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The Norwegian Scientific Academy for Polar Research (NVP), in cooperation with  
The University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS) and  
The Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Center (NERSC)

## Interdisciplinary PhD and Post-Doc summer school 2015

### Arctic Ocean Governance as a Multifunctional Challenge

**Venue:** The Norwegian Scientific Academy for Polar Research (NVP),  
“Isdammen 1” and UNIS, Longyearbyen, Svalbard

**Time:** 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9th August 2015

#### Introduction

In general, a governance system consists of two features: a **regime**, defining the “rules of the game” – the regulations - and **a structure**, defining the actors and their interactions – the decision-making apparatus. As such, a governance system is a practical political construct drawing on the insights of the social sciences. To be effective, a governance system also has to reflect and respond to the natural characteristics of the region of application. As such it has to address the natural peculiarities of the respective region drawing on the insights of the natural sciences. In this broad definition, a governance system is a *complex entity* spanning the gap between the natural and social sciences (interdisciplinarity) as well as the gap between academic (university) and stakeholder knowledge as expressed in government and societal organizations (transdisciplinarity).

A circumpolar system of governance is in the making for the Arctic Ocean, both when it comes to regime and structure. Among the eight Arctic states there is broad agreement (*Ilulissat-declaration of 28 May 2009*) that the *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982* (UNCLOS) and other global ocean conventions is to be applied as the basic regulatory foundation of the Arctic Ocean. At the same time, the fact is that the UNCLOS mostly was developed to regulate the challenges of “blue water” Oceans. Out of the 320 articles of the UNCLOS, only one - Article 234 - deals specifically with ice-covered waters. Issues specific to Arctic natural conditions, such as sea ice, environmental fragility/sensitivity, polar darkness etc. are not fully or sufficiently addressed in UNCLOS. To make the existing regime fit the operational needs under polar conditions, *supplementary regulatory measures may/will be developed* to fill in on those applicable from UNCLOS and other global conventions. This process is already underway and has manifested in the international endeavours to reach agreement on a *Polar Code* and on the *Search and Rescue Agreement of Aeronautical and Maritime Vessels and Passenger of 12 May, 2011* of the Arctic Council. These supplementary measures are not likely to be the last. Among other things, concerns for the polar environment have been voiced in need of more adequate regulation. Thus, there are still voids of open spaces in the existing regime before a fully developed governance system for the Arctic Ocean has been established.

The same applies to the existing governance structure of the region. The focus here is on the Arctic Council, which is the only intergovernmental forum in the region for handling circumpolar concerns among all the Arctic states. As of the present, the Arctic Council is basically *a soft law, consensus-based forum* between its eight members, discussing a restricted number of issue areas. Multiple states have expressed a wish to gradually develop the Council into an international entity dealing with a broader scope of issue areas and a strengthened decision-making structure – to move it closer to a multilateral organization. This drive towards change has manifested in the establishment of a permanent Arctic Council Secretariat in the city of Tromsø in Norway. The likelihood is that moves in a similar direction will be on the international agenda to further improve the effectiveness of the Council in the future.

The existing governance system of the Arctic Ocean is still an object of change and improvement, both when it comes to regime and structure. To help out, the summer school has invited societal stakeholders from shipping, oil and gas, fisheries, environment etc., as well as from governments to identify what supplementary Arctic-specific amendments are necessary to make the governance system of the region suitable to handle respective interests in a sustainable and effective way. The PhD-students of the summer school are supposed to write a multi-, inter- and transdisciplinary report on the matter to be published in an international peer review journal of high standard.

## Program

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August: Arrival in Longyearbyen, transport to Nybyen/UNIS

- TBD Arrival at LYR, Svalbard
- TBD Bus from Airport to UNIS Guesthouse and Nybyen
- 17.00-18.00 Registration at UNIS – The University Center in Svalbard

### **Chair: Willy Østreng, President, NVP**

- 18.00 *Brief information about the Academy and on the purpose of the summer school, by Willy Østreng, President NVP*
- 18.20 *Brief orientation on the organization of the summer school, by Lasse Petterson, Director International Cooperation, NERSC*
- 18.40: Presentation of participators, lecturers and staff
- 19.15 *Student life at UNIS and security in Svalbard/Longyearbyen, by Fred Schancke Hansen, UNIS*
- 20.00 Welcome dinner at UNIS Canteen

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August: Frame setting presentations and lectures

- 09.00 Bus from Nybyen to Isdammen

### **Chair: Thor S. Larsen, Secretary General, NVP**

*All presentations 40 minutes plus 10 minutes for questions.*

- 09.30: *Arctic Governance: What is it and how do we achieve it? By Institute Professor, Olav Schram Stokke, Department of Political Science, University of Oslo, and Research Professor, Fridtjof Nansen Institute*
- 10.20: *The Extreme Arctic Environment: Opportunities and Limitations by Stein Sandven, Director, NERSC*
- 11.10: Coffee break
- 11.30: *Productivity hotspots due to upwelling along Arctic shelves. Climate change, wars, society, and Arctic Sea ice distribution 1554 to 2014, by Professor Stig Falk Pettersen, the Arctic University of Norway, Tromsø*

- 13.10-14.10: Lunch at Isdammen
- 14.10: *Climate Projections for the Arctic*, by Yongqi Gao, NERSC, Bergen (TBC)
- 15.00: *Operational Monitoring and Forecasting of the Arctic*, by Lasse H. Pettersson, NERSC, Bergen
- 15.50-16.15: Coffee break
- Chair: Ole Arve Misund, Director, UNIS**
- 16.15: General discussion related to the lectures.
- 17.45: End of day at Isdammen
- 18.30: Public lecture at UNIS: *Regime Formations: the Polar Bear Agreement of 1972*, by Secretary General Thor S. Larsen, NVP
- 19.30: Dinner at UNIS Canteen

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August: Questions, discussions and student poster presentations**

- 09.00: Bus/walk from Nybyen to Isdammen
- Chair: Stein Sandven, NERSC**
- 09.30: *Introduction to and establishment of thematic student groups, the inter- and transdisciplinary work and expectations* by Lasse H. Pettersson, NERSC
- 09.50: Student group work: Formulation of questions to the first day lectures.
- 11.00: Coffee break
- 11.30: Plenum questions from students and discussion with the lecturers from previous day
- 13.00-14.00: Lunch at Isdammen
- 14.00-18.00: Student poster presentations: max 5 minutes (up to 3 slides) each in plenum and discussion around their posters.
- 18.30: Public lecture at UNIS: *Regime formations and practice: The Svalbard Treaty of 1920* by Willy Østreng, NVP
- 19.30: Dinner at UNIS Canteen

## **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August: Presentations, group work and plenum discussions**

*All presentations 30 minutes plus 10 minutes questions.*

09.00: Bus/walk from Nybyen to Isdammen

**Chair: Willy Østreng, NVP**

09.30: *Regime application: The Arctic Seabed: National claims and Regulatory document* by Harald Brekke, Oil Directorate/ Yngve Kristoffersen, Head FRAM 2014-2015 expedition (TBC)

10.10: *Regional Governance and Indigenous Peoples* by Professor Grete Hovelsrud, University of Nordland, Bodø/Vice-President of NVP (TBC)

10.10-10.30: Coffee break

10.30: *Regional Governance and military utilization. De havrettslige forholdene, grenser, geopolitikken både i et pan-arktisk og i et mer Barents-perspektiv knyttet til ressursutnyttelse. Utviklingen innenfor Arktisk råd, både historisk og nå,* by Research director for Arctic and international affairs professor Alf Håkon Hoel, Institute of Marine Research, Tromsø

11.10: ***Examples of National Positions to Arctic Governance***

*The Russian Position to Arctic Governance* by Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation Artur N. Chilingarov (TBC)

11.50: *The Norwegian Position to Arctic Governance,* by Ambassador Else Berit Eikeland, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Oslo (TBC)

12.30: *The US Position to Arctic Governance* by ..... (TBD)

12.40-13.40: *Lunch at Isdammen*

**Chair: Lasse H. Pettersson, NERSC**

Rapporteur: Student appointed to summarize stakeholder accounts on governance needs

13.40: *Arctic Governance and Polar Shipping* by Adm. Sturla Henriksen, Director, Norwegian Shippowners Association (TBC)

14.20: *Arctic Governance and Fishing* by Audun Marååk, Director, Norwegian Fishing Vessel Owners Association (TBC)

15.00: *Arctic Governance and the Petroleum Industry* by Gro Brækken, managing director, Norwegian oil and gas association. (TBC)

- 15.40: *Arctic Governance and the Environment* by Member of the Parliament Rasmus Hansson, Miljøpartiet de Grønne. (TBC)
- 16.20-18.30: Formulation of and plenum questions from students and discussion with the lecturers from today.
- 19.00: Dinner and concert at UNIS Canteen

#### **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>: Group work**

09.00: Bus/walk from Nybyen to Isdammen

**Chair:** Lasse Pettersson, NERSC

**Moderators:** The Chair, Stein Sandven, Ole A. Misund, Thor S. Larsen and Willy Østreng

09.30-17.30: (included lunch and coffee breaks). The whole day will be devoted for interdisciplinary work, define key questions across the disciplines and across academic and stakeholder knowledge, create content of a report/paper, writing assignments, start writing the report/paper based on all the previous days' presentations, student posters, other information material and discussions. The outcome of group work is expected to be published as one or more peer review papers in international journals. Lecturers will be available for the groups and students may rotate between the thematic groups.

18.15: Public lecture at UNIS: *Polar Research and Science in Svalbard* by Ole Arve Misund, UNIS

19.30: Dinner at "Kroa"

#### **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August: Group work and Reporting**

09.00: Bus from Nybyen to Isdammen

**Chair:** Willy Østreng, President, NVP

**Moderators:** The Chair, Stein Sandven, Thor S. Larsen, Ole A. Misund and Lasse Pettersson

09.30-13.00: Continue writing the report and prepare for reporting in the afternoon

13.00-14.00: Lunch

14.00-17.30: Group reporting, discussion and conclusions.  
Schedule for finalizing the report/paper from the summer school.

19.00: Dinner at UNIS Canteen

### **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August: Field Excursion**

08.30 Buses from Nybyen to the harbour

09.30-18.00: Guided boat trip and excursion to Nordenskiöld Glacier and/or to Grumanbyen/Pyramiden/Barentsburg (TBD)

19.00: Dinner at UNIS Canteen

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August: Summary and Group discussions**

**Chair:** Lasse H. Petterson, NERSC

**Moderators:** The Chair, Stein Sandven, Ole A. Misund, Thor S. Larsen and Willy Østreng

10:00-14:00: Group work on finalizing the reporting.  
Conclusions of the report, including content of presentations and discussions at Friday

PM Free time to roam Longyearbyen/ Visit to the Svalbard Museum (TBD)

PM (TBD): Departure from LYR.

### **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August: Departure**

TBD Flights to Oslo or Tromsø

### **Program and Organizing committee**

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