev). This publication is endorsed by the Arctic Cooperation Program of the NCM and Polar Law Program, University of Akureyri, Iceland [www.polarlaw.is](http://www.polarlaw.is) and it is written in collaboration with Arctic Governance sub-group of the Arctic Law Thematic Network of the University of the Arctic.

Polar Law Textbook II can be downloaded at: [www.norden.org](http://www.norden.org) or at <http://www.norden.org/en/publications/publikationer/2013-535/> or purchased from the NCM.



This publication is endorsed by the Arctic Cooperation Program of the NCM and Polar Law Program, University of Akureyri, Iceland [www.polarlaw.is](http://www.polarlaw.is). For further info please contact: Dr. Natalia Loukacheva, the First Visiting Nansen Professor of Arctic Studies, University of Akureyri, Iceland [n.loukacheva@utoronto.ca](mailto:n.loukacheva@utoronto.ca).



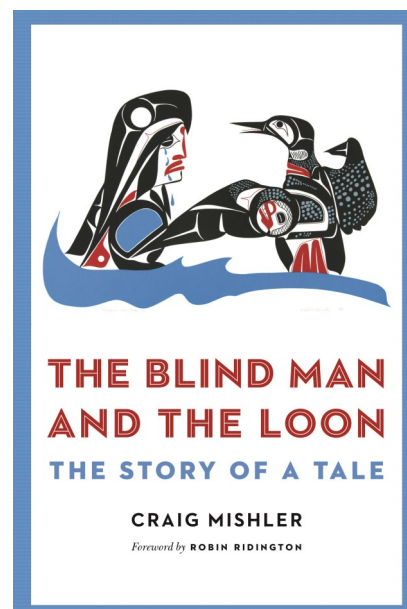
### The Blind Man and the Loon: The Store of a Tale

Author: Craig Mishler  
Foreword by: Robin Ridington  
Publisher: University of Nebraska Press  
(Lincoln, NE, USA)  
Publication Year: 2013  
ISBN: 9780803239821  
288 pages, hardcover

The story of the *Blind Man and the Loon* is a living Native folktale about a native man who is betrayed by his mother or wife, but whose vision is magically restored by a kind loon. Variations of this tale are told by Native storytellers all across Alaska, Arctic Canada, Greenland, and the Northwest Coast, and even in the Great Basin and the Great Plains. As the story has travelled through cultures and ecosystems over many centuries, individual storytellers have added cultural and local ecological details to the tale, creating countless variations.

In the *Blind Man and the Loon* folklorist Craig Mishler goes back to 1827, tracing the story's emergence across Greenland and North America in manuscripts, books, and in the visual arts and other media such as film, music, and dance theatre. Examining and comparing the story's variants and permutations across cultures in detail, Mishler brings the individual storyteller into his analysis of how the tale changed over time, considering how storytellers and the oral tradition function within various societies. Two maps unequivocally demonstrate the routes the story has travelled. The result is a masterful compilation and analysis of Native oral traditions that shed light on how folktales spread and are adapted by widely diverse cultures.

<http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/product/Blind-Man-and-the-Loon,675649.aspx>



### The Meaning of Ice: People and Sea Ice in Three Arctic Communities

Editors: Shari Fox Gearheard, Lene Kielsen Holm, Henry Huntington, Joe Mello Leavitt, Andrew R. Mahoney, Margaret Opie, Toku Oshima, and Joëlle Sangaya  
Published by: International Polar Institute Press; Distributed by University Press of New England  
Publication Date: Summer 2013  
ISBN: 9780982170397  
412 pages, illustrated throughout

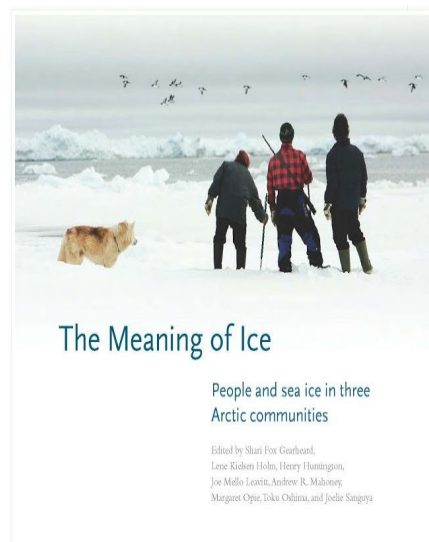
*The Meaning of Ice* celebrates Arctic sea ice as it is seen and experienced by the Inuit, Iñupiat, and Inughuit, who for generations have lived with it and thrived on what it offers.

With extensive details offered through their own drawings and writing, this book describes the great depth of Inuit, Iñupiat, and Inughuit knowledge of sea ice and

the critical and complex role it plays in their relationships with their environment and with one another.

Over forty Inuit, Iñupiat, and Inughuit from three different Arctic communities contributed stories, original artwork, hand-drawn illustrations, maps, family photos, and even recipes to this book. Professional and historical photographs, children's artwork, and innovative graphics add more to the story of *The Meaning of Ice*.

*The Meaning of Ice* is an important contribution to understanding the Arctic and its people at a time when the region is undergoing profound change, not least in terms of sea ice. It takes readers beyond what sea ice is, to broaden our appreciation of what sea ice *means*.



### Evenki and Eveny in a Modern World: Identity, Nature Use and Worldview

Author: A.A. Sirina  
Published by: Vostochnaya Literature (Moscow)  
Publication Year: 2012  
ISBN: 97850200365216  
604 pages, illustrated, hardcover (in Russian)

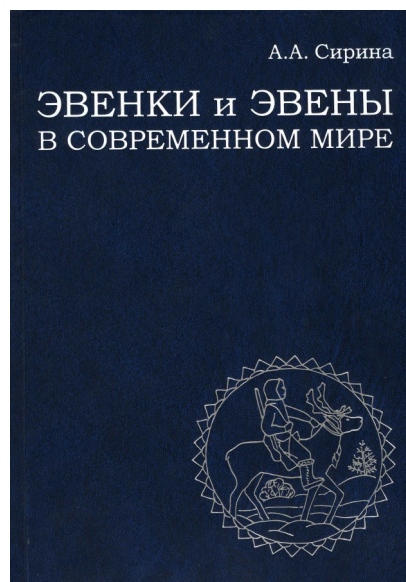
A.A. Sirina *Evenki i Eveny v sovremen-nom mire: samosoznanie, pri-rodopol'zovanie, mirovozzrenie*. Moskva: Vostochnaya literature, 2012.

Extensively illustrated with contemporary and archival photographs, maps and detailed diagrams, this work presents a comprehensive comparative research of two close-related indigenous peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of Russian Federation – Evenki and Eveny. Sirina shows a continuity of Evenki and Eveny cultures, tracing it from the

end of XIX till the beginning of XXI centuries. She finds similarities and differences in their identity, nature use and worldview and shows the interactions and interconnection between them and the Soviet and Russian state.

Territorial frameworks expand 14 administrative subjects of Russian Federation. Based on Sirina's extensive field-work, namely in Irkutsk and Magadan provinces, Sakha (Yakutia) and Buryatia republics, the book includes numerous first-person accounts and oral histories. It is also supported by an excellent command of the published and archival material.

Distributor: Publishing House "Vostochnaya Literatura" RAN, 127051, Moscow K-51, Tsvetnoi bulvar, 21.  
[www.vostlit.ru](http://www.vostlit.ru)



## New Publications continued

### Shipwreck at Cape Flora: The Expedition of Benjamin Leigh Smith, England's Forgotten Arctic Exploration

Author: P.J. Capelotti

Published by: University of Calgary Press  
and the Arctic Institute of North America

Publication Date: March 2013

ISBN: 9781552387054

300 pages

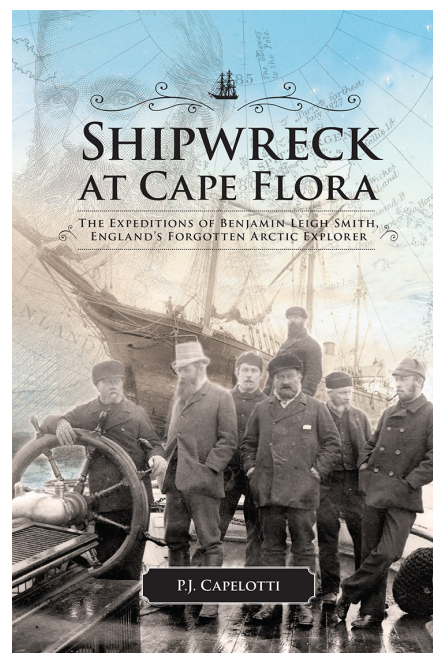
Benjamin Leigh Smith discovered and named dozens of islands in the Arctic, yet refused public accolades and published no account of his pioneering explorations.

Leigh Smith's first expedition, to the Arctic archipelago of Svalbard, resulted in thirty-three new place names and included the discovery of twenty-two new islands. He defined the northeast limits of Svalbard at what is now known as Cape Leigh Smith. His 1873 voyage to Svalbard came to the rescue of the more experienced Swedish explorer A. E. Nordenskiöld and in the process won Leigh Smith the Royal Swedish Order of the

Polar Star (which was sent to him through the mail when he would not appear for it personally).

But it is his spectacularly successful reconnaissance of Franz Josef Land in 1880 on board his private research vessel Eira for which Leigh Smith is justly famed. In just two weeks in August, 1880, Leigh Smith defined the southern coast of Franz Josef Land, charting 110 nautical miles along a previously unknown Arctic coastline. His escape from the Arctic in 1882 – after Eira sank off Franz Josef Land – rivals the small boat voyages of Ernest Shackleton and Fridtjof Nansen.

Traveling to the Arctic islands that Leigh Smith explored and crisscrossing England to uncover unpublished journals, diaries, and photographs, archaeologist and writer P. J. Capelotti details Leigh Smith's five major Arctic expeditions and



places them within the context of the great polar explorations in the nineteenth century. [www.uofcpress.com](http://www.uofcpress.com)



### Sustaining Indigenous Knowledge: Learning Tools and Community Initiatives for Preserving Endangered Languages and Local Cultural Heritage

Editors: Erich Kasten & Tjeerd de Graaf

Published by: Kulturstiftung Sibirien -  
SEC Publications

(Fuerstenberg, Germany)

Publication Year: 2013

ISBN: 9783942883122

[http://www.siberian-studies.org/  
publications/sustainingik\\_E.html](http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/sustainingik_E.html)

#### Chapter titles:

Multilingualism and Language Teaching  
in Europe: The Case of Frisian  
and the Work of the Mercator European  
Research Centre  
by Tjeerd de Graaf & Cor van der Meer.

The Use of Sound Archives for the Inves-  
tigation, Teaching and  
Safeguarding of Some Endangered Ural-  
ic Languages  
by Victor Denisov & Tjeerd de Graaf.

Documentation and Revitalisation of Two  
Endangered Languages in  
Eastern Asia: Nivkh and Ainu  
by Tjeerd de Graaf & Hidetoshi Shiraishi

Learning Tools for Preserving Languages  
and Traditional Knowledge in Kamchatka  
by Erich Kasten

Learning your Endangered Native Lan-  
guage in a Small Multilingual Communi-  
ty: The Case of Tundra Yukagir in An-  
driushkino  
by Cecilia Odé

Anthropology and Applied Anthropology  
in Siberia: Questions and Solutions Con-  
cerning a Nomadic School among Evenki  
Reindeer Herders  
by Alexandra Lavrillier

Challenging the State Educational Sys-  
tem in Western Siberia: Taiga School by  
the Tiutiakha River  
by Stephan Dudeck

Boarding School on Yamal: History of  
Development and Current Situation  
by Elena Liarskaya

Model for the Tundra School in Yamal: a  
New Education System for Children from  
Nomadic and Semi-nomadic Nenets  
Families  
by Roza Laptander

Towards a Digital Infrastructure for Kildin  
Saami  
by Michael Riessler



Building Yi (M)other Tongue: Virtual Plat-  
forms, Language Maintenance and Cul-  
tural Awareness in a Chinese Minority  
Context  
by Olivia Kraef

Bilingual Intercultural Education in the  
Andes  
by Teresa Valiente Catter & Michael Dürr

Epilogue  
by Nikolai Vakhtin





## New Publications continued

### Plurale Weltinterpretationen: Das Beispiel der Tyva Südsibiriens

Author: Anett C. Oelschlägel  
Published by: Kulturstiftung Sibirien -  
SEC Publications  
(Fuerstenberg, Germany)  
Publication Year: 2013  
ISBN: 9783942883139  
(In German, with Russian and English  
summaries)  
[http://www.siberian-studies.org/  
publications/pluwel\\_E.html](http://www.siberian-studies.org/publications/pluwel_E.html)

Plural World Interpretations are part of  
our everyday lives, even if we are not  
aware of the fact. They result from the  
simultaneous existence of different but  
equal models for interpreting the world

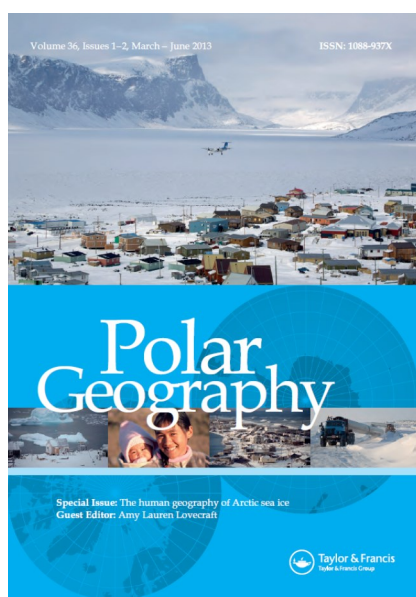
we live in. These models are the product  
of human constructivity and co-exist as  
parallel realities, complementing and  
contradicting each other. Based on field-  
work among the Tyva of southern Sibe-  
ria, the book discusses the practice of  
dealing with this multiplicity of world inter-  
pretations and shows how individual ac-  
tors oscillate flexibly between two of  
many possible models for interpreting  
specific situations and act on them. The  
rules Tyvans apply in varying contexts,  
the reasons behind their choices and the  
consequences they have to deal with, are  
analysed. The result is an account of  
contemporary culture that explores the



flexibility and plurality of human interpreta-  
tion, action and behaviour.



### Polar Geography, Volume 36



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

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

#### Issue 3, 2013

Arctic Futures: Conceptualisations and  
Images of a Changing Arctic  
by Peter Arbo, Audun Iversen, Maaik  
Knol, Toril Ringholm, and Gunnar Sander

Urban - Rural Contrasts in Summer Soil-  
Surface Temperature and Active-Layer  
Thickness, Barrow, Alaska, U.S.A.  
by Anna Klene, Frederick Nelson & Ken  
Hinkel

Data-Derived Spatial-Resolution Errors of  
Antarctic Sea-Ice Thickness  
by Mary Stampone, Cathleen Geiger,  
Tracy DeLiberty & E. Rachael Bernstein

Environmental, Cultural, and Social  
Change in Arctic Alaska as Observed by  
Iñupiat Elders Over Their Lifetimes: A  
GIS Synthesis  
by Wendy Eisner et al.

A Dangerous Space? Unpacking State  
and Media Discourses on the Arctic  
by Elana Wilson Rowe

#### Book reviews:

- The Canadian North: Issues and  
Challenges
- Finding Dahshaa: Self-Government,  
Social Suffering, and Aboriginal  
Policy in Canada
- The Eskimo and the Oil Man. The  
Battle at the Top of the World for  
America's Future
- Anooshi Lingit Aani Ka: Russians in  
Tlingit America: The Battles of Sitka,  
1802 and 1804

#### Issue 1-2, 2013 (Special Issue) The Human Geography of Arctic Sea Ice

Introduction to Special Issue  
by Amy Lovecraft

Trails to the Whale: Reflections of Change  
and Choice in an Iñupiat Icescape  
by Matthew Druckenmiller, Hajo Eicken,  
J. C. "Craig" George & Lewis Brower

Enacting and Renewing Identity, Kinship  
and Humanity on the Sea Ice  
by Martina Tyrrel

Living with Uncertainties: Qeqertarsua  
Perceptions of Changing Sea Ice  
by Pelle Tejsner

Physical and Socio-Cultural Factors Affect-  
ing Walrus Subsistence at Three Villages in  
the Northern Bering Sea: 1952 to 2004  
by Martin Robards, Alexander Kitaysky, and  
John Burns

The Legal Status of Arctic Sea Ice in the  
United States and Canada  
by Betsy Baker and Sarah Mooney

Connecting Scientific Observations to  
Stakeholder Needs in Sea Ice Systems:  
The Role of Institutional Geography in  
Northern Alaska  
by Amy Lovecraft et al.

Fostering Resilience in a Changing Sea Ice  
Environment: A Grant Maker's Perspective  
by Anne Henshaw

Local-Level Responses to Sea Ice Change  
and Cruise Tourism in Arctic Canada's  
Northwest Passage  
by Emma Stewart



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### 2011-2014 IASSA Council Members



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**Birger Poppel**

Head of Project  
Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic  
(Kalaallit / Greenlandic language:  
Issittumi inuuniarnermut atugassariti-  
taasunik misissuineq Det arkiske  
Levevilkarsprojekt)  
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