

Northern Research
Links:

October 2008

UNBC Representatives Travel to Greenland



ICASS VI Delegates and UNBC Graduate Students Paul Koke, Victoria Cleveland and Kurtis Boyer in Greenland.

In August, four representatives from UNBC travelled to Nuuk, Greenland to attend the 6th International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS VI). In a session on Arctic Social Indicators, Dr. Gail Fondahl, Vice President, Research, presented a paper on "Measuring Fate Control in the Arctic." Three UNBC graduate student delegates also presented on issues relating to development and indigenous peoples in the Arctic region. Kurtis Boyer (M.A., Political Science) gave a paper on "The Right to Developmental Conformity: An Examination on How Historical Determinants and International Externalities Affect Economic Development Policy in Greenland." Paul Koke's (M.A., International Studies) paper examined "The Impact of Mining Development on Subsistence Practices of Indigenous Peoples. Lessons Learned from Northern Quebec and Alaska." Victoria Cleveland (M. Social Work) presented a paper on "Large Economic Development: Responsible for Cultural Erosion?"



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**Contact
Information:**

Dr. Gary Wilson,
Coordinator
Northern Studies Program
University of Northern BC
3333 University Way
Prince George, BC
V2N 4Z9
Canada
1-250-960-5514
email: wilsong@unbc.ca

Upcoming Events at UNBC

- * **Dr. Wade Davis (National Geographic Society Explorer in Residence), “Sheets of Distant Rain: Seasons in the Stikine”** – A discussion of the notion of home and conserving the Sacred Headwaters. Sunday November 30, 2008, Canfor Theatre, UNBC. \$12 (adult), \$10 (students/seniors), \$15 at the door. Tickets available at Stride and Glide Sports or at UNBC, room 8-239.

Upcoming Events and Conferences

- * Defence R&D Canada, in partnership with Centre for Foreign Policy Studies of Dalhousie University presents the **Second Northern Watch - Arctic C4ISR Conference** from 17-19 February 2009 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The conference will provide attendees with the opportunity to hear leading military, industrial and academic experts and researchers examine current Arctic command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR) issues on a variety of topics including techniques, technologies and equipment suitable for Arctic surveillance applications. For further information or to register, go to: http://www.ottawa.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/html/nw_2009_e.html. Registration closes Feb 10, 2009.

- * **2030 North: A National Planning Conference, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. June 1-4, 2009.** Canada is waking up to the reality of a North transformed by climate change, challenges to northern sovereignty, and rapidly increasing natural resource exploration and development. But beyond vague and often contradictory messages about polar bears or the Northwest Passage, Canadians have no clear picture of what this will mean to their lands and waters, wildlife and peoples of the circumpolar world. 2030 NORTH will assemble the best data and expertise about the north to create the first comprehensive picture of the Arctic 20 years from now - and beyond.

The conference is co-hosted by the co-hosted by the Canadian Arctic Resources Committee (CARC), Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), and the University of Alberta's Centre for Military and Strategic Studies (CMSS) and will bring together over 350 Aboriginal leaders, scientists, academics, policy makers, NGOs, industry and government to generate the foundations of a comprehensive northern strategy for Canada. Debate and discussion around the following five themes will guide the conference: (1) Climate Change Impacts; (2) The Pace of Change; (3) Land Claims Agreements; (4) Northern Science Policy for Canada; (5) Canada's North: A New Strategy. For further information on the conference, please visit: <http://www.2030north.carc.org/index.php> or contact Christian Cloutier, 613-237-3613, cloutier@consilium.ca

- * **Security in the Arctic. Opportunities and Concerns. Sixth Summer Seminar of the International PhD School for Studies of Arctic Societies (IPSSAS)** at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, May 19-30, 2009. Hosted by the Department of Anthropology in collaboration with the Canadian Circumpolar Institute.

Climatic conditions, economic development strategies, health and education issues, social relationships, and shifting political agendas all contribute to a sense of on-going change in Arctic societies. Under these circumstances, how do residents of the circumpolar world build a sense of security, in particular at a community level and in their daily lives? A balance between innovation and respect for time-honored values is often required. IPSSAS 2009 seeks to understand issues relevant to various forms of (in) security in the Arctic.

Research on security and space, linguistic (in)security, food (in)security and resource (co)management, arctic (de)militarization, sustainability in a northern perspective, family and community challenges, development and work safety, training and education accessibility, transnational socio-cultural movements is of interest.

Information about applications will be posted shortly at the IPSSAS website:
<http://webarkiv.hum.ku.dk/ipssas/index.html>.

Eligibility: Doctoral students involved in research on Arctic societies and senior Masters students considering pursuing research on Arctic societies at the doctoral level can apply.

Course Credit Equivalent: 3 North American credits or equivalent in European institutions.

Contact person for IPSSAS 2009 at the U of Alberta: Michelle Daveluy
michelle.daveluy@ualberta.ca

New Publications

- * **Ken S. Coates, P. Whitney Lackenbauer, William R. Morrison and Greg Poelzer, *Arctic Front. Defending Canada in the Far North* (Thomas Allen Publishers)**

Three of the four co-authors of this “hard hitting, timely, and provocative book about the history and future of the Canadian Arctic” have connections to UNBC. Ken Coates was a Professor in the History Program. William Morrison is a Professor in the History Program and Greg Poelzer was an Associate Professor in the Political Science Program.

