FROM THE DIRECTOR

Umeå University has a strong position in Arctic research. It is amazing to conclude that we are now no less than 316 affiliated researchers, a number that impresses everyone I talk to. But it is not only the magnitude of our research activities that rises the eyebrows of people, also the way we have organized ourselves is a bit unique. It is not many universities that immediately can answer the question how many Arctic publications they have since 2010. Thanks to thorough investigations and classifications Umeå University can conclude 1787 articles and book chapters! And the keywords you have provided for the presentation of affiliated researchers gives an excellent possibility to locate matching profiles for planned projects, visiting scholars and events.

The ICASS IX conference is presented in a separate article in this newsletter, but I must share the overwhelming feedback we have received. Scientists all over the world certify that we did a very good job – to say the least. Best of all was perhaps the friendly and creative atmosphere that characterized the conference. Moreover, media attention was great. I have counted to 32 features in radio, TV and newspapers during the five conference days!

Science and politics are tightly connected. Last week we were reached by the announcement that the Polar Research Secretariat (Polar) will move from Stockholm to Luleå. This is the result of a political process that hopefully will increase the status, activities and collaboration of Arctic research in northern Sweden. It is worth noting that Umeå University – as the first university in Sweden - signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Polar in early June. Luleå University of Technology and Umeå University are the Swedish partners in the Nordic collaboration Joint Arctic Agenda (JAA). The other partners are University of Lapland, Oulu University, and UiT - The Arctic University of Norway. One initiative this far is an extensive application (Arctic Five: A Nordic University Hub) that has been submitted to Nordforsk. Later this week JAA organizes a workshop in Luleå and we are happy to see the great response from the affiliated researchers in Umeå. Our delegation consists of 24 researchers!

The near future offers several important events. Arcum will start up the new project ASIAQ (The Arctic Science Integration Quest) led by the Bolin Centre at Stockholm University, we have a leading role in the EU PolarNet meeting aimed to produce white papers to address the EU Integrated Polar Program, we will intensify our ambitions to strengthen the collaboration with SLU, and investigate the opportunities to develop the initiative Biosphere Area Vindelälven- Juhtatdahka to a multi-disciplinary research area in the Arctic context.

Peter Sköld, director Arcum
The opening ceremony of ICASS IX Umeå University was inaugurated by the special Umeå University joik performed by Krister Stoor followed by welcoming speeches from Umeå University Vice-Chancellor Hans Adolfsson, President of the Sami Council Åsa Larsson Blind, Senior Arctic Official of Sweden Andrés Jato and Senior Arctic Official of Finland René Söderman.

The five day conference offered 204 scientific sessions, and almost 900 presentations ran in 21 parallel session slots. ICASS programme was organized in 22 different themes: Literature, Resource Management & Extractive Industries, Archeology, Environment & Climate Change, History, and Research Methodologies to mention a few. Each theme had a great variety of sessions and in the theme Indigenous issues for instance, the participants were offered presentations on education, traditional knowledge, research ethics, health, and more.

Though IASSA is an association gathering scientists from social sciences and health, ICASS IX also offered a number of sessions in the Science and Technology scientific area, which was a welcomed addition to the programme.

**Plenary sessions**

Each conference day opened with a plenary session in Aula Nordica. The plenaries presented resent research and ongoing projects in different areas:

**Extractive Resource Development and Sustainability in the Arctic**

Introduced by: Florian Stammler, Chris Southcott, Thierry Rodon, Gunhild Hoogensen Gjørv, and Sverker Sörlin.

**What is the role of education and education research in advancing understandings of the Arctic?**

Introduced by: Diane Hirshberg

**Indigenous perspectives on knowledge**

Introduced by: Patrik Lantto

Moderated by: Jon Petter Stoor

**An Interdisciplinary Dialogue on Society and Climate Sensitive Infections: Current and Future Challenges**

Introduced by: Birgitta Evengård

**Arctic Science Through Metrics Lenses – Analyzing National & Global Trends**

Introduced by: Igor Osipov & Lars Kullerud

The introductions were followed by panel discussions and questions from the audience.
ICASS IX - People and Place
By Gabriella Nordin

Andrey Petrov new president to IASSA
At the IASSA General Assembly members voted for new IASSA Council members and the new IASSA President. The newly elected president, Andrey Petrov will head the IASSA secretariat at University of Northern Iowa in the U.S, conveners for the next ICASS meeting will be Northern (Arctic) Federal University in Archangelsk, Russia. ICASS X will be held in 2020. Peter Sköld will remain in the IASSA Council for the next three years as Outgoing President (ex-officio).

ICASS IX—more than science
The ICASS conference is a triennial conference gathering researchers from a wide range of countries. Our aim was not only to present an impressive scientific program, but also to show Umeå, Northern Sweden and our Saami culture and give the participants a chance to mingle and meet up with old (and new) friends. On the opening day we arranged the welcoming reception at Gammlia. The Västerbottens Museum was open to all participants with a number of stands showing Västerbottian customs and traditions, Sami artist Jörgen Stenberg entertained at the scene and the Umeå Sami Association Sähkie treated reindeer meat soup to all guests.

In addition, three films were screened during the conference. One of them, the awarded film Sami Blood, was shown in Aula Nordica to a moved audience and the applause never seemed to end when the director Amanda Kernell entered the stage after the screening.

The ICASS IX gala dinner was held at Äpplet at Folkets Hus. More than 600 participants was served a three course dinner and danced to the fabulous Renhornen orchestra.

IASSA Awardees
At the Gala dinner the IASSA Awardees were presented and honored. Ann Fienup-Riordan is an anthropologist active in Alaska since 1973, where she conducts research and education. She has for instance developed methods for how researchers can collaborate with and support the local community in the research process. Ann Fienup-Riordan has written more than 20 books and has also received recognition for her work by the Alaska Federation of Natives.

Carl Christian Olsen (Puju) is a linguist specialising in Inuit languages. Ever since 1968, he has studied Inuit languages and is presently director of the Greenland Language Secretariat and as chair of the Greenland Place Names Authority, and chair of the Language Commission in the Inuit Circumpolar Council. He is director of the Greenland Language Secretariat and has studied Inuit languages since 1968. Carl Christian Olsen has studied and conducted research in Denmark, Norway and the US, and he was one of the founders of the University of Greenland.

ICASS IX well attended by the Arctic countries
Approximately 800 visitors attended the five-day ICASS IX conference. Although the Arctic countries were among the most represented (except from the UK who outranked Denmark/Greenland as well as Iceland in number of participants) the number of nationalities were 24. The U.S had 119 participants present, which made them the largest group before the Swedish attendees who were counted to 117. Thanks to our sponsors we were able to grant stipends to more than 140 participants, mostly from Russia and the U.S.

We can also conclude that the amount of registered participants from Umeå University was 54 - an impressive number and we are proud to be able to show the strength and diversity of Arctic research at Umeå University to the rest of the Arctic research community!
UArctic Rectors’ forum and conference 2017
By Ekaterina Zmyvalova

August 23 - August 26, the the UArctic Rectors’ Forum was organized at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. The main topic of the event was “The Inhabited Arctic: Lands, Peoples and Scholarship in the Circumpolar North.”

The University of the Arctic (UArctic) was originally created as a network of the universities located in the Arctic states. About five years ago other universities than those located in the Arctic states could apply to participate in the University of the Arctic. The ground for the application was that these universities carried out research and education in the North and about the North. Currently there are more than 180 member universities. Umeå University is one of the members of this network.

The Arctic Rectors’ forum is one of the regular events held the members of the University of the Arctic. The forum aims to discuss different spheres of cooperation, tendencies in the Arctic research, etc. This year the University of Umeå was represented by Deputy Vice-Chancellor Heidi Hansson who held a speech during the plenary session on August 23.

Within the framework of the Rectors’ forum the Students’ forum took place. At this forum Umeå University was represented by Ekaterina Zmyvalova, PhD student in Sámi studies. Students from Hokkaido University, Umeå University, Oulu University, Nebraska and Aberdeen University participated in this forum. Both students and representatives of the universities participated in the plenary sessions. When there were business sessions for the leaders of the member universities, parallel sessions for students were held. The University of the Arctic focuses on the quality of education and the opportunities for students. Therefore, the final report elaborated by students at the students’ forum and presented at the plenary session of the Rectors’ forum was given much attention due to its significance for the future of students studying in member Universities of UArctic. From the perspective of the students, it was important to raise topical issues, to discuss them and express opinion regarding improvement of the students’ situation.

After the forum, the Scientific Conference was open. The conference aimed at the discussion of the above-mentioned issues from the scientific perspective. The conference was regarded as the arena or the exchange of knowledge in the Arctic issues.

The next key UArctic event will take place in September 2018 in Finland. The event is titled The UArctic Congress 2018. Within the framework of the congress there will be held a scientific conference and the UArctic meetings as one event and also business meetings of the Council of UArctic, Rectors’ Forum, Students’ Forum, and Thematic Networks & UArctic Institutes Leadership Team. The Congress will take place in Oulu and Helsinki. For more information about the congress please see the link http://congress.uarctic.org/.

For more information about the University of the Arctic please see the link http://www.uarctic.org/.
The Arcum website

The Arcum website is filled with useful information with an Arctic/Northern theme. There you will find information on recent Arcum activities, upcoming seminars and workshops. You can also find upcoming conferences, courses and calls for funding’s, both national and international. Additionally we inform about New publications, and also latest News with an Arctic/Northern theme.

www.arcum.umu.se
www.arcum.umu.se/english/

Umeå Arctic Seminars Autumn 2017

As previous semesters we will continue to offer a combination of scientific meetings and a light lunch. The first week every month at 12:00-13:00 we meet at Universitetsklubben for a short speech, discussions and a light lunch.

This Fall we present a slimmed seminar schedule due to Vetenskapsluncher with an Arctic theme (for schedule, please see page 6) as well as Umeå Arctic Forum scheduled to December (more information will be circulated). At the Annual Celebration 2017 there will be a seminar to honor H.M King Carl Gustav. The seminar have an Arctic theme and will be held in Humanisthuset October 21 at 14:00 to 15:00. For more information, please see the University Calendar.

Do you have ideas on whom you would like to listen to, or do you want to hold a speech at an upcoming seminar, please contact Gabriella Nordin. For more information on speakers and R.S.V.P-dates please visit www.arcum.umu.se or contact Gabriella Nordin at gabriella.nordin@umu.se.

Friday October 6

Christer Nilsson, professor at the Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Umeå University, will hold a talk on “Vindelälven-Juhtatdahka, an upcoming biosphere reserve?”.

Friday November 10

Jenny Ask, principal research engineer at Department of Ecology and Environmental Studies will hold a talk on “Changing ice-cover regimes in a warmer climate: Effects on northern aquatic ecosystems”

WELCOME!
Vetenskapsluncher hösten 2017: Tema Arktis


Program hösten 2017

5/10 Hus utan värmesystem i kallt klimat – är det realistiskt?  
Thomas Olofsson, energieffektivisering

12/10 Nya infektionssjukdomar i klimatförändringarnas spår  
Birgitta Evengård, klinisk mikrobiologi

19/10 Mitt på ljusa natten – representation av Sápmi i svenska och franska tidningsartiklar om TV-serien Midnatts-  
Florence Sisask, fransk litteratur och språk

26/10 Hopp, ilska och uppgivenhet – känslor i samhällsomvandlingens Kiruna  
Malin Rönnblom, statsvetenskap/genusvetenskap

9/11 Vem eller vad styr utvecklingen i Arktis?  
Niklas Eklund, statsvetenskap

16/11 Arktis, en skådeplats för rymden  
Asta Pellinen, rymdfysik

23/11 Kall om händerna – det kan bero på jobbet  
Jens Wahlström, folkhälsa och klinisk medicin

30/11 En historia blott? Vattenkraftutbyggnadens konsekvenser i Sápmi  
Åsa Össbo, historia

Föreläsningarna sänds också live och kan ses i efterhand på umu.se.

Forthcoming dissertations

**Laila Daerga**, Department of Public Health and Clinical Medicine, will defend her dissertation *Hälsoaspekter i svensk renskötsel - att leva i två världar*. [Title in English: Health aspects among reindeer herders in Sweden - living in two worlds].  
**Opponent**: Kjetil Lenert Hansen, The Arctic University of Norway, Tromsö.  
**Date**: 2017-09-15  
**Time**: 09:00 - 12:00  
**Location**: NUS - Norrlands universitetssjukhus, Sal 135, by 9A

Download full version of the dissertation from [DIVA](https://diva-portal.org/)

**Janina Priebe**, History of Science and Ideas will defend her dissertation *Visions of a Modern Greenland. Colonial perspectives on Greenland’s natural resources in the first half of the 20th century*. [Visioner av ett modernt Grönland. Koloniala perspektiv på Grönlands naturresurser under 1900-talets första hälft].  
**Opponent**: Matthias Heymann, docent, Department of Mathematics – Science Studies, Aarhus University.  
**Date**: 2017-12-15  
**Time**: 10:15 - 12:00  
**Location**: Humanisthuset, Hörsal F
**Call for funding from Arcum Strategic Resources Autumn 2017**

According to decision by the Arcum Board affiliated researchers are entitled to apply for funding from the strategic resources. 2017 has two calls, during Spring and Autumn with deadlines **28 April** and **24 November** respectively.

For 2017 a total of SEK 200,000 are available for strategic purposes. The aim is to co-fund activities. Maximum amounts to apply for are SEK 20,000 for scientific arrangements, SEK 10,000 for travelling, SEK 10,000 kronor for invitations, and SEK 5,000 publishing. The activity must be of relevance for Arctic research.

PhD students and early-career researchers (PhD within last five years) are prioritised, as are those who have not received funding previously. Participating in Arcum seminars and events is advantageous. Arcum strives for an equal gender balance when granting funding. Successful applications must send in a report when the activity has taken place, and attach publications or other relevant materials.

Arcum should be given best visualization possible within the funded activities; for example being mentioned in publications and displayed in workshop advertising.

Mandatory parts of the application are description of the activity and its aims, to include a complete budget where Arcum share is illustrated, to provide a time frame for the activity, and to consider gender aspects.

The application should be written in an especially provided form which are available at the [Arcum website](https://www.umu.se).

For more information on the call please contact
- Peter Sköld ([peter.skold@umu.se](mailto:peter.skold@umu.se))
- Gabriella Nordin ([gabriella.nordin@umu.se](mailto:gabriella.nordin@umu.se))

**Är det någon mening med att kalla norra Sverige arktiskt?**

Carina Keskitalo och Dieter Müller från Umeå universitet deltog i sommaren som Almedalsveckan. Seminariet som anordnades av forskningsprogrammet MISTRA Arctic Sustainable Development hade titeln Är det någon mening med att kalla norra Sverige arktiskt?

Som medlem i Arktiska rådet har Sverige idag en arktisk strategi där delar av norra Sverige ingår. Men norra Sverige skiller sig starkt från historiskt arktiska områden i t ex Kanada. Är det någon mening med att börja se norra Sverige som arktiskt eller är det bara ett utrikespolitiskt drag?

Det var frågan när forskningsprogrammet Mistra Arctic Sustainable Development i juli 2017 höll detta seminarium på Region Västerbotten i Almedalen.

**Talare:**
- Carina Keskitalo, Umeå Universitet
- Dieter Müller, Umeå Universitet
- Mikael Janson, North Sweden European Office
- Anna Olofsson, Umeå Kommun

[Se hela seminariet här](#)
Upcoming conferences and workshops

Arctic Frontiers Science 2018 - Call for papers


Connecting the Arctic
In a world of increasing turmoil the Arctic is still a place for collaboration and peaceful communication. In maintaining peaceful relations across borders in the north the encompassing science collaboration has been particular important. The vast ocean that represents the bulk of the arctic area carries large potentials, but also threats. As increasingly larger parts of it will be utilized, how do we communicate and conduct search and rescue. And more importantly, how do we secure productive and healthy oceans. Sustainable development of the ocean is of particular importance in this matter. Sustainable business development is also key in securing resilient arctic societies. Connecting these societies together and closer to the rest of the world’s ideas, knowledge, technology and capital is an issue of special importance at Arctic Frontiers Policy in 2018.

Arctic Frontiers Science 2018 takes place Tuesday 23 January until Thursday 25 January 2018 and will address the following topics:

- Aquaculture in the High North in times of change
- The New Arctic in the Global Context
- Resilient Arctic Societies and Industrial Development
- Circumpolar Safety, Search and Rescue Collaboration

You can read more about each topic at the Arctic Frontiers website.

On behalf of the Arctic Frontiers Science Committees, we have great pleasure in inviting you to submit one or more abstracts to any of the four topics.

Abstract submission terms and conditions
Abstract submission closes on Tuesday 19 September 2017, 23:59, European time.

By submitting an abstract to Arctic Frontiers, you agree to the following:

- The author is responsible for the accuracy of the abstract.
- The acceptance of an abstract for Arctic Frontiers does not imply provision of travel, accommodation or registration fee for the Arctic Frontiers conference, nor any other costs associated with preparation or presentation of the abstract will be covered by the conference.
- At least one author will be available to present the abstract (oral or poster format) if selected for the program. The authors will immediately notify the Arctic Frontiers conference secretariat if they are unable to present an abstract or if the presenting author is changed.
- All presenting authors at the Arctic Frontiers conference must register and pay to attend.
- You give us permission to publish your abstract submission on the Arctic Frontiers conference website and in the book of abstracts, also published online.
- You confirm that the submission has been approved by all co-authors.

All abstracts must be submitted in English and via the online submission site. Other forms of submission e.g. by post, email or fax will not be accepted.

The abstract will be reviewed by members of the Scientific Committees and the Committee’s decision is final.

Submission form
Upcoming conferences and workshops continued

**Polar2018 - Call for papers**

POLAR2018 is a joint event from the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research SCAR and the International Arctic Science Committee IASC. The SCAR meetings, the ASSW and the Open Science Conference will be hosted by the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL under the patronage of the Swiss Committee on Polar and High Altitude Research. The WSL Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research SLF is organising POLAR2018, which will take place in Davos, Switzerland from 15 - 26 June 2018.

**Call for Papers**

The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research SCAR and the International Arctic Science Committee IASC invite the international polar and high altitude community to submit abstracts for the Open Science Conference OSC at POLAR2018 in Davos, Switzerland.

The goal of POLAR2018 is to bring together excellent research from both poles, as well as from high altitude areas, focusing on the similar challenges those regions face. The program features 65 sessions, structured into 12 categories. In addition to the parallel sessions, central elements of the OSC will be keynote presentations, mini-symposia, extended poster sessions and exhibitions. The annual COMNAP symposium will be held during the OSC, as well as a plenary lecture from the 2018 Arctic Observing Summit as an opening to this biennial summit immediately after the OSC.

The organizing committee strongly encourages session topics that encapsulate research conducted in both the Arctic and Antarctic.

We also encourage including early career scientists as conveners and encourage diversity regarding conveners’ nationalities, gender, and where possible, indigenous peoples.

**General Information**

Abstract submission is open from **1 September to 1 November 2017, 6pm CET.**

- You may submit as many abstracts as you like, but only two with a preference for oral presentation.
- There is an abstract submission fee of 30 CHF per abstract, which will be charged to your credit card.
- Before entering your abstract you will be asked to choose a session. Read through the session descriptions to find the best match.
- Make sure to read the submission guidelines before starting the submission process.
- A limited number of abstract submission fee waivers will be available (application details).

**Submission guidelines**

**Submit an abstract**

For more information - please visit conference website at [www.polar2018.org](http://www.polar2018.org)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

On **December 12, 2017** Arcum will celebrate its fifth anniversary by organising **UMEÅ ARCTIC FORUM**

More information will be circulated shortly.
Upcoming conferences and workshops continued

The University of Oulu and the University of Helsinki are excited to invite you to the second UArctic Congress, September 3-7, 2018.

Call for Session Proposals is open until Sept 30, 2017

Key dates:

Call for Session proposals - September 30, 2017

Session selection - mid-December, 2017

Call for Abstracts - from January to end of March, 2018

Congress Registration opens - spring 2018

Requests for Visa invitations - spring 2018

Held in Finland, the UArctic Congress 2018 will begin in Oulu from September 3-6, and conclude in Helsinki on September 7.

The UArctic Congress 2018 will bring together key UArctic meetings and a science conference into one single gathering, including business meetings of the Council of UArctic, Rectors’ Forum, Student Forum, and Thematic Networks & UArctic Institutes Leadership Team.

The Congress is an integral part of Finland’s Arctic Council chairmanship program, and open to the public. The event will highlight the themes and priorities of the Finnish chairmanship, including the goals of the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supporting gender equality, and the Paris Agreement under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

With the aim to foster contacts and enhance networking, the biennial UArctic Congress brings together institutional leaders, indigenous representatives, academics, scientists and students from around the circumpolar north and beyond. Together with partners, policy makers, and other actors, the Congress strives to take the Arctic agenda forward by creating and strengthening collaborations that produce new findings and solutions for the future of the Arctic region.

The UArctic Congress 2018 will feature Science and Meeting sections, including:

- Sessions aligned with the four priorities of Finland’s chairmanship; i.e. Environmental protection, Connectivity, Environmental cooperation, and Education.

- Acclaimed keynote speakers and scientific experts presenting their views and latest research.

- Formal meetings for representatives of the Council of UArctic and UArctic Rectors’ Forum.

- Side-meetings and events.

- Student events.

- An exciting cultural and social program.

Mark your calendar and keep yourself informed via the UArctic Congress 2018 webpages and our social media feeds.
New publications

Uphov: Laila Daerga

Titel: Att leva i två världar [Eng titel: Health aspects among reindeer herders in Sweden : hälsoaspekter bland renskötande samer : living in two worlds]

Utgivare: Umeå universitet

Utgivningsår: 2017

Språk: svenska (eng abstract)

Format: 60 sid.

Beskrivning:

Introduction: There is a gap of knowledge of the health situation among the reindeer herding Sami in Sweden. The Swedish government has also got criticism for not taking responsibility for the Sami health. The aim of this thesis was to get more knowledge to understand the health situation of the reindeer herding Sami in Sweden. Furthermore, gender specific risk factors in the working environment among reindeer herders and their perception of healthcare and social services were investigated.

Method: Cross-sectional questionnaires covering different aspects of health such as musculoskeletal disorders, trust for different healthcare providers and work related psychosocial factors was distributed to reindeer herding Sami and non-Sami populations. Interviews with nine reindeer herding Sami about trust in healthcare and social services were carried out and analyzed with thematic analysis. Sixteen discussion meetings with 80 reindeer herders focusing on psychosocial perspectives of working conditions in Sami communities were performed.

Result: The prevalence of musculoskeletal symptoms from elbow, hand/wrist and lower back from male reindeer herders were higher compared to blue-collar worker. Psychosocial risk factors for health were identified such as high workload on a few herders, difficulties to get relief and support as well as to get appreciation in work and lack of participation in decisionmaking among women were common in the organization of reindeer husbandry. The trust in healthcare and social services was lower among reindeer herding Sami compared to non-Sami majority population. A hypothesis is that healthcare professionals do not know that the “Reindeer cloud” (metaphor to iCloud) affects all parts in the reindeer herders life. The distrust are influenced by historically traumas, reindeer herding Sami experiences from healthcare professionals and healthcare organization and culturally generated norms.

Conclusion: The thesis hypothesized that health disorders, attitude towards healthcare and psychosocial environment are important aspects when trying to understand the health situation among the reindeer herding Sami. There is a need to introduce long-term public health work for all Sami people, to establish ethical guidelines for Sami health research and develop healthcare services that provides access to healthcare for the reindeer herding Sami, on equal terms.

Fulltext DIVA

Laila Daerga, Institutionen för folkhälsa och klinisk medicin, Epidemiologi och global hälsa, försvarar sin avhandling med titeln: Hälsoaspekter i svensk renskötsel - att leva i två världar. (Engelsk titel: Health aspects among reindeer herders in Sweden - living in two worlds.)

Fakultetsopponent: Ketil Lenert Hansen, The Arctic University of Norway, Tromsö.

Datum: 2017-09-15
Tid: 09:00 - 12:00
Plats: NUS - Norrlands universitetssjukhus, Sal 135, by 9A
Open Calls

The next INTERACT Transnational Access call is open 1st Sept - 13th October 2017

The call is for TA visits taking place between March 2018 and April 2019

INTERACT is an infrastructure project under the auspices of SCANNET, a circumpolar network of currently 79 terrestrial field bases in northern Europe, Russia, US, Canada, Greenland, Iceland, the Faroe Islands and Scotland as well as stations in northern alpine areas. INTERACT specifically seeks to build capacity for research and monitoring in the European Arctic and beyond, and is offering access to numerous research stations through the Transnational Access program.

The project, which is funded by the EU, has a main objective to build capacity for identifying, understanding, predicting and responding to diverse environmental changes throughout the wide environmental and land-use envelopes of the Arctic. This is necessary because the Arctic is so vast and so sparsely populated that environmental observing capacity is limited compared to most other latitudes.

INTERACT is multidisciplinary: together, the stations in INTERACT host thousands of scientists from around the world who work on projects within the fields of glaciology, permafrost, climate, ecology, biodiversity and biogeochemical cycling. The INTERACT stations also host and facilitate many international single-discipline networks and aid training by hosting summer schools.

What is "Transnational Access" within INTERACT?

The INTERACT project under EU H2020 provides altogether 7800 person-days of Transnational Access (both physical and remote) in 2016-2020. Access is offered to 43 research stations located in the Arctic and northern alpine and forest areas in Europe, Russia and North-America.

The sites represent a variety of glacier, mountain, tundra, boreal forest, peatland and freshwater ecosystems, providing opportunities for researchers from natural sciences to human dimension.

Transnational Access means free of charge, transnational access to research infrastructures or installations for selected user groups. The access includes the logistical, technological and scientific support and the specific training that is usually provided to external researchers using the infrastructure. INTERACT Transnational Access calls will be open annually in the autumn for the summer and winter seasons of the following year. In addition, 1-2 additional calls may be arranged, focusing on specific themes.

Remote Access is a form of Transnational Access in which the user(s) do not visit the infrastructure/installation physically themselves; instead the staff of the infrastructure is conducting the study/collection of the samples/doing the monitoring for the user(s) according to their research plan.

TA calls are open annually for scientists and research groups (=users/user groups) to apply Transnational Access.

Transnational Access includes:

- Free access for eligible user groups to research facilities and field sites
- Support for travel and logistics costs
- Free access to information and data in the public domain held at the infrastructures

Access can only be granted to user groups to conduct research, not for arranging or attending courses, conferences, seminars or workshops. The maximum amount of access that can be granted per user group is 90 days (3 months) in the time frame of 2016-2020.

For more information and full application, click here.
If you want a post on the Arcum Facebook page or an Arcum-tweet on a new publication or an up-coming event send an e-mail to Linus at li-nus.lundström@umu.se.

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