FROM THE DIRECTOR

2017 has been a fabulous Arctic Year at Umeå University. We strengthen our position as one of the leading universities in Arctic research, and everywhere I come people are impressed to learn that we are now 320 researchers that work together to improve this even further. Several new projects, numerous publications, and a long list of events contribute to the success. It is incredible to see everything that has happened during our five years. To a great extent we have met our goals and ambitions from when we started Arcum, and today we can conclude that we have established a prominent Arctic milieu at Umeå University, with strong research, a leading national and international position, a broad collaboration, increased visibility, and an attractive platform for future development.

Umeå Arctic Forum at Sliperiet on 12 December was an excellent final of the first five years, the event is presented in a separate text in this Newsletter. It demonstrated the broad competence of Arctic researchers, as well as the initiatives that come from the region. This is a most fruitful ground for moving the Arctic project further. One of the most important initiatives during 2017 was Umeå University joining the Joint Arctic Agenda, during the Rovaniemi Arctic Spirit Conference in October the name was changed to Arctic Five, since it also includes the universities in Tromsø, Luleå, Oulu and Rovaniemi. I am convinced that this initiative will considerably strengthen the Nordic position in Arctic research. Unfortunately NordForsk decided not to fund our application for Nordic University Hubs, despite a very good grading and a positive review we were rejected in the end. There will, however, be new ways to build collaboration for the future.

It is impossible not to mention the Ninth International Congress on Arctic Social Sciences that was arranged at Umeå University 8-12 June. ICASS IX was a great success. The number of participants exceeded 800, which was almost twice the size of the previous conferences. 21 parallel sessions ran over five days, from morning until late afternoon. If they had been all plenary, we would have been in Umeå for 3 months and 10 days! Instead of individual keynote speakers each day started with a plenary panel. The panel themes were extractive industries, education, health, indigenous issues and bibliometric analysis. Much more could be said but in the end of the day this was a marvellous manifestation of Umeå when it is at its best.

With this said I am very much looking forward to 2018, we have interesting events coming up with the universities in Fudan (China) and Hokkaido (Japan), there will be activities in Stockholm and Brussels, we will be engaged in the Swedish chairmanship of the Barents Council, and we know that few universities have such a broad and magnificent Arctic research. Thank you all!

Peter Sköld, director Arcum
Arcum was inaugurated 12 December 2012, and to celebrate its fifth anniversary Umeå Arctic Forum was initiated, an event to be annual.

Umeå Arctic Forum took place on the day five years after the opening, on December 12, 2017 at Sliperiet, Arts Campus, Umeå. The forum brought together scientific experts from Umeå University, and decision-makers and stakeholders from both Västerbotten and Norrbotten. The design of the forum included four panels where the participants had brief introductions followed by most interesting discussions, with questions from the moderators and the audience.

Inauguration by Peter Sköld
Arcum Executive Director Peter Sköld inaugurated the forum. He gave a presentation on Arcum - five years in retrospect which was a recap of Arcums’ activities since the start of the centre until today. The year 2017 has been a very successful year, with an Arctic year at Umeå University starting with an Arctic theme at Kunskapsnoden in Stockholm in January, followed by the Ninth International Congress on Arctic Social Sciences arranged in June attracting more than 800 participants from all over the world. In October Umeå University arranged an Arctic seminar to honour H.M the King on his 70th birthday. Peter Sköld discussed the role of the Sustainable Development Goals in future Arctic research, and the need to establish desired states at different levels. The new Arcum film with 24 Arctic researchers at Umeå University was presented to the forum.

Policy panel
The first panel of the day had a policy theme. Invited to the panel was Maria Stenberg from Region Norrbotten, Erik Bergkvist from Region Västerbotten, Lars Lustig representing Länsstyrelsen Västerbotten, Björn Lyrvall, Senior Arctic Offical of Sweden, and Lennart Gustavsson chairman Georange. The panel discussed the impressive development of the Swedish Arctic Regions, and the scope for sharing best practices as societies will have to adapt to a changing Arctic.

Lyrvall pointed out four important issues; first, the Arctic concerns everybody; second; we are facing an accelerating climate crisis and we need to elaborate the terms of ‘adaptation and resilience’ to face them. Third; the Arctic region has a unique international collaboration, and fourth; the engagement on the regional level is very impressive in the Arctic area.

Regional Development panel
Carina Keskitalo, professor at the department of Geography and Economic History joined the second panel on Regional development panel together with colleagues Dieter Müller and Doris Carson from the same department. The panel also consisted of Runar Brännlund from Umeå School of Business. Lead by Peter Sköld the panel discussed the concept of Arctic as geographical term and the relevance to the region of Västerbotten to be a part of it.

Furthermore the panel discussed how Västerbotten and Norrland are viewed upon from outside and Keskitalo concluded that even though Norrland is considered as a widespread and empty area because there is just forests and no houses, but it is not empty - it is full of interests! On the discussion on the risk of Arctification of the Müller meant that it might be beneficiary in some situations, especially when it comes to promote the area. Doris Carson concluded by saying “Don’t ‘Arctify’ the research too much, many of the issues that are relevant here occur in sparsely populated regions all over the world which is important to acknowledge”.

Image: Gabriella Nordin
Natural Resources panel
From Swedish Lapland Visitors Board Camilla Bondareva participated in the panel on natural resources. Together with Malin Brännström, Umeå University, Lennart Gustavsson, Georange, and Johnna Gardeström from Biosfärområde Vindelälven-Jutatdahka they discussed the use of natural resources, reindeer husbandry and tourism in the Swedish Arctic region.

The panellists agreed on the importance of all industries in the area to prosper on mutual terms, and noted role of scientifically built knowledge. The relation between legal frameworks, entrepreneurship and sustainability was highlighted.

Climate Change panel
The last panel of the day was the Climate Change panel. The panel included Per Axelsson, Maria Furberg, Keith Larson, and Tim Horstkotte all from Umeå University.

Climate change in the Arctic was discussed in a broad perspective, initially focusing on the global consequences. Larson demonstrated how the research in Abisko could be of great importance to increase our understanding of climate effects. Furberg reported on diseases such as anthrax re-appearing in the Arctic region due to climate changes and melting permafrost. Axelsson and Horstkotte addressed the challenges of reindeer herding.

Umeå University an Arctic University in Västerbotten, the Arctic region
Hans Adolfsson, Vice Chancellor at Umeå University and Erik Bergkvist, President of the Executive Committee at Region Västerbotten gave separate presentations. Both speakers focused on the Swedish Arctic region in different aspects, and Umeå and Västerbotten in particular. Adolfsson described how Umeå University has established a solid position in Arctic research, he pointed to a long list of achievements during 2017, and noted especially the Nordic collaboration in Arctic Five. Erik Bergkvist demonstrated the need for an extended Arctic cooperation in Northern Sweden, and pointed to the fact that our part of the region is different in many ways, including urbanization processes and society structures.
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 Spring 2018

As previous semesters we will continue to offer a combination of scientific meetings and a light lunch. Every month we meet at Universitetsklubben 12:00-13:00 for a short speech, discussions and a light lunch. The schedule for Spring is not all set, but mark the dates below in your calendar to make sure to be able to attend.

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 February 9  Anna Zachrisson, senior lecturer at Political Science Department at Umeå University.
Thursday March 15  Kristina Svels, Title TBA
Thursday April 12  Speaker TBA
Friday May 8  Speaker TBA

WELCOME!

Friday, November 10 Jenny Ask, researcher at the Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Umeå University, held a talk on "Changing ice-cover regimes in a warmer climate: Effects on northern aquatic ecosystems".
SAVE THE DATE! The Nordic Universities role and challenge in the new Arctic

Umeå University, Sweden April 26, 2018

Nordic Centre in Shanghai drives and facilitates collaboration between researchers and students in the five Nordic countries and China. Located at Fudan University, one of Asia’s top universities, Nordic Centre has served as a vehicle for research and education within all kinds of disciplines since 1995.

Spring 2018 Nordic Centre Council meeting are to be held at Umeå University, Sweden on Wednesday 25 April. In connection to the Council meeting the Nordic Centre, in cooperation with Umeå University, will arrange a joint seminar with its member universities at Umeå University Campus on April 26, 2018. The overall theme for the seminar is the Arctic and will be divided in four sessions. For more information on the please contact Per A. Nilsson (per.a.nilsson@umu.se) or Gabriella Nordin (gabriella.nordin@umu.se)

Tentative programme:

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<tr>
<td>8.30 - 9.00</td>
<td>Registration and coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.00 - 9.15</td>
<td>Opening address by Heidi Hansson, Deputy Vice Chancellor at Umeå University</td>
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<td>9.15 - 10.45</td>
<td>NATURAL RESOURCES</td>
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<td>10.45 - 12.00</td>
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Upcoming conferences and workshops

**Workshop - Arctic Risk in Urban Spaces (ARUS)**

We are delighted to invite you to a workshop to explore climate change related conditions that are altering the risks of human outdoor activity and gathering in Arctic communities.

To this end, activities will focus on starting the process of growing a population health and architecture/urban design agenda around the changing risk in the polar public realm. Whilst this workshop is exploratory, the intention is to grow this into funded research. The goal is to help adapt Arctic settlements to the new environmental ‘risks’ created by climate change.

This topic is initiated as a sub-project under the thematic area of ‘Health and Wellbeing in the Arctic’ within the **Arctic Five** collaboration of the universities in Luleå, Oulu, Tromso, Umeå and Lapland.

**Time:** The meeting will start at 16:00 on the 16th January 2018 with a full day on the 17th.

**Place:** Abisko Scientific Research Station, Sweden.

For more detailed information and to register (by **Friday 22 December**), please contact:

**Agneta Larsson** (Health Sciences), agneta.larsson@ltu.se, 072 539 0653, or **David Chapman** (Architecture), david.chapman@ltu.se, 070 2641776. Luleå University of Technology, Sweden.
New publications

**Title:** Greenland’s future: narratives of natural resource development in the 1900s until the 1960s  
**By:** Janina Priebe  
**Publisher:** Umeå : Umeå Universitet  
**Year:** 2017  
**Language:** English  
**Format:** 70 pp (plus additional articles)  
**ISBN:** 9789176017746

**Description**  
This doctoral thesis identifies and analyzes narratives of Greenland’s future that emerged in the context of developing and modernizing the dependency’s natural resource industries in the 1900s until the 1960s. After almost two centuries of Danish colonial rule, the turn of the 20th century witnessed a profound change in Greenland’s governance. Although contested at first, the notion of cultural progress increasingly linked developing a modern industry to a productive economy under Danish auspices. Ideas of modernity that connected rationalities of the market with political power and science were unparalleled in the colonial discourse on Greenland’s future.

How were the development of Greenland’s natural resource industries and its role in Danish governance debated? Which narratives emerged in this context? As the studies in this compilation thesis suggest, the rationalities of science, markets, and power became entangled in an unprecedented way during these decades, creating new ways to imagine Greenland’s future. The first paper analyzes the application of a private stakeholder group of Copenhagen’s financial and economic elite for access to Greenland as a private, for-profit venture to extract and trade with the colony’s living resources in 1905. The motif of an Arctic scramble was constructed through the authority of science, still resonating in the debate on rare earth mining today. The second paper identifies the business relationships between the group’s members, connecting major Danish financial institutes and private economic interests in the late 19th and early 20th century.

The third paper focuses on the commercialization of Greenlandic fisheries in the 1910s until the late 1920s and the fisheries scientist Adolf Severin Jensen (1866-1953). Jensen’s work is an example of how applied sciences connected both scientific and political agendas, carried out in a colonial setting. The fourth paper focuses on the narrative analysis of (Danish-language) Greenlandic newspaper coverage of Qullissat between 1942 and 1968. Representations of the coal mine and nearby settlement on Greenland’s west coast, which were closed down in 1972, are at the center of this study. While the coal mine was presented as a Danish success to establish an independent energy supply and to introduce modernization measures, it was presented as a Greenlandic failure to adapt to modern demands of economic productivity in the years leading up to its closure.

[Fulltext in DiVA]
New publications - continued

Title: The Polar Adventures of a Rich American Dame
A Life of Louise Arner Boyd

Author: Joanna Kafarowski

2017
368 pp

The first comprehensive biography of Louise Arner Boyd — the intrepid American socialite who reinvented herself as the leading female polar explorer of the twentieth century.

Born in the late 1880s to a gritty mining magnate who made his millions in the California gold rush and a well-bred mother descended from one of New York’s distinguished families, society beauty Louise Arner Boyd was raised during a glittering era.

After inheriting a staggering family fortune, she began leading a double life. She fell under the spell of the north in the late 1920s after a sailing excursion to the Arctic Ocean. Over the next three decades, she achieved international notoriety as a rugged and audacious polar explorer while maintaining her flamboyant lifestyle as a leading society woman. Yet despite organizing, financing, and directing seven daring Arctic expeditions between 1926 and 1955, she is virtually unknown today.

For more information on how to purchase a copy:
https://www.dundurn.com/books/Polar-Adventures-Rich-American-Dame

Russian Laws on Indigenous Issues: Guarantees, Communities, Territories of Traditional Land Use: Translated and Commented

By: Zadorin, Maksim; Klisheva, Olga; Vezhlivtseva, Ksenia; Antufieva, Daria
University of Lapland
2017


Permanent link to download:
Open Calls

Call for Abstracts - 2018 Arctic Yearbook
Deadline: 1 March 2018 (250-400 words)
Draft papers deadline: 15 June 2018 (4000-6000 words)

The Arctic Yearbook (www.arcticyearbook.com) is calling for abstracts for the 2018 edition. The Arctic Yearbook is an international and peer-reviewed volume which focuses on issues of regional governance, circumpolar relations, geopolitics and security, all broadly defined. It is an open access, online publication. The Arctic Yearbook is an initiative of the Northern Research Forum (NRF) and UArctic’s joint Thematic Network on Geopolitics and Security. This year’s theme is “Arctic Development: In Theory & In Practice”. This theme aims to describe and define economic, political and social ‘development’ from an Arctic perspective, and critically assess the state of knowledge on the subject.

What do we mean by, and how do we define ‘sustainable development’? What are the popular and media perceptions of Arctic development? How do we reconcile the desire for both economic development and environmental protection? What is the role of governance, including Indigenous self-governance, in addressing Arctic development? Who has the right to define, measure and implement development policies in and for the Arctic region? What can be done at a regional or international level to promote local Arctic development? What strategies actually work to improve economic and social outcomes in remote and disperse Arctic communities?

Topics might include, but are not limited to:
- an assessment of the relevance of the UN Sustainable Development Goals to the Arctic;
- development from the perspective of different Arctic regions and communities;
- the legacy of colonialism in Arctic development strategies;
- gross production of the Arctic region vs. public investments into regional development;
- local (e.g. Native/Economic Development Corporations) and global (e.g. shipping, oil) economic development case studies;
- boom and bust cycles and northern resource economies;
- the role of military infrastructure in Arctic development;
- sustainable marine transportation and tourism dependency and periphery;
- statistical analyses of local and regional Arctic economic development; the role of governance and governments in addressing Arctic development;
- Arctic-appropriate indicators of development;
- livelihoods and material-well-being in the Arctic;
- best practices and comprehensive strategies for development including education, social supports and health care; and the application of global development literature and studies to the Arctic. Other topics of contemporary significance to northern peoples, circumpolar relations, Arctic geopolitics and security are also welcome.

Abstracts should be 250-400 words and include author name(s), institutional affiliation and article title, to be submitted to heather.exner@usask.ca. The deadline for abstracts is March 1, 2018. Notice of acceptance will be provided on March 15, 2018. Articles must be submitted by June 15, 2018. Publication is planned for October 2018.

We also welcome proposals for commentaries (1-3 page opinion pieces) and briefing notes (4-7 page analyses) from experts and policymakers on current issues and events.

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Open Calls - continued

Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme:
Fifth Call is Now Open

The Fifth Call for main project applications is open from 1st October 2017 to 28th February 2018, for all 4 Priority Axes. However, Terms of Reference have been formulated encouraging applicants to address specific actions, target groups, and sectors. The Monitoring Committee will decide on Fifth Call applications on 13th June 2018.

Details about the call including the Terms of Reference can be found in the Fifth Call Announcement, which applicants must read carefully.

Applications must be submitted through an electronic monitoring system (eMS), which is available on the link: ems.interreg-npa.eu. The application pack with all necessary supporting documents can be found on the Fifth Call page and in eMS.

Guidance for applicants
Applicants are encouraged to study the Programme Manual for a description of the Priority Axes, instructions for how to apply and the NPA eligibility rules. This and all other application documents can be found in the right-hand column.

How to Apply Seminars
How to Apply Seminars will be organised on 23rd November 2017 and 18th January 2018 in Copenhagen at the offices of the Joint Secretariat. These seminars will offer technical sessions on the application form, budget and partnership. The seminars will be conducted as a combination of the presentation of factual material and on-line eMS tutorials. Registration is open and space is limited to one person per project application. Register here

Preparatory project call
The call is ongoing, which means that applications can be submitted at any time. Preparatory Project decisions will be made by the Joint Secretariat. The approval process takes approximately 1 month from submission. Preparatory project idea developers are encouraged to aim the end date of their preparatory projects to coincide with the Fifth Call deadline. See the preparatory project call page for further details and instructions.

Further information
If you are interested in applying, we recommend that you are in touch with the Regional Contact Point in your region. Alternatively, you can contact Christopher Parker at the Joint Secretariat, christopher.parker@interreg-npa.eu.
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 linus.lundstrom@umu.se.

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!

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