MINUTES

These are the minutes of the tenth Meeting of the Council of the University of the Arctic, held in Arkhangelsk, Russia, from June 6-8, 2007 and hosted by Arkhangelsk State Technical University, Northern State Medical University and Pomor State University.

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 I: Opening

A multimedia presentation about the Arkhangelsk Region prepared by the hosts of the meeting was shown.

1. Opening address
Welcome and opening remarks from Mikail Sitkin, Vice-Governor of the Arkhangelsk Region. Mr Sitkin thanked UArctic for coming to Arkhangelsk for the meeting and talked about the important role the Arkhangelsk region plays in the Circumpolar North due to its strategic position, history and constant developments.

2. Welcome
Aleksey Gordienko, Representative of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation, on behalf of the Minister Andrey Fursenko
Mr Gordienko praised UArctic and the collaboration it generates between Russian higher education institutions and institutions from the other circumpolar countries. (See Appendix B for a copy of the speech in Russian)
Welcome from Vladimir Bulatov, Rector of Pomor State University
Welcome from Pavel Siderov, Rector of Northern State Medical University

3. Introduction of the Officers
Claudia Fedorova, Council Chair, introduced herself and Geir Gotaas, Secretary of Council.

4. Introduction of the Planning Committee
The Council Chair introduced the Planning Committee and thanked them on behalf of Council for their work in organising the meetings.

5. Approval of Agenda
[Draft agenda]
The Council approved the Agenda with the addition of item 11b to Session II and item 23 moved to Session IV.
6. Approval of Minutes

Council approved the minutes from the previous Council meeting in June 2006, Bodø, Norway.

7. Election of Officers for Council 2007-2010

The Council appointed Geir Gotaas (second three-year term) as Secretary, Claudia Fedorova as Chair (first three-year term) and Margaret Imrie as Vice-Chair (first three-year term).

8. Circumpolar Studies Program Graduation Ceremony

Greg Poelzer, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, and Bjoern Sagdahl, Associate Professor and BCS academic leader, Bodø University College, presented 23 students with Bachelors of Circumpolar Studies certificates. Nine of those students attended the ceremony. (See Appendix C for a list of graduating students)

Session II: Membership and Nominations

9. Introduction of New Members

Nine applicants were nominated to become members of the University of the Arctic – five in the higher institutions category and four in the other organizations category. All applicants made a presentation to Council about their institutions.

- [Summary of Applications]
- [Applicants]

10. Approval of New Members

The new member proposals were presented by Membership and Nominations Committee vice-chair Rune Rydén. Heli Hurme (University of Oulu) asked about the commitment of the applicants to participate in our programs, like north2north. The question was not discussed by council but will be addressed by the Membership and Nomination Committee.

The Council accepted in the higher education category the following new members:
Northwest Community College, Terrace, Canada, Royal Military College of Canada, Kingston, Canada, State Polar Academy, St.Petersburg, Russia, Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden, University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Canada.

The Council accepted in the other organizations category the following new members:
Abisko Scientific Research Station, Abisko, Sweden, Barents Institute, Kirkenes, Norway, GÁLDU Resource Centre for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Kautokeino, Norway, Nordland Research Institute, Bodø, Norway.

11. Other Committee business

11 a) Membership Survey Completion

Rune Rydén, vice-chair of the Membership and Nominations Committee, explained the importance of the membership surveys for the well-functioning of UArctic. Pierre-André Forest (University of Lapland) asked if, should the proposal be accepted, any institution which would be considered inactive at this point? Rune Rydén answered that there was none at this point.
The Council approve [decide on] the following procedure regarding failure to complete the membership survey and the withdrawal of members who are deemed inactive:

- Starting in June 2007, the Membership and Nominations Committee will identify to Council any institutions that have failed to respond to the Survey for two consecutive years. The Committee will advise Council to withdraw these institutions from active membership in UArctic.
- If a member institution does not reply to the Survey for one year, it will be warned. However, if it fails to reply for two years, the Membership and Nominations Committee will recommend to Council that they are made inactive.
- Warning letters will be sent each year to institutions that have not responded to the Survey.
- Inactive members can reapply for membership when they are ready to participate.

This process will be made retroactive for all members’ submissions regarding the UArctic Membership Survey for 2004, 2005 and 2006 activities.

11b) Membership and Nominations Committee [proposal] and [new proposal]

The Council appointed Jim McDonald for another three-year term (2007-2010).

The Council appoints the following members for the Membership and Nominations Committee suggested by the current Chair Jim MacDonald:

- Jim McDonald, ACUNS, Chair
- Rune Rydén, Scandinavian Seminar Group, Vice-Chair
- Karen Langård, University of Greenland
- Deanna Nyce, Wilp Wilxo’oskwhl Nisga’a
- Gerd Bjørhovde, University of Tromsø
- Jon Hankur Ingimundarsson, Stefansson Arctic Institute
- Kari Ruotsalainen, Diaconia University of Applied Sciences
- Yuriy I. Reutov, Yugra State University
- Peter Weiss, University Centre of the West Fjords
- Kristine Nystad, Sámi University College

The Council accepted the resignation of long-serving members of the Membership and Nominations Committee Claudia Fedorova (Sakha State University) and Rick Caulfield (University of Alaska Fairbanks) and thanked them for their invaluable work for shaping UArctic’s membership and its governance bodies.

12. Board Nominations [proposal] (See Appendix E for voting results)

After the proposal was presented by Membership and Nominations Committee vice-chair Rune Rydén, Kari Laine (University of Oulu) proposed two more nominations to Council for the Board of Governors, based on their involvement and great interest in UArctic business. Both nominees had also been earlier nominated by the respective member institutions to the Committee. The two people nominated were: Andrew Greenshaw, Associate Vice-President
Eystein Markusson (University Centre on Svalbard) gave his support to Kari Laine’s proposal.

Director of Administration and University Relations Outi Snellman explained to Council that a call was made to all leaders of higher education institution members for nominations for the Board of Governors, and that a total of x names were put forward. However, the Membership and Nominations Committee was concerned with the size of the Board of Governors, wanting to keep it small. In the end and after lengthy discussions, they chose the candidates mentioned in the proposal to Council for that reason.

Pierre-André Forest (University of Lapland) asked if the Council needed to be unanimous in its decision in order for the new proposal from the floor to be accepted? Outi Snellman answered positively, adding that that the committees, however, do not need unanimity to make decisions.

Leslie King (University of Manitoba) asked how many people would be on the Board of Governors if Council accepted the proposal from the floor? Outi Snellman answered 10. Leslie King observed that the Governance Structure allows 11 members.

Peter Geller (University College of the North) asked if the two new proposed candidates had showed interest in UArctic and if Council could be assured that they would be willing and available to sit on the Board of Governors. Outi Snellman answered positively.

The Council appointed the following new members to the Board of Governors of UArctic:

- Andrew Greenshaw
- Steve Jones
- Lauri Lantto
- Alexander Krylov
- Barry Scherr
- Emőke J. E. Szathmáry

The Council reappointed to the Board of Governors:

- Erling Olsen
- Jan-Henry Keskitalo

The Council acknowledged the following Board members term as Governors are now concluded and thanked them for their contribution to UArctic. At the same time, the Council invited them to join the Friends of UArctic:

- Lloyd Axworthy
- Shirley Adamson
- Audrey McLaughlin
- Antero Ilkäheimo
- Oran Young
13. Council Proposal on External Relations Committee [proposal]

The Council decided to close the External Relations Committee due to natural evolution in UArctic operations and extended its gratitude to its members for their good work.

Session III: UArctic’s Progress and Future Development

14. President’s Report on 2006 and a look forward
   Annual Report 2006 [report]

UArctic President Lars Kullerud talked briefly about the development of UArctic and its programmes in the last year, with the Annual Report 2006 as a support document. He highlighted the great increase in the BCS and north2north student enrolment numbers, and talked about the newly launched UArctic website as a success and a very important tool for internal and external communications for UArctic.

Proposal on Rectors’ Forum [proposal]

Several Council members expressed their support to the proposal. Leslie King (University of Manitoba) suggested that there should be more roles in UArctic available for rectors and members of leadership in the future. She asked if there had been any discussion about creating a forum for leaders of non higher education member institutions. President Lars Kullerud answered that it had not been discussed.

Peter Geller (University College of the North) suggested that the word “governance” be taken out of the proposal so that it is more open as to how member institutions’ leaders could be involved.

Leslie King (University of Manitoba) suggested that the last two words (governance structure) should be taken out.

The Council recognized that the institutional leaders of UArctic’s higher education member institutions have organized themselves into a UArctic Rector’s Forum and looks forward to fruitful cooperation with the Rectors’ Forum for the development of UArctic and strengthening of its members. The Rectors’ Forum will work together with UArctic’s governance bodies (Board, Council and Toyon) to further define the role of the Rectors’ Forum in UArctic.

15. Program Chairs’ Panel:

Chair: Lars Kullerud, UArctic President

Panel members:

- Greg Poelzer, Dean of Undergraduate Studies [program report]
- Eystein Markussen, chair of the UArctic Field School [program report]
- Mona Johnson, chair of the north2north program [program report]
Each program chair introduced themselves and described the relevant program.

The program chairs discussed the challenges brought on by the constraints with funding. The need for more funding for the BCS and north2north programs was highlighted, as enrolment numbers continue to grow.

The program chairs also talked about the importance of collaboration between the various programs as well as between member institutions, and described such collaboration as the best way for programs and UArctic as a whole to develop to their full potential.

The Thematic Networks chair encouraged members to seek ways to participate in the existing Thematic Networks as well as considering initiating new ones in gap areas.

16. A look into UArctic’s Administrative Services [report]

Chair: Outi Snellman, Director of Administration and University Relations

Panel members:

- Glenys Plunz, Director, International Academic Office (IAO) [report]
- Elaine Maloney, Chair, UArctic Press
- Claudia Fedorova, Director, Russian Information Center
- Eystein Markusson, UArctic Online Studies Catalogue

The panel members presented their offices and presented their latest activities to Council.

Elaine Maloney talked about the developing UArctic Press and explained that two streams are being considered: a press consortium and an open access public venture. She said she would like to hear about the members’ needs and wishes in terms of publications, and invited any member who would be interested in collaborating with the Press to contact her with their ideas.

The key role of the online studies catalogue, especially for the Field School and GoNorth programs, was also emphasized, and the chairs welcomed the establishment of the new catalogue office to open in Amherst, USA, in September 2007.

In summarizing both panel discussions, Lars Kullerud asked the Council to reflect on the future of UArctic and the ways members could collaborate (joint programs, joint funding, mobility, etc.) and join visions to strengthen the North. He said the role of higher education institutions locally, but also on a global level, should be examined in order to heighten their potential as real drivers for the development of the Circumpolar North.
Session IV: Developing UArctic’s Graduate Area

Applying the Bologna Process in Russian institutions [presentation]

Elena Kudrjashova, Vice-director of the Department of Science and Education of the Arkhangelsk Regional Administration, made a presentation on the topic of Applying the Bologna Process in Russian Institutions.

She talked about the reasons for Russia’s participation in the Bologna Process, stating the legislative basis for it. She also talked about the specific challenges which Russian institutions and students are faced with in terms of student mobility - including a lack of government funding and a lack of infrastructure – highlighting, however, the high level of activity in the Arkhangelsk region.

Strategies for Medical Education Development [presentation]

Yury Sumarokov, Vice-Rector of Northern State Medical University talked about the challenges in training and recruiting medical doctors in Russia, especially in rural and northern areas. He addressed the ways Northern State Medical University is trying to solve this problem, including distant education, continuous educations, the establishment of joint masters in public health with other northern countries, student mobility and research cooperation.

International Programs at PSU [presentation]

Alexander Krylov, Vice-Rector of International Affairs, Pomor State University, talked about the international program PSU is involved in.

Arkhangelsk State Technical University and the Bologna Process Implementation [presentation]

Galina Komarova, Vice-Rector on International Collaboration, Arkhangelsk State Technical University made a presentation about the implementation of the Bologna Process in ASTU and other Russian institutions. She talked about the role of the state in funding student mobility and the problems caused by the lack of funding.

17. Proposal for Council decision on Graduate Area [proposal] [draft guidelines]

Several Council members asked questions to Eystein Markusson about the proposal. Galina Komarova (ASTU) asked about the five year degree requirement and how it would affect Russian students, as the system there is different.

Sonni Olsen (Finnmark University College) asked what kind of collaboration model was recommended by the Task Force in the end. Eystein Markusson answered that it was still in development, but that there probably would not be one specific model to adopt, but several, depending on the circumstances, including the legislative systems of the countries involved. However, the models will definitely involve some type of cooperation between institutions, and not one single institution offering a master’s degree.
Pierre-André Forest (University of Lapland) talked about the principles and suggested that the principles state that student “who are entering a UArctic master’s program” should appreciate the relevance of other disciplines and knowledge forms. Eystein Markusson said that he has no objection but that we should restrain ourselves from using language that is too restricting, since we are still in the early stage. He proposed that the suggested change be made in the background document to the proposal.

Thore S. Larsen (UNEP/GRID-Arendal) highlighted the indigenous peoples element of the foundation principles and said that the Thematic Networks should have an important role in the Graduate Area.

The Council confirmed the establishment of the UArctic Master Programme, endorsed the Programme’s goals and in principle approved the foundation principles as outlined in the Guidelines for the UArctic Master Programme.

The Council asked the President to take immediate action to ensure that:

- the new programme is developed quickly through a Programme Tram for the entire Graduate Strategic Area
- various funding opportunities for the Programme and a possible supporting office are explored in full cooperation with the Board of Governors of UArctic
- incremental funding for the Programme does not come at the expense of funding opportunities and sources for existing program areas.

Session V: Introduction to Breakout Sessions

18. Introduction to Breakout Sessions [Breakout sessions themes and descriptions]

Chair: Outi Snellman, Director of Administration and University Relations
Each breakout session chair introduced their topic and invited Council members to participate.

Session VI: Breakout Sessions

Session VII: Breakout Reports

See Appendix D for summaries of Breakout Sessions

19. Theme I: Proposal on the establishment of a Thematic Network on Northern Governance [proposal]

The Council welcomes the creation of a Thematic Network on Northern Governance.

20. Theme II: Proposal on the establishment of a Thematic Network Group – Indigenous Arts and Crafts [proposal]
The Council welcomes the establishment of the Indigenous Arts and Crafts Thematic Network.

21. Proposal on the establishment of the ALE Thematic Network [proposal]

The Council welcomes the establishment of the Arctic Learning Environment Thematic Network.

Session VIII: Council business

22. International Academic Office proposal [proposal]

Pierre-André Forest (University of Lapland) suggested an editorial change to the proposal text. He suggested the words “diploma supplement” should be replaced by “UArctic supplement” and to not use the terms “diploma” or “certificate” but rather “confirmation.”

Several members of council raised concerns about the use of the words “certificate” and “diploma”, as they argued some institutions would be dissatisfied with the wording and that it could be confusing in cases when students are applying for other programs. However, some thought that it was clearer for the student themselves. Evgenia Skakunova (Yamal-Nenets Institute of Language, Literature and History) raised the fact that, for Russian institutions, the translation of “confirmation” would still be “diploma”.

The Council accepted the proposal, with the word “certificate” replaced by “confirmation” and the expression “diploma supplement” replaced by “UArctic supplement.”

The Council decided that when the International Academic Office has received stable funding, and therefore appropriate staff levels, all confirmations of Participation, and confirmation of Completion plus UArctic Supplements, will be issued from the International Academic Office. Necessary records to verify certification will be housed within the IAO database.

- Guidelines and processes will be developed in conjunction with the Program Chairs and International Academic Office Support Group.
- Confirmation of Completion and confirmation of Achievement will be issued starting fall 2007.
  - These will be initially issued based on notification and a list of names from the BCS office. Procedures will be developed as capacity enables.
- n2n and Field School (Confirmation of Participation) Program procedures will be developed initially and expanded to other programs as IAO capacity enables.

The Council accepted that the IAO will gather basic data from all students in all courses for programs which are included in the Confirmation of Completion and Confirmation of Participation. This is an expansion from online courses to also face-to-face delivery modes. To enable this collection, a Student Data Collection Form will be created as part of the procedures under the UArctic Certification Proposal.

23. UArctic Regional BCS Office [proposal]
[background document]
The Council accepted the establishment of three regional offices supported by the distance delivery of UArctic’s Circumpolar Studies Program within the regions of North America, Russia, and the Nordic-Barents Region. One institution will host the UArctic Dean and Office of Undergraduate Studies; the two other institutions will host UArctic Associate Deans of Undergraduate Studies.

Session VIII: Council business

24. Academic Quality Committee report [proposal]

Geir Gotaas, Chair of the Academic Quality Committee, presented the committee report [report]

The Council welcomed the report from the AQC, encouraged the Program teams to maintain a strong focus on the issue of academic quality in their future work and encouraged the Program teams to share with the Council (through their annual reports) the conclusions that they reach with respect to this important aspect of our activities.

The Council appoints the following members in the Academic Quality Committee, as recommended by the current chair, Geir Gotaas:

- Richard Boone, University of Alaska Fairbanks
- Aileen A. Espíritu, Barents Institute
- Geir Gotaas, University of Tromsø
- Kari Laine, University of Oulu
- Tore Nesheim, Tromsø University College
- Ljubov Radnaeva, Buryat State University
- Richard Lobdell (pending his acceptance), University of Manitoba
- Deanna Nyce (pending her acceptance), Wilp Wilxo’oskwhl Nisga’a

The Council accepted the resignation of the following members of the Academic Quality Committee, and thanked them for their invaluable work for UArctic:

- Rune Fjellheim, Saami Council
- Edna MacLean, Ilsagvic College
- Lindis Sloan, Northern Feminist University
- Peter Sköld, Umeå University
- François Trudel, Université Laval

24 b) Indigenous Peoples Issues Committee Report [presentation]

Bård Berg (University of Tromsø), Chair of the Committee, presented the Indigenous Peoples Issues Committee, its members, and its recent activities.

25. Council 2008 [proposal]

Presentation: Sandy Campbell and Elaine Maloney, University of Alberta
The Council thanked the University of Alberta for the work done so far on the planning of the Council meeting and set the Council dates for 2-8 June 2008, coinciding also with the meetings of the Polar Libraries Colloquium.


Presentation: Per Åke Nilsson, Mid-Sweden University

The Council made the decision to hold the 2009 Council Meeting in Östersund, Sweden, pending a formal invitation from Mid-Sweden University.

27. Council meeting 2010 [proposal]

Presentation: Natalia Sazunova, Yugra State University

The Council tentatively accepted the invitation of Yugra State University to host the 2010 Council meeting in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia.

28. Any other business

Greg Poelzer presented the new Advanced Emphasis course on tourism and thanked the Indigenous Issues Committee for their collaboration with the BCS Program Team as well as their constant feedback.
# Appendix A: List of Participants

## CANADA

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Senior researcher Per Ake Nilsson</td>
<td>Centre for Regional and Tourism Research</td>
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Представителям университетов и колледжей Северных стран, участникам заседания Совета Университета Арктики г. Архангельск 
(4-8 июня 2007 года)

Уважаемые коллеги!

От имени Министерства образования и науки Российской Федерации приветствую участников заседания совета Университета Арктики, проводимого в рамках объявленного решением Совета Министров Северных Стран Международного Полярного года!

Представляя более 120 высших учебных заведений всех государств, имеющих государственные границы в Арктической зоне, Совет Университета Арктики зарекомендовал себя как авторитетный международный консультативный орган, который в сфере образования и науки способствует интеграции территорий Арктической зоны в мировую экономику.

Из широкого разнообразия тем, предложенных для рассмотрения Советом, особо важными представляются вопросы, обеспечивающие научно-образовательное и инновационное сотрудничество в Арктическом регионе, программные возможности российских вузов, опыт реализации положений и принципов Болонского соглашения в Российской Федерации.

Сегодня в Российской Федерации реализуется новый подход к университетской деятельности: ставятся задачи соответствия высоким международным критериям уровня образовательного процесса и научной работы; создания системы коммерциализации результатов интеллектуальной деятельности студентов, преподавателей и научных сотрудников; обеспечение возможности обмена, в том числе на международном уровне, результатами исследований и разработок в области экономики, медицины, менеджмента, мониторинга и охраны окружающей среды,
рационального природопользования, безопасности мореплавания. На региональные северные университеты возлагается ответственная миссия исследования и содействия в сохранении культуры и быта малочисленных народов.

Развитие освоения энергетических и сырьевых ресурсов в Арктической зоне требует новых технологий обеспечения жизни и работы человека в экстремальных климатических условиях. В настоящее время северные университеты становятся элементами инновационной инфраструктуры, одним из привлекательных объектов для инвестиций, поскольку они способны в сферах науки и образования обеспечить развитие реальных отраслей экономики в Арктической зоне от целевой подготовки специалистов до последующего получения и применения новых знаний в производстве и управлении.

Участие Российской Федерации в развитии научной и инновационной деятельности направлено на стимулирование внедрения инновационных решений в сфере природопользования, информационных технологий и связи, медицины и образования в Арктической зоне Российской Федерации, в том числе на поддержку российских компаний, осуществляющих свою деятельность на архипелаге Шпицберген, сотрудничество и международное партнёрство в рамках деятельности Арктического совета, Совета Баренцева Евро-Арктического региона.

Желаю всем участникам Совета Университета Арктики плодотворной и интересной работы, успехов в реализации намеченных планов.

Министр

А.А. Фурсенко
Appendix C: List of BCS graduates

ICELAND
Anna Adalsteinsdottir

RUSSIA
Daria Andreeva
Sergey Aksehin
Elena Badanina
Yaroslav Bogomolov
Oxana A. Bulanova
Anastasia Dorofeva
Yulia Drozd
Elena Egortseva
Arina Kalmykova
Daniil Kazakov
Irina Kaznina
Anastasia Khairulina
Anna Polyakova
Ksenia Shmetkova
Ksenya Tamitskaya
Taran, Anna
Zhelznaya, Anna

NORWAY
Irene Ojala

UK
Michail Laing

USA
Megan Easley
Appendix D: Breakout Sessions Reports

Theme I: Thematic Network on Northern Governance
[presentation]
Greg Poelzer, University of Saskatchewan, Canada
Participants: Bjoern Sagdahl (Bodo University College), Claudia Fedorova (Sakha State University), John Young (UNBC), Tor Gjertsen (Finnmark University College), Peter Geller (University College of the North), Anna Adalsteinsdottir (University of Akureyri), Mikhail Smirnyakov (Murmansk Humanities Institute), Harald Finkler (INAC), Trudy Sable (St.Mary’s University), Ludmila Zamorschikova (Sakha State University)

This group discussed ways to develop the new Thematic Network on Northern Governance. The suggested activities included collaboration with existing Advanced Emphases and the creation of new Advanced Emphases on Northern Local Government (PSU and UNBC) and Northern Governance and Policy (UNBC, Nunavut Arctic College, University of Saskatchewan).

Theme II: Thematic Network Group- Indigenous Arts and Crafts
[presentation]
Kristine Nystad, Sámi University College, Norway
Participants: Outi Korpilähde, Sámi Education Institute

This breakout session addressed some foreseen plans for the new Thematic Network on Indigenous Arts and Crafts. These plans included conferences and workshops on such subjects as traditional and modern clothing as well as cradles, and the publishing of reports about the events in various indigenous languages. The group also discussed the possibility of creating study material, field courses and BCS curriculum about indigenous arts and crafts.

Theme III: Developing a Thematic Network on Indigenous Rights
[minutes from the session]
[presentation]
Bård Berg, University of Tromso, Norway
Participants: Jan Henry Keskitalo (Sámi University College), Aleksandr Popov (Institute of Language, Literature and History), Nina Nesterova (Syktykvar State University), Oddmund Andersen (Árran lulesamisk senter), Thor S. Larsen (UNEP/GRID-Arendal)

This breakout session analysed the need for a Thematic Network on Indigenous Rights. After discussion, the group recommended that no specific Thematic Network on the issue be developed, but rather that existing networks and programs should be encouraged to include the topic of indigenous rights in their activities and discussions. The group made concrete recommendations, such as the creation of BCS courses on the subject. Members of the group decided to continue their discussion through email and keep each other informed of emerging
issues and events related to the topic of indigenous rights. They invited anyone else who is interested to join the online community.

**Theme IV: Circumpolar Studies for beginners: The Role of the Site Coordinator**

Audra Krueger, University of Saskatchewan, Canada
Emmy Stravosstrand Neuls, University of Saskatchewan, Canada

Participants: Sargylana Kondakova (Sakha State University), Aleksey Ivanov (TPSAI), Jon Olafsson (Bifröst University), Natalia Podrazhanskaya (Arkhangelsk State Technical University), Hege Tonder (Nesna University College), Sandy Campbell (University of Alberta), Timo Sorvoja (HUMAK), Sami Niemelä (Oulu University of Applied Sciences), Glenys Plunz (Northlands College, IAO Office), Sigrid Ag (Harstad University), Marina Kalinina (Norwegian-Pomor University Centre), Lena-Susanne Gaup (Sámi University College)

This breakout session was an information session for current and potential site coordinators as well as an opportunity to get feedback from people who work with BCS students on site. The addressed subjects included issues around registration and transcripts (Glenys Plunz from the IAO was also in attendance), the challenges brought on by the length of the term for Russian students (it was recommended to offer courses which last for 2 semesters) and ways to determine the conditions needed for students to succeed in the BCS program. The site coordinator hand book was also presented to participants.

**Theme VI: Next steps in Developing UArctic’s Graduate Area**

Eystein Markusson, UNIS

Participants: Kirsi Latola (University of Oulu), Bjorn K. Sagdahl (Bodø University College), Elaine Maloney (University of Alberta), Tor Gjertsen (Finnmark University College), Aileen A. Espiritu (Barents Institute), Kaijaleena Serlo (Oulu University of Applied Sciences), Astrid Revhaug (University of Tromsø), Pierre-André Forest (University of Lapland), Tore Nesheim (Tromsø University College), Peter Weiss (University Centre of the West Fjords), Margaret Imrie (Aurora College)

This group discussed the elements of the proposal for the development of the UArctic Graduate Area and made several recommendations. First, they recommended the creation of a mentoring program, which would offer guidance and support to graduate students. They also discussed the membership of the program team which will be created to develop the graduate area, recommending that it should be geographically balanced and that it should include members from other UArctic bodies as well as students and representatives from non higher institution members. Finally, they agreed that an office of graduate studies would be essential.

**Theme VII: Developing a Thematic Network on Environmental and Cold Climate Technology**

Kari Laine, University of Oulu

Participants: Mark Dennis (Rovaniemi University of Applied Sciences)
This group discussed the development of a Thematic Network on Environmental and Cold Climate Technology. Using the Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR) as background, the participants observed an existing gap in the technology area, even though the global challenges linked to climate change and pollution are constantly growing. The group identified examples of cooperation in environmental technology and, in areas such as pollution control and revitalisation of ecosystems and waste management, and highlighted the role of cold technology in regional development in the North. The group recommended that the Council recognized the TN as an important area of cooperation and invited any member institution interested to contact the TN office.

**Theme VIII: Developing Thematic Network on Arctic Coastal and Marine Management**

[background document]
[statement]

Peter Weiss, the University Centre of West Fjords, Iceland

This breakout session did not actually take place because of a lack of participants, but many members showed interest in the project and will collaborate with Peter Weiss on its development.

**Theme IX: Barents Specialists**

[background document]
[presentation]

Annikki Pulkkinen, Kemi-Tornio University of Applied Sciences
Participants: Taimi Tolvanen (Rovaniemi University of Applied Sciences), Iiris Happo (Rovaniemi University of Applied Sciences), Katja Norvapalo (University of Lapland), Jussi Soppela (Rovaniemi University of Applied Sciences), Maxim Usik (Young Entrepreneurs in Barents), Natalia Vassilevskaya (Murmansk State Pedagogical University), Anne Talvio (University of Lapland), Irina Geraschenko (Finnbarents/Barents Specialists), Esa Jauhola (Kemi-Tornio University of Applied Sciences), Sonni Olsen (Finmark University College), Eva Carlssdotter Schjetne (Finmark University College), Mats Engström (Luleå University of Technology), Mare Rantaniemi (University of Lapland), Kyösti Kurtakko (University of Lapland), Ola Sletvold (Finmark University College)

This session was about the Barents Specialists Network, which held its closing meeting in parallel with the Council meeting. The group discussed ways in which the Network could be integrated in UArctic and how UArctic could benefit from its experience and assets (e.g. high quality multidisciplinary courses made by multinational teams, relevant knowledge for the North, etc).

**Theme XI: How can UArctic support joint HE cooperation and research applications?**

[presentation]

Chris Southcott, Lakehead University
Participants: Kristiina Jokelainen (Rovaniemi University of Applied Sciences), Natalia Sadusova (Syktvykvar Forest Institute), Trudy Sable (St.Mary’s University), Arja Rautio (University of Oulu)

This session addressed the potential establishment of a UArctic research office and discussed the functions this office could have and how it could serve member institutions.
Theme XII (in Russian): What should UArctic do to meet the needs of Russian institutions better?

Evgenia Skakunova, Yamal-Nenets
Participants: Galina Komarova (ASTU), Alexander Krylov (PSU), Kati Dana, Natalia Sazunova (Yugra State University), Igor Trisoruka (Yamal Multifunctional College), Natalia Kannunikova (Yama Teaching College), Vera Vinklova (Yamal College of Applied Arts and Culture), Yury Kudryashov (PSU), Andrei Shalyov (PSU), Irina Zykova (Yamal Polar Agricultural College)

This group discussed ways UArctic could cater more to the specific needs of Russian institutions. They identified the two key issues which concern them as access to information and collaboration. The participants made very concrete recommendations, including the establishment of a Russian-language version of the Shared Voices newsletter, the writing of a “beginners’ handbook” for new Russian members, and the creation of a network of colleges.

Theme XIII Collaboration in Field Courses

Juha Pentikäinen, University of Helsinki
Participants: Heli Hurme (University of Turku), Trond Aamo (Sjøsamisk Studieforbund), Åke Nagrelius (Stockholm University), Alexey Scherbakov (TPSAI), Loudmila Zamorschikova (Sakha State University), Claudia Fedorova (Sakha State University), Tatyana Olesova (Sakha State University), Ljubov Radnaeva (Buryat State University), Elena Sparrow (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

This breakout session was about discussing ways for UArctic member institutions to collaborate in order to be able to offer more field courses and activities to students, both on the graduate and undergraduate levels. The participants agreed that: field courses should include a deeper involvement in the local communities in which they are taking place; that they should be arranged in cooperation with indigenous peoples and communities and that efforts should be made to initiate these types of activities during IPY. The group also suggested that a Thematic Network should be established to promote and strengthen interdisciplinarity in field courses and to facilitate the dissemination of information from various fields courses to other UArctic activity areas. Finally, the group also suggested the creation of an elders’ program which would bring together various generations of indigenous societies and which could be introduced as a form of field course.
Appendix E: Voting results for Proposal 12

1) Vote on the four new members: 5 ABSTAINING [Unfortunately, there was no specific count on the number of votes in favour.]

2) Vote the reappointment of 2 of the members: 1 ABSTAINING [Again, no specific count on the number of votes in favour.]

3) Vote on "Friends of UArctic": 2 ABSTAINING [Again, no specific count on the number of votes in favour.]

4) Vote on two additional candidates that were suggested from the floor.
   4-1 (Andy Greenshaw): IN FAVOUR: 27, AGAINST: 0, ABSTAINING: 18
   4-2: (Barry Scherr) IN FAVOUR: 24, AGAINST: 0, ABSTAINING: 17