



Dear affiliated researchers,

with this seasons' last snow disappearing outside the windows we have passed mid-term and can conclude that Arctic research at Umeå University is vibrant and extensive. Arcum is engaged in a number of interesting and challenging activities. The responsibility for IASSA organization includes observer status at the Arctic Council meetings that have been arranged in Yellowknife and Whitehorse under the Canadian presidency.

The Council's activities are conducted in six working groups. The working groups are composed of:

- representatives at expert level from sectoral ministries,
- government agencies and
- researchers

Their work covers a broad field of subjects, from climate change to emergency response. Each working group usually have five to ten projects on the agenda. There are six Working Groups of the Arctic Council:

1. Arctic Contaminants Action Program (ACAP)
2. Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)
3. Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)
4. Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR)
5. Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME)
6. Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG)

Arcum director Peter Sköld is Swedish representative in the SDWG Social, Economy and Culture Expert Group.

This year the establishment of an Arctic Economic Council was presented, that will be located in Tromsø. The focus is on business, entrepreneurship and circumpolar cooperation: <http://www.arctic-council.org/index.php/en/arctic-economic-council>.

RESEARCH APPLICATIONS

Researchers from Umeå University are actively engaged in Arctic research applications, and we are happy to note that the calls and opportunities for Arctic research increase. Arcum has initiated and been involved in several research applications. Among the major are the project applications to Nordforsk and Research Council of Canada. We are also involved in Horizon 2020 and Formas applications on innovation clusters and remote regions.

BARENTS SUMMER SCHOOL 2015

Dead-line for application to Barents Summer School 2015 has been extended until April 24th. This PhD course focus on how climate change affect Arctic landscapes. It is arranged in collaboration between the universities of Umeå, Oulu, Tromsø and Archangelsk. All student expenses, such as travel and accommodation, will be covered by the programme. Read more on the course homepage:

<http://www.emg.umu.se/english/phd-studies/barents-summer-school-2015>

JOINT TRANSPORTATION TO ARCTIC HEALTH CONFERENCE IN OULU

In **June 8-12, 2015**, Arcum offers free joint transportation to the *16th International Congress on Circumpolar Health (ICCH 16)* in Oulu, Finland for affiliated researchers at Umeå University. We have yet one or two empty seats.

The conference focus on human health and well-being in the Arctic and northern areas. It is open for everyone interested in Arctic issues, especially scientists, researchers, health care professionals, policy analysts, government agency representatives and community leaders.

More information about ICCH 16 is available at: <http://icch16 oulu.fi/>

For further details, contact Lena Nilsson lena.nilsson@umu.se.

ARCUM LUNCH SEMINARS

Lunch Seminar May 7, 12.00-13.00 at Universitetsklubben

This seminar **Jens Wahlström**, researcher in Occupational Medicine at the Department of Public Health and Clinical Medicine at Umeå University and the University Hospital of Umeå, will hold a talk on "**Work and health in the Arctic**".

Since we offer a light lunch we kindly ask you to register for the seminar, no later than **Monday, May 4**, by sending an e-mail to gabriella.nordin@umu.se.

Lunch Seminar June 4, 12.00-13.00 at Universitetsklubben

For this seminar we have collected information about Arcums' recent activities, summing up the first half of 2015. The director of Arcum Peter Sköld will also inform about forthcoming international conferences and workshops with Arctic or northern themes and upcoming Umeå workshops.

Since the IASSA (International Arctic Social Sciences Association) secretairy is now up and running in Arcums' regime we will take the opportunity to inform about the latest news in the organisation. Furthermore there will also be an opportunity to discuss the up-coming IASSA triennial meeting; ICASS IX 2017.

Since we offer a light lunch we kindly ask you to register for the seminar, no later than Monday **June 1**, by sending an e-mail to gabriella.nordin@umu.se.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

2nd Polar Climate and Environmental Change in the Last Millennium, will be held in Torun, Poland, from August 24-26, 2015.

<http://www.arcum.umu.se/aktuellt/aktuella-konferenser-och-workshops/polar-climate-and-environmental-change-in-the-last-millennium/>

ICCH16 - Internationell konferens om hälsa och välfärd i Arktis

<http://icch16 oulu.fi/>

14th Arctic Ungulate Conference, Røros Norway 16 – 21 August 2015

<http://www.arcum.umu.se/aktuellt/aktuella-konferenser-och-workshops/14th-arctic-ungulate-conference-rros-august-2015/>

11th Annual Student Conference of the Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies will be held November 5-8, 2015 in Calgary, Alberta Canada.

<http://www.arcum.umu.se/aktuellt/aktuella-konferenser-och-workshops/acuns-student-conference-2015-/>

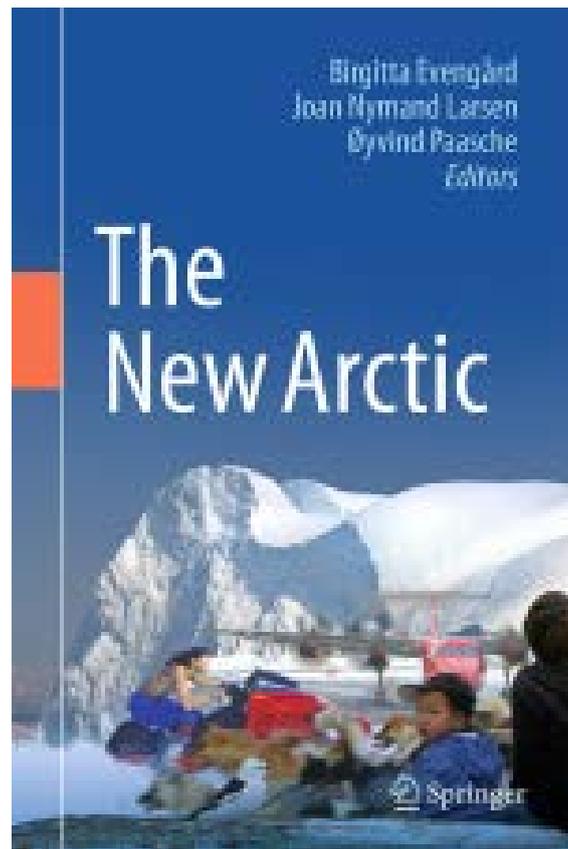
11th International Conference on Permafrost, 20-24 June 2016, Potsdam, Germany

<http://www.arcum.umu.se/aktuellt/aktuella-konferenser-och-workshops/icop-2016-potsdam/>

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The New Arctic

Evengård, Birgitta, Nymand Larsen, Joan, Paasche, Øyvind (Eds.) Springer, 2015, 380 p. 34 illus., 33 illus. in color.



In the late 18th century explorers and scientists started venturing into the Arctic in a heroic and sometimes deadly effort to understand and unveil the secrets of the unforgiving and mysterious polar region of the high north. Despite that the Arctic was already populated mattered less for the first wave of polar researchers and explorations who nevertheless, brought back valuable knowledge. Today the focus in Arctic science and discourse has changed to one which includes the peoples and societies, and their interaction with the world beyond.

The image of a static Arctic - heralded first by explorers - prevailed for a long time, but today the eyes of the World see the Arctic very differently. Few, if any, other places on Earth are currently experiencing the kind of dramatic change witnessed in the Arctic. According to model forecasts, these changes are likely to have profound implications on biophysical and human systems, and will accelerate in the decades to come.

“The New Arctic” highlights how, and in what parts, the natural and political system is being transformed. We’re talking about a region where demography, culture, and political and economic systems are increasingly diverse, although many common interests and aspects remain; and with the new Arctic now firmly placed in a global context. Settlements range from small, predominantly indigenous communities, to large industrial cities, and all have a link to the surrounding environment, be it glaciers or vegetation or the ocean itself.

AHDR II - Arctic Human Development Report: Regional Processes and Global Linkages

Larsen, Joan Nymand (Editor)

Fondahl, Gail (Editor)

Nordiska ministerrådet, Nordisk Ministerråds sekretariat

2015 (English)



The goals of the second volume of the AHDR – Arctic Human Development Report: Regional Processes and Global Linkages – are to provide an update to the first AHDR (2004) in terms of an assessment of the state of Arctic human development; to highlight the major trends and changes unfolding related to the various issues and thematic areas of human development in the Arctic over the past decade; and, based on this assessment, to identify policy relevant conclusions and key gaps in knowledge, new and emerging Arctic success stories.

The production of AHDR-II on the tenth anniversary of the first AHDR makes it possible to move beyond the baseline assessment to make valuable comparisons and contrasts across a decade of persistent and rapid change in the North. It addresses critical issues and emerging challenges in Arctic living conditions, quality of life in the North, global change impacts and adaptation, and Indigenous livelihoods.

The assessment contributes to our understanding of the interplay and consequences of physical and social change processes affecting Arctic residents' quality of life, at both the regional and global scales. It shows that the Arctic is not a homogenous region. Impacts of globalization and environmental change differ within and between regions, between Indigenous and non-Indigenous northerners, between genders and along other axes.

Permanent link to publication:

<http://urn.kb.se/resolve?urn=urn:nbn:se:norden:org:diva-3809>

Arctic Social Indicators: ASI II: Implementation

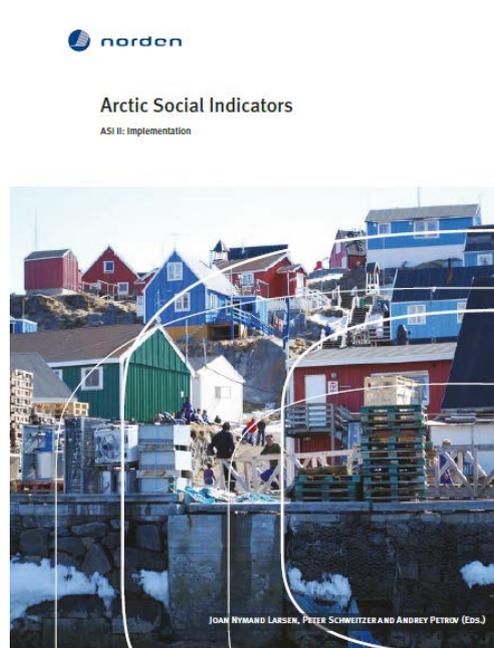
Larsen, Joan Nymand (Editor)

Schweitzer, Peter (Editor)

Petrov, Andrey (Editor)

Nordiska ministerrådet, Nordisk Ministerråds sekretariat

2015 (English)



Arctic Social Indicators II (ASI-II) is a follow-up activity to ASI-I (2010) and the first Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR, 2004). The objective of ASI (2010) was to develop a small set of Arctic specific social indicators that as a collective would help facilitate the tracking and monitoring of change in human development in the Arctic. ASI indicators were developed for six domains that are considered prominent aspects of human development in the Arctic by residents in the Arctic: Health and Population; Material Wellbeing; Education; Cultural Wellbeing; Contact with Nature; and Fate Control.

The objective of the present volume of ASI is to present and discuss the findings of the work on measuring the set of recommended ASI indicators; to conduct a series of regional case studies to illustrate and test the strength and applicability of these indicators; to identify and describe data challenges for the Arctic region specifically in relation to these Arctic specific indicators and to draw conclusions about the ability of ASI to track changes in human development; and to formulate policy relevant conclusions for the long-term monitoring of Arctic human development.

The core content of ASI-II is a set of five carefully selected case studies, which form the basis for drawing conclusions about the applicability of the ASI indicators and for formulating policy relevant conclusions. Case studies are performed for Sakha Republic (Yakutia); the West-Nordic Region; Northwest Territories; Inuit Regions of Alaska; and the Inuit World, with the Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic (SLiCA) used to augment ASI.

Findings on the state and changes in Arctic human development and wellbeing are presented. Based on our analysis and conclusions from the five case studies the framework for an ASI monitoring system is introduced. We argue that the long-term monitoring of human development in the Arctic would be greatly facilitated by the regular and frequent collection and reporting of relevant data, including those required for the proposed small set of ASI indicators.

Permanent link to publication:

<http://urn.kb.se/resolve?urn=urn:nbn:se:norden:org:diva-3810>

CALL FOR ARCUM NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

If you are interested in promoting your research, a new publication, a project application initiative, a workshop or conference or anything else with an Arctic relevance you are welcome to contact Gabriella Nordin: gabriella.nordin@umu.se.