



UNIVERSITY OF THE ARCTIC

MINUTES

These are minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the Council of the University of the Arctic, held in Oulu, Finland from May 19 – 21, 2005 and hosted by the University of Oulu and Oulu Polytechnic.

N.B.: Agenda items are presented in order of the original agenda, even though they may have been dealt with out of sequence during the actual meeting. The minutes contain web links to presentations, background notes and draft proposals, while they do not provide summaries of these. The focus of the minutes is the final decisions; in the few cases where it is relevant they strive to give an overview of the various views from the discussions.

List of participants in Appendix A.

Session 1: Welcoming Session

1. Opening of the Meeting

Welcomes from James McDonald, acting Chair of the Council; Lauri Lantto, Rector of Oulu Polytechnic; and Lauri Lajunen, Rector of University of Oulu. In addition to the general greetings from the host institutions, Rector Lajunen announced the establishment of the UArctic Thematic Networks Coordination Office at Thule Institute, Oulu University.

The officers for the meeting were introduced: Chair, James McDonald (in place of Sally Webber); Vice-Chair, Rune Rydén (in place of Claudia Feodorova); Secretary, Geir Gotaas.

2. Approval of the Agenda

[Draft Agenda](#)

Council approves the proposed agenda, with the addition of a reporting time for the NRF break-out session in Session IV.

3. Approval of the Minutes

[Draft minutes from 7th Council, Fairbanks](#)

Council approves the minutes from the previous Council meeting, May 2004, in Fairbanks, Alaska.

4. New Member Introductions

Eighteen new members – 11 in the higher education institution category and 7 in the other organization category – made general presentations on their home institutes.

5. New Member Approval

James McDonald

[Summary of New Members
Membership Applications](#)

Council decisions:

a. Council accepts:

- Buryat State University (Ljubov Radnaeva for Stepan V. Kalmykovs) [Presentation](#)
- Høgskolen i Narvik / Narvik University College (Per Åge Ljunggren) [Presentation](#)
- Kamchatka State University of Education (Rick Caulfield for E.B. Vesna)
- Murmansk State Technical University (Harri Malinen for Olga Buch)
- Northlands College (Glenys Plunz) [Presentation](#)
- Surgut State University (Victoria Purtova) [Presentation](#)
- Syktyvkar Forest Institute: Branch of St. Petersburg Forest Technical Academy (Natalia Sedusova) [Presentation](#)
- Ukhta State Technical University (Georgy Danilov)
- University College of the North (Peter Geller) [Presentation](#)
- University of Helsinki (Juha Pentikäinen)
- University of Turku (Heli Hurme) [Presentation](#)

...into the UArctic membership in the category of Higher Education Institutions.

b. Council accepts:

- Árran lulesamisk senter (Oddmund Andersen) [Presentation](#)
- Centre for Support of Indigenous peoples of the North/Russian Training Centre (CSIPN/RITC) (Rodion Sulyandziga) [Presentation](#)
- Institute of Language, Literature, and History of Komi: Science Centre of the Ural Division of Russian Academy of Sciences (Natalia Sedusova for Alexandr A. Popov)
- Institute of the North (Ben Ellis) [Presentation](#)
- Polar Libraries Colloquy (Sandy Campbell) [Presentation](#)
- Professional Specialized School No.26 (Rick Caulfield for Vladimir Ivanitskii)
- Sjøsamisk Studieforbund (SSF)/Norwegian Coast Sami Study Association (NCSSA) (Trond Åmo)

... into the UArctic membership in the category of Other Organizations.

6. Director's Report

Lars Kullerud, Director

[Director's Report Presentation
Annual Report 2004
Breakout Session Introduction](#)

Session II: Panel Discussion on Health and Well-Being in the North

Chair: Kari Laine

Panel members:

- Mary May Simon, Former Canadian Ambassador to the Arctic Council and the Kingdom of Denmark, Member of UArctic's Board of Governors
- Oran Young, Co-Chair of the Arctic Human Development Report and Chair of UArctic's Board of Governors
- Vilho Myllylä, Vice-Rector of the University of Oulu
- Gert Mulvad, MD Family Health Care and Head of the Health Research Board of Greenland

[Kari Laine's Presentation](#)

[Gert Mulvad's Presentation](#)

See Appendix B for summary of discussion.

Session III: Program Break-out Sessions

See Appendix C for summaries of the break-out sessions.

Session IV: Board Report, Program Reports, and Action Items

7. Board Report

Oran Young, Chair of UArctic's Board of Governors

[Board Report Presentation](#)

Council decision:

a. Evaluation:

The Council accepts the Board's request to endorse the evaluation process and to respond to the evaluation process to the best of the members' ability.

b. Recognition:

The council enthusiastically welcomed the idea of developing a way for UArctic to recognize those who in traditional science have not been acknowledged for their important contributions to knowledge in and about the north. The discussion revealed that the issue needs some further work, both in defining what form the recognition should take, and whether it should cover only those who normally fall outside normal academic recognition systems, or if the recognition should also include more normal academic achievements.

Based on the discussion the council decided the following:

The Council recognizes the importance of honouring outstanding individuals for their contributions to indigenous and other [traditional] knowledges. The Council will join the Board in creating a Task Force to explore this idea and invites the Task Force to come back to the Council with a concrete proposal.

8. Circumpolar Studies

Greg Poelzer, Dean of Undergraduate Studies

The break out session identified three key issues:

- 1) The importance of development quality control processes that are compliant with the Bologna process and that focus not only on academic content (which has been done), but also on admissions requirements/procedures and on information to students;
- 2) Providing student information through UArctic at a central location on a) admission requirements and information appropriate for the respective national and institutional contexts, and b) outlining learning outcomes relevant to career placement and/or graduate school application, following the completion of the BCS program
- 3) Implementation: sending the Implementation Handbook and BCS brochures to UArctic Council members to assist in the implementation at home institutions

Council decision:

The Council accepts the proposal to add the following courses to the Circumpolar Studies Program:

BCS 101 Introduction to Library Resources for Circumpolar Studies

BCS 313: Library Resources for Northern Lands and Resources.

BCS 323: Library Resources for Northern Peoples and Cultures; and

BCS 333: Library Resources for Contemporary Issues,

These will become parts of the online Bachelor of Circumpolar Studies curriculum (0 credits).

9. north2north

Mona Johnson, International north2north Program Manager

[north2north Breakout Session Presentation](#)

10. northTREX

Kaijaleena Serlo, northTREX Program Team Chair

[northTREX Project Plan, 2005-2008](#)

[northTREX Benchmarking List](#)

[northTREX Breakout Session Presentation](#)

Council recommendation:

The Council encourages all members in the higher education institution category to be prepared to send or/and receive one teacher/faculty exchange annually. The Council welcomes the creation of Thematic Networks to support the implementation of the northTREX exchange programme.

11. GoNorth

Olav Hesjedal, GoNorth Program Team Chair

[GoNorth Program Guidelines and Principles](#)
[GoNorth Breakout Session Presentation](#)

Council decision:

The Council approves GoNorth as a UArctic program under the Mobility strategic area. The Council accepts in principle the GoNorth Draft Guidelines. The Council approves the following as the GoNorth program goals:

The GoNorth Program seeks to:

- a. Strengthen and promote Northern institutions in their role as the major providers of knowledge about the North.
- b. Increase international awareness and knowledge of northern issues and regions by educating and informing the next generation of decision-makers.
- c. Enhance understanding of the significance of the circumpolar regions in the environment and economy of lower latitudes.
- d. Use the University of the Arctic's principles and values, including the key role of indigenous peoples for the development of the north, as a guide during the implementation of the program.

12. Arctic Learning Environment (ALE)

Leo Pekkala, ALE Program Team Chair

[Draft AICTA Document](#)

Council endorsement:

The Council welcomes with enthusiasm the ALE members' participation in a preparatory study and preparation for the proposed comprehensive scientific ICT Assessment in the Arctic. The Council will actively collaborate with ALE members in the preparatory study.

13. MIMIR

Chris Southcott, MIMIR Program Team Chair

14. Field School

Eystein Markusson, Field School Program Team Chair.

[Course Catalogue Demonstration \(PowerPoint\)](#)

Council endorsement:

The Council endorses the full implementation of a University of the Arctic-wide catalogue service to support all UArctic's programs in cooperation with Norway Opening Universities.

The Council encourages Pomot/Director to set up a specific UArctic Catalogue Steering Committee, consisting of major users, to look after the coordination between programs and oversee the implementation of the Catalogue service.

14a. Northern Research Forum (NRF)

Jon Haukur Ingimundarson, Senior Scientist of the NRF Secretariat

Session V: Council and Committee Business

15. Thematic Networks

Lars Kullerud, Director

[Draft Guidelines for Thematic Networks](#)

The Council reconfirms the establishment of Thematic Networks as a UArctic program in the Knowledge and Dialogue Strategic area, endorses the new goals for the Program and approves the general program principles outlined in the Terms of Reference for UArctic Thematic Networks.

The council further received presentation of four Thematic Networks (agenda point 16-1):

16. Arctic Agriculture Network

Olavi Junttila, Chair

17. Arctic Medicine

Vilho Myllylä & Gert Mulvad, Chairs

[Arctic Health and Well-Being Presentation](#)

18. Environmental Impact Assessment, Land Use, Land Management and Land Rights

Liv Østmo, Chair

[EIA Breakout Session Presentation](#)

18 b. Verdde

Kristine Nystad, Sami University College and Mac Clendenning, Nunavut Arctic College

[The Verdde Program report](#)

19. Academic Quality Committee

Geir Gotaas, Chair

[Academic Quality Committee Report](#)

[Academic Quality Committee Presentation](#)

Council recommendation:

The Council welcomes the report from the AQC. The Council expresses its satisfaction with the finding that the UArctic core programmes carry out their work in accordance with the expressed values and goals of the UArctic. The Council encourages the Program Teams to continue the development of their internal quality mechanisms, keeping a clear focus on the importance of maintaining the reputation of the UArctic as a high quality network at all programme levels – from bachelor to PhD.

19a. Standing Committee on Indigenous Peoples Issues

Outi Snellman, Deputy Director, Administration

The Council recognises Bård A. Berg as chair of the committee for the next two years, and thanks Cindy Dickson for her committed work over the past several years. Three new members are added to the committee:

- a. Rodion Sulyandziga – Center for Support of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Russia
- b. Deanna L.E. Nyce – Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a
- c. Kristine Nystad – Sami University College, Norway

20. Membership and Nominations Committee

James McDonald

[Membership and Nominations Committee Presentation](#)

Lunch Presentation: International Polar Year

Cynan Ellis-Evans

[International Polar Year Lunch Presentation](#)

See Appendix D for summary of speech.

Session VI: Closing Plenary

21. International Polar Year

Rick Caulfield, Chair

[International Polar Year Expression of Intent](#) [Letter from ICSU](#) [IPY Breakout Session Presentation](#)

Council confirmation:

The Council confirms that UArctic sees the International Polar Year (IPY) as an important opportunity to promote northern higher education and therefore will take active part in the IPY. The Council re-affirms that UArctic is ready to assist the IPY Joint committee in the area of education and outreach. The Council supports formation of a UArctic IPY Task Force to develop a UArctic core IPY project and to secure that IPY is appropriately addressed in our programs; the UArctic IPY Task Force shall include representatives from relevant

UArctic programs, thematic networks and the indigenous issues committee as well as having a circumpolar representation. The Council encourages UArctic members to use IPY nationally as well as internationally as an opportunity to strengthen the role of northern higher education institutions in the creation of - and communication of- knowledge about the north.

22. International Academic Office

Diana Thomson, UArctic Academic Coordinator

[International Academic Office Report](#)

Council decisions:

a. General:

That the IAO provide academic services for students who wish to participate in UArctic programs and, that using the fundamental guidelines of the Memorandum of Understanding between UArctic and UNBC, the IAO will work to secure individual agreements between UArctic and member institutions.

b. Credentials:

That the International Academic Office be responsible for qualifying UArctic students for Certificates as appropriate, and for recommending issuance of certificates to the BCS Undergraduate Office; and that the BCS Undergraduate Office approve the issuance of certificates as appropriate, and report annually to the UArctic Council in that regard.

23. Approval of the changes to the governance document

Outi Snellman, Deputy Director, Administration

[Governance Document](#)

Council decision:

The Council endorses the Toyon decision to approve the revised Governance Structure document.

24. UArctic Information and Communications Issues

Outi Snellman, Deputy Director, Administration

[Member Survey](#) [Information and Communication Presentation](#)

25. Council 2006

Tine Viveka Westerberg

[Council 2006 Presentation](#)

Council decision:

The Council accepts the invitation of Bodø University College to host the Spring 2006 Council meeting in Bodø, Norway from June 15 – 17, 2006.

The Council invites members to make bids for hosting the Council meeting in 2007 to the International Secretariat.

26. Other business

No other business was raised.

27. Closing

All present expressed gratitude to Riitta Kataja of the University of Oulu and Kaijaleena Serlo of Oulu Polytechnic for their dedicated preparation and warm hospitality. Thanks went also to the Officers for their help in managing the meeting, and to Lars Kullerud, Outi Snellman and the International Secretariat for their role in organizing everything. The Chair thanked the Council members for their invaluable contributions and participation in the discussions.

Appendix A: Participants

Officers:

Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies, James McDonald, Acting Chair of Council for Sally Webber, Yukon College
Scandinavian Seminar Group, Rune Rydén, Vice-Chair of Council for Claudia Federova, Sakha State University
University of Tromsø, Geir Gotaas, Secretary of Council

UArctic Members:

Arctic Athabaskan Council, Cindy Dickson
Arctic Athabaskan Council, Alisa Kelly
Árran lulesamisk senter, Oddmund Anderson (new member)
Athabasca University, Vivian Elias
Athabasca University, John Ollerenshaw
Bodø University College, Bjørn K. Sagdahl
Bodø University College, Tine Viveka Westerberg
Buryat State University, Liubov Radnaeva (new member)
Center for Support of Indigenous Peoples of the North (CSIPN), Rodion Sulyandziga (new member)
Dartmouth College, Francis Magilligan
Finnmark University College, Liv Byrkjeflot
Finnmark University College, Tor Gjertsen
Finnmark University College, Mona Johnson
Harstad University College, Sigrid Ag
Iceland University of Education, Thuridur Johannsdottir
Institute of Humanitarian Research, Sardana Boyakova
Institute of Humanitarian Research, Tamara Ermolaeva
Institute of the North, Ben Ellis (new member)
International Institute of Sustainable Development, Carolee Buckler
Kemi-Tornio Polytechnic, Annikki Pulkkinen
Lakehead University, Chris Southcott
Lakehead University, Gary Boire
Luleå University of Technology, Karin Axelsson Grafström
Murmansk Humanities Institute, Alexey Cherenkov
Narvik University College, Per Åge Ljunggren (new member)
Northern State Medical University, Andrey Soloviev
Northlands College, Glenys Plunz (new member)
Nunavut Arctic College, Malcolm Clendenning
Oulu Polytechnic, Lauri Lantto
Oulu Polytechnic, Sami Niemelä
Oulu Polytechnic, Alan Perttunen
Oulu Polytechnic, Kaijaleena Serlo

Polar Libraries Colloquy, Sandy Campbell (new member)
Pomor State University, Irina Lugovskaya
Roskilde University, Rasmus Ole Rasmussen
Rovaniemi Polytechnic, Irina Gerashchenko
Rovaniemi Polytechnic, Anzelika Krastina
Rovaniemi Polytechnic, Kerttu Oikarinen
Saami Education Institute, Outi Korpilähde
Saami University College, Kristine Nystad
Saami University College, Outi Maria Paadar
Saami University College, Ándde (Anders) Sara
Saami University College, Jan Idar Solbakken
Saami University College, Liv Østmo
Saint Mary's University, Linda MacDonald
Scandinavian Seminar Group, Olav Harry Hesjedal
Scandinavian Seminar Group, Erling Olsen
Scandinavian Seminar Group, Rune Rydén
Sjøsamisk Studieforbund/Norwegian Coast Sami Studi Association, Trond Åmo (new member)
Sterling College, Kathleen Osgood Dana
Surgut State University, Victoria Purtova (new member)
Syktyvkar Forest Institute, Natalia Sedusova (new member)
Thule Institute, Riitta Kamula
UHI Millennium Institute, Wolfgang Greller
Ukhta State Technical University, Georgy Danilov (new member)
UNEP/GRID-Arendal, Philos Thor S. Larsen
University Centre on Svalbard, Eystein Markusson
University College of the North, Peter Geller (new member)
University of Akureyri, Jón Ingimundarson
University of Alaska Fairbanks, Richard Caulfield
University of Alberta, Nancy Gibson
University of Helsinki, Juha Pentikäinen (new member)
University of Lapland, Pierre André Forest
University of Lapland, Scott Forrest
University of Lapland, Lassi Heininen
University of Lapland, Harri Malinen
University of Lapland, Leo Pekkala
University of Manitoba, James Gardner
University of Manitoba, Leslie King
University of Northern British Columbia, Aileen Espiritu
University of Northern British Columbia, Heather Myers
University of Northern British Columbia, Diana Thomson
University of Oulu, Riitta Kataja
University of Oulu, Kari Laine
University of Oulu, Lauri Lajunen
University of Oulu, Veli-Pekka Lehtola

University of Oulu, Vilho Myllylä
University of Oulu, Kari Strand
University of Oulu, Pirjo Taskinen
University of Regina, Tomi Ovaska
University of Saskatchewan, Hayley Hessel
University of Saskatchewan, Greg Poelzer
University of Tromsø, Bård Berg
University of Tromsø, Gerd Bjørndhovde
University of Tromsø, Olavi Junttila
University of Tromsø, Astrid Revhaug
University of Turku, Heli Hurme (new member)
Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a, Orest J. Wakaruk
Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a, Deanna Nyce
Yukon College, Amanda Graham

Speakers:

British Antarctic Survey, Cynan Ellis-Evans
Health Research Board, Greenland, Gert Mulvad

Board of Governors:

Oran Young, Chair
Jan Henry Keskitalo
Audrey McLaughlin
Erling Olsen
Rune Rydén
Mary Simon

Observers:

Canadian Embassy to Finland, Mari-Anna Suurmunne
Centre for International Mobility, Marjaana Kopperi (north2north Program Team)
Foreign Affairs Canada, Nadia Stuewer

Manchester Metropolitan University, William Johnston (ALE Program Team)
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Finland), Laura Kamras
Northern Forum, Hannu Viranto
Regional Public Organization "Legal Center RODNIK", Ekaterina Khmeleva
Stockholm Environment Institute, Ian Caldwell
Swedish Institute, Ulla Rylander (north2north Program Team)
UNEP/GRID-Arendal, Lauren Haney
University of Waterloo, Robert Park
World Wildlife Fund, Geoff Rigby

Administration:

Lars Kullerud, Director
Outi Snellman, Deputy Director
Riitta Aikio, Project Secretary
Mona Johnson, north2north Program Manager
Greg Poelzer, Dean of Undergraduate Studies
Diana Thompson, Academic Coordinator
Gunn Elin Fedreheim, north2north Executive Officer
Katy Dillon, Project Assistant
Vita Hoyles, north2north Program Assistant
Alicia Kennedy, Assistant to the Secretary of Council
Audra Krueger, BCS Program Assistant
Kirk Tyler, Membership Assistant and Assistant to the Secretary of Council

Appendix B: Panel discussion on Health and Well-Being in the North

Chair: Kari Laine, Thule Institute

[Kari Laine's Presentation](#)

a. Mary Simon

Health and well-being is a crucial issue to Arctic populations; the key priority should be mental health, especially suicide prevention. It is important to adopt a holistic approach because health informs every other part of life. For example, we need to consider more than just physical health, like a person's support system, opportunities, connection to his/her own culture, etc. -- in doing so it will be necessary to recognize other types of knowledge. Indigenous people must be involved in all UArctic initiatives. Call for increased action on mental health issues, public awareness and student awareness in public and private agendas.

b. Oran Young

The Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR) includes a chapter on human health. The research demonstrates that there have been positive improvements over the past 50 years, for example in the prevention of tuberculosis. Three major themes emerged: health care delivery, issues of diet and nutrition, and mental health and well-being. In the area of delivery, there has been a successful effort to bring health care to people, instead of bring people to health care (i.e. tele-medicine). Regarding diet, the main concerns are changing dietary habits based on lifestyle and cultural changes and contamination of food sources from other parts of the world. There is a close relation between mental health and well-being: people with high levels of well-being face fewer mental health challenges. Well-being has a different meaning in the Arctic than in other regions – a sense of control over one's destiny, isolation/integration, meaningful contact with the natural environment all contribute to well-being. Compared with those in southern latitudes, people in the Arctic have a positive level of well-being. Overall, there is a need to focus on prevention, not cures – and to emphasize the contextual nature of health to ensure results from investment.

c. Vilho Myllylä

There are two major research areas: risks, stress and adaptation and health care and a humanistic approach to well-being. Everyone benefits from scientific collaboration. There is a call for funding and partnership to further Arctic medicine in general. The graduate school of Circumpolar Well-being, Health and Adaptation at the University of Oulu specializes in multidisciplinary research and gives an average of 6 degrees per year. The school cooperates with Luleå, Tromsø, Manitoba, Alaska, and institutions in Northwest Russia. It also publishes the Journal of Circumpolar Health.

d. Gert Mulvad

[Gert Mulvad's Presentation](#)

Health is a cornerstone. We need to focus on practical solutions. There has been rapid social, cultural, economic and environmental change in the Arctic; health and well-being are influenced by this. There are many success stories, for example tele-medicine solutions for remote communities. Local control and community-based health service can make positive impacts. Climate change will have a negative impact on health and well-being. Research on

social development and its impact on health should be a priority. The next meeting of the International Union of Circumpolar Health will be held in Novosibirsk. In addition, health research will be a large part of the IPY.

Appendix C: Break-out session reports

a. BCS and International Academic Office

Chairs: Greg Poelzer & Diana Thomson

[BCS and International Academic Office Description](#)

The break out session identified three key issues:

- 1) The importance of development quality control processes that are compliant with the Bologna process and that focus not only one academic content (which has been done), but also on admissions requirements/procedures and on information to students.
- 2) Providing student information through UArctic at a central location on a) admission requirements and information appropriate for the respective national and institutional contexts, and b) outlining learning outcomes relevant to career placement and/or graduate school application, following the completion of the BCS program.
- 3) Implementation: sending the Implementation Handbook and BCS brochures to UArctic Council members to assist in the implementation at home institutions.

b. north2north and northTREX

Chairs: Mona Johnson & Kaijaleena Serlo

[north2north and northTREX Description](#)

[north2north and northTREX Presentation](#)

Three main conclusions came out of this breakout session: the need to establish thematic networks for north2north and northTREX, the resolution to arrange administrative meetings once a year, and a renewed commitment to clarifying and increasing the speed of the procedures around allocations. The northTREX program renews its goal of one exchange per institution.

c. GoNorth and Field School

Chairs: Olav Hesjedal & Eystein Markusson

[GoNorth and Catalogue Description](#)

[GoNorth Presentation](#)

[Course Catalogue Presentation](#)

The members of the breakout session used their time to discuss the future development and goals of the GoNorth program. The interaction between the Arctic and the rest of the World was an important issue that led to the addition of a new goal: to enhance the understanding of the significance of the circumpolar regions in the environment and economy of lower latitudes. The breakout session also underlined the need for concrete facts from UArctic's Administration that would aide in fundraising efforts and Icelandic representation in the GoNorth program. The participants noted the challenges of implementing this program, and a pilot was briefly discussed.

d. Arctic Learning Environment (ALE)

Chair: Leo Pekkala

ALE Description

The ALE breakout session focussed on the Arctic Information and Communications Technology Assessment (AICTA) draft proposal. In the course of the session, members discussed the possible implementation and challenges facing the project.

e. MIMIR

Chair: Chris Southcott

MIMIR Description

The MIMIR Research Outreach program developed because of the Council meeting last year in Fairbanks, Alaska and earlier discussions at the Council meeting in Whitehorse. The idea is to develop UArctic's research outreach capacity to become active in the Second International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP II) and the International Polar Year (IPY). The program team was created last summer. To date, the team has prepared a Communications and Education Strategy paper for the IPY and was involved in the planning group for UArctic's Expression of Interest (EOI) for the IPY.

f. Northern Research Forum (NRF)

Chair: Jon Haukur Ingimundarson & Joan Nymand Larsen

ACIA/AHDR Description

The Northern Research Forum will hold its next meeting in Oulu and Luleå this coming October. At present, between 20 – 30 graduate students are involved. The NRF is trying to create links between the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) and Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR) and UArctic. This includes such issues as translation and incorporation into curriculum. The NRF is sponsoring town hall meetings on these reports all over the Arctic in the next 15 months. The focus will be on the findings of the reports as they relate to the people who actually live in the Arctic, students, faculty members, and policy-makers.

g. UArctic Thematic Network on Arctic Agriculture and Nature Use

Chair: Olavi Junttila

The group discussed the possibility of cooperation between the University of Tromsø and the University of Saskatchewan. The emphasis is on educational programs for Arctic agriculture and the natural sciences. The University of Alaska Fairbanks and University of Umeå are also interested in future collaboration. The outcome of the break-out session was contact amongst these institutions and an invitation to meet in the future on creating a thematic network to promote cooperation.

h. UArctic Thematic Network on Environmental Impact Assessment, Land Use, Land Management and Land Rights

Chairs: Liv Østmo & Bård A. Berg

[EIA Description](#)
[EIA Presentation](#)

The break-out session members renamed this session as the UArctic Indigenous Thematic Network on Community-based Natural Resource Co-management. The goal is to develop a thematic network on this topic, with secondary goals of increasing the articulation and sharing of indigenous knowledge and scholarship in natural resource management and increasing capacity-building for indigenous communities in natural resource co-management areas. The group members discussed the content, establishment, membership and operation of such a thematic network. Sami University College would act as host, with RAIPON and Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a rounding out the core working group.

i. UArctic Thematic Network on Arctic Medicine

Chairs: Gert Mulvad & Vilho Myllylä

[Arctic Medicine Description](#)
[Arctic Health and Well-Being Presentation](#)

The break-out session recommends the creation of a thematic network on Arctic Health and Well-Being, tentatively called TN HealthWell. The group calls for the creation of a formal working group to pursue the idea. Interested members could use the Thule Institute's survey to gauge capacity and preparedness for involvement. The session developed some guiding principles, such as student involvement, broad collaboration and connections with international organizations/initiatives. Three main connections to existing UArctic programs were identified: publishing health research through UArctic Press, a BCS course or Advanced Emphasis on Arctic health, and health-specific exchanges through north2north, GoNorth, or northTREX.

j. International Polar Year

Chairs: Rick Caulfield & Rasmus Ole Rasmussen

[IPY Description](#)
[IPY Presentation](#)

The participants met to generate new ideas about UArctic's possible involvement in the IPY. UArctic's involvement to date has included submitting an EOI and preparing a complete proposal for summer 2005. There are several ideas that came out of the session. First, IPY research could be incorporated into UArctic curricula. There could also be a book-video project to communicate the research to a broader audience. Indigenous PhD Fellowships could be created through expanding the indigenous circumpolar networking opportunities in PhD networks. A travelling museum exhibit or film festival could be planned in cooperation with the Polar Libraries Colloquy. The BCS Advanced Emphases could be expanded to relate to the IPY themes. The group found three next steps: to ascertain UArctic's precise role in relation to the IPY, to identify interested parties and funding, and to refine a mechanism for UArctic members and communities to get involved.

Appendix D: Cynan Ellis-Evans' Lunch Presentation on the International Polar Year

[Cynan Ellis-Evans' Presentation](#)

Mr. Ellis-Evans gave a general presentation on the IPY framework and the activities of the International Polar Office (IPO) to date. One of the IPY's major themes is "the Human Dimension," and "Education, Outreach and Communication" is an organizing principle that runs through all IPY activities. Over 900 proposals have been received in 2005, in addition to the 560 "ideas" that were proposed for the IPY in 2004. Of these, the University of the Arctic's Expression of Interest (EOI) is the leading proposal in the category of Education. The speaker noted that even though all proposals must incorporate some education, outreach and/or communication element, the majority of proposals relating to education were independent of any research. There is a need to integrate research as an independent activity with the process of actually communicating it to an audience.