



ICASS VIII: Preliminary List of Sessions – Call for Papers

The ICASS VIII sessions are organized under 11 overarching themes:

- ✧ [Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability](#)
- ✧ [Culture & Knowledge](#)
- ✧ [Education](#)
- ✧ [Environmental & Climate Change](#)
- ✧ [Governance](#)
- ✧ [Health & Well-Being](#)
- ✧ [International Relations & Law](#)
- ✧ [Renewable Resources](#)
- ✧ [Research Methodologies](#)
- ✧ [Resource Development](#)
- ✧ [Urban & Community Sustainability](#)

Please click on the session number of the individual sessions below in order to view a session description:

Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
AHDR	AHDR-II	Joan Nymand Larsen, Gail Fondahl & Henriette Rasmussen	Closed	AHDR	jinl@svs.is gail.fondahl@unbc.ca
CISU1	Arctic Cultural Economies and Sustainable Development	Andrey Petrov	Open	Arctic-FROST	andrey.petrov@uni.edu
CISU2	Arctic Identities and Sustainabilities Across Places and Times: Integrating Identity Concepts into Cross-Cultural Initiatives for Sustainability	Enrico Wensing	Open	Office of Polar Projects, National Science Foundation	ewensing@gmu.edu
CISU3	Arctic Sustainabilities, Stakeholder Engagement, and the Interdependence of Arctic and Global Changes	Kathrin Keil	Open	Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS)	kathrin.keil@iass-potsdam.de
CISU4	Arctic Sustainabilities: Meanings and Means	Andrey Petrov	Open	Arctic-FROST & ReSDA	andrey.petrov@uni.edu
CISU5	Histories of Resilience in Human-Animal Relations in the Circumpolar North	David Anderson	Open		david.anderson@abdn.ac.uk
CISU6	How do we See the Sea? Changing Arctic Seascape and Multiple Meanings of Water	Anna Stammmler-Gossmann & Stephan Dudeck	Open		astammle@ulapland.fi sdudeck@ulapland.fi
CISU7	Sustainability at the Edges: Isolation and Remoteness in the Age of Sustainability	Elizabeth Marino & Peter Evans	Open		elizabeth.marino@osucascades.edu evanspet@gmail.com

Culture & Knowledge

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
AG	Circumpolar History	Amanda Graham	Open		agraham@yukoncollege.yk.ca
CULK1	ARAN: Arctic Anthropology of Nights: Narratives, Movements, and Ecologies of the Dark in Northern Spaces	Veronika Simonova & Vladimir Davydov	Open		siveronika@yandex.ru anthropolog@rambler.ru
CULK2	Arctic Mobilities	Andrei Golovnev & Svetlana Usenyuk	Open		andrei_golovnev@bk.ru svetlana.usenyuk@gmail.com
CULK3	Arctic Sustainable Knowledge: Integrating Arctic Science, Traditional/Local Knowledge and Socially-Oriented Observations	Tatiana Vlasova & Andrey Petrov	Open		tatiana.vlsv@gmail.com andrey.petrov@uni.edu
CULK4	Facing the Monstrous North	Eleanor Barraclough Danielle Cudmore & Stefan Donecker	Open	Working Group Arctic and Subarctic, Vienna (AAS)	stefan.donecker@eui.eu
CULK5	Humanities in the Circumpolar World	Kathleen Osgood	Open		kathleen.osgood@gmail.com
CULK6	Ideas of Arctic Exceptionality? Historical Understandings of the Spaces, Cultures and Environments of the Circumpolar North	Richard C. Powell	Open		richard.powell@ouce.ox.ac.uk
CULK7	Identity Governance, Ethnography, and Local Knowledge in the Circumpolar North	Dmitry V. Arzyutov	Open		d.arzyutov@abdn.ac.uk
CULK8	Is There a Place for Critical Arctic Studies?	Marjo Lindroth & Heidi Sinevaara-Niskanen	Open		marjo.lindroth@ulapland.fi heidi.sinevaara-niskanen@ulapland.fi
CULK9	Measuring Proportionally	Jerry Lipka	Closed		jmlipka@alaska.edu
CULK10	Oral History Along the Arctic Shores: Memories, Representations, Disruptions	Karina Lukin & Florian Stammle	Closed		karina.lukin@helsinki.fi fstammle@ulapland.fi
CULK11	Personal Autonomy and Sustaining Relations Among Human and Non-Human Persons	Sophie Elixhauser & Janne Flora	Open		sophie.elixhauser@wzu.uni-augsburg.de jflora@cantab.net
CULK12	Religious Identities in the Arctic in the Past and in the Present	Flemming Nielsen	Open		flni@teo.uni.gl



Culture & Knowledge (continued)

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
CULK13	Surviving or Living a Good Life? A Critical Approach to the Concept of Survival in Arctic Social Sciences	Béatrice Collignon	Open		b.collignon@ades.cnrs.fr
CULK14	Sustainability and Language	Laura Siragusa & Jenanne Ferguson	Open		laura.siragusa@ut.ee jenanne.k.ferguson@abdn.ac.uk
CULK15	The Arctic Indigenous Language Vitality Initiative	Lenore Grenoble	Open		grenoble@uchicago.edu
CULK16	Revisiting The Eskimo Book of Knowledge	Nicole Gombay, Anne Godlewska & Dorothee Schreiber	Open		nicole.gombay@umontreal.ca

Education

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
EDUC1	Community-based Approaches to Literacy and Skills Development as a Basis for Sustainability	Helen Balanoff	Open		helen@nwtliteracy.ca
EDUC2	Education in the Arctic: Sustaining our Communities	Diane Hirshberg	Open		dbhirshberg@alaska.edu
EDUC3	Education in the North on the Example of West Siberia and Kamchatka	Victoria Churikova & Peter Drouziaka	Open		victoria.churikova@gmail.com petr_druz@mail.ru
EDUC4	Education Research by Northerners for Northerners: High School Case Studies, Social Studies Program Evaluation and Nurturing Indigenous Scholars in the Arctic	Heather McGregor	Open		heather.e.mcgregor@gmail.com
EDUC5	Health Equity Begins With Accessible Health Education: Using Partnerships and Technology to Deliver Health Education in the North	Lorna Butler & Heather Exner-Pirot	Closed		lorna.butler@usask.ca heather.exnerpirot@usask.ca
EDUC6	Teacher Education, Teaching, and Sustainable Schools in the Circumpolar North	Ute Kaden, Beth Leonhard, Phil Patterson, Barbara Adams & Joanne Healy	Open		ukaden@alaska.edu brleonard@alaska.edu
EDUC7	VERDDE - University Center of Mobility in Indigenous Education	Laila Nutti	Open		verdde@samiskhs.no lailaan@samiskhs.no



Environmental & Climate Change

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
ENCC1	Session cancelled, incorporated into HEAL3				
ENCC2	Climate Change and the Cultural Foundations of Complacency	Grete Hovelsrud & Halvor Dannevig*	Open		grete.hovelsrud@nforsk.no hda@vestforsk.no
ENCC3	Climate Change, Migration and Economic Transformations in the High Medieval to Early Modern North	Jón Haukur Ingimundarson & George Hambrecht	Open		jhi@unak.is ghambrec@umd.edu
ENCC4	Ecosystem Sustainability – Sustainable Livelihoods?	Jukka Käyhkö, Tim Horstkotte & Sonja Kivinen	Open		jukka.kayhko@utu.fi tim.horstkotte@utu.fi
ENCC5	Ecosystem Approaches to the Conservation and Management of the Environment and Resources in the Arctic	WANG Hanling	Open		boalos@126.com

Governance

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
GOVE1	Assessing Arctic Futures: Voices, Resources and Governance	Annika E. Nilsson	Closed	MISTRA	annika.nilsson@sei-international.org
GOVE2	Governance and Competence Building in Relation to Raw Material Extraction - A Challenge to Arctic Local Communities as well as to Global Companies	Ulrik Jørgensen & Birgitte Hoffmann	Open		uljo@plan.aau.dk bhof@plan.aau.dk
GOVE3	Governance and Urban Sustainability: Examples from Russia's Arctic Industrial Centres	Marlene Laruelle & Aileen A. Espiritu	Open	Norwegian Research Council-ARCSUS	laruelle@gwu.edu aileen.a.espiritu@uit.no aaespiritu@gmail.com
GOVE4	Indigenous People of the Arctic and Their Involvement in Tourism Development: Structures, Policies and Responses	Christina Engström & Albina Pashkevich	Open		ceg@du.se alp@du.se
GOVE5	Inuit Regional Autonomy in the Canadian Arctic: Nunavik, Nunatsiavut and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region in Comparative Perspective	Gary N. Wilson	Open		wilsong@unbc.ca



Governance (continued)

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
GOVE6	Neoliberal Governance and Sustainable Communities in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region	Aileen A. Espiritu	Open	NEO-BEAR	aileen.a.espiritu@uit.no aaespiritu@gmail.com
GOVE7	The Ethics of Care in Inuit Leadership and Governance	Frédéric Laugrand & Caroline Hervé	Open	CURA Inuit Leadership and Governance in Nunavut and Nunavik	Frederic.Laugrand@ant.ulaval.ca caroline.herve@ciera.ulaval.ca
GOVE8	Assessments as Tools for Governance and Sustainable Development in the Arctic	Paula Kankaanpää	Open		malgorzata.smieszek@ulapland.fi adam.stepien@ulapland.fi

Health & Well-Being

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
ASG	Northern Drinking': Images, Values and Control	Anna Stammmler-Gossmann & Stephan Dudeck	Open		astammle@ulapland.fi stephan.dudeck@ulapland.fi
HEAL1	Alternative Food Security Strategies in the Circumpolar North	Ellen Avard	Open		ellen.avard.1@ulaval.ca
HEAL2	Climate Change and Health Adaptation in the Circumpolar North	Ashlee Cunsolo Willox & Eleanor Stephenson	Open		ashlee_cunsolowilcox@cbu.ca eleanor.stephenson@mcgill.ca
HEAL3	Climate Change, Gender, and Well-Being in the Arctic	Amy Lovecraft & Grete K. Hovelsrud	Open		alovecraft@alaska.edu grete.hovelsrud@nforsk.no
HEAL4	Lament for the Land: Climate Change and Mental Health in the Circumpolar World (Film)	Ashlee Cunsolo Willox	Closed		ashlee_cunsolowilcox@cbu.ca
HEAL5	Living Conditions/Well-Being and Quality of Life of Indigenous Peoples and Other Arctic Residents	Birger Poppel & Catherine Turcotte	Open		bipo@uni.gl kate.turcotte@colby-sawyer.edu
HEAL6	Unsettling 'Historical Trauma' in the Arctic	Jack Hicks & Allison Crawford	Open		jackhicks@live.ca allison.crawford@utoronto.ca



Health & Well-Being (continued)

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
HEAL7	Health Promotion and Population Health	Rhonda M. Johnson	Open		rhonda.johnson@uaa.alaska.edu
HEAL8	Participatory Methods for Health	Rhonda M. Johnson	Open		rhonda.johnson@uaa.alaska.edu
HEAL9	Health, Culuture, and Cultural Safety	Audrey R. Giles	Open		agiles@uottawa.ca

International Relations & Law

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
INRL1	Arctic Governance and Law	Natalia Loukacheva	Open		n.loukacheva@utoronto.ca
INRL2	Arctic Sustainability Through International Law: Is It Possible?	Elena Conde Pérez	Open		conde@der.ucm.es
INRL3	New Geopolitics of the Arctic Council in the Era of Climate Change: The 'Asian Factor' in Northern Sustainabilities	Sanjay Chaturvedi	Open	Spanish Ministry of Education, Complutense University, Canadian Embassy in Madrid (Spain) & IEEA, Spanish Institute of Strategic Studies (Ministry of Defense)	sanjay@pu.ac.in csgior@gmail.com
INRL4	Non-Arctic Stakeholders and their Sustainable Engagement with the North	Marcin Gabrys & Michal Łuszczuk	Open		marcin.gabrys@uj.edu.pl młuszczuk@gmail.com
INRL5	Rethinking Borders in the North	Monica Tennberg & Maria Lähteenmäki	Open		monica.tennberg@ulapland.fi maria.lahteenmaki@uef.fi
INRL6	The Arctic Council Permanent Participants: Past Reflections, Future Challenges	Jessica Shadian	Open		jessica.shadian@ulapland.fi



International Relations & Law (continued)

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
INRL7	The Arctic Nexus in the Relations Between Arctic Council States and Asian Powers	Rasmus Bertelsen, Lassi Heininen, Gunhild H. Gjørsv, Jong Deog Kim, Marc Lanteigne, Silja B. Ómarsdóttir, Valur Ingimundarson, Frédéric Lasserre, Rob Huebert, SEO Won-sang, Olga Alexeeva & Zhang Pei	Open		rasmus@cantab.net rasmus@cgs.aau.dk
INRL8	The Emerging Arctic Security Regime	Rob Huebert	Open		rhuebert@ucalgary.ca

Renewable Resources

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
REN1	Arctic Agriculture and Farming Systems in Transition	Jón Haukur Ingimundarson	Open		jhi@unak.is or jhi@svs.is
REN2	Marine Invasive Species in the Arctic: Management Issues	Brooks Kaiser	Open		baka@sam.sdu.dk
REN3	Sustainable Marine Resource Governance: Knowledges, Practices and Strategies	Halvor Dannevig, Berit Kristoffersen & Brigt Dale	Open		hda@vestforsk.no berit.kristoffersen@uit.no
REN4	Tourism as a Dimension of Northern Sustainability: Political, Governance and Environmental Issues	Patrick Maher, Dieter Müller & Suzanne de la Barre	Open	UArctic Thematic Network on Northern Tourism & IPTRN	patrick.maher@unbc.ca
REN5	Tourism as a Dimension of Northern Sustainability: Social, Cultural and Economic Issues	Patrick Maher, Dieter Müller & Suzanne de la Barre	Open	UArctic TN on Northern Tourism & IPTRN	patrick.maher@unbc.ca



Research Methodologies & Approaches

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
RMET1	Analysing Integrated Social-Ecological Systems – Joint Concepts and Methods	Ingrid Bay-Larsen & Grete K. Hovelsrud	Open		iby@nforisk.no grete.hovelsrud@nforisk.no
RMET2	Building a North Pacific Biocultural Network to Promote Sustainabilities	David Koester & Thomas F. Thornton	Open		dckoester@alaska.edu thomas.thornton@ouce.ox.ac.uk
RMET3	Community-Based Monitoring of Social Change in the Arctic	Chris Southcott	Open	ReSDA	chris.southcott@lakeheadu.ca
RMET4	Decolonizing Methodologies in the Arctic: Capacity Building and Forsting Indigenous Participation in Research	Barbara Bodenhorn & Olga Ulturgasheva	Closed		ou202@hermes.cam.ac.uk
RMET5	Engaging Northerners – Community Based Environmental Monitoring and Research in the Arctic	S. Kim Juniper	Open		kjuniper@uvic.ca
RMET6	Supporting Indigenous Knowledge and New Indigenous Paradigms in Science	Keith Chaulk & Jim McDonald	Open		keith.chaulk@uarctic.org mcdonald@unbc.ca
RMET7	The Role of Data Management in Enhancing Research and Policymaking for Sustainability in the Arctic	Colleen Strawhacker, Peter Pulsifer & Shari Gearheard	Open		colleen.strawhacker@colorado.edu pulsifer@nsidc.org
RMET8	Using Social Network Analysis to Understand Arctic Sustainability	John P. Ziker, Drew Gerkey & Shauna BurnSilver	Open		jziker@boisestate.edu drew.gerkey@gmail.com sburnsil@asu.edu
RMET9	Arctic Encounters: Contemporary Travel/Writing in the European High North	Lars Jensen	Closed	HERA	hopeless@ruc.dk
RMET10	Bringing Northern Community Needs into the ICARP-III Process Through UArctic: The UCCARP Project	Lars Kullerud & Chris Southcott	Closed	UArctic / UCCARP	lars.kullerud@uarctic.org chris.southcott@lakeheadu.ca



Resource Development

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
RDEV1	Arctic Extractive Industries: The Politics of Challenges and Opportunities	Jessica M. Shadian, Gunhild H. Gjørsv & Peter Evans	Open	IASSA EIWG	jessica.shadian@ulapland.fi gunhild.hoogensen.gjorv@uit.no
RDEV2	Extractive Industries in Areas of Indigenous and Local People: Comparing Strategies for Long-Term Viability	Karin Granqvist & Hannu Heikkinen	Open	IASSA EIWG	karin.granqvist@online.no Hannu.I.Heikkinen@oulu.fi
RDEV3	Globalizing Northern British Columbia: Development, Agency and Contestation in a Resource-Based Economy	Paul Bowles	Closed	SSHRC	paul@unbc.ca
RDEV4	Labour Mobility and Community Sustainability - The Impact of Extractive Industries in the Arctic	Gerti Eilmsteiner-Saxinger & Remy Rouillard	Open	IASSA EIWG	Gertrude.Eilmsteiner-Saxinger@univie.ac.at rr455@cam.ac.uk
RDEV5	Local Sustainability and Paths of Resource Development in the Arctic	Marie Lowe & Hal Salzman	Open		m Lowe@uaa.alaska.edu HSalzman@rutgers.edu
RDEV6	Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic	Chris Southcott	Open	ReSDA	chris.southcott@lakeheadu.ca
RDEV7	Resources, Sustainability, and the Current Economy of Northern Regions	Lee Huskey	Open	Arctic-FROST & ReSDA	tthuskey@uaa.alaska.edu
RDEV8	Sustainability, People and Resource Extraction in the Arctic: Perspectives on the Notion of Corporate Social Responsibility	Florian Stammler & Emma Wilson	Open	IASSA EIWG	florian.stammler@ulapland.fi emma.wilson@iied.org
RDEV9	Sustainable Energy Development in the Circum-Arctic and Polar Regions	Magdalena Muir	Open	Nordic Centre of Excellence for Strategic Adaptation Research (NCoE NORD-STAR), QUEST - Quality Urban Systems of Tomorrow & Coastal and Marine Union (EUCC)	mamuir@ucalgary.ca



Urban / Community Sustainability

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
UCSU1	Are We Adapting: Arctic Communities Under Stress or on the Path to Sustainability?	Grete K. Hovelsrud, Tristan Pearce & Halvor Dannevig	Open		grete.hovelsrud@norsk.no tpearce@usc.edu.au
UCSU2	Between Tradition and Modernity: Sustainable Business and Community Development in Indigenous Regions of the Circumpolar North	Tor A. Gjertsen & Natalia Okhlopko	Open		tor.a.gjertsen@uit.no or tor-arne.gjertsen@uit.no
UCSU3	Building a New North: The Case of Northern Saskatchewan	Ken Coates	Closed		kennethcoates@gmail.com or ken.coates@usask.ca
UCSU4	Designing and Building Sustainable Northern Communities: New Approaches and Opportunities	Trevor Bell, Tom Sheldon, Michelle Armstrong & Christina Goldhar	Open		tbell@mun.ca tom_sheldon@nunatsiavut.com christina_goldhar@nunatsiavut.com
UCSU5	Internationalizing the Arctic	Aileen A. Espíritu & Tim Heleniak	Open	Norwegian Research Council-ARCSUS	aileen.a.espiritu@uit.no or aaespiritu@gmail.com
UCSU6	Session cancelled, incorporated into CISU7				
UCSU7	No Island is an Island?	Helena Ruotsala & Kirsi Sonck	Open		helena.ruotsala@utu.fi kirsi.m.sonck@utu.fi
UCSU8	Resource Development and Urban Sustainability	Aileen A. Espíritu	Open	Norwegian Research Council-ARCSUS	aileen.a.espiritu@uit.no or aaespiritu@gmail.com
UCSU9	Roads and Development in the North	Tatiana Argounova-Low & Mikhail Prisyazhniy	Open		t.argounova-low@abdn.ac.uk wirt@mail.ru
UCSU10	Sustainability, Knowledge and Human Capital in the Arctic	Rasmus Bertelsen, Erik Laursen, Jens Christian Svabo Justinussen, Andrey Petrov & Coco Smits	Open	AHDR	rasmus@cantab.net or Rasmus@cgs.aau.dk el@learning.aau.dk



Urban / Community Sustainability

Session #	Session Title	Session Chair / Co-Chair	Open / Closed	Program	Contact E-mail
UCSU11	Sustainable Development of Arctic Communities	Kåre Hendriksen & Birger Poppel	Open		krhe@byg.dtu.dk bipo@uni.gl
UCSU12	The City Life of Northern Indigenous Peoples: In Search for New Forms of Economic and Cultural Resilience	Dmitri Funk	Open		d_funk@iea.ras.ru
UCSU13	Toward Social Sustainability in the Urban Arctic: Capacity-Building Strategies	Emmy Neuls & Aileen A. Espiritu	Open	Norwegian Research Council-ARCSUS	emmy.neuls@usask.ca aileen.a.espiritu@uit.no or aaespiritu@gmail.com





Session Title: **AHDR-II**

Session #: AHDR

Session Grouping : Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability

Session Status: Closed

Session Organizer(s): Joan Nymand Larsen
Gail Fondahl
Henriette Rasmussen

jnl@svs.is
gail.fondahl@unbc.ca

Session Description:

The second *Arctic Human Development Report* (AHDR-II) provides a comprehensive overview of human development in the Arctic at a time of rapid global change processes, focussing especially on changes since the first AHDR (2004). Special attention is given to global change impacts. AHDR-II will be an instrument for assessing progress toward sustainable human development in the Arctic, and be a tool to educate the public. The report provides an assessment of various dimensions of human development (demographic conditions, cultural, economic, political, and legal systems, resource governance, education, human health), to enable comparing and contrasting the Arctic with other regions in terms of a host of factors ranging from. The AHDR is an Arctic Council endorsed project and it has been developed in consultation with the Arctic Council, including Permanent Participants. This session will present major findings of AHDR-II, and then offer commentary by representatives of the Arctic Council as to the likely impact of the report. The forum will also engage with the audience on a number of critical issues highlighted in the report.

Program(s): Arctic Human Development Report

[back to top](#)
[back to Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability](#)

Session Title: **Arctic Cultural Economies and Sustainable Development**

Session #: CISU1

Session Grouping : Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Andrey Petrov andrey.petrov@uni.edu

Session Description:

Cultural economy is an integral components of the Arctic mixed economic system. However, its structure, geography and role in northern regional economic systems is not well understood. The papers in this session address various issues dealing with cultural economy associated with both traditional and modern cultures. They attempt to provide the description, quantification and evaluation of the place of cultural activities as components of the economic system, shed a new light on Arctic's cultural capital and improve understanding of their potential role(s) in sustainable development of northern communities.

Program(s): Arctic-FROST

[back to top](#)
[back to Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Arctic Identities and Sustainabilities Across Places and Times:
Integrating Identity Concepts into Cross-Cultural Initiatives for Sustainability**

Session #: CISU2

Session Grouping : Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Enrico Wensing ewensing@gmu.edu

Session Description:

How are the accelerating economic, environmental, and social challenges in the North affecting Arctic identities? Should concepts of identity be integrated into collaborative cross-cultural initiatives for sustainability? Does identity matter? Concepts of identity include how identity is linked to the environment, to place, to food, to culture, to fate control, to community, etc. How we individually and collectively experience our identity is deeply interwoven with our economic, environmental, and social systems. The challenges to the identity linkages to environment, place, food, fate control, community, etc. across Arctic places and time will be discussed in this session. As importantly, why and how identity concepts should/could be integrated into collaborative cross-cultural initiatives for sustainability, like climate change adaptation, will also be discussed. The purpose of this session is to explore the historic, present, and future linkages between identity and sustainability of Arctic people. In particular, this session will explore how further research of these linkages may help to improve understanding of their value by non-Arctic people (and thereby help to encourage climate justice policies, etc.) and serve to inform collaborative cross-cultural community based initiatives for sustainability in the North.

Program(s): Office of Polar Projects, National Science Foundation

[back to top](#)
[back to Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Arctic Sustainabilities, Stakeholder Engagement, and the Interdependence of Arctic and Global Changes**

Session #: CISU3

Session Grouping : Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Kathrin Keil kathrin.keil@iass-potsdam.de

Session Description:

The state and future of “Northern Sustainabilities” cannot be understood without acknowledging the differences between various Arctic contexts and priorities, and the contingent nature of understanding Arctic territoriality in different contexts in time and space. Further, Arctic development processes and accompanying challenges and opportunities are increasingly shaped by complex networks of actors that extend well beyond the Arctic Circle. Against this background, this session aims to:

- ✿ understand the Arctic as a socially constructed space and as interlinked with non-Arctic regions in complex feedback loops;
- ✿ widen the often limited perception of ‘Arctic stakeholders’ to complex and shifting trans-regional actor networks, and
- ✿ address the contingent and contested nature of sustainability agendas among different stakeholders in Arctic and non-Arctic regions and across different spatial scales.

This session especially invites papers aiming to actively engage stakeholders in research on developments in the North, and on their implications for social, cultural, economic, political, environmental and ecological sustainability within and beyond the Arctic. This can be addressed through a wide range of thematic areas, such as resource development, maritime trade, tourism, cultural and societal development processes, governance and legal issues, as well as questions pertaining to climate, environmental and ecological science.

Program(s): Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) Potsdam

[back to top](#)
[back to Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Arctic Sustainabilities: Meanings and Means**

Session #: CISU4

Session Grouping : Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Andrey Petrov andrey.petrov@uni.edu

Session Description:

These sessions invite papers dealing with various aspects of understanding and implementing sustainability and sustainable development in the Arctic. Arctic is both diverse and unique natural and social realm where intertwining environmental, social, economic and cultural processes create a complex palette of interests, discourses, understanding and interpretations of the meanings, purposes and implementations of such broad concepts as sustainability and sustainable development. The paper will try to tackle the question what does sustainable development in the Arctic mean, locally, regionally, and globally?

Program(s): Arctic-FROST & ReSDA

[back to top](#)
[back to Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Histories of Resilience in Human-Animal Relations in the Circumpolar North** Session #: CISU5

Session Grouping : Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): David Anderson david.anderson@abdn.ac.uk

Session Description:

Relationships between human persons and animal persons is one of the most prominent features of Northern societies across the Arctic. These relations have become strained in recent years with different communities, state actors, and 'stakeholders' arguing for exclusive control over encounters, or with projects for conserving or restoring subsistence landscapes. In this panel, we invite participants to explore situations of long-term co-dependence of animal persons and human persons on each other and to query the mechanisms that threaten these relationships. We invite a wide range of papers ranging from bioarchaeological studies of how the physical forms of humans and animals are interlinked, to histories of science and technology which question the stable categories that are used to describe these relationships. In particular, we would like to explore certain careers in human-animal relationships such as the changing importance of dogs and reindeer in mechanized market economies and the way that landscapes are 'restored' by the introduction or translocation of arctic species. We would also like to take seriously the way that indigenous communities express concern for the well-being of fish and animals which in other knowledge communities are only knowable through instruments and monitoring.

[back to top](#)
[back to Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **How do we See the Sea?
Changing Arctic Seascape and Multiple Meanings of Water**

Session #: CISU6

Session Grouping : Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Anna Stammli-Gossmann astammle@ulapland.fi
Stephan Dudeck sdudeck@ulapland.fi

Session Description:

Discussions on changing properties of sea water in the Arctic have explicitly intensified in the last decade. Sea water has become an important theme not only as a mere environmental factor, but as a substance that connects many realms of social life – economic, institutional, religious, pleasure. It enters into political relations, becomes more a ‘global’ matter and a space, where power may be exercised. It may be a part of everyday practices, a social construction or a field of economic or political competition. Seascape also represents the multiple and often conflicting knowledge. Water may be associated with risks or well-being. It may be valued as a sacred substance or imaginary space. Shifts in material attributes of water may cause shifts in meanings and force people to adopt new water-use practices. Understanding of these processes is central to the issue of sustainability at large.

This session discusses the ways that water, a substance with specific properties, is understood and used differently in a variety of social settings. Thematic issues on the multiple meaning of the Arctic sea water consider ongoing conversations about changing societal relationship with and around the water, and pay particular attention to the different frameworks at play for valuing, perceiving and experiencing water.

[back to top](#)
[back to Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Sustainability at the Edges:
Isolation and Remoteness in the Age of Sustainability**

Session #: CISU7

Session Grouping : Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Elizabeth Marino
Peter Evans

elizabeth.marino@osucascades.edu
evanspet@gmail.com

Session Description:

For outsiders, the North has long been identified, romanticized, idealized and criticized as an isolated and remote place. Many Arctic and sub-Arctic landscapes and communities are far from centers of global commerce, devoid of large-scale infrastructure, and largely unconnected by transportation corridors. This relative geographical isolation creates a unique relationship between the centers of power in Northern nation-states and their peripheries—a relationship that is expressed, in part, through practices, performances, regulatory measures, struggles of power, relationships, and narratives of place. Through these, and many others, the historical and socio-cultural construction of “isolation” is glimpsed, and its importance as a still potent organizing principle of the North can be understood.

This panel explores notions of isolation in contemporary Northern settings. Allowing for a wide, interpretive framework for “isolation,” we explore how rural residents engage notions of isolation and remoteness in everyday experiences, and how those same concepts are deployed by more distant others when discussing the future of Northern communities. As the sustainability discourse gains momentum in popular imaginations and in decision-making centers, isolation and remoteness also have the potential to recreate, reframe, and problematize outsider perceptions of the long-term viability of communities in the rural, removed North. Subsumed into a new sustainability discourse, the rural North may find itself, once again, reimagined by outsiders as too (economically, socially, culturally) “isolated” to be considered a sound investment. While we are particularly interested in these issues, we welcome paper proposals dealing with other aspects of isolation and remoteness. Related topics might include some of the following:

- * Indigenous and non-indigenous understandings of isolation
- * Isolation or remoteness in northern historiography
- * The ethnographic experience of isolation
- * How the sustainability discourse influences outsider understanding of rural communities
- * Multi-generational understandings of isolation and sustainability.

[back to top](#)
[back to Concepts & Ideas of Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Circumpolar History**

Session #: AG

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Amanda Graham

agraham@yukoncollege.yk.ca

Session Description:

The Circumpolar North is a relatively young ecosystem and a very young region. The late start has allowed it to be on the cutting edge of cross-cultural and multidisciplinary scholarship. Its relative youth, too, has made the Circumpolar North a wide open field for historical inquiry. The things that make the region so attractive (like sparse populations, harsh climate, vast distances, a short period of settlement, etc.) are also the things that tend not to attract historians. Yet, there are people out there inquiring passionately into the history of the the circumpolar North. We would like to hear what they've been up to. This session is deliberately thematically vague. Indeed, this session isn't *about* anything in particular; rather, it is *for* anything, anything historical, that is.

[back to top](#)

[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **ARAN: Arctic Anthropology of Nights –
Narratives, Movements, and Ecologies of the Dark in Northern Spaces**

Session #: CULK1

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Veronika V. Simonova
Vladimir N. Davydov

siveronika@yandex.ru
anthropolog@rambler.ru

Session Description:

The word ARAN translates from the Evenki language as ‘a place for dwelling’. We find this indigenous term to be the best metaphor for the main goal of this session: to find out, discuss, and ‘dwell’ various approaches to nocturnal social life, landscape knowledge, and perception changes conditioned by natural and expected darkness.

To a large extent, academic interest in relation to nighttime is vague and far from recognized topic developed by scholars who shared a mutual intellectual space. We rather find scattered islands of attempts to conceptualize nocturnal social life and relationships with the environment, to document changes in human perceptions, narratives, mechanisms of adaptation, relationships between human and non-human actors caused by darkness.

For example, geographers reflect mainly on using light technologies in the dark in urban spaces; economists and sociologists primarily speak about nighttime economies and labour dynamics; those who do cultural studies prioritize speaking about fears of ghosts and dangers of various kinds based largely on mythology and folklore. In the past, from mid-19th century, Arctic travelers documented their nocturnal observations in their diaries pointing out cultural and perceptual difference of day and night. Anthropology is, in fact, barely represented by a selective linguistic investigations and is almost invisible in these debates.

We propose to open a discussion for scholars belonging to different spheres of Arctic social sciences to speak about local experiences, concepts, and dynamics in relation to the northern nights (including, but not necessarily, polar nights). We believe that understanding nocturnal activities, movements, narratives, and ecologies are unfairly under-researched and that they have great significance for understanding and achievement of sustainability in local cultures. We invite anthropologists to share their observations and field experiences in this session, and we also welcome interdisciplinary approach as a powerful method to discover the ‘terra incognita’ of the night as natural and cultural phenomenon.

Although our main focus is indigenous populations of the Arctic regions around the world, we also welcome papers based on ethnographic research done among non-indigenous groups, both rural and urban, living in the northern territories.

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Arctic Mobilities**

Session #: CULK2

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Andrei Golovnev
Svetlana Usenyuk

andrei_golovnev@bk.ru
svetlana.usenyuk@gmail.com

Session Description:

While the ongoing process of extensive development of the Arctic is facilitated mainly by the progress in transportation and communications technologies, the emerging social and cultural practices have not yet been considered as a specific domain for scientific inquiry. Building on contemporary discourse regarding notions of movement, mobility and technology, the session aims to explore different forms of mobility in today's Arctic: from physical to virtual. It includes both traditional patterns of 'living on the go' developed and exercised by indigenous communities, as well as new forms of transporting people, objects and capital that emerge inside a rapidly growing sector of short-term visitors, such as fly-in/fly-out workers, tourists, etc. It also means considering and exploring how these multiple mobilities co-exist, relate to and influence each other.

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Arctic Sustainable Knowledge: Integrating Arctic Science,
Traditional / Local Knowledge and Socially-Oriented Observations**

Session #: CULK3

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Tatiana Vlasova
Andrey Petrov

tatiana.vlsv@gmail.com

andrey.petrov@uni.edu

Session Description:

The type of human activity directed to providing the Arctic Sustainable Knowledge is no less important than economic, cultural, environment conservation, social, educational activities. Research in the Arctic region promotes synthesis concepts such as Arctic resilience assessment; bring more humanity science approaches to the multidisciplinary integrated science and observational networks. Although many challenges are facing further sustainable knowledge development in the Arctic – closer interaction of natural and social science, the need for better models for predicting future climate and environmental changes and consequences, facilitate active and equal engagement of indigenous and local people and their traditional knowledge, strengthen partnerships with main stakeholders, including decision-makers, integrate science with education and outreach and other are going to be discussed at this session. This session focuses on elaboration main sustainable principles to synthesize many existing approaches and initiatives coming from both natural sciences (Ecosystem based management, Ecosystem services, etc.), and social sciences (Arctic social indicators, Arctic Human Development Report, etc.) and to integrate them with Traditional/local knowledge and Socially-oriented observations in order to find paths for creating sustained long-term system of the Arctic Sustainable Knowledge. The session is connected with the initiate the IASSA supports on the Belmont Forum Collaborative Research Action.

[back to top](#)

[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Facing the Monstrous North**

Session #: CULK4

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Eleanor Rosamund Barraclough
Danielle Cudmore
Stefan Donecker

stefan.donecker@eui.eu

Session Description:

The session “Facing the Monstrous North” follows up on the panel “Imagining the Supernatural North” held at ICASS VII in 2011. In different cultural contexts and discourses, the forbidding and threatening aspects of the North were embodied by monstrous beings, the giants of Old Norse mythology and the Wendigo of the Algonquian tradition being just two examples. Yet the North was not only believed to be inhabited by monsters, it was also perceived as having the ability to draw out the most monstrous and debased aspects of human nature, as the discussions of Northern diabolism in the 16th century and the morbid fascination with Northern cannibalism in the 19th century have shown. Evidenced by its etymology, a monstrum is a signifier (Latin monere, “to warn”; monstrare, “to show”), and the septentrional monsters signify and express human attitudes to the North. As such, an in-depth study of the Monstrous North would be an important contribution to the on-going discussion on perceptions of Northernness in the humanities and social sciences. The panel intends to examine a variety of approaches to monstrosity, and contributions from different disciplines (cultural and social anthropology, history, theology, literary studies, biology, psychology, gender studies etc.) are very welcome.

Program: Working Group Arctic and Subarctic, Vienna (AAS)

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Humanities in the Circumpolar World**

Session #: CULK5

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Kathleen Osgood

kathleen.osgood@gmail.com

Session Description:

In his classic book Arctic Dreams, Barry Lopez describes the Arctic as being shaped by human desire and imagination. However, the research agenda for the Arctic typically sidesteps the analytical and critical approaches of the humanities. This session for ICASS VIII calls for papers using humanities approaches to the realities of the circumpolar world, whether in assessments of outsider literature or critiques of northern native film or emerging theoretical approaches to the complexities.

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Ideas of Arctic Exceptionality? Historical Understandings of the Spaces, Cultures and Environments of the Circumpolar North**

Session #: CULK6

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Richard C. Powell richard.powell@ouce.ox.ac.uk

Session Description:

This session examines the development of ideas of Arctic exceptionalism, by investigating the ways in which the cultures and environments of the Circumpolar North have been understood at different times and places.

Arctic peoples and environments have often been used as evidence in debates about space, law and culture. During the era of European exploration and colonisation, the geographical knowledges of indigenous peoples were appropriated. This trend was magnified during the formalisation of the academic disciplines of anthropology, sociology and geography, when scholars as diverse as Franz Boas, Knud Rasmussen, Marcel Mauss, Halford Mackinder and Gudmund Hatt discussed Arctic spaces. Much Arctic scholarship consequently developed within resultant disciplinary and national traditions. Latterly, as 'Circumpolar institutions' have emerged (whether understood as indigenous co-operation, state governance or scholarly organisation), different theorisations of the Circumpolar North/Arctic have resulted.

This session seeks papers that engage with these themes in many different ways, but indicative topics might include:

- * Development of disciplinary and/or national and/or regional traditions of Arctic research and scholarship
- * Discussion of theories, methods and research practices of particular Arctic researchers or schools of thought
- * Toponymy and indigenous geographical knowledges
- * Histories of 'Circumpolar institutions', such as ICC, Arctic Council, IASSA, ICASS, Inuit Studies Conference

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Identity Governance, Ethnography, and Local Knowledge in the Circumpolar North**

Session #: CULK7

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Dmitry V. Arzyutov d.arzyutov@abdn.ac.uk

Session Description:

This panel invites papers investigating how late 19th century and early 20th century ethnographic concepts have played an important role in how Northern peoples have come to be known as sovereign peoples, and thus become either the objects of governance or the subjects of self-government. We invite papers from all regions of the circumpolar North which examine the politics of naming – and renaming - peoples, collective expression, and how juridical subjects are created. The panel will feature several contributors investigating the influence of ‘ethnos’ theory in the Siberian Arctic both in the Soviet period and in the present day. We would welcome contributions on the political influence of other ethnographic concepts such as ‘band’ and ‘tribe’, the Steward’s idea of an ecological ‘cultural core’, the distinction between ‘status’ or ‘non-status’, or the concept of an urfolk. We are especially interested in the contrast between ethnographic/legal ways of seeing a people and the way that identity is conceived locally in local languages.

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Is There a Place for Critical Arctic Studies?**

Session #: CULK8

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Marjo Lindroth
Heidi Sinevaara-Niskanen

marjo.lindroth@ulapland.fi
heidi.sinevaara-niskanen@ulapland.fi

Session Description:

The Arctic and its phenomena have been studied extensively since the 1980s, and the recent boom in the region – political and economic—has heightened research interest further. However, much of the current research is policy-driven. The aim of the session is to discuss the possible shortcomings of contemporary social-scientific Arctic research by making visible issues that fall through the cracks between the dominant perspectives.

The session welcomes critical papers that address the intertwined and messy realities of current Arctic phenomena, for example the complexities of resource benefits, local livelihoods, rights, sovereignty and the global economy. Other possible topics include, but are not limited to, questions of indigeneity, intersecting issues of gender, and diverse forms of political agency in the region. The aim is to foster a dialogue between research disciplines, researchers and approaches in order to grasp the current Arctic developments more fully, and to see beyond the short-term political needs and desires.

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)

Session Title: **Measuring Proportionally**

Session #: CULK9

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Closed

Session Organizer(s): Jerry Lipka

jmlipka@alaska.edu

Session Description:

In this session we will explore and discuss the data that we have collected on how Indigenous elders across geographical and cultural borders (3 northern and 1 southern) perform everyday tasks and make artifacts without using Western instrumentation such as a ruler. We will discuss this from the point of view an insider (Yup'ik cultural expert and long-term colleague of the organizer) as well as from an interdisciplinary lens--linguistics, anthropology, and education. We are hypothesizing that symmetrical measuring (center points, lines of symmetry, and measuring as comparing and measuring proportionally) as a way elders perform these everyday tasks. We will also discuss the implications of teaching elementary school mathematics from an Indigenous perspective, that is, through symmetrical measuring. We believe that this approach provides an alternative pathway to teaching aspects of rational numbers, measuring, and early algebraic reasoning.

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Oral History Along the Arctic Shores:
Memories, Representations, Disruptions**

Session #: CULK10

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Closed

Session Organizer(s): Karina Lukin
Florian Stammler

karina.lukin@helsinki.fi
fstammler@ulapland.fi

Session Description:

This session revisits connections and ruptures between individual and collective recollections among residents along the shoreline of the Arctic Ocean. The session will consist of a core body of invited papers (from Norway, Finland and Russia) in combination with an open call for abstracts with special encouragement for papers from other Arctic shoreline countries such as Iceland, Greenland, Canada and Alaska. Residents of these Arctic regions have all been incorporated in to highly industrialised and 'developed' countries and experienced marginalisation, exploitation, colonisation and other disruptions, as policies designed in far-away capital cities were imposed upon them. On historical-political ground, this session revisits centre-periphery models for making sense of the relationship of indigenous people to their states, using oral history in combination with anthropological participant observation for revisiting the representations of Arctic history. The papers are multidisciplinary and explore how anthropology, history, folklore studies and linguistics ask different questions and use a different fieldwork and hermeneutic methodology to approach the verbal performances and oral traditions of people.

The papers in this session explore the ways in which individual recollections, mostly by indigenous elders, travel across kinship and neighbour networks and develop their own unexpected social life (Cruikshank 1991), where the borders between history and myths, public and private, words and silence, facts and fiction get blurred. In analysing such recollections, the papers in this session approach representations of the intersection between historical events and strings of life-histories.

Through the analysis of such recollections, the authors seek to understand how different individual life stories are nested and embedded within collectives and collective ways of knowing and expression. Some of the papers employ the concept of multivocality for understanding the different and sometimes controversial voices among Arctic residents and explore the collective authorship in the oral performance. The papers explore also how "memory-work" (Hamilton) is a process where oral history is produced from possibly very private recollections that have never been told to outsiders or researchers. What is the power and role of the spoken word in cultures such as in the Arctic, where non verbal ways of communicating are more important? The papers in this session focus on "technicalities of words and silence", i.e. decisions and techniques of presenting or hiding experiences and emotions, as crucially important for understanding crises and ruptures in oral history research in general.

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Personal Autonomy and Sustaining Relations Among Human and Non-Human Persons**

Session #: CULK11

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Sophie Elixhauser
Janne Flora

sophie.elixhauser@wzu.uni-augsburg.de
jflora@cantab.net

Session Description:

Among Inuit and other arctic peoples, the importance of respecting the “personal autonomy” of others seems particularly pronounced. Ultimately a value or virtue, personal autonomy is partly a marker for human personhood, mind and reason; one which is learned and managed from an early age. It also informs the various circumlocutory and indirect ways in which people approach each other in public meetings, disputes, or in negotiating the elusive balance between expectations and disappointments in interpersonal relationships. Behaviours by non-human persons (e.g., animals); spirits (internal and external to the human person); and events themselves, also exercise or are rationalised in terms of possessing degrees or forms of personal autonomy. This panel focuses on the production, understanding and disparate roles personal autonomy might play in ‘sustaining’ persons (human and non-human), and their interpersonal relationships. We invite papers based on ethnographic case studies as well as papers with applied, historical or theoretical focus. Possible topics include:

- * Balancing personal autonomy and southern values of individuality
- * Personal autonomy and health, legal or law enforcing institutions
- * Christian notions of selflessness and self-improvement
- * Autonomy of animals and other non-human agents
- * Personal autonomy, personhood, and naming
- * Linguistic expressions of personal autonomy

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Religious Identities in the Arctic in the Past and in the Present**

Session #: CULK12

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Flemming A.J. Nielsen fni@teo.uni.gl

Session Description:

This session will discuss an important cultural dimension of the concept of sustainability by focusing on change of local conceptual universes in the past and in the present. Of interest are papers dealing with subjects such as Christianity and shamanism, the cultural impact of missionary work, contemporary religious thinking in the Arctic, and tradition and loss of tradition in the past and in the present.

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Surviving or Living a Good Life? A Critical Approach to the Concept of Survival in Arctic Social Sciences**

Session #: CULK13

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Béatrice Collignon b.collignon@ades.cnrs.fr

Session Description:

Arctic literature (explorers' accounts, novels, scientific texts, Arctic indigenous peoples' oral tradition) often refers to life in the Arctic as a struggle for survival. More recently, a new dimension has been added: that of "cultural survival" in the modern and globalized era and under the threat of climate change. Yet, while seemingly an obvious aspect of Arctic life, the idea of "survival" itself is hardly ever discussed.

This session seeks to bring together social scientists and indigenous peoples to critically address the concept of the survival, from a personal and/or an academic perspective. We'll ask: how has this concept of survival shaped, and how does it continue to shape, social scientists' understanding of the Arctic and its inhabitants, and that of the general public? How do Arctic Indigenous peoples conceive of "survival" themselves? How is survival compatible with the concept of sustainability? Is the concept of survival operational in depictions of Arctic life in general, or only in specific situations? Does it make a difference? How did Arctic Indigenous peoples balance survival with social and cultural development in the past, and do they nowadays and how will they in the future?

Alongside academic papers more personal contributions will be welcomed.

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Sustainability and Language**

Session #: CULK14

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Laura Siragusa
Jenanne Ferguson

laura.siragusa@ut.ee
jenanne.k.ferguson@abdn.ac.uk

Session Description:

Our panel focuses on sustainability as it relates to the maintenance of indigenous and minority languages and ways of speaking across the circumpolar region. While scholars such as Suzanne Romaine are wary of the term 'sustainability' due to its overuse as an imprecise buzzword, she also notes that "to talk of the notion of sustainability in relation to linguistic diversity is to ask how communities can sustain continued use of their languages in the future in the face of the spread of global languages" (Romaine 2008:8).

In this session, we would like to invite papers that broadly explore what it means for a language to be 'sustainable' in the current global, regional, and local conditions affecting speakers in Arctic societies; in light of recent debates on the usage of the terms 'endangered language' in discourse on lesser-spoken languages (see Duchêne and Heller 2007), we also invite critiques how different conceptions of 'sustainability' can affect the use of languages by speakers themselves. We are interested discussing what sustainability really looks like on the ground. We thus also want to understand the ways ideas of 'sustainability' differ among the language policy makers and among both grassroots minority language promotion and within the quotidian speech acts of those speakers themselves.

Duchêne, A. and M. Heller. 2007. *Discourses of Endangerment: Ideology and Interest in Defense of Languages*. London: Continuum.

Romaine, S. 2008. Language Diversity, Sustainability, and the Future of the Past. In: *Sustaining Linguistic Diversity: Endangered and Minority Languages and Language Varieties*, (eds.) King, K., Schilling-Estes, N., Lou, J.L., L. Fogle and B. Soukup. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press. Pp. 7-22.

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **The Arctic Indigenous Language Vitality Initiative**

Session #: CULK15

Session Grouping : Culture & Knowledge

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Lenore Grenoble grenoble@uchicago.edu

Session Description:

This session discusses the status of the Arctic Indigenous Language Vitality Initiative, a project run by the Permanent Participants of the Arctic Council, and managed by the Inuit Circumpolar Council, Canada, to assess, monitor and promote Arctic Indigenous language vitality. Indigenous language vitality is seen by the Northern indigenous peoples as a fundamental part of sustainability: their cultures, lifestyles and overall well being are all intricately linked to language. We welcome papers from presenters directly engaged in the project as well as from others working to assess or promote Arctic indigenous languages.

Beginning in 2008, the Permanent Participants called for concerted action to promote the vitality of their languages. Since that time, they has identified three focal areas: (1) language policy and planning; (2) language acquisition; and (3) language assessment. All are determined by indigenously-defined principles with outcomes determined by the indigenous participants themselves. Papers related to any of these core focal areas are welcome.

This session has two goals: (1) to report on the project as a whole, including specific goals, measures to achieve these goals, and the kinds of collaborations needed to achieve them; and (2) to learn about current work in assessing and promoting Arctic indigenous language vitality.

[back to top](#)
[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Revisiting The Eskimo Book of Knowledge**

Session #: CULK16

Session Grouping : Education

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Nicole Gombay
Dorothee Schreiber
Anne Godlewska

nicole.gombay@umontreal.ca

Session Description:

In 1931, the Hudson's Bay Company published The Eskimo Book of Knowledge. This book was designed to educate Inuit about the larger Euro-Canadian political, medical, and economic systems into which they had been incorporated. After its publication various arms of the state published similar documents with a view to educating Inuit.

In this session we call for contributions that provide an updated assessment of the ways in which the diverse preoccupations in this book continue to find expression in attempts to instruct Inuit about politics, health, and work.

For example, we ask how conservation practices have merged with educational campaigns about hunting and the responsible use of natural resources; how the state understands bodily health as fundamental to Canadian citizenship in ways that are continuous with the past; how the care of houses has become a focal point of the state's efforts to instil modern outlooks, interests, and behaviours in Inuit; and how the state's regime of care is framed as a cooperative educational effort.

[back to top](#)

[back to Culture & Knowledge](#)



Session Title: **Community-based Approaches to Literacy and Skills Development as a Basis for Sustainability**

Session #: EDUC1

Session Grouping : Education

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Helen Balanoff helen@nwtliteracy.ca

Session Description:

Many adults in Canada's north leave school early without the literacy and other basic skills they need for life in today's world. Negative experiences in the formal education system often create in these adults a reluctance to return to formal education. Today, community-based research often serves as a basis to inform policy and practice. It supports the development of many innovative and transformative community-based programs and approaches in the North that engage reluctant youth and adult learners and have demonstrated positive outcomes. These non-formal community-based learning programs may be led by a teacher or someone in the community with knowledge and skills in specific areas, such as Elders. The programs are usually hands-on and tailored to people's specific interests, and often follow traditional teaching and learning styles where experiential learning plays a big role. The community-based research builds capacity for northern research, and the skills acquired through the resultant community-based programs serve as a basis for sustainability. Panel presenters will give examples of community-based research and programming across the north and examine the role these have played in meeting the needs of more marginalized youth and adults today, while creating a sustainable future for individuals, families, communities and society as a whole.

[back to top](#)
[back to Education](#)



Session Title: **Education in the Arctic: Sustaining our Communities**

Session #: EDUC2

Session Grouping : Education

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Diane Hirshberg dbhirshberg@alaska.edu

Session Description:

This session will include papers on all aspects of education in the Arctic, from formal schooling to informal learning, and from early learning and primary and secondary education to post-secondary academic and career education as well as adult education.

Papers can address research on current challenges in Arctic education, innovative practices, and policy issues. Of special interest is research that addresses ways in which education systems or initiatives affect or support community sustainability.

[back to top](#)
[back to Education](#)



Session Title: **Education in the North on the Example of West Siberia and Kamchatka**

Session #: EDUC3

Session Grouping : Education

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Victoria Churikova
Peter Drouziaka

victoria.churikova@gmail.com
petr_druz@mail.ru

Session Description:

We are going to speak about our own experience in teaching in remote communities of Kamchatka on the one hand and Novosibirsk Akademgorodok (scientific Centre) on the other. Peter Drouziaka, graduate of Novosibirsk State University, is now teaching in specialized schools and also field schools which gather schoolchildren from 7 to 18 years from big and small cities and also small villages of Siberia.

Victoria Churikova will present the experience of family school in Kamchatka and teaching IT students in Akademgorodok, Peter Bekkerov will cover the alternative schools of aboriginal children in Elizovo, Kamchatka. We also invited other educators from Siberia.

Our session is open to other participants from any corner of the North, dealing with education items, and you are welcome to submit your presentations.

[back to top](#)
[back to Education](#)



Session Title: **Education Research by Northerners for Northerners:
High School Case Studies, Social Studies Program Evaluation and
Nurturing Indigenous Scholars in the Arctic**

Session #: EDUC4

Session Grouping : Education

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Heather E. McGregor heather.e.mcgregor@gmail.com

Session Description:

In this session two graduate students from Canada's territories present research into the contexts, practices and outcomes of northern high school education. Both inquiries form components of larger educational change projects and research initiatives designed and carried out by Northerners. This is followed by a presentation from an Indigenous scholar who has worked towards building research and scholarship capacity in the Coast Salish region of BC/Washington State, identifying ideas that can be gleaned to further enhance northern educational research capacity. Sustainability, that is, the ability of Arctic peoples to articulate research interests that are relevant to assessing and improving education programs from within, and which draw upon local and sustainable resources, are key themes in these presentations.

[back to top](#)
[back to Education](#)



Session Title: **Health Equity Begins With Accessible Health Education:
Using Partnerships and Technology to Deliver Health Education in the North**

Session #: EDUC5

Session Grouping : Education

Session Status: Closed

Session Organizer(s): Lorna Butler (chair)
Heather Exner-Pirot (discussant)

lorna.butler@usask.ca

heather.exnerpirot@usask.ca

Session Description:

This session will examine strategies to address northern and Indigenous health professional shortages through access to innovative technologies and circumpolar partnerships.

- * Lois Berry - A Case Study in Remote Health Education Delivery
- * Lorna Butler – Remote Presence Technology: Pathways for Healthy Northern Communities Through Improved Access
- * Mary Ellen Andrews – Rural and Remote Health Professionals: Gaps and Challenges in Northern Health Human Resource Planning
- * Maxine Watt – Internationalizing Northern Health Education
- * Nikolay Diachkovsky – Perspectives of Indigenous Peoples of the North in the Development of Higher Education for Nurses [on the example of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia)]

[back to top](#)
[back to Education](#)



Session Title: **Teacher Education, Teaching, and Sustainable Schools in the Circumpolar North**

Session #: EDUC6

Session Grouping : Education

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Ute Kaden ukaden@alaska.edu
Beth Leonhard brleonard@alaska.edu
Phil Patterson pppatterson@alaska.edu
Barbara Adams barbara.adams@alaska.edu
Joanne Healy jhealy7@alaska.edu

Session Description:

Significant factors for healthy, resilient Arctic communities can be schools and teachers. A consistent and qualified teacher workforce integrated into the community is critical to the learning of students, the sustainability of schools, and the vitality of Arctic and indigenous communities. Circumpolar schools exceed the single role of an education facility, often functioning as places where people meet, interact, and strengthen their social networks.

The education system can be a major player in the cultural and economic well being of Arctic communities or it can amplify and accelerate the process toward losing cultural integrity and contact with nature. Teaching students in the Arctic in ways that allow them to sustain their cultural identity is important for student motivation, curriculum relevance, and ultimately community and cultural sustainability.

Preparing and retaining effective teachers for teaching in rural and often indigenous communities throughout the circumpolar North is a complex and challenging task. Building stable and effective community schools, and implementing culturally relevant curricula to engage and inspire the Youth of the circumpolar North are essential objectives of education policy for sustainable communities.

During this session, we invite presenters who address the wide range of education related topics including but not limited to teacher preparation, teaching, rural and indigenous learning, sustainable schools, place-based curriculum, community and school relations, and partnerships with the objectives to:

- * Share experiences, challenges, and solutions for educating the Youth of the circumpolar North
- * Discuss possible effective strategies for teacher preparation, induction, and retention
- * Examine the complex relationships of education policies, teacher education, social-cultural context of the Arctic, and culturally effective schooling to sustain communities and indigenous cultures.

[back to top](#)
[back to Education](#)

Session Title: **VERDDE - University Center of Mobility in Indigenous Education**

Session #: EDUC7

Session Grouping : Education

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Laila Aleksandersen Nutti

verdde@samiskhs.no or lailaan@samiskhs.no

Session Description:

Background information: Verdde is a sami word meaning “a mutually beneficial exchange”. UArctic Thematic Network Verdde was established in 2004, and has been working as an exchange program for students and teachers, in cooperation with five Arctic institutions: Nunavut Arctic College and Yukon College (both in Canada), Ilisimatusarfik University of Greenland (Greenland), Arctic State Institute of Culture and Art(ASICA) and North-Eastern Federal University(NEFU) (both in Yakutsk, Russia). It is now decided to strengthen this collaboration and develop a concept of mobility in indigenous education. Sami University College is leading this work, with close cooperation with Nunavut Arctic College. ASICA and NEFU have supported this work by letters of intent.

Some information can be found here, but we are just now working on the information part:

<http://www.samiskhs.no/index.php?c=605&kat=Verdde&p=> <http://www.uarctic.org/SingleArticle.aspx?m=261&amid=960>.

The session: The main goal with this session for us is to present the Verdde concept and to talk about what we consider to be an very important part of the northern sustainabilities, indigenous education all over the Arctic region. It is crucial for indigenous capacity building that both students and academic staff learn about different experiences, teaching methods and programs which have been developed by different institutions of higher education. Collaboration in itself is a means to build capacity both for institutions involved in cooperation, and for young people who in their capacity of being students gain knowledge about indigenous education all over the Arctic region.

For indigenous students and academics you often experience to have more in common with somebody on the other side of the north pole than you have with the same kind of people in your home country down south. To give each other new ideas to find back to what we had before in new ways is important and can have an huge impact on the children of tomorrow. The concept University Center of Mobility in indigenous Education, will serve as an active center for mobility activities, coordinate Verdde cooperation, give support to institutions and students, and provide systematic information about scholarships and courses at different institutions involved in Verdde cooperation.

[back to top](#)
[back to Education](#)



Session Title: **Climate Change and the Cultural Foundations of Complacency**

Session #: ENCC2

Session Grouping : Environmental & Climate Change

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Grete Kaare Hovelsrud
Halvor Dannevig

grete.hovelsrud@nforsk.no
hda@vestforsk.no

Session Description:

Scientific evidence clearly shows that global warming is caused by human activities but the general public and many policy makers do not consider climate change to be a problem that may require changes in lifestyles, behavior, and policy. It is clear that the evidence and information about anthropogenic climate change do not automatically translate into adaptive or mitigative behavior, despite the substantial long-term challenges that climate change will pose to society (Hovelsrud et al, In Press). Both mitigation and adaptation are emphasized by scientists as necessary responses to climate change, yet there is a deep-seated inertia in our society to respond. By addressing underlying cultural foundations, narratives, discourses, worldviews and cosmologies in society we may be able to uncover the reasons behind the overall societal complacency. By adding these dimensions to our already rich knowledge base on climate adaptation and mitigation we will broaden our understanding of the non-quantifiable and less visible processes behind the lack of responses. Such understandings will also be critical in discussions about societal transformations beyond climate adaptation and mitigation. The role of narratives (and discourses) in shaping adaptation, adaptive capacity and mitigation to climate change, and in reflecting the acceptance of climate change as a problem has so far received little attention in the literature, although the importance of considering worldviews and values as integral aspects of adaptation is increasingly recognized (e.g. Jasanoff 2010; O'Brien and Wolf 2010). Innovative applications of established methods require open-minded and innovative researchers, which will require a certain level of self-reflection to ensure that we are able to move beyond our own world views. But the conceptual and (inter-) disciplinary challenges of examining perceptions, cultural values and world views embedded in discourses and narratives will result in the unpacking of the drivers of climate change complacency at local levels.

The narratives of resilience that are found throughout the north, reflect cultural values and a world view that are called upon in discussions about the impacts of climate change on individuals and livelihood activities such as fisheries or hunting. The cultural repertoire, particularly in Northern Norway includes the emphasis on the "vi står han av" narrative (the strong ability to handle hardship). This is reflecting deep seated perceptions of individual and local resilience, closely linked to the high natural variability in the resource base and climatic and societal conditions.

This session invites presentations that address 1) whether and how perceptions of resilience to the ongoing changing conditions in the Arctic may be reflected in different forms of narratives and expressions of world views, values and cultural norms; 2) how such perceptions may shape how we approach the challenge of global warming; and 3) whether resilience narratives may affect adaptive capacity of individuals and/or communities.

[back to top](#)
[back to Environmental & Climate Change](#)



Session Title: **Climate Change, Migration and Economic Transformations in the High Medieval to Early Modern North**

Session #: ENCC3

Session Grouping : Environmental & Climate Change

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Jón Haukur Ingimundarson
George Hambrecht

jhi@unak.is
ghambrec@umd.edu

Session Description:

The Medieval Warm period witnessed extensive migration of peoples and communities within and into the regions of the Circumpolar North and involved significant changes in culture and subsistence technology and the creation of new settlements and societies. During the ensuing “Little Ice Age” certain Arctic and sub-Arctic communities relocated or became extinct, while most societies developed a new set of survival strategies and altered modes of production, and in the early modern period, successive waves of European expansion into the Arctic – driven by southern interests in marine resources and furs, trade and tribute connections, exploration and Christianizing, and colonizing or moving to “frontier areas” – brought major population, political and cultural changes; lead to conflicts as well as trade intensification and subsistence revolutions among indigenous peoples; and involved newcomers’ formation of large trading companies and the emergence of peoples of mixed indigenous and European ancestry.

Focusing on the period between c. 1000 and 1800 CE, this session will address thus described processes and topics by featuring case studies as well as comparative studies of human habitation, culture and socio-ecological change in the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions of Eurasia and North America, including islands of the North Pacific and the North Atlantic.

[back to top](#)
[back to Environmental & Climate Change](#)



Session Title: **Ecosystem Sustainability – Sustainable Livelihoods?**

Session #: ENCC4

Session Grouping : Environmental & Climate Change

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Jukka Käyhkö
Tim Horstkotte
Sonja Kivinen

Jukka.kayhko@utu.fi
tim.horstkotte@utu.fi
sonja.kivinen@utu.fi

Session Description:

Multiple anthropogenic and natural drivers are changing ecosystems and consequently impacting livelihoods. Reindeer herding, fishing and other traditional livelihoods of cultural importance often conflict with other land uses, such as intensive resource exploitation, or tourism. Supporting sustainable multiple-use landscapes in both social and ecological terms and on various spatial, temporal and administrative scales requires information, knowledge and understanding. Planning for long term sustainability therefore may include trade-offs with short-term goals, as well as between different stakeholders. Collective decision-making and mutually agreed upon context-specific regimes may aid sustainable long term use of renewable resources and persistence of livelihoods. Nevertheless, societies have to take sides in how, for what and for whose benefit ecosystems are managed. But who finally defines sustainability?

We invite presentations from various disciplines studying these dilemmas in the circumpolar North.

[back to top](#)

[back to Environmental & Climate Change](#)



Session Title: **Ecosystem Approaches to the Conservation and Management of the Environment and Resources in the Arctic**

Session #: ENCC5

Session Grouping : Environmental & Climate Change

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): WANG Hanling boalos@126.com

Session Description:

Ecosystem Approaches have been adopted in a series of global, regional and national documents on the conservation and management of the environment and resources. Some of these legal and policy documents are related to the Arctic. This interdisciplinary session discusses the theoretical and practical issues in the adoption of ecosystem approaches to the Arctic environmental resources as well as the sustainability of the Arctic ecosystem from a perspective of science, law, and politics. The major issues and questions to be discussed include:

1. Global, regional and national legislations and policies related to ecosystem approaches to the conservation and management of the environment and resources in the Arctic;
2. Scientific, socioeconomic and political issues in the application of ecosystem approaches to the Arctic environmental resources;
3. Experiences and lessons learned from the application of ecosystem approaches around the world and their implications for the Arctic.

[back to top](#)
[back to Environmental & Climate Change](#)



Session Title: **Assessing Arctic Futures: Voices, Resources and Governance**

Session #: GOVE1

Session Grouping : Governance

Session Status: Closed

Session Organizer(s): Annika E. Nilsson

annika.nilsson@sei-international.org

Session Description:

Rapid climate change has brought increasing attention to the future of the Arctic. Indeed, Arctic futures are produced en masse, embodying different agendas. The purpose of this session is to look at how certain futures (in the past and present) gain momentum, while others fade from the public discourse. It starts from the premise that futures are often used for directing decisions and affecting the course of action. The approach can be placed in contrast to climate determinism, including its implicit assumptions about technology and science, to instead focus the investigation on where agency and power lies. The session will address three interlinked themes: voice, resources and governance. The Arctic is said to be rich in resources, and one task is to bring new insights to how the value of a specific resource is created in interplay between actor networks and governance structures. It includes attention to how certain voices are heard and others silenced, and to the fact that governance is part of the power structures that actors use and try shape in order to further their desired future.

Program(s): Swedish Foundations for Strategic Environmental Research (Mistra): Assessing Arctic Futures. Voices, Resources and Governance

[back to top](#)
[back to Governance](#)



Session Title: **Governance and Competence Building in Relation to Raw Material Extraction - A Challenge to Arctic Local Communities as well as to Global Companies**

Session #: GOVE2

Session Grouping : Governance

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Ulrik Jørgensen
Birgitte Hoffmann

uljo@plan.aau.dk
bhof@plan.aau.dk

Session Description:

The main question to be addressed in this session is how mining and other resource extraction activities can be developed to support local interests and perspectives? The session aim to explore And what type of governance initiatives and competences needs to be developed to balance local community and global business interests? The session will bring together and compare experiences from different parts of the Arctic including Greenland, Canada, Alaska, Norway and Island with experiences from other regions e.g. Australia and South America demonstrating challenges and attempt to overcome these in the meeting between large scale technologies and business interest and local (indigenous) population and their forms of life and settlements. Measures have been taken by governments and companies to bring forward globally operating (engineering) consultants to carry out SIA's and EIA's e.g. preparing for the challenge of regulating company activities and their use of immigrant workers and global suppliers. The challenges are especially the size (scale) and speed (time span for planning and operations) that is presented by the global companies compared to the need for development of appropriate regulation, skilled educations and social change in the local populations to cope with these new types of actors and jobs.

[back to top](#)
[back to Governance](#)



Session Title: **Governance and Urban Sustainability:
Examples from Russia's Arctic Industrial Centres**

Session #: GOVE3

Session Grouping : Governance

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Marlene Laruelle
Aileen A. Espíritu

laruelle@gwu.edu
aileen.a.espiritu@uit.no or aaespiritu@gmail.com

Session Description:

This panel addresses the notion of urban sustainability and the role of governance based on the examples from Russia's key Arctic industrial centers, the Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Oblast and the mining city of Norilsk. It discusses the disbalanced center-periphery relations, the security-threat narrative of local governance in closed cities such as Norilsk, and changes in the urban fabric. It highlights the contribution that political science can bring to the study of Arctic urban sustainability.

Program(s): Norwegian Research Council-ARCSUS

[back to top](#)
[back to Governance](#)



Session Title: **Indigenous People of the Arctic and Their Involvement in Tourism Development: Structures, Policies and Responses**

Session #: GOVE4

Session Grouping : Governance

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Christina Engström
Albina Pashkevich

ceg@du.se
alp@du.se

Session Description:

Tourism is considered an important income opportunity for indigenous people, still relying on traditionally rooted livelihoods. Tourism also has been regarded as a tool for enabling integration of indigenous communities into wider society. However, despite implementation of integration policies, the full integration of minority cultures in our society is still debated. In the northern hemisphere, indigenous people are still fighting for their rights and to gain influence over decision-making processes affecting their livelihoods. A knowledge of how the overarching institutional structures and planning discourses are shaped and how they function in relation to indigenous minorities are vital in order to understand the preconditions under which indigenous people can participate in tourism activities. It also enables an understanding of how these structures influence their current and/or potential participation in tourism.

The Indigenous people and tourism session welcomes papers discussing how institutional structures and planning discourses influence current/potential indigenous tourism participation in the Arctic. Papers address the following topics:

- * institutional structures shaping indigenous tourism
- * community involvement in planning processes and tourism developments
- * the role of tourism development for traditional livelihoods (e.g. reindeer herding)
- * tourism as a tool for strengthening indigenous identities
- * best practices of sustainable tourism involving indigenous people

[back to top](#)
[back to Governance](#)



Session Title: **Inuit Regional Autonomy in the Canadian Arctic: Nunavik, Nunatsiavut and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region in Comparative Perspective**

Session #: GOVE5

Session Grouping : Governance

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Gary N. Wilson

wilsong@unbc.ca

Session Description:

Over the last several decades, Inuit peoples in the Canadian Arctic have negotiated a series of comprehensive land claim agreements with federal, provincial and territorial governments. These agreements have provided the basis for regional autonomy and the development of self-government. This panel will compare and contrast the development of self-government in three Inuit regions: Nunavik, Nunatsiavut and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. Although these regions are similar in many respects, including the fact that they are autonomous regions that are “nested” within existing provinces and territories, their respective paths toward self-government and the institutional structure of their self-government regimes are very different. This panel will explore the political, economic and social variables that led to different outcomes in each case, as well as the intergovernmental dynamics between Inuit regional governments and their federal and provincial/territorial counterparts.

[back to top](#)

[back to Governance](#)



Session Title: **Neoliberal Governance and Sustainable Communities in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region**

Session #: GOVE6

Session Grouping : Governance

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Aileen A. Espíritu aileen.a.espiritu@uit.no or aaespiritu@gmail.com

Session Description:

The political rationality of our time is neoliberalism, which has widely spread in different variations across the Arctic, in the last couple of decades. Neoliberalism in simple terms means the extension of market relations and competition throughout the society, including social interactions. Neoliberalism as a practice of governance is paradoxical many times, a combination of old and new practices and dependent upon existing social relations and state practices. The relationship between sustainable development and neoliberal governance is particularly problematic, especially at the community level. There is no single accepted definition of sustainable communities. Sustainable communities are made of minimizing consumption of essential natural resources, diversification of economic opportunities, increasing human, social and cultural resources, and maintaining social cohesion, among many other things. Most importantly, sustainable communities are able to cope with various economic, social and environmental changes in less drastic and more equitable ways while maintaining social cohesion. This session invites presentations across the Barents Region and beyond to discuss the relationship between neoliberalism, sustainable development and community development.

Program(s): NEO-BEAR

[back to top](#)
[back to Governance](#)



Session Title: **The Ethics of Care in Inuit Leadership and Governance**

Session #: GOVE7

Session Grouping : Governance

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Frédéric Laugrand
Caroline Hervé

Frederic.Laugrand@ant.ulaval.ca
caroline.herve@ciera.ulaval.ca

Session Description:

The various initiatives taken by the different Inuit self-governments to introduce Inuit values into their institutions reflect a need to promote the concept of caring. For example, within the framework of the Inuit qaujimaqatugangit, one of the solutions created by the Nunavut government to integrate Inuit culture, three of the six guidelines reveal the importance to take care of the others and the environment: pijitsirniq (the concept of serving), aajiiqatigiingniq (the concept of consensus decisions - making), avatimik kamattiarniq (concept of environmental stewardship). This focus on altruistic behaviours is not limited to political life but concerns the different aspects of the collective life in Inuit societies.

“Care” is most often defined as a practice, value, disposition, or virtue, and is frequently portrayed as an overlapping set of concepts. It designates a relationship where the well-being of the others is fundamental in people’s actions and mind. By focusing on the different levels of governance, other than those of formal political structures and legal jurisdictions, to include family kinship, local organizations and other informal settings where decision-making can take place, this concept can help us to shed new lights on Inuit collective life.

This session proposes to think about the importance attached to others in Inuit leadership and governance. How the various aspects of caring are embedded in the act of governing and leading? How the relationship to the territory and nature encompasses the necessity to care? Are the new models of governance able to integrate such altruistic perspectives? How far the Inuit societies privilege collective management upon individualistic actions? The concept of caring calls new reflections as well, on such themes as social justice, participative democracy, co-management, and knowledge transmission.

Program(s): CURA Inuit Leadership and Governance in Nunavut and Nunavik

[back to top](#)
[back to Governance](#)



Session Title: **Assessments as Tools for Governance and Sustainable Development in the Arctic**

Session #: GOVE8

Session Grouping : Governance

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Paula Kankaanpää

Malgorzata Smieszek

malgorzata.smieszek@ulapland.fi

Adam Stepień

adam.stepien@ulapland.fi

Session Description:

Assessments of various kinds – ranging from environmental impact assessments, strategic or integrated assessments to regional environmental assessments – are one of the main tools for producing and translating knowledge in the Arctic. They constitute “boundary objects” between knowledge-production (scientific, lay and traditional) and the policymakers or the public. Assessments may shape policies and discourses (e.g. Arctic Council’s assessments) or constitute indispensable and legally required elements of concrete decision-making processes (e.g., EIAs). Despite their critical role, our understanding of the effectiveness and influence of assessments is still far from comprehensive. Moreover, technicization of governance connected with assessments can be seen as an emerging challenge.

The panel aims to approach the problem of Arctic assessments from different perspectives in order to shed light on their role in the management and governance in the Arctic by asking questions such as: What are the methodological challenges in conducting assessments? What makes an assessment effective and influential? Whether and in what ways might assessments depoliticize the decision-making in the Arctic? What is the role of local and indigenous stakeholders in assessments carried out in different parts of the Arctic?

[back to top](#)
[back to Governance](#)



Session Title: **Northern Drinking': Images, Values and Control**

Session #: ASG

Session Grouping : Health & Well-Being

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Anna Stammli-Gossmann
Stephan Dudeck

astammle@ulapland.fi

stephan.dudeck@ulapland.fi

Session Description:

Alcohol drinking practices of Northern people are seen as apparently different across cultures and often as more extensive. In Northern settings drinking has been feared, tabooed and intensively controlled. At the same time drinking has been sought, desired and loved.

The panel session addresses this aspect of the ambivalence of the alcohol consumption in the North by placing it between two polarized traits: 'noble' drinking on the one hand and 'problem' drinking on the other. It particularly focuses on the existing set of stereotypes, self-images and values, attached to the 'usual' patterns of drinking practices. Also the existing individual, public and institutionalized forms of control of alcohol consumption in the North should merit greater attention.

[back to top](#)
[back to Health & Well-Being](#)



Session Title: **Alternative Food Security Strategies in the Circumpolar North**

Session #: HEAL1

Session Grouping : Health & Well-Being

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Ellen Avard

ellen.avard.1@ulaval.ca

Session Description:

Food provisioning strategies in the Circumpolar North have changed dramatically over the last half century, and while northern peoples still regularly consume country foods (foods harvested from the local environment), traditional berries, meats and fish no longer compose the bulk of northern diets. In response to challenges associated with an increased dependence on imported market food and environmental and social factors that hinder harvesting activities, a number of alternative food provisioning strategies have emerged in recent years in an effort to contribute to the food security of northern communities. Notable examples include; country food markets, community kitchens, nutrition education programs and agricultural activities such as greenhouses and potato farming. In this session we invite participants to present and discuss ways in which new types of alternative food provisioning strategies complement traditional food systems in northern regions, as well as how they contribute to the sustainable development of our rapidly growing northern communities. In particular, we would like to explore how indigenous peoples adopt and integrate new “food projects” into their communities and how these types of projects can contribute to the building up of capacity and resilience in the North.

[back to top](#)

[back to Health & Well-Being](#)



Session Title: **Climate Change and Health Adaptation in the Circumpolar North**

Session #: HEAL2

Session Grouping : Health & Well-Being

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Ashlee Cunsolo Willox
Eleanor Stephenson

ashlee_cunsolowilcox@cbu.ca
eleanor.stephenson@mcgill.ca

Session Description:

Local observations and scientific monitoring have documented rapid changes in climate and environment throughout the Circumpolar North. These changes include rising temperatures, decreased sea ice extent and thickness, changing precipitation patterns, melting permafrost, rising sea levels, and changes in wildlife and vegetation patterns. Recent evidence has demonstrated that these changes are negatively impacting the health of some Circumpolar peoples, causing an increased frequency and distribution of foodborne, waterborne, and vectorborne diseases, increased respiratory challenges from changing air quality; increased incidences of heat stroke and sunburns; increased mortality and morbidity from changing travel conditions and extreme weather events; disruptions to food security and nutritional intake; and negative implications for mental and emotional health and well-being. Climate change has been identified as the biggest threat to public health in the 21st Century, and it is anticipated that the situation will be no different throughout the Circumpolar regions.

Clearly, the health impacts from a changing climate are an important public health issue in the North, and finding ways to adapt to the health effects of climate change is a priority. It is essential, then, that researchers, health practitioners, decision-makers, and communities work together to share information, conduct multi-scalar research, and mobilize findings to mitigate the health effects of a changing climate. Recognizing these needs, this session aims to bring together diverse and multidisciplinary participants and presentations to discuss the numerous ways that climate change is, or is likely to, impact on the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health of Circumpolar peoples, with a particular focus on highlighting locally-appropriate health adaptation strategies. This special session will also structure time to engage in dialogue and debate with session presenters and audience participants around climate-health adaptation strategies and adaptive health management techniques. Participation from Circumpolar Indigenous peoples, community-based participatory projects, and those working in policy will be particularly encouraged.

[back to top](#)
[back to Health & Well-Being](#)



Session Title: **Climate Change, Gender, and Well-Being in the Arctic**

Session #: HEAL3

Session Grouping : Health & Well-Being

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Amy Lauren Lovecraft
Grete Kaare Hovelsrud

alovecraft@alaska.edu
grete.hovelsrud@nforsk.no

Session Description:

The importance of examining gender within the global interdisciplinary research on climate change has been established by academics, NGOs, and international agencies. As changes in the Earth's climate affect how biotic and abiotic components of ecosystems function, this in turn alters the ecosystems services provided to human society. Evidence from a variety of case studies indicates that these changes will affect different sectors of societies differently depending on characteristics such as wealth, access to land, legal regimes of property ownership and citizenship, and also gender. Men and women will be affected differently by climate change and they will adapt differently. However the bulk of these studies have focused on developing nations and ecosystems in the primarily arid or tropical landscapes of what is often called the global South. It has been established that the circumpolar North is comparatively experiencing the most rapid changes due to climate forcing on the planet but little research on the linkages between climate change and gender has been done. This session seeks to bring together researchers and practitioners to address this gap in our knowledge of the connections between gender, climate induced changes, and human well-being in the Arctic. While effects of climate change in the circumpolar North will be gendered, there will be key differences in both the vulnerabilities of Arctic populations and the suite of adaptation approaches to mitigate these effects than currently recommended for the South. This research is important to understanding the socio-economic interplay between gender and several social forces that have interactive effects related to a climate induced changes. In the Arctic these are largely related to social phenomenon of migration, education, economic development, subsistence practices, and mental and physical well-being. There is gender differentiation both socially in one's culture as well as in relation to practices on the land and waters. We hope to share information examining how women and men may have different sets of knowledge(s), capacities, and strategies related to the vulnerabilities and opportunities a changing climate presents. In turn, these differences will affect policy formation and practices related to social resilience in food production, human health, education, and governance for sustainability in the Arctic.

We encourage papers that address three aspects of this subject. (1) How are the causes of climate change gendered? (2) How do the many different effects of climate change at different scales affect men and women differently? (3) How is adaptation to socio-economic and ecological changes of climate disturbance gendered? Subject areas could include a broad range of issues such as potential gender disparity in industries likely to benefit from climate changes in the Arctic, how men and women handle the stress of uncertainty related to terrestrial and marine changes, whether formal and informal learning among males and females are preparing them to be resilient in a changing Arctic social-environmental system, how changing natural resource management may affect men and women differently, and the intersectional nature of identity (including gender) and capacity to adapt to change.

[back to top](#)

[back to Health & Well-Being](#)



Session Title: **Lament for the Land:
Climate Change and Mental Health in the Circumpolar World**

Session #: HEAL4

Session Grouping : Health & Well-Being

Session Status: Closed

Session Organizer(s): Ashlee Cunsolo Willox ashlee_cunsolowilcox@cbu.ca

Session Description:

Style: Documentary Film Premiere/Screening followed by a Panel Discussion

Anthropogenic climate change has been an increasing concern for peoples throughout the Circumpolar North, and the rapid changes to ice thickness and extent, precipitation levels, weather patterns, and wildlife and vegetation dispersion are disrupting livelihoods and lifestyles for many. In recent years, emerging evidence is indicating that climate change may have negative impacts for mental health and well-being, particularly for those who rely closely on the natural environment for daily sustenance and economic activities and those who live in rural or remote areas. Indeed, oral stories, research, and predictive reports are indicating that climate change is likely to become a serious mental health issue for peoples throughout the North, due to changes to land and sense of place; damage to infrastructure; the compounding of existing distress; and mediated impacts.

To illustrate the ways in which climate change may impact mental health throughout the Circumpolar North, this session will begin with the premiere screening of a short documentary film, *A Lament for the Land* (2014, run time approximately 20 minutes). Situated against the backdrop of stunning scenery from the North Coast of Labrador, this film weaves together narratives and lived experiences of Labrador Inuit and local and regional health professionals to tell a powerful story of the numerous pathways through which mental health and well-being in each of the five communities of Nunatsiavut is being affected. To our knowledge, this is the first film to illustrate the linkages between climate change and mental health in the North.

This film emerged from research conducted in Nunatsiavut, Labrador, Canada, led by the Rigolet Inuit Community Government (RICG). Using community-based and community-led participatory methods, the RICG worked with Inuit, researchers, and health professionals in all five communities in Nunatsiavut (Nain, Hopedale, Postville, Makkovik, and Rigolet) to discover potential pathways through which climate change was disrupting mental health. Through this research, participants reported that changes in climate, and the resulting disruption to land activities, led to: intense emotional reactions associated with loss of activities, identity, and sense of place (grief, mourning, anxiety, stress, distress); real and potential increases in consumption of drugs and alcohol; potential increases in suicide ideation; and potential to aggravate acute anxiety disorders and major depression. Climate change was also reported to act as a magnifier for other forms of stress and distress and to highlight socio-economic inequalities, leading to further negative ramifications for mental health and well-being. Footage for *A Lament for the Land* was gathered through this research.

A panel discussion will follow the film screening, bringing together researchers, health professionals, and community members from throughout the Circumpolar North to discuss the potential implications of climate change on mental health and well-being throughout the North, and consider avenues for further research, action, health programming, and policy change. Time for audience dialogue and debate will also be included.

[back to top](#)
[back to Health & Well-Being](#)



Session Title: **Living Conditions / Well-Being and Quality of Life of Indigenous Peoples and Other Arctic Residents**

Session #: HEAL5

Session Grouping : Health & Well-Being

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Birger Poppel
Catherine Turcotte

bipo@uni.g
kate.turcotte@colby-sawyer.edu

Session Description:

SLiCA, the Survey of Living Conditions of the Arctic, was based on a major knowledge gap concerning the welfare priorities, quality of life and perceptions of Arctic indigenous peoples. At the same time there was a growing awareness that conventional social indicators only partly embraced the livelihood and the living conditions that many indigenous peoples across the Arctic share.

A partnership between Arctic social scientists and indigenous peoples in the Arctic was established and through a concerted effort some of the gaps were closed and knowledge as well as valuable experience was gained. Through dissertations, articles, the project website and a large number of presentations at research conferences and other fora research findings have been disseminated and there is an abundance of data is yet to be examined.

The data collection was conducted between 2001 and 2008 and the SLiCA data can be seen as a significant baseline study of living conditions of Inuit, Sami and indigenous peoples of Chukotka and the Kola Peninsula. The need for comparative circumpolar assessments of quality of life and human development is often stressed by among others the Arctic Council and the AC has endorsed several major projects: Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR), Arctic Social Indicators (ASI), Economies of the North (ECONOR) and SLiCA among others to create a sound basis for assessments, discussions and decision making. A major gap still is time series and conducting a follow-up – a SLiCA 2.0 – might substantially contribute to assessing human development, living conditions and quality of life.

The goal of the session is thus twofold:

- * making a status of the achievements of the SLiCA project and thus inviting presentations focusing on and discussing theoretical, methodological lessons learned as well as different analytical approaches and results and
- * discussing the conditions and potentials of conducting an updated and revised Survey of Living Conditions of the Arctic (SLiCA 2.0). To this discussion especially papers with different experiences from and approaches to measuring and assessing human development, living conditions and quality of life as well as conducting surveys at different scales.

[back to top](#)

[back to Health & Well-Being](#)



Session Title: **Unsettling ‘Historical Trauma’ in the Arctic**

Session #: HEAL6

Session Grouping : Health & Well-Being

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Jack Hicks
Allison Crawford

jackhicks@live.ca
allison.crawford@utoronto.ca

Session Description:

Historical trauma is a complex collective phenomenon “incorporating both the psychological and social sequelae of historical oppression, whereas PTSD ... is largely confined to the psychology (and accompanying substrates of the individual.” (Gone, in press) Historical trauma is cumulative and intergenerational in its impacts. The framework was initially developed in regard to Holocaust survivors and their descendants, and began to be employed in the context of indigenous peoples in the mid-1990s. As a framework “to describe the experiences of communities and ethnic groups exposed to large scale or repeated traumatic events and accompanying stresses, [historical trauma] may provide a useful framework for understanding the cultural changes undergone by Inuit communities, and how this may be related to contemporary social suffering.” (Crawford, in press)

Historical trauma can be described in Inuktitut as “Sivulirijat aksurumaqtukkuurnikugijangat aktuiniaqsimaninga kinguvaanginnut” -- “the trauma experienced by generations past having an effect in their descendants.”

The most significant application of the framework in the Arctic to date may be in the 2010 final report of the Inuit-led Qikiqtani Truth Commission, where Chief Commissioner James Igloliorte recommended that: “The Government of Canada should formally acknowledge that the levels of suicide, addiction, incarceration and social dysfunction found in the Qikiqtani i region are in part symptoms of intergenerational trauma caused by historical wrongs.”

Also in 2010, the multi-stakeholder Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy stated that: “The understanding that historical trauma can be passed from one generation to the next does not excuse afflicted individuals who harm others; nor does the examination of the roots of historical trauma in Nunavut allow definitive blame for the current suicide rate to be placed on any single entity. Rather, understanding historical trauma and how it is transmitted from generation to generation is an imperative first step in breaking its cycle in Nunavut.”

This session will explore a range of aspects of collective and historical trauma in the Arctic. Papers could address topics as diverse as the legacy of residential schools, historical trauma and intergenerational self-destructive behavior, how evidence-based trauma and grief therapy can be adapted for indigenous cultures, doing fieldwork in the context of historical trauma, how historical trauma impacts on decision-making processes re: resource development, etc.

[back to top](#)
[back to Health & Well-Being](#)



Session Title: **Health Promotion and Population Health**

Session #: HEAL7

Session Grouping : Health & Well-Being

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Rhonda M. Johnson

Rhonda.Johnson@uaa.alaska.edu

Session Description:

A significant legacy for the human dimension of the International Polar Year rises from the increased capacity for population health promotion and research in circumpolar regions. This capacity has been demonstrated through advancements in methods, the study of socio-cultural features and applications of traditional knowledge, knowledge translation and the development of frameworks (ethical, population health, well-being) that guide health research in our circumpolar regions. Each of these components contributes significantly to how complex health and wellness issues are addressed, studied, and understood. This session will welcome papers that demonstrate research and/or practice excellence and highlight the strengths and promising practices and lessons learned of circumpolar residents, communities and organizations. This track is open for papers/posters that do not otherwise fit into the existing Health sessions. We are particularly interested in papers that present evidence-based health promotion and/or population health projects or programs, and those that include student involvement.

[back to top](#)
[back to Health & Well-Being](#)



Session Title: **Participatory Methods for Health**

Session #: HEAL8

Session Grouping : Health & Well-Being

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Rhonda M. Johnson

Rhonda.Johnson@uaa.alaska.edu

Session Description:

This session is particularly interested in exploring both the strengths and challenges of community based methods and participatory models as they influence population health and wellness research with and about circumpolar peoples. We are particularly interested in papers that:

- * demonstrate the applications of Indigenous knowledge and highlight research methods that build an evidence base which is responsive to the cultural context in circumpolar regions.
- * highlight the engagement of circumpolar stakeholders and the development of health research capacity within polar research institutes and academic programs, governments, health authorities and non-governmental organizations.
- * recognize best practices as circumpolar partners engage in knowledge development, exchange, translation and applications of evidence to develop health policies, clinical guidelines and wellness programs.
- * highlight the design and applications of ethical and population health frameworks for health and wellness research in circumpolar regions.
- * support opportunities for increased collaboration and shared understanding for social scientists and human health researchers in the arctic region.

[back to top](#)
[back to Health & Well-Being](#)



Session Title: **Health, Culture, and Cultural Safety**

Session #: HEAL9

Session Grouping : Health & Well-Being

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Audrey R. Giles

agiles@uottawa.ca

Session Description:

Individuals in the Circumpolar world, especially Indigenous peoples, experience poor health at rates that exceed their non-Indigenous and southern peers. The ways in which culture influences healthcare, health promotion, injury prevention, and other facets of health within the circumpolar world requires urgent attention. Recently, calls for cultural safety in healthcare, particularly in New Zealand, have turned attention towards the need to seriously engage with culture and to ensure that clients/patients involved in any aspect of the healthcare system feel that their culture is respected. If we consider health to be a complex phenomenon, one that includes multiple dimensions, it becomes clear that considerations of culture and cultural safety need to expand beyond the healthcare setting.

For this session, we invite presentations that examine the ways in which culture and cultural safety can be considered within a broad range of issues that pertain to physical, spiritual, emotional, or mental health. For example, successes, challenges, and possibilities for integrating culture and cultural safety into current health promotion, injury prevention, mental health, recreation, or mainstream or traditional medicine programs or initiatives would be examples of suitable areas of focus.

[back to top](#)

[back to Health & Well-Being](#)



Session Title: **Arctic Governance and Law**

Session #: INRL1

Session Grouping : International Relations & Law

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Natalia Loukacheva n.loukacheva@utoronto.ca

Session Description:

The growing importance of the Arctic in global affairs, its shifting geo-political significance, different policies regarding the Circumpolar region, and the increasing number of actors willing to have a meaningful say in the decision-making processes affecting the North, as well as access to and influence over the re-distribution of resources, have each prompted further questions on the scope of Arctic governance and solutions for sustainable development of the region.

By focusing on the main pillars of the Arctic governance framework and its linkages to different angles of sustainability, this session will explore the key features of contemporary Arctic cooperation and the Arctic institutional complex. It will also look at the challenges and opportunities of different dimensions of Arctic governance and its nexus with major geo-political trends and legal developments as all of them are closely connected to the evolution of the Arctic governance framework. More specifically, it will address current political and legal developments which are closely linked to various aspects of Arctic governance and questions of sustainable development.

[back to top](#)
[back to International Relations & Law](#)



Session Title: **Arctic Sustainability Through International Law: Is It Possible?**

Session #: INRL2

Session Grouping : International Relations & Law

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Elena Conde Pérez conde@der.ucm.es

Session Description:

The phenomenon of climate change has exposed the Arctic region as one of the most vulnerable to its effects, with the consequences that this can have for the easiest exploration and exploitation of its vast resources. The absence of a special international regime for the Arctic determines that international law - the Law of the Sea in particular- is the tool used to balance conflicting interests: those of coastal States and those of the international community.

The Arctic is facing several and important risks, derived from its possible militarization, economic exploitation of its resources, environmental hazards connected with oil spills, fishing or mining. These threats enhance the need to delineate and defend the space and national borders, to establish surveillance of northern routes and to ensure the exploitation of natural resources and protection of Arctic inhabitants.

The main objective of this session consists in highlighting how International Law may be a way to establish an ordered and sustainable use of the Arctic territories, seas and resources. International Law may be the tool to find common solutions for an adequate sustainable development, an environmental stability and security or adaptation to climate change.

Program: Spanish Ministry of Education,
Complutense University,
Canadian Embassy in Madrid (Spain), and
IEEE, Spanish Institute of Strategic Studies (Ministry of Defense)

[back to top](#)
[back to International Relations & Law](#)



Session Title: **New Geopolitics of the Arctic Council in the Era of Climate Change:
The 'Asian Factor' in Northern Sustainabilities**

Session #: INRL3

Session Grouping : International Relations & Law

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Sanjay Chaturvedi

sanjay@pu.ac.in or csgjorg@gmail.com

Session Description:

The 'Vision for the Arctic' set out at the Kiruna Meeting on 15 May 2013, outlines the role to be played by a 'strong Arctic Council' in ensuring 'healthy', 'peaceful', 'prosperous' and 'safe' Arctic. What is being invoked here is not one, but several visions and correspondingly several 'futures' for the Arctic. The extent to which these visions/futures would either harmoniously blend or ferociously diverge, or partly overlap, in the context of Northern Sustainabilities remains uncertain. Apparently, the Rovaniemi process has crossed the Rubicon and what appears to be at stake in the wake of gradual loss of the 'white' Arctic due to climate change and fast multiplying uses and users of Arctic spaces (e.g., fishing, tourism, seaborne trade and commerce) is the entire spectrum of Northern sustainabilities, including the livelihood sustainability of communities. By granting the observer status to China, India, Japan, South Korea and Singapore, the Arctic Council has apparently preempted a possible questioning of its legitimacy and authority to 'represent' the Circumpolar North vis-à-vis the rest of globe, frame 'common' Arctic issues and dictate the governance agenda of sustainability for some of present and potential issue-areas. But a number of questions remain largely unanswered. This panel invites contributions, including, but not restricted to, the following questions.

1. What are the implications of the Arctic paradox (i.e. fossil fuels, the burning of which has caused unprecedented Arctic warming, are the same resources whose extraction and transportation projects are turning out to be one of the key catalysts behind the rhetoric and reality of 'Arctic in change') for Northern Sustainabilities?
2. What could (or should) the Asian observer states bring to the table by way of issues, expertise and resources and thereby assist expanding the Arctic Council's role from policy shaping into policy-making while addressing Northern Sustainabilities?
3. Will the Asian observers prefer individual interests and assertions to collective reflection and response while addressing complex and compelling issue-areas such as climate change mitigation/adaptation, human-environmental security, and ecologically sustainable development of terrestrial and marine resources?
4. What implications do the evolving geopolitical-strategic equations between Arctic rim states and Asian observers in the Arctic Council (e.g. China and Russia, India and the US) carry for the New Geopolitics of Arctic Council and its engagements with the spectrum of sustainability?

[back to top](#)

[back to International Relations & Law](#)



Session Title: **Non-Arctic Stakeholders and their Sustainable Engagement with the North** Session #: INRL4

Session Grouping : International Relations & Law Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Marcin Gabryś marcin.gabrys@uj.edu.pl
Michał Łuszczuk mluszczuk@gmail.com

Session Description:

The natural and social landscapes of the Arctic are confronted with a multitude of consequences of climate change and development of human activity in the northern regions driven by modernization and globalization processes. While new approaches to sustainable engagement with the North, are important both to the North's and to the world's future, it is timely to investigate to what extent this challenge is taken on also by the non-Arctic stakeholders. Common opinions about grasping and ignorant non-Arctic newcomers should be examined while the need for further advance of the appropriate governance regimes e.g. for the arctic navigation or renewable and non-renewable resources underpinning sustainable development is rising. The significance of the common, global engagement is particularly evident in the efforts to envision, advance and secure a sustainable future and development of the peoples and the environment in the Arctic. This session will address and highlight the question how sustainable engagement with the North is perceived and accomplished by different stakeholders coming from beyond the region. Ultimately the session aims to contribute to efforts to better understand the involvement of the non-Arctic players in the region and explore their potential for the sustainable, safe and effective engagement with the North.

[back to top](#)
[back to International Relations & Law](#)



Session Title: **Rethinking Borders in the North**

Session #: INRL5

Session Grouping : International Relations & Law

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Monica Tennberg
Maria Lähteenmäki

monica.tennberg@ulapland.fi
maria.lahteenmaki@uef.fi

Session Description:

Borders may be considered as containers, crossing points, spaces of interactions, and sometimes even as resources. As the mobility of people, goods and capital increases in the North due to economic development and related projects, borders and their role/significance are changing. This is a proposal for a multidisciplinary session to discuss borders and border communities both theoretically and empirically.

[back to top](#)
[back to International Relations & Law](#)



Session Title: **The Arctic Council Permanent Participants:
Past Reflections, Future Challenges**

Session #: INRL6

Session Grouping : International Relations & Law

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Jessica Shadian jessica.shadian@ulapland.fi

Session Description:

The idea of indigenous permanent participants was conceived during the formative years of Arctic regime building. The onset of the AEPS created a very unique role for the Arctic's indigenous peoples to participate in the politics of the region. Their participation was also a first for international regimes in general. The Arctic Council recently turned 15. It is also undergoing significant change at the present moment as it deals with new challenges and accommodates new interested parties. These changes offer a worthwhile opportunity to reflect on the past and consider the future role of the Arctic Council's permanent participants. The idea of indigenous permanent participants was conceived in an era when indigenous internationalism was on the rise. A lot has changed since this time regarding the role and power of the region's indigenous groups and this may or may not have implications for the future role and power of the permanent participants. Themes to consider are: the future of the permanent participants vis a vis the permanent observers; funding; internal dynamics of the permanent participants (e.g. who do they represent? Do they still have legitimacy at home? Who gives them their mandate to govern?); are there additional indigenous groups or peoples that should have a say on the Arctic Council? Could local indigenous groups become permanent observers if they are not eligible to become permanent participants?; domestic relations between the Arctic states and permanent participants; relations between permanent participants and non-Arctic states; and the implications for the AC of a sovereign Greenland.

[back to top](#)
[back to International Relations & Law](#)



Session Title: **The Arctic Nexus in the Relations Between Arctic Council States and Asian Powers**

Session #: INRL7

Session Grouping : International Relations & Law

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Rasmus Gjedssø Bertelsen
Lassi Heininen
Gunhild Hoogensen Gjørsv
Jong Deog (Justin) Kim
Marc Lanteigne*

rasmus@cantab.net or Rasmus@cgs.aau.dk

gunhild.hoogensen.gjorv@uit.no

Session Description:

The Arctic is receiving vastly increasing global scientific and political attention for two reasons: climate change and economic globalization. Also these years, the world is witnessing the “Rise of the Rest”, where especially China but also other Asian powers are growing in economic and political influence. Therefore, these countries see themselves as natural participants and stakeholders in regions around the world, including the Arctic. The existing Arctic powers (Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and USA) therefore have to decide how to accommodate rising Asian powers. The Asian interest is driven by climate change concern as Arctic climate change affects Asian weather patterns and therefore agriculture and food security. Likewise, the rising Asian powers depend on global supply of energy, raw materials and global shipping, which make them interested in Arctic energy, raw materials and new shipping lanes. The Arctic will therefore be a new dimension to the relationship between the Arctic Council states and the rising Asian powers and can be argued to give particularly the small Nordic states privileged scientific, political and economic access to rising and existing Asian powers, whose attention the world is competing for.

[back to top](#)

[back to International Relations & Law](#)



Session Title: **The Emerging Arctic Security Regime**

Session #: INRL8

Session Grouping : International Relations & Law

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Rob Huebert

rhuebert@ucalgary.ca

Session Description:

The role and place of the Arctic in the international system has been transforming at an increasingly complicated and complex manner. One of the most important issue areas has developed in regards to the development and understanding of security in the region. The actions of an increasingly large array of actors is offering a growing and complicated picture of varied and confounding set of policies and actions that are both increasing and decreasing the security of the Arctic.

This panel will examine the emerging Arctic security regime. There has been considerable debate as to the nature and direction of international security within the region. On one side of this debate, there have some who have argued that as the various forces such as climate change, resource development and globalization increase the value of the region, it will increasingly become a location of competition and possibly conflict. Others have disagreed with these assessments and have contended that the Arctic is emerging as a location of cooperation. This school of thought points to the sustained effort of the Arctic states to promote cooperation based on principles of international law, sustainability and respect for those who live in the region. How then do we understand the forces that are now reshaping the very nature of the Arctic as an international space of increasing importance?

This panel will provide an assessment of this debate. To do so, it will address the following questions. How is it possible to understand the processes of cooperation and competition that is now reshaping the nature of international security in the Arctic? How can the defence and foreign policies of the Arctic and Arctic-interested states be understood in this region? How is it possible to think of concepts of international security in the Arctic?

[back to top](#)

[back to International Relations & Law](#)



Session Title: **Arctic Agriculture and Farming Systems in Transition**

Session #: RENR1

Session Grouping : Renewable Resources

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Jón Haukur Ingimundarson jhi@unak.is or jhi@svs.is

Session Description:

This session focuses broadly on the practices and prospects of commercial and subsistence agriculture and farm enterprises in various regions of the circumpolar North, especially in view of climate change, food security and safety, economic development and appropriate technology. Presentations examine various systems and methods of farming, involving livestock husbandry and the production of food grain, horticultural and fodder crops; explore a diverse range of topics such as farm-related industries, rural employment, markets, state-support, infrastructure, resource governance, organic urban gardening, ecoagriculture strategies, animal, plant and soil eco-physiology, and the impacts of arctic warming and of winter warming events; and address the critical issues of sustainable food security, human health, community viability and a worldwide increase in food prices..

[back to top](#)

[back to Renewable Resources](#)



Session Title: **Marine Invasive Species in the Arctic: Management Issues**

Session #: RENR2

Session Grouping : Renewable Resources

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Brooks Kaiser baka@sam.sdu.dk

Session Description:

In fitting with the concept of multiple northern sustainabilities, this session is aimed at exploring and communicating the ways in which successful management of invasive species can alleviate economic, ecological, and cultural losses as increased accessibility and climate change in the region increases the potential influx of invasive species as well as their likelihood of establishment and spread.

The breadth and scope of integration of science and political economy into the formulation of strategies for preventing, controlling and/or containing, mitigating and/or adapting to biological invasions will determine the outcomes of such policies. For example, policies to contain invasive species in one nation's waters will be limited in effectiveness by decisions of neighboring nations as well as by the ecological context of the invasion. Coordinated resource policy across space and time is therefore essential to maximizing the full economic value, including potential non-use and indirect-use values, of the living resources of the Arctic Ocean as the base productivity undergoes ecological changes. Practical case studies that illuminate broader theoretical aspects of the problem should provide the foundation for integrated management.

[back to top](#)

[back to Renewable Resources](#)



Session Title: **Sustainable Marine Resource Governance:
Knowledges, Practices and Strategies**

Session #: RENR3

Session Grouping : Renewable Resources

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Halvor Dannevig
Berit Kristoffersen
Brigt Dale

hda@vestforsk.no
berit.kristoffersen@uit.no
brigt.dale@nforsk.no

Session Description:

The geophysical changes brought about by climate change and the increasing political pressure to allow for more economic activities in the Arctic sea regions is a substantial challenge to current governance system and practices in the region. Governance and policy prescriptions in European countries are based on formal procedures and strategies of systematizing scientific knowledge. Affected stakeholders' conflicting values and interests thus have to be solved through processes of gathering and systematizing knowledge deemed relevant by those that have the power to shape policy options. The management of natural resources in general – and the development of a joint management scheme for offshore resources in the north in particular – provide explicit structures for the production of scientific knowledge, whereas the inclusion of other modes of knowledge production, like for instance inherited knowledge, practice-based, experience-near reflections and embodied practices become less clear. At the same time, the inclusion of local resource users and practitioners in the co-production of knowledge is widely agreed to be a key prerequisite for adaptive and sustainable resource management in the Arctic.

The session welcomes papers that present interdisciplinary research on the use and co-production of knowledge and policies, studied in multiple societal levels and settings and which can display the interfaces and boundary areas found between political decision-making, knowledge production and public participation.

Papers are also welcome that can help us understand the complex interrelations between climate change-related policies and the desire to utilize petroleum resources as an incentive for developmental change in the Arctic sea regions.

[back to top](#)
[back to Renewable Resources](#)



Session Title: **Tourism as a Dimension of Northern Sustainability:
Political, Governance and Environmental Issues**

Session #: RENR4

Session Grouping : Renewable Resources

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Patrick Maher patrick.maher@unbc.ca
Dieter Müller
Suzanne de la Barre

Session Description:

The jury is out – does tourism contribute to northern sustainability or hamper it? The Arctic, regardless of how it is defined, contains: largely fragile ecosystems that are now in a heightened state of change; a wide scope of governance systems; a diversity of Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultures who socially are also seeing great change from subsistence lifestyles to the digital age. Within this, tourism is happening at increasing levels and thus begins the tension.

Tourists recognize the attractiveness of the Arctic, and companies recognize the opportunity. The media sells the image, either before or after the tourist hordes arrive, and communities are left to deal with the repercussions regardless of whether they are good or bad. We are in an uncertain age and academic critique of the Arctic tourism phenomenon is growing.

This session will focus on the critique of political, governance and environmental issues, such as: What are the true, location-specific, cumulative environmental impacts of the tourist presence? How do global concerns such as climate change exacerbate the impacts? How do governments across the circumpolar north adequately regulate the industry – alone or in relation to other natural resource development? Where are tourism management and development policies working – for the communities, the operators, and/or the environment?

Program(s): University of the Arctic Thematic Network on Northern Tourism
International Polar Tourism Research Network (IPTRN)

[back to top](#)
[back to Renewable Resources](#)



Session Title: **Tourism as a Dimension of Northern Sustainability:
Social, Cultural and Economic Issues**

Session #: RENR5

Session Grouping : Renewable Resources

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Patrick Maher patrick.maher@unbc.ca
Dieter Müller
Suzanne de la Barre

Session Description:

The jury is out – does tourism contribute to northern sustainability or hamper it? The Arctic, regardless of how it is defined, contains: largely fragile ecosystems that are now in a heightened state of change; a wide scope of governance systems; a diversity of Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultures who socially are also seeing great change from subsistence lifestyles to the digital age. Within this, tourism is happening at increasing levels and thus begins the tension.

Tourists recognize the attractiveness of the Arctic, and companies recognize the opportunity. The media sells the image, either before or after the tourist hordes arrive, and communities are left to deal with the repercussions regardless of whether they are good or bad. We are in an uncertain age and academic critique of the Arctic tourism phenomenon is growing.

This session will focus on the critique of social, cultural and economic issues, such as: What are the location-specific notions of respectful and sustainable engagement? How does tourism as an industry relate to other natural resource development? How does such a large global phenomenon, dealing with economic uncertainty relate to small community concerns?

Program(s): University of the Arctic Thematic Network on Northern Tourism
International Polar Tourism Research Network (IPTRN)

[back to top](#)
[back to Renewable Resources](#)



Session Title: **Analysing Integrated Social-Ecological Systems – Joint Concepts and Methods**

Session #: RMET1

Session Grouping : Research Methodologies

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Ingrid Bay-Larsen

iby@nforsk.no

Grete Kaare Hovelsrud

grete.hovelsrud@nforsk.no

Session Description:

The recent decades have brought about a number of multi- and inter-disciplinary approaches for analyzing and understanding social, cultural, environmental and economic sustainability in the north, in the context of rapid and cascading change (climate, environmental, societal). One recent focus has been on developing a common language for understanding coupled social-ecological systems in order to strengthen our analyses of how components of complex system interact (Ostrom 2007, 2009; Hovelsrud and Smith 2011). The project Community Adaptation and Vulnerability in the Arctic Region (CAVIAR) developed and applied a framework designed for a bottom-up cross-site comparison of the environmental and societal processes that shape vulnerability and adaptation to change in the Arctic region (Hovelsrud and Smit 2010). The Social-Ecological Systems (SES) framework derives from theories in institutional analysis, was developed in the context of the community organization and governance of common pool resources worldwide (Ostrom 2007, 2009). There are close linkages between the CAVIAR and the SES framework in that both frameworks integrate social and ecological variables in order to understand human-nature interactions, and in different ways lend themselves to analyses of adaptive capacity in natural resource dependent communities and sectors. The CAVIAR II project specifically addresses how the Institutional Analyses and Development framework (IAD), the SES-framework (Ostrom, 2009; Epstein et al 2013, Fox et al 2011) and the CAVIAR framework can be integrated in order to strengthen future analyses of adaptive capacities of local communities facing multi-faceted and cascading changes in the north.

This session will address the need to further elaborate upon theoretical and methodological frameworks for the studies of resilience, adaptive capacity and governance of social-ecological systems. We invite scholars representing various analytical approaches, to present how key structures and mechanisms of complex systems are identified and approached. The aim of the session is to stimulate a discussion about 1) how knowledge about changes in the socio-economic, political and natural conditions are contingent upon robust analytical and conceptual models, and 2) how the frameworks for studying social-ecological systems needs to be shared and communicate between researchers, community members and across the science-policy divide.

[back to top](#)

[back to Research Methodologies](#)



Session Title: **Building a North Pacific Biocultural Network to Promote Sustainabilities**

Session #: RMET2

Session Grouping : Research Methodologies

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): David Koester
Thomas F. Thornton

dckoester@alaska.edu
thomas.thornton@ouce.ox.ac.uk

Session Description:

The North Pacific is a culturally and environmentally rich and diverse region of the world that is too little recognized in the annals of world cultural history and development of contemporary research and governance and initiatives. Political history has in recent centuries at times united and at times set apart the two sides of the ocean. Yet, prehistorically, historically and in the present it is a dynamic ecologically, culturally, and politically interconnected region. At least since the Jesup North Pacific Expedition (1897-1902) there has been a growing understanding that the people and ecology of the region have deep historical linkages and that understanding this region has a huge role to play in understanding the world as a whole (Leroi-Gourhan 1946; Fitzhugh and Chaussonnet 1994; Fitzhugh and Crowell 1988; Kendall and Krupnik 2003). From peopling of the New World, the origins of Inuit/Eskimo culture, the influential reach of China and Japan, the development of interrelated, complex social and cultural groups, mythologies and economies, to modern day concerns with resources, (fisheries, sea mammals, salmon, oil, gold), ecology (global warming, pollution and conservation), sovereignty, rights, community wellbeing, cultural attrition, language loss and economic decline, the North Pacific offers critical but relatively uncharted waters for broad social science collaboration and comparison. We suggest the time has come for establishing a network of scholars whose research concerns the inhabitants, settlements, and social-ecological systems of the North Pacific. This session invites contributions on the need and potential to develop platforms and plans for interlinking collaborative research concerned with understanding and sustaining the region's rich biocultural diversity, interlinkages, and shared future. The session will include papers as well as a structured discussion on how a Pacific Biocultural Network might be practically developed and sustained to address critical issues and needs in the region.

[back to top](#)

[back to Research Methodologies](#)



Session Title: **Community-Based Monitoring of Social Change in the Arctic**

Session #: RMET3

Session Grouping : Research Methodologies

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Chris Southcott

Chris.Southcott@lakeheadu.ca

Session Description:

This session will deal with attempts to use community-based monitoring to study social, economic, and cultural change in the Arctic. While community-based monitoring of environmental change has made great progress, community-based monitoring of social change is less developed. The study of social change in Arctic communities is often based on data that is controlled by institutions based outside the region. The possibility exists that community-based monitoring of social change can empower communities by allowing them to control the collection and analysis of data relating to social change.

Program(s): ReSDA

[back to top](#)

[back to Research Methodologies](#)



Session Title: **Decolonizing Methodologies in the Arctic:
Capacity Building and Forstnering Indigenous Participation in Research**

Session #: RMET4

Session Grouping : Research Methodologies

Session Status: Closed

Session Organizer(s): Barbara Bodenhorn
Olga Ulturgasheva

ou202@hermes.cam.ac.uk

Session Description:

The Arctic, as ever, is at the center of global processes that are driven by climatological factors and by entirely human needs and desires. And although the circumpolar north is in some senses a unified system, it also presents distinctions in ecological conditions, as well as in the cultural vocabulary with which people respond to them (Cruikshank, 2001; Oozeva et al, 2004, Wenzel 2004). As the primary residents in the region, circumpolar indigenous peoples have particular interests, not only in the outcomes of changes within interlocking systems, but in maintaining a strong voice in their own futures. To this end, it is important to engage indigenous leaders, educators and youth in ways that will facilitate capacity building as well as knowledge sharing. This cross-disciplinary panel session aims to explore how to more effectively foster indigenous participation in research by decolonizing methodologies and opening up the process to other types and forms of inquiry. Community member participation in research leads to broader impacts for the research and can contribute to community as well as individual resilience during challenging times. Speakers for this panel will explore the process by which decolonizing methodologies occurs, the key characteristics of a decolonizing methodology, the benefits and challenges of deploying such approach to research, and how can this be applied across cultural and academic contexts?

[back to top](#)

[back to Research Methodologies](#)



Session Title: **Engaging Northerners – Community Based Environmental Monitoring and Research in the Arctic**

Session #: RMET5

Session Grouping : Research Methodologies

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): S. Kim Juniper

kjuniper@uvic.ca

Session Description:

Proposal for a session jointly organized by Ocean Networks Canada and ArcticNet. Historically, environmental research and monitoring in the Arctic have been primarily led by research institutions based in more populated regions to the south. Several recent initiatives aim to involve Arctic communities in all stages of these science-based activities, from study design through to data collection and interpretation. These programs build scientific literacy, and enhance community capacity and involvement in environmental planning and decision-making. Presentations are invited from individual researchers and agencies developing new community-based environmental studies in the Arctic. In addition, we encourage presentations that offer critical evaluations of the success and effectiveness of past or on-going community based studies.

[back to top](#)

[back to Research Methodologies](#)



Session Title: **Supporting Indigenous Knowledge and New Indigenous Paradigms in Science**

Session #: RMET6

Session Grouping : Research Methodologies

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Keith Chaulk
Jim McDonald

keith.chaulk@uarctic.org

mcdonald@unbc.ca

Session Description:

The University of the Arctic (UArctic) has worked actively to promote indigenous perspectives, modes of knowledge and meaningful reciprocal engagement in northern research and education. This session serves as a continuation of the process presented by members of UArctic (Jim McDonald, Jan Henry Keskitalo, Deanna Nyce and Liisa Holmberg) at the IPY Conference 2012 in Montreal. UArctic wishes to engage with members of the northern social science community to find new and better ways of ensuring meaningful indigenous engagement at all levels of science and education - particularly in the Circumpolar North. Through this session, we aim to share the experiences and learning from within the UArctic network and its activities and benefit from the views of peers in the northern social science community.

Program(s): UArctic

[back to top](#)

[back to Research Methodologies](#)



Session Title: **The Role of Data Management in Enhancing Research and Policymaking for Sustainability in the Arctic**

Session #: RMET7

Session Grouping : Research Methodologies

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Colleen Strawhacker
Peter Pulsifer
Shari Gearheard

colleen.strawhacker@colorado.edu
pulsifer@nsidc.org
shari.gearheard@nsidc.org

Session Description:

Achieving sustainability in the Arctic requires cooperation between different levels of governments and across countries, among various scientific disciplines, and with meaningful engagement of Arctic residents. While much valuable research has been done documenting the changing Arctic (environmental, socioeconomic, political, etc.), it is becoming increasingly clear that reaching goals of sustainability must include the ability to access and analyze interdisciplinary data over different spatial and temporal scales. In some cases, data may have already been collected over decades and thousands of square miles, but is often inaccessible to researchers and stakeholders, including residents, Indigenous communities, and policymakers, who may benefit from these data. Appropriate data management, which results in the preservation of and wider access to data, can lead to the compilation of numerous datasets that can allow for data to be analyzed in new and creative ways. This session is designed to encourage discussion among a variety of stakeholders in the sustainability of the Arctic to evaluate what kinds of data management are currently available or being designed for various Arctic social sciences, how data management is leading to preservation of data and new research strategies, and why it is important to advancing research and policymaking concerning northern sustainabilities.

[back to top](#)

[back to Research Methodologies](#)



Session Title: **Using Social Network Analysis to Understand Arctic Sustainability**

Session #: RMET8

Session Grouping : Research Methodologies

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): John P. Ziker
Drew Gerkey
Shauna Burnsilver

jziker@boisestate.edu
drew.gerkey@gmail.com
sburnsil@asu.edu

Session Description:

Indigenous Arctic peoples have long known that sustainability depends on how people maintain good relationships with each other and with the land. Much social science research describes the traditional (ecological) knowledge, sharing and cooperation associated with such goals. This session is dedicated to the use of social network analysis to understand the structures and relationships involved in indigenous Arctic sustainability. Subsistence activities support family and community wellbeing through informal distributions, but in many cases surplus production enters the larger market economy, (e.g. the Russia north), or formal community support programs (e.g. northern Canada). Social scientists working throughout the Arctic have generated a wealth of nuanced qualitative data that illustrate how the complex relationships of mixed economies shape—and are shaped by—flows within and between households. Quantitative research using formal network analysis can make unique contributions to site-specific and comparative circumpolar research by testing hypotheses about the social and environmental factors that shape sustainable mixed economies. Using network analysis to understand the relationship between traditional ecological knowledge, resource flows, and community sustainability, the presenters in this session will discuss initial findings from Russia, Alaska, US and Canada to explore broader implications of these social relationships in the modern Arctic.

[back to top](#)

[back to Research Methodologies](#)



Session Title: **Arctic Encounters: Contemporary Travel/Writing in the European High North** Session #: RMET9

Session Grouping : Research Methodologies

Session Status: Closed

Session Organizer(s): Lars Jensen hopeless@ruc.dk

Session Description:

The frame for this panel is the HERA funded project with the title above. A very brief section in the application describes the overall project as follows:

The project's general objective is to account for the social and environmental complexities of the region as these are seen in the mutual relationship between a wide range of recent travel practices and equally diverse representations of those practices framed in both verbal and visual terms (e.g. travel writing and documentary film). Folding together tourism and travel writing as travel/writing—as linked forms of travel practice—this project explores discrepancies between the needs of the environment, indigenous and non-indigenous inhabitants, and tourists to the region within the overarching context of an increasingly interconnected but incompletely decolonised world.

We will initially in the panel speak collectively to the project and the questions it raises, then move on to give our individual presentations on the research we think we will be carrying out. 'Think' because the project, as we are writing this, has literally just started, we will have a slightly more than provisional outline, by the time of the conference. Our three papers will focus on Greenland, as this is the sub project that the Roskilde University scholars have been asked to do.

Program: HERA

[back to top](#)
[back to Research Methodologies](#)

Session Title: **Bringing Northern Community Needs into the ICARP-III Process Through UArctic: The UCCARP Project**

Session #: RMET10

Session Grouping : Research Methodologies

Session Status: Closed

Session Organizer(s): Lars Kullerud
Chris Southcott

lars.kullerud@uarctic.org
chris.southcott@lakeheadu.ca

Session Description:

The University of the Arctic (UArctic) seeks the engagement of the Arctic social science research community in helping to identify research priorities that are important to Northern communities for the Third International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP-III) in 2015. UArctic has been asked by the organizers of ICARP-III to help identify gaps in research planning – namely the interests and concerns of Northerners themselves.

This session will be an open discussion of the University of the Arctic Community Consultation on Arctic Research Planning (UCCARP) project. Presenters will discuss the different aspects of the consultation process in terms of both theoretical, ethical and methodological issues.

A full list of speakers will be announced at a later date.

Program(s): UArctic / UCCARP

[back to top](#)
[back to Research Methodologies](#)

Session Title: **Arctic Extractive Industries: The Politics of Challenges and Opportunities**

Session #: RDEV1

Session Grouping : Resource Development

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Jessica M. Shadian
Gunhild Hoogensen Gjørsv
Peter Evans

jessica.shadian@ulapland.fi
gunhild.hoogensen.gjorv@uit.no
pevans@evernorth.ca

Session Description:

This panel serves as a departure point for the UArctic PhD programme in Arctic Extractive Industries, connecting the previous focus on local communities with the dynamics of power expressed at the regional, national, international and transnational levels. The exploration and development of hydrocarbons and other extractive industries in the Arctic is on the rise and will likely only continue to increase. As a consequence, the links between Arctic and global politics will further expand as well as the public impacts of industrial development, not least on companies as well as states' reputations and most significantly on the populations which live in the Arctic. It is known that economic activity and business development play a crucial role in ensuring welfare and employment in Arctic communities. Petroleum and other extractive industries can contribute to increasing capital, and employment opportunities in the Arctic; however, successful establishment of these industries requires further focus on the local and global connections concerning social, cultural, environmental and economic impacts. Over the past several years, it has become apparent of the need to generate new research (both theoretical and practical) in the field of Arctic Extractive Industries. In particular, multi-actor and multi-level approaches to understanding governance and security is needed to help expose the politicized tensions and dynamics among the international, the regional (not least through the Arctic Council), the national (energy, sovereignty) and local (Arctic communities, indigenous sovereignty) levels of politics. By expanding the theoretical lens of security and governance theories it becomes possible to arrive at a more holistic understanding of how the politics of Arctic resource development operates and for whom. This interdisciplinary panel will include (but is not limited to) the following themes:

- * CSR
- * global implications of the duty to consult
- * sustainable development
- * indigenous/community perspectives of global resource development
- * security
- * governance
- * geopolitics
- * regional policy-making
- * international legal considerations of resource development

Program(s): IASSA Extractive Industries Working Group (EIWG)

[back to top](#)
[back to Resource Development](#)



Session Title: **Extractive Industries in Areas of Indigenous and Local People:
Comparing Strategies for Long-Term Viability**

Session #: RDEV2

Session Grouping : Resource Development

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Karin Granqvist
Hannu Heikkinen

karin.granqvist@online.no
Hannu.I.Heikkinen@oulu.fi

Session Description:

The Arctic is an arena for major developments in extractive industries. Oil, gas and mineral deposits and power plants develop, as well as forests clear-cut, quarries and artificial water bodies constructed with environmental and social impacts. Much of this happens in areas of local and indigenous peoples who emphasize inflicted disturbance for their livelihoods such as fishing, hunting and reindeer herding. Discourses on coastal erosion, melting sea-ice and permafrost in the Arctic highlight the opportunities and threats that such processes entail for earlier inaccessible areas. For societies development can enhance employment, infrastructure and financial income but also mean influx of workers, change of social relations, power struggles and marginalise traditional way of life.

The panel invites presentations from all regions and encourages authors to explore avenues for comparison beyond their own case studies to map diversity of agency and responses where extractive industry projects meet local people, companies and governments. The aim is to summarise the disturbance caused by the industry, as well as to analyse the strategies that partners have towards ensuring long-term viability of the diverse livelihoods in relation to extractive industrial development.

Program(s): IASSA Extractive Industries Working Group (EIWG)

[back to top](#)
[back to Resource Development](#)



Session Title: **Globalizing Northern British Columbia:
Development, Agency and Contestation in a Resource-Based Economy**

Session #: RDEV3

Session Grouping : Resource Development

Session Status: Closed

Session Organizer(s): Paul Bowles paul@unbc.ca

Session Description:

Like many other circumpolar regions, northern British Columbia is undergoing a profound transformation. From new mines and resource development projects that will fuel the national economy to ports and pipelines that will link North America with Asia, northern British Columbia's significance to the global economy is entering a new and dynamic stage. At the same time, these new transformations pose familiar questions about the economic, political, social and environmental sustainability of northern B.C.'s latest engagement with the global economy. This session brings together a panel of economists, political scientists and an anthropologist to examine these issues focusing on governance, resource development and indigenous people. Drawing on multiple disciplinary perspectives the presenters assess the extent to which, and the ways in which, the new phase of globalization differs from previous phases and what new possibilities and challenges this presents for sustainability in northern BC and similar resource-dependent northern regions.

Program(s): SSHRC

[back to top](#)
[back to Resource Development](#)



Session Title: **Labour Mobility and Community Sustainability - The Impact of Extractive Industries in the Arctic**

Session #: RDEV4

Session Grouping : Resource Development

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Gerti Eilmsteiner-Saxinger
Remy Rouillard

Gertrude.Eilmsteiner-Saxinger@univie.ac.at
rr455@cam.ac.uk

Session Description:

Mining operations and oil and gas projects in the Arctic and Sub-arctic usually take place in remote areas or offshore and primarily in distance from larger urban agglomerations. This remoteness leads to the need for a highly flexible workforce in terms of spatial as well as temporal mobility. This session brings together issues of labour mobility and community sustainability and welcomes papers touching on the following topics:

- 1) sketch of life-plans as well as coping with challenges and positive effects related to mobility on part of individuals;
- 2) changes in the community fabrics and in the ways such communities cope with the impact of labour mobility;
- 3) effects of industry-related in-migration to regional centers;
- 4) interactions of inter-regional FIFO workers with the local communities and with the environment;
- 5) the politics surrounding labour mobility, as well as the policies of various levels of government and of companies in relation to labour mobility;
- 6) the politics and economics of transportation infrastructure.

The panel is fully open to the broad range of related topics raised by scholars and practitioners. In epistemological terms we aim to explore the notions of community development, hierarchies and inequality, ethical challenges and, mobility in general etc.

Program(s): IASSA Extractive Industries Working Group (EIWG)

[back to top](#)
[back to Resource Development](#)



Session Title: **Local Sustainability and Paths of Resource Development in the Arctic**

Session #: RDEV5

Session Grouping : Resource Development

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Marie Lowe
Hal Salzman

mlope@uaa.alaska.edu
HSalzman@rutgers.edu

Session Description:

Globalization is expanding its reach through new, arctic routes as the Far North becomes increasingly accessible. From offshore drilling to seabed mining to more accessible shipping lanes, new arctic activity and new players –both multinational companies and nations seeking a greater northern presence—bring both new prospects and threats to arctic communities. This panel will examine local policy responses to, and planning for new development in the arctic, with a particular focus on opportunities and constraints associated with globalization of the region’s industries. The papers will address contextual differences as well as highlight similarities in arctic resident, community, and institutional reactions to a rapidly changing region. The papers will seek to answer the questions: What are current and potential models that support local control over resource and social development? What new models could be developed to capitalize on revenue sharing arrangements, entrepreneurial innovation, educational opportunities, and workforce development possibilities? Attending to the conference theme of “northern sustainabilities,” the panel will explore policy options that can facilitate new developmental trajectories: those that do not rely on post-WWII development institutions and policies and those that might link far northern development with the emerging South-South development models and strategies.

[back to top](#)

[back to Resource Development](#)



Session Title: **Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic**

Session #: RDEV6

Session Grouping : Resource Development

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Chris Southcott

chris.southcott@lakeheadu.ca

Session Description:

This session will discuss the current state of research for the Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic Project (ReSDA). This project has as its primary objective to find ways of ensuring that Arctic communities receive more benefits from natural resource developments and that negative impacts are mitigated. Presenters will primarily be researchers associated with the ReSDA project who will present on the current state of their research. Others who are conducting research relating to the ReSDA objectives are also invited to participate.

Program(s): ReSDA

[back to top](#)

[back to Resource Development](#)



Session Title: **Resources, Sustainability, and the Current Economy of Northern Regions**

Session #: RDEV7

Session Grouping : Resource Development

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Lee Huskey

tthuskey@uaa.alaska.edu

Session Description:

Much of the discussion of sustainability in the North is based on possibilities, hopes, and fears for the future. This session will ground the sustainability discussion with descriptions of the current economic activity in northern regions. Presentations will focus on what is actually going on in the regional economies of the north. The focus will be on the northern resource economies in each of these regions.

Program(s): Arctic-FROST & ReSDA

[back to top](#)

[back to Resource Development](#)



Session Title: **Sustainability, People and Resource Extraction in the Arctic:
Perspectives on the Notion of Corporate Social Responsibility**

Session #: RDEV8

Session Grouping : Resource Development

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Florian Stammer
Emma Wilson

florian.stammer@ulapland.fi
emma.wilson@iied.org

Session Description:

This will be an Extractive Industries Working Group session. Most players involved in resource extraction in the Arctic are aware of the local and global importance of ensuring economic, social, cultural and environmental sustainability. Often this is expressed in the over-arching term 'corporate social responsibility'. Yet there is no common understanding of what 'corporate social responsibility' – or indeed 'sustainability' – among corporations, local community sectors, NGOs, and academics. This session seeks to explore the concept in the context of oil, gas and minerals development in the Arctic. The session brings together academics and practitioners to discuss key challenges from different perspectives. Existing laws, guidelines and research on resource extraction and local communities in the North tend to focus on negative impacts, and thus on the rights of indigenous and local people to be consulted and to influence such activities. At the same time the issues of potential profits, jobs and infrastructure development are critical to many stakeholders. Yet where frameworks exist to address the latter perspective, they are rarely implemented effectively. On the other hand, where extractive companies and local representatives negotiate benefit-sharing agreements, there is a risk that parties tend to agree on outcomes that may exclude aspects of sustainability relating to global public goods, such as species protection, and Arctic environmental and climate vulnerability.

This session will consider what 'sustainability' and 'corporate social responsibility' mean in the context of oil, gas and mining developments and how different Arctic countries, at different levels of developing their petroleum and mineral resources, can improve their practices for greater community development prospects, social and environmental sustainability. Papers will examine not only tensions between local peoples and resource extraction, but also the ways in which communities and companies may find common ground. They will consider the challenges of including stakeholders round the table who represent the interests of 'global public goods' in debates that are considered essentially local, and vice versa.

Program(s): IASSA Extractive Industries Working Group (EIWG)

[back to top](#)
[back to Resource Development](#)



Session Title: **Sustainable Energy Development in the Circum-Arctic and Polar Regions**

Session #: RDEV9

Session Grouping : Resource Development

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Magdalena Muir

mamuir@ucalgary.ca

Session Description:

The Arctic and polar regions have extensive geothermal, ocean, solar, and wind resources, but rely on hydrocarbons to generate electricity. In particular, the Arctic and polar regions share common environmental and oil spill risks to land and seas from the transport of hydrocarbons from ships to the generation facilities. All regions have common issues with water quality and water scarcity that renewable energy and innovative approaches to water treatment can address. The Arctic and polar regions are at the forefront of impacts to climate change and adapting to these impacts including higher temperatures, changing seasonal and annual precipitation and increased water quality issues and incidences of waterborne illnesses. In all regions, the intermittent nature of renewable energy can be addressed by energy and water storage options or by retaining hydrocarbon generation as backup, emergency or peak energy source. For all regions, there are rich sources of customary, local and traditional knowledge and technologies in managing energy and water resources and needs which can augment and complement renewable energy knowledge and technology, and the integration of energy and water systems.

Program(s): Nordic Centre of Excellence for Strategic Adaptation Research (NCoE NORD-STAR)
QUEST - Quality Urban Systems of Tomorrow
Coastal and Marine Union (EUCC)

[back to top](#)

[back to Resource Development](#)



Session Title: **Are We Adapting:
Arctic Communities Under Stress or on the Path to Sustainability?**

Session #: UCSU1

Session Grouping : Urban & Community Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Grete Kaare Hovelsrud grete.hovelsrud@nforsk.no
Tristan Pearce tpearce@usc.edu.au
Halvor Dannevig hda@vestforsk.no

Session Description:

The International Polar Year 2007-2009 spurred an unparalleled social science research effort aimed at understanding change in Arctic communities, with many studies focusing on adaptation and vulnerability to climate change. The results from the studies point to a number of circumpolar challenges including access to resources important for subsistence, outmigration, a shifting resource base, and traditional livelihoods under stress. The Arctic sea ice is melting with cascading effects on local communities through changing conditions that challenge hunting and travelling activities, enhance coastal erosion near settlements, industrial exploration and expansion. In addition rising temperatures is causing shifts in both marine and terrestrial ecosystems, resulting in changes in the composition and distribution of key species vital to livelihood activities of natural-resource dependent communities be it indigenous or non-indigenous. The Arctic is also facing a rapid increase in contaminants, transported in both air and ocean currents, that accumulate in the food chain. Together with accompanying societal changes, these developments raise challenges for the transfer of knowledge across generations, and also act as stressors for the practice of traditional livelihoods.

Many of the studies revealed that the question of enhancing adaptive capacity to climate change also pertains to broader sustainability issues, such as improving infrastructure, education, migration, shifts in government policy and so on. But the question remains whether the knowledge generated from the research efforts and increased knowledge about the linkages and interaction between the social and the ecological has been turned into action. Another salient question is whether adaptation is sufficient to create resilient and sustainable communities that will increasingly be faced with both climate change impacts and mitigation measures, or will this require more fundamentally transformative processes?

The session welcomes papers that:

- * Addresses how scientific knowledge about climate change has been turned into action.
- * Elaboration of the elements that constitute adaptive capacity and resilience at the community level.
- * Provide best practice examples of communities adapting.
- * Explore the topic of transformation in Arctic communities.

[back to top](#)
[back to Urban & Community Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Between Tradition and Modernity: Sustainable Business and Community Development in Indigenous Regions of the Circumpolar North**

Session #: UCSU2

Session Grouping : Urban & Community Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Tor A. Gjertsen
Natalia Okhlopkova

tor.a.gjertsen@uit.no or tor-arne.gjertsen@uit.no

Session Description:

In this session we will present, compare and discuss findings from recent studies of socioeconomic change and development in native and non-native rural communities in northern Canada, Norway and Russia, with focus on differences and similarities in preconditions, organization and results. The evaluation of the R&D- project for local and regional development workshops and partnerships, included business schools, initiated in northern Norway and Russia from 2006, by the UArctic Thematic Network on Local and Regional Development, will be an important part of the study material presented for discussion. The main purpose of this session will be to improve our knowledge and understanding of the conditions for sustainable socioeconomic change and development in both native and non-native communities and regions of the Circumpolar North, by comparative analysis and discussions, and to improve the methodology used in the before mentioned R&D-project and other joint international development projects and programs coordinated by the thematic network. As an example I can mention a one year training program for rural development agents, social as well as business entrepreneurs, we are working on together with the Center for sustainable development at Syktyvkar State University. A similar issue to the one we propose for the ICSS Congress VIII, was first discussed at the international Gargia Conference for regional development, in Alta, Norway, in fall 2010. It will be followed up at this year's conference, on "Ecology and sustainable business and community development in the Circumpolar North", October 23-26, and hopefully concluded successfully in Prince George in May 2014.

[back to top](#)
[back to Urban & Community Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Building a New North: The Case of Northern Saskatchewan**

Session #: UCSU3

Session Grouping : Urban & Community Sustainability

Session Status: Closed

Session Organizer(s): Ken Coates

kennethcoates@gmail.com or ken.coates@usask.ca

Session Description:

This panel examines the processes of socio-economic transformations underway in northern Saskatchewan, focusing on four key elements in a comprehensive, multi-partner effort to revitalize and stabilize cultural, economic and social conditions in the region. The panelists will describe efforts underway to change the economic trajectory in the North, primarily through greater participation in the resource and traditional economies, including Indigenous business development, investments in regional infrastructure, education and professional development, impact and benefit agreements with resource companies, Aboriginal self-government and regional political reform, and coordinated regional planning. The panel will also introduce the Northern Saskatchewan Human Development Project, which is designed to establish a socio-economic base-line for the region as the foundation for a longitudinal study of the impact and effectiveness of organizational, regional and public policy changes.

[back to top](#)
[back to Urban & Community Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Designing and Building Sustainable Northern Communities: New Approaches and Opportunities**

Session #: UCSU4

Session Grouping : Urban & Community Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Trevor Bell
Tom Sheldon
Michelle Armstrong
Christina Goldhar

tbell@mun.ca
tom_sheldon@nunatsiavut.com
armstrong@fotenn.com
christina_goldhar@nunatsiavut.com

Session Description:

In this session we would like to attract a wide range of presentations that approach sustainable northern communities from a combination of cultural, economic, environmental, health, infrastructural and social perspectives. We are particularly interested in case studies that consider these perspectives in designing adaptation strategies and plans for the built environment in the face of changing climate and environment.

[back to top](#)
[back to Urban & Community Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Internationalizing the Arctic**

Session #: UCSU5

Session Grouping : Urban & Community Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Aileen A. Espíritu
Tim Heleniak

aileen.a.espiritu@uit.no or aaespiritu@gmail.com

Session Description:

As resource extraction intensifies in the Arctic, so does the need for skilled and unskilled labour on a massive scale. Small Arctic and sub-Arctic communities that once thrived on small-scale renewable industries are becoming boom towns and cities focused on resource extraction. This panel examines the patterns of demographic change and the impact of that change on Northern towns and urban spaces.

Program(s): Norwegian Research Council-ARCSUS

[back to top](#)
[back to Urban & Community Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **No Island is an Island?**

Session #: UCSU7

Session Grouping : Urban & Community Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Helena Ruotsala
Kirsi Sonck

helena.ruotsala@utu.fi
kirsi.m.sonck@utu.fi

Session Description:

Earlier, ethnologists and anthropologists have studied islands as fairly socially, culturally and geographically isolated entities. However, totally isolated islands have always been more of a myth than reality. In a current globalized world, islands are facing the same social, cultural and ecological issues as the rest of world, but due to their geographically isolated circumstances, the problems can be more evident in the everyday life of the inhabitants. We are interested in local dimensions of global changes, and islands offer intriguing possibilities to do comparative study of how global changes influence seemingly isolated environments and the communities inhabiting them.

How do the islanders see economic, ecological, social and cultural sustainabilities? How the issues of sustainabilities are present in their everyday lives (and how is the traditional ecological knowledge applied here)? How do the islanders see the sustainable future and what does the future look like from the local perspective? We are also interested in the experiences and opinions stated by different generations. We address the question of how to study the intertwined relations between ecosystems, human population, livelihoods, traditional ecological knowledge and sustainability, and how to apply this kind of research in order to promote sustainable ways of life.

We invite theoretical, methodological and empirical papers from all study fields to gather an interdisciplinary set of view to examine islands as threads in global networks.

[back to top](#)
[back to Urban & Community Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Resource Development and Urban Sustainability**

Session #: UCSU8

Session Grouping : Urban & Community Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Aileen A. Espíritu

aileen.a.espiritu@uit.no or aaespiritu@gmail.com

Session Description:

This panel explores the social and political impact of resource extraction on Arctic urban sustainability in comparative perspective. As the Arctic becomes more and more urbanized and industrialized because of the exploitation of natural resources, Northern communities and their respective local governments will have to deal more and more with often competing stakeholder concerns and ambitions. How are competing claims negotiated (or not) in the urban Arctic? What does sustainability and sustainable communities mean in the High North within the dominance of intense extractive industries?

Program(s): Norwegian Research Council-ARCSUS

[back to top](#)
[back to Urban & Community Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Roads and Development in the North**

Session #: UCSU9

Session Grouping : Urban & Community Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Tatiana Argounova-Low
Mikhail Prisyazhniy

t.argounova-low@abdn.ac.uk
wirt@mail.ru

Session Description:

Roads are a significant aspect of the Northern landscape. On the one hand they are connected to traditional life style, story-telling, and narratives. On the other, contemporary roads are an intrinsic part of extractive industries and economic development. Yet, perception of the roads in this region is more complex and extends beyond this dualistic framework. We invite papers that would extend interpretive work on roads beyond just plausible or critical appreciation of roads. We solicit field-research-based presentations that explore social, economic, political effects of the roads in conjunction with industrial development in the northern regions. What are the effects of the roads in the area? What are stories of people living and adapting to roads? What are the conflicts and convergences? How can historical or contemporary roads be interpreted? Overall, we seek presentations that will extend the scope of interpretation and appreciation of roads in social science. Possible topics can include, but are not limited to:

- * history of road construction
- * presence of state and road construction
- * road protests and conflicts over road construction
- * local campaigns for building a road
- * narratives of communities or individual residents about roads.

[back to top](#)
[back to Urban & Community Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Sustainability, Knowledge and Human Capital in the Arctic**

Session #: UCSU10

Session Grouping : Urban & Community Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Rasmus Gjedssø Bertelsen
Erik Laursen
Jens Christian Svabo Justinussen
Andrey Petrov
Coco Smits

rasmus@cantab.net or rasmus@cgs.aau.dk
el@learning.aau.dk
jensj@setur.fo
andrey.petrov@uni.edu
coco.smits@rhdhv.com

Session Description:

For the aim of vital, sustainable Arctic communities with a high level of human development, an important precondition is the match between local and global knowledge in public, private and civil society sectors. A major challenge to Arctic communities to capture the value of energy and natural resources or to capitalize on local cultural or creative economies is a lack of human capital within the community. Arctic communities are usually very small communities with sparsely distributed populations living under very difficult and expensive transportation and communication conditions. These characteristics make the acquisition of skills and competences through formal education very difficult and expensive, which are some of the most important challenges for the human development of Arctic communities. This session addresses the importance of the combination of local and outside knowledge for the well-being of Arctic communities and seeks to identify ways for Arctic communities to develop as knowledge-based societies building on both local, traditional and outside knowledge through local education, brain circulation and perhaps distance learning through the internet.

Program(s): AHDR

[back to top](#)
[back to Urban & Community Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Sustainable Development of Arctic Communities**

Session #: UCSU11

Session Grouping : Urban & Community Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Kåre Hendriksen
Birger Poppel

krhe@byg.dtu.dk
bipo@uni.gl

Session Description:

Very complex dynamics currently influence settlement patterns in the Arctic: globalization, demographic changes, urbanization, changing renewable resource regimes, and exploitation of non-renewable resources, and impacts of climate change are some of the most significant forces for change in Arctic settlement structure. As an example: A decoupling from the original resource base without having established a new base has been the experience for many Arctic communities during the last decades.

Changing settlement structures have huge impacts on livelihoods, living conditions and well-being - subjective as well as collective and both the places and communities that people leave and those people migrate to are affected. The former, as for instance age and gender structure as well as provision with institutional services change and the latter, as most often neither employment, housing facilities nor social or other services are sufficiently available. Many Arctic communities have thus experienced severe social problems in the wake of rapid population concentration.

The key objectives of this session is to explore the conditions for sustainable development of local communities including the links between livelihoods, living conditions, resource bases and the dependency of regional and national institutional settings.

Subjects in focus of (but not limited to) the session are:

- * Reasons to move and reasons to stay
- * Sustainable exploitation of local natural resources (including management regimes)
- * Physical and social planning
- * Inclusion of communities in developing sustainable settlements
- * Community adaptation to and participation in changing settlement structures
- * Technological flexibility and infrastructure development in the context of settlement structural planning

[back to top](#)
[back to Urban & Community Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **The City Life of Northern Indigenous Peoples:
In Search for New Forms of Economic and Cultural Resilience**

Session #: UCSU12

Session Grouping : Urban & Community Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Dmitri Funk d_funk@iea.ras.ru

Session Description:

Processes such as migration to larger settlements and cities and the ensuing distancing from so-called “traditional” economic activities have resulted in sharp divisions within indigenous communities and the formation of markedly different adaptation strategies and practices between urban and rural indigenous peoples. While such processes are evident throughout the Arctic region, they are thrown into high relief particularly among members of Russia’s “indigenous small-numbered peoples of the North” (korennye malochislennye narody Severa – KMNS). According to Russian censuses of 2002 and 2010, the urban population of 11 of the approximately 40 officially recognized “indigenous small-numbered peoples of the North” is between 40 and 73 percent. For a number of them, the percentage of people engaged in traditional livelihoods is well below 10 percent.

Given the purported importance of traditional livelihoods in the public representation of indigenous identities in Russia, how can urban indigenous peoples of the North preserve, or modify, or even acquire anew a sense of their own indigenous identity, and how can it be symbolically represented in a way that is convincing to themselves and to others? What role does or should proficiency in a native language play in people’s sense of identity? How intrinsically tied do urban indigenous people remain to their ancestral territories of traditional land use? To what degree are indigenous leaders themselves city-dwellers? On the whole, how important are the rhetorics and symbolism of “tradition” for northern urban indigenous peoples? How do they construct their everyday lives and how do perceive their daily routines? Do their concepts of wealth and poverty differ from their rural kin? To what degree does the legal framework represent the northern indigenous urban population? This panel will address these and a number of related issues on the basis of data gathered through a number of projects (including some within the IPY framework) carried out by Russian and Western anthropologists in the Russian North over the course of the past decade.

[back to top](#)
[back to Urban & Community Sustainability](#)



Session Title: **Toward Social Sustainability in the Urban Arctic: Capacity-Building Strategies**

Session #: UCSU13

Session Grouping : Urban & Community Sustainability

Session Status: Open

Session Organizer(s): Emmy Neuls
Aileen A. Espíritu

emmy.neuls@usask.ca
aileen.a.espiritu@uit.no or aaespiritu@gmail.com

Session Description:

The following five panels are a series on Arctic Urban Sustainability from the ARCSUS research network led by Aileen A. Espíritu. 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 global environment. We hope that these panels can be combined and rationalized with other panel proposals in order to present a series of coherent panels on the urban Arctic.

This panel presents research that explores how polities and communities retain and sustain populations and the social fabric of Northern communities, both of common concerns throughout the Arctic and sub-Arctic. Young people in particular leave remote Northern communities in favour of cities and other urban centres in the South draining the North of human capacity. At the same time, the North is becoming more and more industrialised offering high-skilled jobs mostly filled by non-Northerners and newcomers. How do communities in the urban and industrialized Arctic keep their populations, and engage them in the future of growth of their communities?

Program(s): Norwegian Research Council-ARCSUS

[back to top](#)
[back to Urban & Community Sustainability](#)

