**EARLY CAREER SCIENTIST WORKSHOP ON ARCTIC SUSTAINABILITY**

IASC Social and Human Sciences Working Group 2014 Activity

**Partial Support for the Early Career Scholars (ECS) Workshop on Arctic Sustainability, Anchorage, AK**

*Submitted by: Andrey N. Petrov, University of Northern Iowa, USA*

**Workshop ECS participants**: 12 ECS (Table 1 and attached program) were selected and funded to participate in the conference and ECS workshop. The pool of participants primarily included representatives of social science disciplines, but the group included a vast array of disciplines, including (and not limited to) geography, political science, biology, ecology, anthropology, sociology, etc. All participants were presented with opportunities to develop interdisciplinary links with social sciences by focusing on sustainability as an integrated interdisciplinary concept.

**Eligibility and ECS Selection** **process.** ECS participants must have meet the APECS early career scholars (ECS) criteria. IASC funding was open to ECS from any IASC member country (IASC funded Małgorzata Smieszek, Finland and Poland). The steering committee established a transparent and inclusive review process to select workshop participants. It will include (1) review of conference abstract (500 words), biographical sketch (2 pg), statement of interest (1 pg). We will strive to attract participants from underrepresented groups, including Indigenous scholars, as well as to ensure a broad regional representation.

**Workshop mentors**: 13 workshop mentors invited by the program committee included leading experts in different aspects of Arctic sustainability, interdisciplinary research and early career development: Gail Fondahl (geography), Peter Schweitzer (anthropology), Nikolay Shiklomanov (climatology), Chris Southcott (sociology), Jessica Graybill (environmental science), Chanda Meek (political science), Timothy Heleniak (Polar Geography editor), Vera Metcalf (community-based research), Diane Hirshberg (education), Lee Huskey (economics), Andrey Petrov (sustainability science), and Tatiana Vlasova (geography), Gary Kofinas (sustainability science).

**Workshop organizers**: The workshop was be organized by the **program committee**: Andrey N. Petrov (University of Northern Iowa)-chair, Diane Hirshberg (UAA), Jessica Graybill (Colgate University), Peter Schweitzer (University of Vienna), Timothy Heleniak (GWU) and Lee Huskey (UAA).

**Funding**: 11 of the ECS workshop attendees and all mentors were funded by NSF REC-SEES Arctic-FROST **IASC funds were used to fund 1 additional early career scholar.**

**Table 1. Workshop ECS participants and mentors**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ECS name** | **Country** | **Mentor** | **Paper/Presentation Topic** |
| Robin Bronen | USA | Meek | Climate-induced community relocation: community-based adaptation strategies to protect human rights and promote sustainable communities |
| Douglas Cost | USA | Fondahl | Deliberative Democracy and Scenarios Planning for the Future in Arctic Communities |
| Kim  Jochum | USA | Graybill | Sustainability of human-wildlife systems in northern urbanizing regions |
| Julia  Loginova | Australia/  Russia | Vlasova | Sustainability and livelihood in the Arctic |
| Dawn  Magness | USA | Kofinas | Ecosystem Stewardship as a Framework for Federal Agencies to Manage Ecological Trajectories for Sustainability in the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska |
| Adrienne  Davidson | Canada | Huskey | Beyond a Conventional Federalism: Dynamics of Governance and the Politics of Extractive  Resource Development in Northern Canada and the United States |
| Rudolf  Riedlsperger | Canada | Schweitzer | ‘Sustainability’ in an Inuit context: An example from Nunatsiavut, northern Labrador |
| **Malgorzata**  **Smieszek\*** | Finland/  Poland | Southcott | SUSTAINABILITY IN THE ARCTIC IN EYES OF ACTORS FROM OUTSIDE OF THE REGION |
| Colleen  Strawhacker | USA | Heleniak | Advanced Cooperative Arctic Data and Information Service |
| Ryan  Toohey | USA | Hirshberg | Using a participatory research model to develop climate adaptation strategies based on contaminant monitoring and Aboriginal Knowledge. |
| Katherin  Keil | Germany | Hirshberg | Politics of Arctic sustainable development |
| Heather  Gordon | USA | Metcalf | Building Sustainable Research Relationships in the Arctic: Indigenous Communities and Scientists |

**\*IASC Early Career Scholar**

**Description of activity**: The ECS Workshop on Arctic Sustainability took place in Anchorage, AK on September 20th, 2014. It was a one day event following a two days conference on “Arctic Sustainability: Meanings and means” organized by the NSF Arctic-FROST network and hosted by the University of Alaska Anchorage. This international conference gathered approximately 35 leading scientists and emerging researchers involved in studying social-ecological systems and sustainability in Arctic regions. The meeting had broad participation from Alaska scholars, especially researchers affiliated with Alaska universities who work on the local projects centered on the issues of human-environment interactions and sustainability, as well as Alaska community members. In addition to Alaska-based researchers the meeting and workshop had participants from the contiguous U.S., Canada, Russia, Germany, Australia, Finland, and Austria.

**Pre-workshop presentations and feedback**: Workshop participants were invited to present their research at the conference, received feedback, took part in two early career mentoring panels and had multiple opportunities interact with conference attendees. We utilized a dual-review/personal mentoring concept to provide maximum benefit to the workshop participants. Each ECS was required to send a complete paper in advance of the workshop to be reviewed by a senior scientist assigned by the Program Committee. Participants presented the paper at the conference plenaries and received initial feedback from the session discussant, a leading scientists in the respective area. They also were involved in conference discussions, Q&A sessions and other networking activities.

ECS were also tasked with taking notes for all presenters, including questions and answer periods.

**Workshop activities:** At the workshop that was immediately following the conference, ECS took part in four activities:

1. one hour individual mentoring session (with their paper’s reviewer)
2. 1.5 hour panel/round table on sustainability science and scholarship
3. 1.5 hour a panel/round table on career and professional development focusing on issues of interdisciplinary and sustainability (see Workshop program attached).
4. Work in groups: Arctic-FROST’s strategy to build new generation of Arctic sustainability scholars (a feedback and brainstorming session)

Activities 2-4 were facilitated by IASC funded scholars Małgorzata Smieszek and Heather Gordon.

**Individualized mentoring and review**. Twelve experts reviewed and individually discussed with ECS their papers. The mentors were tasked to provide both the guideline for the ECS to revise their paper for further publication and general career development advice.

**Panel/round table on sustainability science and scholarship**. The panel included Gail Fondahl (place of Arctic sustainability science among social sciences), Nikolay Shiklomanov (place of Arctic sustainability science among natural sciences), Diane Hirshberg (Arctic sustainability sconce and northern communities). The panel focused on both summarizing the outcomes of the conference, discussion about the nature of sustainability science in the Arctic and its role in making Arctic communities sustainable. Panelists made short presentations and most of the time was devoted to a discussion with ECS.

**Panel/round table on career and professional development**. The panelists included Jessica Graybill (interdisciplinarity), Timothy Heleniak (publishing), Chanda Meek (post-PhD career management), Chris Southcott and Peter Schweitzer (getting funded). . Panelists made short presentations and most of the time was devoted to a discussion with ECS.

**Group/feedback session**: ECS were tasked to spend 45 minutes discussion the feedback to the program committee and brainstorm proposals for future engagement of ECS in Arctic-FROST. The ideas were reported back to the Arctic-FROST Steering Committee.

**Workshop Outcomes:**

1. Mentorship, networking and feedback opportunities for ECS
2. Peer-review papers intended for publication and/or components of PhD dissertations were reviewed by leading experts in the field
3. Publication of results: Arctic-FROST is considering a special issue of Polar Geography to include 4-5 selected papers. All participants were encouraged to pursue revisions and publication based on comments they received.
4. ECS presentations will be published on Arctic-FROSR website
5. Feedback from ECS will be used to plan future early career activities of Arctic-FROST and IASC SHGW

**Alignment with IASC and SHWG priorities**: the workshop contributes to key IASC priority areas: building interdisciplinary and international connections, fostering a new generation of Arctic scientists. The workshop directly responds to the SHWG Science Foci (2012-2014): *Arctic residents and change: dynamics of mitigation and sustainability, Human health and well-being, and Natural resources: use and development*. The workshop was used as a platform to familiarize participants with the purposes and processes of ICARP III, and may select individuals to participate in further activities planned by SHWG as a part of ICARP III.