MINUTES* of 21st Meeting of the Council of UArctic
September 3-4, 2018 / Oulu, Finland
Hosted by the University of Oulu

* The draft minutes were formally approved by members of Council at their annual meeting in September 2019.

21st Meeting of the Council of UArctic (September 3-4, 2018)

These are minutes of the 21st meeting of the Council of the UArctic, held in Oulu, Finland.

Minutes: Each Council meeting agenda item is presented in order of the original agenda, even though they may have been dealt with out of sequence during the meeting. The minutes contain web links to proposals, presentations, and background documents. The focus of the minutes is on the final decisions; and where relevant, an overview of the views expressed during discussions are included.

Participation: The 21st meeting of the Council of UArctic formed an integral part of the UArctic Congress 2018, which was attended by over 600 participants from 29 different countries. 74 UArctic member institutions and organisation were represented during the Council meeting.

Congress Photos: Are available for download and use by all participants with appropriate photo credit given:
- Photos from Oulu Sept 3-6 (credit: Juha Sarkkinen)
- Photos from Helsinki Sept 6-7 (credit: Veikko Somerpuro)

Congress Declaration: During the event a Congress Declaration was endorsed by all bodies of UArctic, highlighting our common vision of moving "Towards an Empowered North – with Shared Voices."

Council Breakout Sessions: As part of the Council program, participants took part in breakout sessions with round-table discussions on topics important to UArctic’s development. A full list of sessions, with descriptions and names of co-chairs, as well as discussion notes is provided in Annex 1 (below).

Council Meeting Opening

Meeting Agenda / Note: As per UArctic Bylaws sub-section 2.3, only Arctic Members voted on the following agenda action items: 4, 5.1, 5.2, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 8.1, and 8.2.

Agenda item:

1. Introduction to Council meeting Proposals and Voting Procedures
   Presenter: Lindsay Whaley, Council Secretary
   Presentation: [Introduction to Council Proposals and Voting]
2. **Approval of Meeting Agenda** *(Action item)*  
**Presenter:** *Liisa Holmberg*, Council Chair  
**Document:** [Proposal - Decision]  
**Decision:** Members of Council voted in favour of, with one abstention vote, to accept the agenda for the 21st Meeting of the Council of UArcti.

3. **Approval of Minutes from the 20th Council meeting** *(Action item)*  
**Presenter:** *Liisa Holmberg*, Council Chair  
**Documents:** [Proposal - Decision]  
[Draft Minutes – 20th Council Meeting 2017]  
**Decision:** Members of Council voted unanimously to approve the Draft Minutes from the 20th Meeting of the Council of UArcti, held in Nuuk, Greenland, from August 15 to 17, 2017.

4. **Election of Council Officers – Chair and Vice-Chair** *(Action item)*  
**Presenter:** *Lindsay Whaley*, Council Secretary  
**Document:** [Proposal - Decision]  
**Decisions:** Members of Council voted unanimously in favour of:  
   a) Re-electing *Liisa Holmberg* as Council Chair for a second three-year term (2018-2021); and  
   b) Re-electing *Ljubov D. Radnaeva* as Council Vice-Chair for a second three-year term (2018-2021).

5. **Council Committees**  
**Presenter:** *Outi Snellman*, Nominations Committee Secretary  

5.1 **Election of Members to Indigenous Issues Committee** *(Action item)*  
**Documents:** [Proposal - Decision]  
[Call for Nominations – Indigenous Issues Committee 2018]  
[Rules of Procedure – Indigenous Issues Committee]  
**Decisions:** Members of Council voted unanimously in favour of:  
   a) Re-electing *Kirk D. Anderson*, *Gwen Healey*, and *Beth Leonard* as members of UArcti's Indigenous Issues Committee for a second three-year term (2018-2021);  
   b) Acknowledging the contributions made by *Leanna Ellsworth* and *Sardana Savina* during their time on the Indigenous Issues Committee;  
   c) Acknowledging the contributions made by *Gerald Anderson* during his term as Secretary of UArcti's Indigenous Issues Committee, and thanks him for his dedication to the University of the Arctic as its Vice-President Indigenous.
5.2 **Election of members and Chair to Nominations Committee** *(Action item)*

**Documents:** [Proposal - Decision](#), [Short Biography – Yury Sumarokov](#)

**Decisions:** Members of Council voted in favour, with one vote against and one abstention vote, to:

a) Elect *Lena Maria Nilsson* as member of UArctic's Nominations Committee for a second three-year term (2018-2021);

b) Confirm the appointment of *Lena Maria Nilsson* as Chair of the Nominations Committee;

c) Accept the nominations and elects *Yury A. Sumarokov* as member of the Nominations Committee for an initial three-year term (2018-2021);

d) Thank *Claudia Fedorova* and *Jan Henry Keskitalo* for their dedication and important contributions to UArctic as members of the Nominations Committee.

**NOTE:** From this point in the meeting, as newly elected Chair of the Nominations Committee, *Lena Maria Nilsson* began serving as acting Council officer in the absence of the Council Vice-chair, *Ljubov Radnaeva*.

6. **UArctic Reports**

6.1 **Report from the President – 2017 Annual report and Finance summary**

**Presenter:** *Lars Kullerud*, UArctic President

**Presentation:** [UArctic President Report - Sept2018](#)

**Documents:** [UArctic Annual Report 2017](#), [Year-end Financial Report 2017](#)

6.2 **Report from the Board of UArctic**

**Presenter:** *Brian Rogers*, Chair of UArctic Board of Governors

**Presentation:** [UArctic Board Report - Sept2018](#)

**Document:** Preliminary report on review of UArctic’s legal status

7. **UArctic Membership**

**Document:** [Current Summary of UArctic Members](#)

7.1 **Introduction to New Member Applicants 2018**

**Presenter:** *Liisa Holmberg*, Council Chair

**Document:** [Summary of Membership Applications 2018](#)
7.2  **Election of New Arctic Members of UArctic** *(Action item)*

**Document:** [Proposal - Decision]

**Presentations:**

1. Dechinta Bush University Centre for Research and Learning + Video
2. Coast Mountain College + Video
3. Higher School of Innovation Management
4. Kamchatka State Technical University *(English)* + (in Russian)
5. KTH Royal Institute of Technology
6. Lahti University of Applied Sciences
7. Nipissing University
8. Savonia University of Applied Science
9. Sámi High School and Reindeer Husbandry School
10. St. Petersburg State University of Film and Television
11. Tomsk Polytechnic University
12. University of Lethbridge
13. University of New England
14. Kings Bay AS
15. Wilson Center - Polar Initiative

**Decisions:** Members of Council voted unanimously in favour of:

- **a)** Accepting Dechinta Bush University Centre for Research and Learning; Coast Mountain College; Higher School of Innovation Management; Kamchatka State Technical University; KTH Royal Institute of Technology; Lahti University of Applied Sciences; Nipissing University; Savonia University of Applied Science; Sámi High School and Reindeer Husbandry School; St. Petersburg State University of Film and Television; Tomsk Polytechnic University; University of Lethbridge; and the University of New England] as Arctic / Higher Education Institution members of the University of the Arctic.

- **b)** Accepting Kings Bay AS; and the Wilson Center - Polar Initiative as Arctic / Other Organization members of the University of the Arctic.

7.3  **Election of New Non-Arctic Members of UArctic** *(Action item)*

**Document:** [Proposal - Decision]

**Presentations:**

16. Harbin Engineering University
17. Harbin Institute of Technology
18. Leeds Beckett University
19. Liaocheng University *(application deferred to 2019)*
20. Italian Society for International Organization
21. Scott Polar Research Institute
Decisions: Members of Council voted unanimously in favour of:

a) Accepting Harbin Engineering University; Harbin Institute of Technology; and Leeds Beckett University as Non-Arctic / Higher Education Institution members of the University of the Arctic;

c) Deferring the membership application for Liaocheng University, and invite the applicant to send a representative to present their institution at the next meeting of the Council in 2019; and

d) Accepting the Italian Society for International Organization; and Scott Polar Research Institute] as Non-Arctic / Other Organization members of the University of the Arctic.

7.4 Membership Review - Vote on Removal of Members (Action item)

Presenter: Liisa Holmberg, Council Vice-Chair

Document: [Proposal - Decision]

Decision: Members of Council voted unanimously in favour to remove the Educational Studies School - Mongolian National University of Education (Mongolia) and the Third Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration (China) from the membership roster of the University of the Arctic, for having failed to comply with UArctic’s membership obligations.

8. Elections to UArctic Board of Governors

Presenter: Outi Snellman, UArctic Nominations Committee Secretary

8.1 Election of New Members to the Board of UArctic (Action item)

Documents: [Proposal - Decision]

[Board Nomination Letters 2018]

Decision: Members of Council voted unanimously in favour of:

a) Electing Sergey Aplonov to serve as member of UArctic’s Board of Governors for an initial three-year term (2018-2021);

b) Electing Karen Barnes to serve as member of UArctic’s Board of Governors for an initial three-year term (2018-2021);

c) Electing Anne Husebekk to serve as member of UArctic’s Board of Governors for an initial three-year term (2018-2021);

d) Electing Elena Kudryashova to serve as member of UArctic’s Board of Governors for an initial three-year term (2018-2021);

f) Electing Ross Virginia to serve as member of UArctic’s Board of Governors for an initial three-year term (2018-2021); and
g) Acknowledging the contributions made by Denise Anthony as Board member, and thanks Brian Rogers for his dedication and important contributions as Board member (2009-2018) and Board Chair (2013-2018) in guiding the development of the University of the Arctic.

8.2 Election of Board Student Representative (Action item)
Documents: [Proposal - Decision]
[Board Representative – Student Ambassador Invitation 2018]
[Letter of Motivation – Kamila Faizieva]
Decisions: Members of Council voted unanimously in favour of:

a) Accepting the nomination and electing Kamila Faizieva, of the Industrial University of Tyumen, Russia, to serve as Board Student Representative of UArctic’s Board of Governors for a fixed three-year term (2018-2021); and

b) Thanking Board Student Representative, Andrian Vlakhov, of the European University at St. Petersburg, Russia for his contributions as Board member (2015-2018), and wish him success in his future endeavours.

9. Invitation to join Friends of UArctic (Action item)
Presenter: Liisa Holmberg, Council Vice-Chair
Document: [Proposal - Decision]
Web-link: [Current List of Friends of UArctic]
Decisions: Members of Council voted unanimously in favour to:

a) Acknowledge the contributions made by Brian Rogers, and thanking him for his dedicated engagement with the Board and the Council in helping guide the University of the Arctic forward; and

b) Join the Board in inviting Brian Rogers to the Friends of UArctic.

10. UArctic Thematic Networks
Presenter: Kirsi Latola, Director of UArctic Thematic Networks Office

10.1 Introduction to proposed New Thematic Networks
Presentations: TN on Circumpolar Archives, Folklore and Ethnography (CAFE)
Thematic Network on Renewable Energy
TN on Smart Societies in the High North (SmartNorth)
Thematic Network on Arctic Indigenous Skills
Thematic Network on Arctic Plastic Pollution

10.2 Approval of Provisional Thematic Networks (Action item)
Documents: [Proposal - Decision]
[Activity Report for Provisional Thematic Networks]
Web-links:  
The Thematic Network on Arctic Lingua  
The Thematic Network on Arctic Migration  
The Thematic Network on Arctic WASH  
The Thematic Network on Arthropods of the Tundra / NeAT  
The Thematic Network on Science Diplomacy  
The Thematic Network on Global Ecological and Economic Connections in Arctic and Sub-Arctic Crab Fisheries

Decision:  Members of Council voted unanimously in support of the assessment of provisional networks by the UArctic Thematic Networks Coordination Office, and approve the granting of full network status to the:

- **Thematic Network on Arctic Lingua**, hosted by International Ethno-Linguistic Center “Arctic Lingua”, Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University, Russia.
- **Thematic Network on Arctic Migration**, hosted by the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland.
- **Thematic Network on Arctic WASH**, hosted by Arctic Technology Centre – ARTEK, Technical University of Denmark, Greenland.
- **Thematic Network on Arthropods of the Tundra / NeAT**, hosted by the Department of Bioscience, Aarhus University, Denmark.
- **Thematic Network on Global Ecological and Economic Connections in Arctic and Sub-Arctic Crab Fisheries**, hosted by the Department of Sociology, Environmental and Business Economics, University of Southern Denmark.
- **Thematic Network on Science Diplomacy**, hosted by The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, USA.

10.3 Approval of New Thematic Networks *(Action item)*

Documents:  [Proposal - Decision];  
 [Guidelines for establishing new Thematic Networks]

Network proposals:  [TN on Circumpolar Archives, Folklore and Ethnography (CAFE)]  
 [Thematic Network on Renewable Energy]  
 [TN on Smart Societies in the High North (SmartNorth)]  
 [Thematic Network on Arctic Indigenous Skills]  
 [Thematic Network on Arctic Plastic Pollution]

Decision:  Members of Council voted unanimously in support of the evaluation by the UArctic Thematic Networks Leadership Team, and approve the provisional establishment of the:

- **Thematic Network on Circumpolar Archives, Folklore and Ethnography (CAFE)**, hosted by the University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom.
- **Thematic Network on Renewable Energy**, hosted by the University of Saskatchewan, Canada.
• **Thematic Network on Smart Societies in the High North (SmartNorth),** hosted by the High North Center, Nord University, Norway.

• **Thematic Network on Arctic Indigenous Skills,** hosted by the Sámi Education Institute, Finland.

• **Thematic Network on Arctic Plastic Pollution,** hosted by GRID-Arendal, Norway.

11. **Approval of Dates for 2019 Council Meeting (Action item)**

**Presenters:** *Outi Snellman*, UArctic Vice-President Organization  
*Elisabet Idermark*, Senior Advisor Int’l Relations, Stockholm University

**Documents:**  
[Proposal - Decision];  
[Summary of UArctic Meetings 2001-2019]

**Decision:** Members of Council voted unanimously in favour of accepting the timeframe as proposed by the host Stockholm University, to hold its next meeting during mid to end of September 2019, and requests that the local planning committee work closely with the UArctic International Secretariat and the Council International Planning Committee on confirm the final dates and define a program for the 22nd meeting of the Council of UArctic.

**Note:** In the days following the meeting, the dates for the 22nd Meeting of the Council of UArctic were confirmed, and will be held in Stockholm, Sweden, from September 18 to 20, 2019. We welcome Council member representatives to participate.

12. **Preliminary Endorsement of 2018 UArctic Congress Declaration**

**Presenter:** *Outi Snellman*, UArctic Vice-President Organization

**Documents:**  
[Proposal - Decision];  
[2018 UArctic Congress Declaration - Council draft]

**Decision:** Members of Council voted unanimously in favour to preliminary endorse the draft 2018 UArctic Congress Declaration.

13. **Approval of Plans for 2020 UArctic Congress**

**Presenter:** *Outi Snellman*, UArctic Vice-President Organization

**Documents:**  
[Proposal - Decision];  
[Iceland Invitation to Host – UArctic Congress 2020]

**Presentation:** [Hots proposal from Iceland – UArctic Congress 2020]

**Video link:** [www.InspiredbyIceland.com](http://www.InspiredbyIceland.com)

**Decision:** Members of Council voted unanimously in favour to:

a) Accept the invitation from the University of Akureyri; Bifröst University; University Centre of the Westfjords; University of Iceland; Reykjavik University;
Iceland University of the Arts; Hólar University College; and the Agricultural University of Iceland to jointly host the UArctic Congress in Iceland from August 31 to September 4, 2020; acknowledge the contributions made by Brian Rogers, and thanking him for his dedicated engagement with the Board and the Council in helping guide the University of the Arctic forward; and

b) Support efforts to have the 2020 UArctic Congress arranged in association with and during Iceland’s chairmanship of the Arctic Council 2019-2021; and

c) Ask representatives of the host institutions to begin working with the UArctic International Secretariat and UArctic’s Senior Leadership Team (Ma-Mawi) to draft a UArctic Congress – Terms of Reference document, which is to include guidelines for the general framework, planning, and hosting of the event.

14. Other Business / Announcements

**UArctic Certificate of Recognition:** UArctic President, Lars Kullerud, and UArctic Vice-President Organization, Outi Snellman, presented Kirsi Latola, Director of the UArctic Thematic Networks Office with a UArctic Certificate of Recognition. The certificate was granting in recognition of Kirsi’s outstanding dedication, service and contributions to the development of UArctic; notably for the development and supervision of Thematic Networks and UArctic Institutes as a strategic cornerstone of the network since 2005.

**Closing of meeting**

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**Annex 1**

**Council Breakout Sessions**

During the Council breakout session period there were five separate parallel sessions ([see full descriptions](#)), each consisting of round-table discussions on topics important to UArctic’s development. Summary notes from the breakout sessions are provided below:

- **Session 1:** [UArctic and the Arctic Council: the Congress](#)
- **Session 2:** [Member engagement in UArctic educational activities](#)
- **Session 3:** [Arctic Skills and Training](#)
- **Session 4:** [Strengthening collaborations between networking organizations](#)
- **Session 5:** Sustainability for UArctic - Fundraising Program Development ([confidential discussions - no notes available](#)).