

**Open Community Meetings
(in alphabetical order by meeting title)**

Meeting Title	Meeting Description
<p>APECS Workshop: Socio-ecological Interactions in the Arctic for Integral Sustainability (yzaika@inbox.ru)</p>	<p>The Arctic in its geographical holistic context is the basis for the coherent existence of socio-ecological systems. Being both the populated region and environment for many vulnerable species, the Arctic calls for the complex and integral research in order to reach sustainable development goals. The topic of APECS Workshop at ASSW2019 is “Socio-ecological interactions in the Arctic for Integral Sustainability”. The programme includes both scientific and career development parts which are outlined in a unique format. During the workshop, we aim to look into the Arctic socio-ecological interactions as a complex system which facilitates and forces interdisciplinary research and the convergence of social and natural sciences in order to aim sustainable development goals for Arctic agenda. The career development part is structured within the scientific and practical (work within break-out groups) parts to frame the understanding of Arctic research planning. At the end of the APECS Workshop day, we will work on general Statement which will include young scientists’ voices and will be passed on to the IASC for future Arctic research planning.</p>
<p>Arctic Law: Current Legal Regulation, Teaching and Research (t.sorokina@narfu.ru)</p>	<p>Currently, the Arctic development vector of the Russian state policy is one of the priorities. The government adopted the state program of socio-economic development of the Arctic zone. The urgency of ensuring the national security of the country in the Arctic region is increasing. The expansion of international cooperation in the sub-Arctic region is an objective necessity. All this testifies to the specifics of the complex legal regulation of international and national activities in the Arctic. To solve the above mentioned problems of legal regulation at the regional, Federal and international levels requires a special application of the General legal norms or the creation of a special group of rules of conduct based on the specifics of international, environmental, constitutional, transport law; peculiarities of implementation and protection of personal, political, socio-economic human rights; implementation and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples; support and development of knowledge in the field of international economic and political relations in the circumpolar North; the role of traditional practices and customary law of indigenous peoples in the formation of the legal framework of Arctic law (in particular, environmental law). Within the framework of this panel session, it is planned to continue the dialogue between the University community, the government, civil society on the actual formation of the Arctic law as a separate group of legal norms, and the prospects for its development.</p> <p>Topics to be discussed: Current challenges in the field of legal regulation in the Arctic: problems and solutions; mechanisms and tools for the development of Arctic law: integration of traditions and innovations; Training of specialists in the field of Arctic law: the needs of the governments and business; Improvement of legal mechanisms to protect the rights of indigenous peoples of the Arctic; Best practices to stimulate the flow of population to the Arctic regions, improve the investment climate, develop production, as well as small and medium-sized businesses; Establishment of special requirements for extraction and transportation of natural resources, as well as environmental protection in order to preserve the unique Arctic ecosystems and human health.</p>

Ground-based observations of plant-species, soils, and environmental factors are needed to develop effective Arctic terrestrial monitoring and mapping programs and to inform modelling and prediction of biodiversity, ecosystem functioning, and climate under future conditions. The Arctic Vegetation Archive (AVA) and Arctic Vegetation Classification (AVC) aim to identify, gather, archive, classify, and analyze species and environmental data from vegetation plots from all the circumpolar Arctic countries. A large legacy of vegetation plot data has been collected from most areas of the Arctic during the past century.

The primary objectives of the proposed Arctic Vegetation Archive Workshop are to discuss

Arctic Vegetation Archive (AVA)
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1. strategies to complete the AVA and AVC, with emphasis on the Russian data sets.
2. strategies to begin work on the available portions of the AVA and AVC for regional vegetation classifications,
3. the use of available species and environmental data to develop key questions on biodiversity and vegetation distribution at regional and pan-arctic scales, and
4. the international coordination of Arctic vegetation activities between CAFF and IASC Terrestrial Working Group, including consequences and strategies of the reorganization of the Arctic Council CAFF Flora group and its Circumpolar Vegetation Group. Note: this is an informal discussion to come up with ideas that we can bring forward to IASC and CAFF!

Conclusions of the workshop and potential ways forward will be presented during the IASC Terrestrial Working Group meeting on 22 May for more formal discussion.

ArcticROOS
(jari.haapala@fmi.fi)

ArcticROOS is an open forum for research institutes, universities as well as commercial bodies to inform, share and develop an Arctic Ocean observing system. It is a regional alliance of the EuroGOOS, which main objective is to harmonize European operational oceanography activities. Particular objectives of the ArcticROOS are to enhance European oceanographic and sea ice monitoring activities in the Arctic, to promote and facilitate dissemination of data via FAIR principles, to enhance development of open source community oceanographic, wave and sea-ice model and to develop European capacity for ocean and sea-ice satellite monitoring.

In this meeting, we will discuss how enhance unlocking the Arctic oceanographic and sea ice data, integration data to new ArcticROOS dataportal as well as long term objectives of the ArcticROOS.

Forum of Arctic Research Operators (FARO)
 (jmercerc@nsf.gov; faro-arctic@bios.au.dk)

The Forum of Arctic Research Operators (FARO) consists of over 20 member countries that conduct research operations in the Arctic. Over FARO's 20 years of existence, Arctic research has changed considerably. This, coupled with stunning changes in technology, has driven the evolution of operations and has made the underlying need for collaboration and information exchange across national boundaries more critical than ever. This is particularly true with large infrastructure commitments and geographically disperse observing networks. To this end, FARO acts as an international forum for information exchange, establishment of cooperation, and development of new ideas. FARO aims to encourage and optimize logistics and operational support for scientific research across the Arctic. FARO is closely associated with the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) and holds its annual meeting during Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW). FARO is operated by an Executive Committee (ExCom) drawn from its membership with an overall Chair of the organization. There is a secretariat to support communications throughout the year and the organization is supported by annual membership fees. The FARO annual meeting 2019 is open to anyone – except for a short closed session at the end of the meeting.

IASC Atmosphere Working Group (AWG)	IASC Working Groups drive forward IASC science and facilitate international and interdisciplinary Arctic science. Activity reports are given, coordination of international science activities is discussed, and WG funding is allocated.
IASC Council	A meeting of IASC's leadership and strategic body.
IASC Cryosphere Working Group (CWG)	IASC Working Groups drive forward IASC science and facilitate international and interdisciplinary Arctic science. Activity reports are given, coordination of international science activities is discussed, and WG funding is allocated.
IASC International Science Initiative in the Russian Arctic (ISIRA) (tishkov@biodat.ru; allen.pope@iasc.info)	ISIRA helps support international and interdisciplinary science cooperation in Arctic research, specifically related to the Russian Arctic.
IASC Joint Working Group Meeting	A meeting open to the whole IASC community where IASC cross-cutting proposals are discussed and cross-cutting funded activity reports are delivered.
IASC Marine Working Group (MWG)	IASC Working Groups drive forward IASC science and facilitate international and interdisciplinary Arctic science. Activity reports are given, coordination of international science activities is discussed, and WG funding is allocated.
IASC Social & Human Working Group (SHWG)	IASC Working Groups drive forward IASC science and facilitate international and interdisciplinary Arctic science. Activity reports are given, coordination of international science activities is discussed, and WG funding is allocated.
IASC Terrestrial Working Group (TWG)	IASC Working Groups drive forward IASC science and facilitate international and interdisciplinary Arctic science. Activity reports are given, coordination of international science activities is discussed, and WG funding is allocated.

The event consist of a book launch and a panel discussion.

Book launch:

The event starts with launching a book “Including the North: a Comparative Study of the Policies on Inclusion and Equity in the Circumpolar North”, which was created collaboratively as a part of Arctic Council’s Sustainable Development Working Groups project ‘Teacher Education for Diversity and Equality in the Arctic’.

The book is first endeavour on shared research of UArctic Thematic Network on Teacher Education for Social Justice and Diversity. It explores inclusive policies in nine countries across the Arctic and beyond, including a chapter from a Sami perspective. The book discusses a wide range of inclusive policies and highlights similarities and differences between the countries. As it provides a comprehensive overview, in this sense, it is a unique piece of work.

Including the North: Indigenous Languages and Inclusion Policies in Education
(janette.peltokorpi@ulapland.fi)

Panel discussion:

Year 2019 is to celebrate indigenous languages, as UN is organising 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages. Education can have a vital role in promoting and help sustaining Indigenous and Arctic cultures, endorsing local lifestyles that enhance psycho-social wellbeing and contributing to the vitality of local communities.

Panel discussion is focusing on the theme “Including the North: Indigenous Languages and Inclusion Policies in Education”. The discussion goes deeper into the theme by highlighting the inclusive policies and indigenous perspectives in education. The speakers of the panel will be confirmed later.

For more than 25 years, many Russian-German research groups have been carrying out joint research in the Russian Arctic, in particular the Laptev Sea, Lena Delta and Lake Elgygytgyn, within the framework of the Russian-German Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Polar and Marine Research. Various fields of interest have been tackled during this time such as permafrost-affected landscapes in the Siberian Arctic, Late Quaternary climatic and environmental history as well as Arctic climate change, in particular the decline of Arctic sea ice and feedbacks to the atmosphere, oceans and ecosystems.

International Research in the Russian Arctic
(hkassens@geomar.de)

The proposed community meeting is designed to bring all these Russian-German research groups together with international colleagues. At first short presentations will give mutual insights into the current research. Most of the time, however, will be dedicated to discussion in order to provide the scientists with the opportunity of exchanging their experience in logistics as well as their ideas for future research and possible cooperation in order to achieve synergies between the individual research groups. Thus there will be the opportunity and the time to build new stepping stones in the investigation of the Siberian Arctic by creating new bridges between the working groups, by letting new visions arise.

The event will also contribute to the German-Russian Theme Year of Academic Cooperation and Science 2018-2020.

Northern Urbanization:
Sustainable Cities
(julia.schmale@psi.ch;
kostadini@mail.ru)

The international initiative "air Pollution in the Arctic: Climate, Environment and Society" PACES organizes a half day workshop on questions around northern urbanization and sustainable development of Arctic cities. We invite everybody interested (social sciences, humanities, natural sciences) in contributing to a brainstorming session to develop research questions that shall ultimately lead to an interdisciplinary project proposal and a field study in Siberia. A twin city initiative is already on track for Fairbanks in Alaska.

Pacific Arctic Group Spring
Meeting (PAG)
(hejianfeng@pric.org.cn;
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The Pacific Arctic Group (PAG) is a group of organizations and individuals having a Pacific perspective on Arctic science. Originally organized under the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), the PAG is now an independent affiliate of the IASC and has as its mission to serve as a Pacific Arctic regional partnership to plan, coordinate and collaborate on science activities of mutual interest. PAG is engaged in project development and sampling in the Pacific Arctic Region, currently in rapid transition with major sea ice loss, to investigate climate, oceanography, air-sea ice interactions, ecosystems, and modeling. For the above purpose, we have a spring meeting that is mainly focused on business issues during the annual Arctic Science Summit Week, and a fall meeting at various locations in alternating PAG countries after the field season to review accomplishments during the previous summer and outlooks for the future. PAG continues to develop and implement long-term monitoring activities, such as the Distributed Biological Observatory (DBO) and Pacific Arctic Climate Ecosystem Observatory (PACEO). We suggest that the success of these coordinated, international observatories show they are key to continued monitoring of change in the Arctic. Further information on the PAG can be found at:<https://pag.arcticportal.org/>.

RATIC
(veromanovsky@alaska.edu;
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The Rapid Arctic Transitions due to Infrastructure and Climate (RATIC) initiative was born at ICARP III, ASSW 2015 in Toyama, Japan, with the goal of promoting sustainable arctic infrastructure as a key research theme requiring a collaborative multidisciplinary approach involving scientists, local communities, governments and industry. At the ASSW 2017 RATIC Workshop in Prague, participants discussed the cumulative effects and drivers of four major types of infrastructure systems: urban, village, industrial, and indigenous (camps, trails, corrals, etc.). "Corridors" and "nodes" emerged as an organizing framework for research to address these types of infrastructure. In Arkhangelsk, workshop participants are asked to come with thoughts on where they can most effectively plug into RATIC, matching their interest or expertise to this cross-cutting topic. During the workshop the group will identify work that is already going on in terrestrial/ecological, social/human, cryosphere, and other research spheres, and then discuss new ways to connect them. Starting with a synthesis of knowledge developed in Prague, ASSW 2019 workshop participants will seek to develop a research Action Plan for Sustainable Arctic Infrastructure focused on international multidisciplinary collaboration, including coordination with T-MOSAIC. We especially encourage IASC Fellows, APECS members, indigenous people, and industry representatives to participate. More information: www.geobotany.uaf.edu/ratic

Resilience in a Rapidly Changing Arctic - a Belmont Forum Funding Opportunity
(erica.key@belmontforum.org)

The Belmont Forum is pleased to announce the launch of a second Collaborative Research Action focused on Arctic region. The title of this international funding opportunity is Resilience in a Rapidly Changing Arctic. The call aims at bringing together researchers and other expertise across the globe to develop proposals from integrated teams of scientists and stakeholders to address key areas of arctic resilience understanding and action. This collaboration of academic and non-academic knowledge systems constitutes a transdisciplinary approach that will advance not only understanding of the fundamentals of arctic resilience but also spur action, inform decision-making, and translate into solutions for resilience.

Proposing consortia shall address at least two of seven interconnected elements of resilience as described in the Arctic Resilience Report of the Arctic Council: natural, social, financial, cultural and human capitals; infrastructure; and knowledge. Given the complexity and scope of the challenges, research consortia must be truly transdisciplinary, thus including researchers from: a) social sciences/humanities/economy and b) natural sciences/technology, as well as c) societal partners (i.e. citizens, civil society organizations), using a co-design, co-development and co-implementation approach.

Funders from 10 countries have committed resources for this call: Canada, Denmark, France, Japan, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and USA. The call aims to support medium-sized research projects with 3 to 4 years duration, with a recommended budget of up to 1.5 M€ each.

SAON Board meeting
(jan.rene.larsen@amap.no)

The meeting of the Board of the Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON). Guests are welcome.

Meeting documents will be made available here:

<https://www.arcticobserving.org/governance/board/board-meetings/12-board-meetings/350-meeting-documents-for-board-meeting-during-assw2019>

Scientific Symposium "Work in the Arctic"
(psps_wsash@bk.ru)

Northern Arctic Federal University (Arkhangelsk, North-West Russia) is pleased to announce the Scientific Symposium "Work in the Arctic" to be held as a side event of the Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW) 2019 that will take place at the university in 23 May, 2019.

A scientific symposium devoted to the issues of psychology and physiology of labor in the Arctic, safety issues and maintaining an optimal functional state when working in walkable conditions, effects of group isolation conditions in the Arctic; effective technologies of labor support in the Arctic.

Synoptic Arctic Survey
(jgrebmei@umces.edu)

The Synoptic Arctic Survey (SAS) is a bottom-up, researcher driven initiative that seeks to define the present state of the Arctic Ocean and understand the major ongoing transformations, with an emphasis on water masses, the marine ecosystems and the carbon cycle. We propose that it will not be possible to assess either the consequences or the range of the ongoing changes unless necessary empirical data are collected, analyzed and understood in concert with each other. The rapidly changing sea ice conditions and linkage to atmospheric and oceanographic components, accelerated opening of the Central Arctic Ocean for human use (e.g., transportation, potential fisheries) as well as the potential for cascading ecosystem changes in the high Arctic and girdling Arctic seas highlight the critical time to determine status and trends of the opening Arctic Ocean. IASC's role in facilitating international science planning in a multi-disciplinary fashion for pan-Arctic scientific observations highlights its key role in the development of the SAS activities. Planning is underway for multi-ship operations from the shelves into the Arctic basin in 2020/2021. All interested participants welcome to this open discussion period.

European research in the Arctic and Antarctic is notable for its excellence, diversity and societal relevance, achieved through extensive collaboration between disciplines, institutes and countries. Noting this, the European Polar Board (EPB) and its Members endeavour to develop collaborative initiatives within Europe and around the world, for the benefit of polar research.

This panel discussion session, moderated by a Chair, will showcase successful collaborative initiatives and explore positive solutions for greater collaboration beyond Europe.

The session will feature short presentations from four high-level panellists:

Towards greater collaboration in
polar research
(r.badhe@nwo.nl)

1. Introduction to the EPB, including a showcase of flagship collaborative initiatives
2. Polar research collaboration within Europe
3. EPB Members collaborating beyond Europe
4. Existing collaborative frameworks for a way forward

Suggested Chair – Henry Burgess, NERC Arctic Office

The presentations will be followed by questions from the audience, moderated by the Chair, allowing active researchers to put their questions and thoughts to the high-level panel. This discussion part of the session will focus on barriers to collaboration at different scales, examples of successful collaborations (why they worked), and ideas for how collaborative polar research can be improved.

A short report of the session will be prepared and published on the EPB website.

Workshop on Arctic biodiversity
and ecosystem functioning –
AVA / Turboveg practical training
session
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This hands-on training workshop is thought to introduce participants to the data entry for the Arctic Vegetation Archive, which is based on the software Turboveg. Ground-based observations of plant-species, soils, and environmental factors are needed to develop effective Arctic terrestrial monitoring and mapping programs and to inform modelling and prediction of biodiversity, ecosystem functioning, and climate under future conditions. The Arctic Vegetation Archive (AVA) and Arctic Vegetation Classification (AVC) aim to identify, gather, archive, classify, and analyze species and environmental data from vegetation plots from all the circumpolar Arctic countries. A large legacy of vegetation plot data has been collected from most areas of the Arctic during the past century.

The primary objective of this Turboveg practical training session is to learn how to enter data into the Arctic Vegetation Archive using the software Turboveg. Ideally, you will bring in some of your Braun-Blanquet relevées (10-15) to directly enter them into the archive. If you don't have any relevées, we will have some test data sets for you.