

University of Washington

Henry M. Jackson School of
International Studies

Arctic Task Force



Ottawa Exploration and Research Trip

January 23 – January 30, 2016

University of Washington

Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies

JSIS 495 C Arctic Task Force: The Arctic – A New Player in International Relations

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Trip Report

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CANADIAN STUDIES CENTER

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Sponsors

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Our Task Force would also like to extend a special thank you to:

Nadine Fabbi and Brandon Ray for organizing this trip and all their efforts in helping us make this report;

Joël Plouffe, for accompanying and guiding us on our trip, and giving us invaluable advice;

And to all our hosts, offices, and organizations who took time out of their schedule in order to make this trip possible and give us valuable insight on the Arctic.

Hello! Bonjour! Qanuippit!

Every year, students from the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies participate in a senior capstone called Task Force. For more than 25 years, the program has been a part of the undergraduate International Studies curriculum and has proved to be a rewarding and insightful experience for the students involved.

Jackson School students are divided into Task Force sections, each composed of around 12-18 students. Each section is faced with a contemporary, real-world policy issue and students are led by faculty with an expertise in the subject area. Most students become experts on a specific aspect of the topic and are led by student editors who are responsible for revising and synthesizing the document as a whole. Students integrate extensive research with intensive amounts of writing in order to formulate a final Task Force policy report that addresses the group's recommendations to rectify (or develop) the matter at hand.

Our Task Force, led by Professors Nadine Fabbi and Vincent Gallucci, focused on the Arctic being a new player in international relations with special focus on the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Arctic Council. Through an in-depth analysis of the history and current state of Arctic Council governance, our Task Force sought out to evaluate the shortcomings and successes of Arctic Policy and practice. We produced a renewed vision for the future of Arctic governance so that the next 20 years have the potential to be more impactful.

To supplement our research, the Arctic Task Force team travelled to Canada's capital city, Ottawa, to meet with foreign embassies, indigenous organizations, environmental organizations, students, and other experts in the Arctic. Traveling to Ottawa gave us on-hands research that was invaluable to all of our reports. The work we did in Canada and meeting with all of these experts provided us with unique insights that enlightened our research. Each and every one of these experts challenged our thinking and understanding of how the Arctic is governed and operates daily. Our travels will continue to be one of the most memorable moments of our undergraduate careers and the people we met along the way will stay with us for forever.

This report is an account of the people we met, the places we visited, and the knowledge we gained along the way. It is my hope that this report will give you a glimpse of what we experienced and show you our devoted interest into Arctic affairs. We thank all of those who supported us on this journey and wish for our work to one day impact the future of Arctic policy.

Thank you! Merci Beaucoup! Nakurmiik!

Kyle Wheeler

Editor, Ottawa Report

Ottawa Schedule

Sunday, January 24th

Ottawa Walking tour – Craig MacDonald

Indigenous Walks – Jaime Koebel

Monday, January 25th

U.S. Embassy

Finnish Embassy

European Union Delegation

Barry Pottle

Tuesday, January 26th

Nunavut Sivuniksavut

Fulbright Canada

Wednesday, January 27th

Northern Lights Forum

Pitseolak Pfeifer

Norwegian Embassy

Pablo Sobrino & Joël Plouffe

Thursday, January 28th

Department of National Defence

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

World Wide Fund for Nature

Friday, January 29th

Canada's Senior Arctic Official

Donat Savoie

Ottawa Hosts

Jean-François Arteau, Former Executive Assistant to the President of the Makivik Corporation

David Birdsey, Counselor, U.S. Embassy

Nadia Bouffard, Director General, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Mona Elisabeth Brøther, Ambassador of Norway to Canada

Marie-Anne Coninx, Ambassador of the European Union to Canada

Marc-André Dubois, Advisor, External Relations at World Wildlife Fund

Stefano Fantaroni, First Counsellor, European Union Delegation

Sari Graben, Ryerson University, 2012-13 UW Canada Fulbright Chair in Arctic Studies

Morley Hanson, Coordinator, Nunavut Sivuniksavut

Susan Harper, Canada's Senior Arctic Official, Head of Delegation to the Arctic Council, Global Affairs Canada

Bruce Heyman, Ambassador of the United States to Canada

Else Kveinen, Minister Counsellor, Norwegian Embassy

L. "Bud" Locklear, Special Advisor, U.S. Embassy

Danielle Monosson, Deputy Counsellor, U.S. Embassy

Charles Murto, Ambassador of Finland to Canada

Heather Nicol, Trent University, 2015-16 UW Canada
Fulbright Chair in Arctic Studies

Tony Penikett, Former Premier of the Yukon, 2013-14 UW
Canada Fulbright Chair in Arctic Studies

Piseolak Pfeifer, Carleton University

Barry Pottle, Inuk Photographer

Jonathan Quinn, Director of Policy Development,
Department of National Defence

Miguel Rodrigues, Arctic Officer, U.S. Embassy

David Sarraf, Policy Officer, Global Affairs Canada

Donat Savoie, Former Chief Negotiator for Nunavik

Pablo Sobrino, Associate Assistant Deputy Minister,
Acquisitions Branch at Public Works

Anni Stahle, Head of Public Diplomacy, Finnish Embassy

Andrew Stuhl, Bucknell University

Clive Tesar, Head of External Relations, World Wildlife
Fund

Bruce Heyman, U.S. Embassy



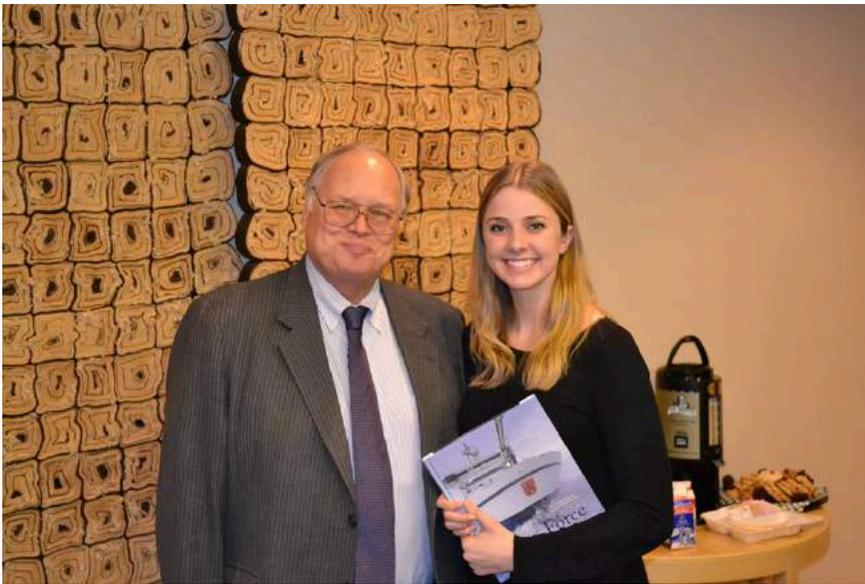
Task Force group with Ambassador Bruce Heyman at the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa.

Our group arrived at the US Embassy Monday morning marking the official beginning of our research trip in Ottawa. We were warmly greeted by Special Advisor for Energy and Environment, Mr. Locklear, as soon as we checked in and passed through security. He then gave us a brief tour of the architecture within the interior of the Embassy and brought us to a conference room where other officials await. There we met representatives from different departments who were prepared to share their insights and

expertise on issues within the Arctic region with us. Among these were Arctic experts such as Danielle Monosson, Deputy Counselor, and Miguel Rodrigues, Arctic officer at the Embassy.

During the visit, the topic of territorial dispute between the US and Canada was brought up and although the context of the responses were not unexpected, it helped us gain a clearer understanding of a unique relationship between the two neighboring nations, in which they "agree to disagree" as a way to keep collaborative efforts on other issues. We also got a chance to discuss varieties of other different issues ranging from climate change, economic development, the well-being of indigenous communities, to security concerns within the region. Our visit to the US embassy was particularly helpful to our research as we got a chance to discuss with the Embassy officials regarding the United States' current chairmanship of the Arctic Council and the progress of their work towards their goals. This is a unique and beneficial opportunity as we were able to gain direct updates on the progress of projects under the United States chairmanship, particularly the development of a mental health wellness program for the indigenous population. Most importantly, we received the honor of meeting the US Ambassador to Canada himself, Bruce Heyman, and got the chance to ask him further questions on the Arctic including questions of promoting consciousness on Arctic issues within the United States. This topic was especially of great interest since there has been a lack of dialogue on this problem both within our research and the academic world in general. What was particularly surprising for us was the Ambassador's statement on his belief that economic interest is what will ultimately bring consciousness to the Arctic region. – Ivalene Laohajaratsang

Charles Murto, Finnish Embassy



Host Erika Doane and Finnish Ambassador Charles Murto pose after discussing Finland's Arctic policies.

Our visit to the Finnish Embassy was a very valuable experience for all of our Task Force members. Ambassador Charles Murto and Head of Public Diplomacy, Anni Ståhle, were both very candid and honest in their responses to our difficult questions regarding Finland's role in the Arctic Council. They were open to discussing polemic topics and were well versed in Finland's particular policies and position within the Arctic Council. Mr. Murto has

worked as an ambassador of Finland for more than 45 years, seeing firsthand the diplomacy behind many important

events, including the end of the Cold War. He was extremely knowledgeable and insightful and revealed to us what themes Finland will focus on during its Chairmanship of the Arctic Council in 2017. He spoke about the European Union's long desire to be a permanent observer in the Council and how Finland fully supports its inclusion, as well as the inclusion of the Asian observers in 2013. He believes that inclusion is necessary and that the EU, regardless of observer status, will continue to be interested and involved in the Arctic region. The EU also has vast resources and the ability to aid the Arctic nations.

In terms of my own particular contribution to the final policy report, I believe that this visit will help me formulate ideas and topics for my introduction and conclusion pieces. Specifically, Mr. Murto's discussion on the origins of the Arctic Council and how Finland actually played a monumental role in its creation. He felt Finland and Canada were unique in that they both were really the catalysts for diplomatic change in the Arctic region in the 1990s. From this, it is evident that soft power is an important form of diplomacy and that nations who are not superpowers can still be influential within the global system. Because the theme of our report will surround the Council's progress after 20 years, it will be beneficial to include Mr. Murto's remarks about its history, as well as about its future. He seemed optimistic that the Arctic Council will continue to tackle the problems that the region experiences and that the future of the Arctic is promising under future Finnish leadership. He plans to ensure a smooth transition from U.S. Chairmanship to Finnish Chairmanship and confirmed that both Arctic nations have similar strategies and objectives within the Arctic (environmental protection, sustainable development, etc.) He mentioned that in his own lifetime, he has seen the world change drastically and that he expects it will keep changing, especially in the way that different countries will view the Arctic and its role in the world system. – *Erika Doane*

Marie-Anne Coninsx, European Union Delegation



Coordinator Jake Creps poses with European Union Ambassador Marie-Anne Coninsx after discussing the E.U.'s interesting role in the Arctic Council.

On the first working day of the study abroad trip to Ottawa, the Arctic Task Force had the opportunity to visit the European Union Delegation to Canada to discuss issues in the Arctic region, specifically the EU's involvement in the Arctic Council. In the past, the involvement of the EU in the Arctic council has been controversial. Understanding the EU's reasons for remaining in the Arctic Council were essential to taking an unbiased stance on the issue. The ambassador welcomed the class by giving a presentation outlining the EU's progress integrating with the Arctic Council as an observer, as well as celebrating their fortieth year as a delegation in Canada. Much of the information presented at our meeting described the EU's involvement with the development of aid in the Arctic. Topics discussed by the ambassador include: environmental protection, economic development, international cooperation, etc.

My research specifically analyzes search and rescue efforts in the Arctic with a particular focus on Russian exclusion in the search and rescue process since the

EU and US have imposed sanctions on Russia. The sanctions imposed have crippled Russia's ability to attend Arctic Council meetings and have halted the continuation of development of a search and rescue ability in the Arctic. The ambassador described the structure of the search and rescue process in nations outside of the United States and described how the

actions taken by Russia in Crimea have halted all military action between the EU and Russia. Considering most nations use armed forces to fulfill search and rescue operations, this has created a problem. The EU has a large search and rescue capability due to its many developed nation states and it plays a large role in the search and rescue process. The insight provided by the EU representation will provide concrete facts to help support the research of search and rescue development in the Arctic and Russia's exclusion from it after economic sanctions were imposed. The EU is in the process of reviewing their Arctic policy. With the combination of their updated policy and Horizon 2020, the largest research and innovation project ever (80 billion Euro), the future looks bright for the EU and the Arctic Council. – Jake Creps

Barry Pottle, Inuk Photographer



Allison Rutz and Inuk photographer Barry Pottle at the Ashbury House.

On Monday evening we had the opportunity to dine and converse with Inuk artist and photographer, Barry Pottle, to discuss issues that pertain to Indigenous food security, mental wellness, and education. Originally from Nunatsiavut in Labrador, Barry now lives in Ottawa, Ontario where he works as a public servant and advocates for Inuit peoples through his artwork. Hearing from Barry, especially about his latest published photo series titled, *Foodland Security*, was invaluable to my research on Indigenous food security issues

and the negative impacts they have on Inuit livelihood.

Through pictures, his project speaks to the difficulties Inuit face in accessing country foods. I was able to

hear first-hand how damaging that is to Inuit culture and community and how important country foods and the right and ability to access country foods are to Inuit. Barry emphasized the importance of understanding Indigenous hunting practices, what that looks like, and the culture, life, and beauty that surround hunting country food if one desires to begin to understand the depth of the issue and even more so, the impact of the issue on Inuit life. With melting ice, traditional hunting grounds have become harder to reach and dangerous to traverse, forcing Inuit to rely more on transported foods from the South, products that are normal in a western grocery store but very unnatural for a traditional Inuit diet. Additionally, with one barge delivering food only once a year to the northern territories, exorbitant food costs have become another form of food insecurity. Barry mentioned that a small bag of grapes can cost \$28 and a turkey can be as much as \$200. Towards the end of his visit, Barry did a traditional Inuit drumming demonstration for us using his *qilaut* (drum) and *qatuk* (beater) to beat the drum. Drumming, he explained, is for men in Inuit culture and is meant to be very expressive of the mood one wishes to convey or release. He believes the practice of drumming is essential in releasing and relaxing one's mind from daily stresses and suggested we all give it a go! Barry has already impacted many audiences through his art and I look forward to incorporating his experiences and knowledge into a report that will hopefully have an impact on Inuit livelihood revival through food security. – Allie Rutz

Nunavut Sivuniksavut



Elizabeth Castro and Priscilla Nordstrom pose after watching traditional Inuit singing and dancing.

On Tuesday, January 26th, our team visited Nunavut Sivuniksavut (commonly referred to as N.S.), a post-secondary Inuit education program. We met with Morley Hanson and Murray Angus, some of the initial founders and today coordinators for N.S. N.S. allows students from the Canadian Arctic north to come to Ottawa for eight months and learn more about topics including Inuit history, Inuktitut, and the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. From the onset, the school was founded to train youth about the emerging Land Claims Agreement.

During our visit, our team learned more about the founding of N.S. and enjoyed a short student performance. After researching Inuit education, I

arrived to our meeting with a few major themes I hoped to ask more about at N.S., such as youth identity in relation to Inuit; the University of the Arctic; and expansion of the N.S. program model beyond Nunavut territory. When I left the meeting, Morley and Murray provided me with some of their recent publications that will be useful resources as I write my Task Force report. For example, as I think carefully about previous proposals for a university in the Canadian Arctic, I might reference the N.S. 7 Principles document. Along with the students, Morley and Murray gave me a greater sense of the importance of the work at the Ottawa program. Initially, I thought that the creation of a University in the Canadian Arctic region, and especially in Inuit homeland or Nunangat, would be a matter of political will and funding. I came to understand that there were far deeper institutional and bureaucratic challenges such as program-level and local-level flexibility to carry out programming tailored to each student cohort.

The conclusion of our visit was a student performance including dancing, singing, and drumming. Seeing the pride the students exhibit in sharing about their culture was beautiful. Thanks to a previous visit with Barry, an urban Inuit who is also a drummer, I was able to recognize how some of the students exhibited movements that resembled animals, nature, and daily activities. For example, one throat singing song conveyed the steady rhythm of a moving saw. In other performance venues, the students actually are able to raise money for their end of the year trip where they go abroad. In other words, organizations and event hosts are happy promote a positive feedback loop when they ask N.S. student to perform and thereby help support program activities that extend the reach of Inuit culture to other nations. This year, students are raising funds to go to Costa Rica, where they will meet with indigenous communities there. Overall, our visit to N.S. was informative in terms of my work on the post-secondary Inuit education and allowing me to gain a greater appreciation for how the arts demonstrate pride and honor of Inuit people. – Elizabeth Castro

Pitseolak Pfeifer, Carleton University



Kelsey Brewster with Pitseolak Pfeifer after thanking him for his presentation.

Our Arctic Task Force team sat down for a lunchtime session with Pitseolak Pfeifer, currently in his third year of undergraduate studies at Carleton University studying Political Science, to discuss Inuit communities of Canada and their fight to improve government policies concerning Arctic land claim agreements and socioeconomic situations. Mr. Pfeifer is involved in the discussion of indigenous rights throughout Canada and in his hometown of Iqaluit, Nunavut. After many years of political activism in the Arctic, he moved to Ottawa to pursue an academic degree. He offered to speak to our class about his personal experience as a person of indigenous descent in Canada and give intimate insight into the lives of Inuit and their struggle to reclaim their identity and spiritual connection to Arctic land.

Our discussion shed light on the colonial language surrounding Inuit and the territory of Nunavut. Detrimental words are used to describe Inuit as 'cooperative' and Nunavut as a 'young territory,' making it difficult for the indigenous people of the Arctic to define their place within modern society. Nunavut is still in the process of being recognized as a part of Canada and the Arctic Council has had difficulty implementing Inuit ideologies into its framework. Mr. Pfeifer shared various realizations about Canadian society and government in dealing with the Arctic and the various social

upheavals that have resulted from poor decision-making. By the end of our meeting together, our class was still bursting with questions and hopefully we will continue to keep in contact with him in order to incorporate his valuable input into our final report. The University of Washington's Arctic and Canadian Studies programs will continue to forge a relationship with Mr. Pfeifer, an advocate for Inuit rights and an invaluable asset to future research on the indigenous people of the Arctic. – Kelsey Brewster

Else Kveinen, Norwegian Embassy



Laura Heckenlively poses with Else Kveinen after she filled in for Norwegian Ambassador Mona Elisabeth Brøther.

The Canadian Studies Task Force met with the Minister Counsellor Else Kveinen of the Norwegian Embassy to expand our knowledge of the Arctic policy that Norway has set forth in recent years. After a brief introduction and warm welcome, we sat down and were educated briefly on the documents that the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs had provided each student along with a deeper explanation given by Ms. Kveinen. As expected, the high points of Norway's Arctic policy resembled many of other embassies we have visited earlier on in the week, including keeping international cooperation as one of the priorities.

Through my personal research on resource extraction, the Sovereign Wealth Fund that is kept by the Norwegian government for the purpose of providing pensions for Norwegian citizens had come up multiple times. However, I was deeply interested by the discussion that came about from a few of the inquisitive students into this structure. With the fund totaling over 6 984 billion NOK currently, I asked Ms. Kveinen whether or not it was feasible to use a small proportion of the fund to further research into renewable forms of energy, which will eventually be the prominent form of energy for the ever-advancing international community. As expected, the fund is not utilized for supporting renewable energy, since it is reserved for an eventual aging Norwegian population; however, Ms. Kveinen

seemed interested in the possibility of it being utilized in that way. Additionally, I learned that an ethics board, with no ties to the government, dictates the use of the fund, and occasionally rules on where the allotted 4% of the fund can annually be spent. Interestingly enough, Ms. Kveinen said that the fund is indirectly being used to halt climate change, as the ethics board voted to not support the extraction of oil sands. The time spent discussing and answering our questions about Norwegian arctic policy was incredibly valuable and will most certainly enrich our final report with accurate and specific details on nation-direct arctic policy. – *Laura Heckenlively*

Jonathan Quinn, Department of National Defence



Task Force Student Kyle Wheeler thanks Jonathan Quinn at the Department of National Defence.

On Thursday our Task Force class had the privilege of meeting with Jonathan Quinn and Major Sam Nelson from the Canadian Department of National Defence. Mr. Quinn the Director of Policy Development, gave us an in depth overview for Canada's national defense policy in the High North. Listening to Mr. Quinn and Major Nelson gave invaluable information on geopolitics and their relation to Arctic security from a military and defense standpoint. Mr. Quinn began by emphasizing Canada's new government and how they run on a policy of transparency and openness to the public by addressing the mandate letters that each ministerial department has available to the public. The Defence department's national mandate includes protecting Canada, defending North America, and contributing to international peace and security, all which the Arctic plays a pivotal role in currently and into the future. The main security risks or concerns from the Defence department comes with the inhospitality of the Arctic region in dealing with maritime and air traffic, search and rescue, environmental terrain and weather, and with potential illegal immigration and smuggling as the sea ice retreats. Not only does the Arctic pose major security concerns, it also poses a very difficult operating environment for the Canadian military and their military exercises.

The major outcome from Mr. Quinn's presentation was that the Arctic does have concerns, one of them being Russia from their increased Arctic military presence. However, there is no military threat in the Arctic as cooperation has been the main key point of Arctic policies. Major Nelson's presentation give insight to Canada's Military capabilities in the Arctic, including their system capabilities, their early warning capabilities, and their bilateral military cooperation efforts with other Arctic nation states. These bilateral operations allow Canada and their allies to train in the Arctic and increase their military skills as they practice random scenarios and events. These operations use a lot of indigenous knowledge of the ice and the area from indigenous communities to help their military get a competitive edge in Arctic warfare. All of this information from both Mr. Quinn and Major Nelson helped show us that the Arctic rewards cooperation, not conflict. In such a fragile system, nations, militaries, and organizations do not have the luxury to play with the Arctic, but must work together in order to preserve this region.

– Kyle Wheeler

Nadia Bouffard, Fisheries and Oceans Canada



Claire Wang poses with Nadia Bouffard and her staff at Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

On Thursday morning, we met with Nadia Bouffard, the Director General of External Relations, Strategic Policy at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Nadia shared with us her personal experience contributing to several key accomplishments under Fisheries and Oceans Canada (such as an Arctic framework on fishing regulations among the five coastal states) in order to enhance cross-border understanding and protection of the Arctic ecosystem and to promote sustainable

Indigenous and commercial fishing. Nadia's acknowledgement of including Indigenous representation at the negotiation table of international fishing regulations is especially encouraging. The

increasing threat to traditional fishing and food security from climate change can pose additional stress and affect Northerners' physical and mental health. Nadia also expressed her excitement to work with Mr. Hunter Tootoo, Canada's newly appointed Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard. Tootoo is also the first Inuk to hold this posting. She acknowledged that under Tootoo's leadership, Canada can further its world-leading high standard of ocean and fisheries management and better co-manage Canada's three oceans with Indigenous people.

Nadia also brought our attention to the Mandate Letters from the new Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to all ministers. With a high emphasis of openness and transparency of the new government, the Mandate Letters are accessible online to the public and are giving each department specific and actionable directions. Additionally, Nadia also commented on Canada's leadership on the Arctic Council regarding fisheries and oceans. First, Canada is proud of establishing a Pan-Arctic network of Marine Protected Areas that underpins traditional and current livelihoods and way of life. Nadia mentioned Canada's effort to further support the Pan-Arctic network's development, under the current U.S. chairmanship as well as the upcoming Finland chairmanship of the Arctic Council. Second, Nadia acknowledged a fairly good participation from Russia on the expert level among working groups despite the unfortunate loss of engagement with the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North due to potential internal issue with the government seven years ago.

Our meeting with Nadia confirmed Canada's leading effort to set high bars in terms of establishing international agreements in Fisheries and Oceans. With the new government's emphasis of incorporating Indigenous Traditional Knowledge into the planning and negotiation process of Arctic environmental issues, it is promising to see how the Arctic Council will continue to play a strategic role in protecting the increasingly fragile and ever-changing Arctic ecosystem, under the Chairmanship of the U.S. and Finland. – *Claire Wang*

Marc-André Dubois, World Wide Fund for Nature



Danika Moore with Marc-André Dubois at the WWF.

Marc-André Dubois, coordinator of the World Wide Fund for Nature's (WWF) Arctic program engagement with international organizations, gave us a great insight into the working of the WWF and Arctic Council. He started with a summary of what the WWF does in the Arctic, including: climate, energy, finance, and governance. He stressed that the organization believes that the people in the region have a right to develop, but that development should occur in an

environmentally sound manner. He said that the Arctic poses a unique conservation challenge because it is not about restoration of the natural environment, but rather about shaping the future change. Because of

this, he believes our work, as Arctic task force students, to critically analyze the workings of the Arctic Council and provide recommendations are essential. Mr. Dubois continued by talking more explicitly about the Arctic Council. He had a lot to say as he used to work in the Arctic Council Secretariat in Norway. I learnt that the Arctic Council is very successful at conducting research but needs a better way to implement the findings at a regional level - a critical step for successful policy.

The meeting ended with a separate presentation by Dr. Melanie Lancaster, who gave us an overview of the key species that WWF deals with (polar bear, caribou, walrus, and ice-whales), what are their major stressors, and why it is important to help conserve their habitats.

Overall, this was a very interesting and engaging visit. The two presenters were enthusiastic and passionate about the Arctic. They both described a feeling of awe when they first travelled to the Polar Regions, which sparked within them the desire to conserve this unique and delicate environment. The conversation with both presenters was dynamic and gave each of us a new idea on how the Arctic Council should evolve. Above all, this visit helped me understand what are the critical areas for improvement in governance and policy implementation in the Arctic. – *Danika Moore*

Susan Harper, Global Affairs Canada



Task Force Students pose underneath Susan Harper, as she telecommunicated from Stockholm.

On Friday, January 29, 2016, we participated in a video conference call with Susan Harper, Canada's outgoing senior Arctic official. Mrs. Harper was in Stockholm for consultations with her Swedish counterparts and Global Affairs Canada (formerly the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development) organized the video call in their teleconference negotiations room. Mrs. Harper articulated the consensus based decision-

making process of the Arctic Council and the important role that Permanent Participants and research groups provide for that process. Mrs. Harper and her team discussed what they

called their "friendly difference of opinion" concerning Arctic Maritime boundaries and international rights of innocent passage concerning the Northwest Passage. The United Nations Convention On The Law Of The Sea's (UNCLOS) article 234, allows for extraordinary exemptions for Arctic Waters from most provisions of the treaty. However, most nations view the Northwest Passage as having the potential for developing into an International Transit Passage. Canada views their Arctic waters as internal territorial waters and as such, does not believe these waters to be subject to the provisions concerning transit passageways. Mrs. Harper identified how there were multiple issues at play.

The first was Canada view that Northwest Passage falls within their territorial waters. Canada sees no reason to negotiate on this point. Second, Canada's upcoming submission to the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) on the extent of Canada's Arctic continental shelf. This is being done to further the extent of the Canadian exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Canada's submission overlaps with the claims of other nations, and the CLCS will have to make a determination on this. Thirdly, UNCLOS allows for "non-discriminatory laws and regulations" within an Arctic nations EEZ, so any action Canada would take would be in compliance with international law. Mrs. Harper's clear and concise explanation of the intricacies of Canada's position on the technicalities of International Maritime Law was highly insightful for us all. She also spoke about the importance of private insurance companies in determining the feasibility of Arctic shipping. She highlighted the fact that large scale Arctic shipping cannot commence until insurers are comfortable enough with the risk. Only then will insurance policies no longer prohibitive to Arctic Shipping. Mrs. Harper had the gravitas of someone with years of experience, and she provided many illuminating insights to us all. Speaking with her has helped to inform the direction of my own research. – Mac Zelle

Donat Savoie & Jean-François Arteau



Jordan Habenicht poses with Donat Savoie and Jean-François, both of whom have an extensive background in Nunavik.

On Friday we met with Jean-François Arteau, the former Executive Assistant to the President of the Makivik Corporation, and Donat Savoie, the former Chief Federal Negotiator for Nunavik, the Inuit region in northern Québec. They provided a history of Nunavik as well as issues that the communities and region, are facing today. During their presentation, they spoke about the issue of Inuit as commonly being viewed as subjects of research rather than as partners or collaborators. This would be a common interest to both the Canadian government and Inuit communities. Economic development would help to bring about a higher quality of life for Inuit communities

while also incorporating extensive knowledge of the Arctic into various fields of research.

Both of our guests have had extensive time working with Inuit communities and helped to highlight some of the most pressing issues that Inuit communities still face. By examining our past and present attempts at economic development and comparing them with the current issues, a more comprehensive plan can be developed. For example, one of the most fascinating issues we learned about in their presentation is the lack of knowledge surrounding the cost of living in isolated communities. Over the course of a couple summers, I had the opportunity to take part in a military operation in western Alaska to relocate the Inuit town of Newtok. We were based out of Bethel, Alaska and I have first-hand knowledge in the exorbitant prices of groceries. This is also an issue that isolated communities in Canada's northern providences face. While there are federal programs that provide money to help support families, the amount awarded to each family is not adjusted to reflect the cost of goods in that area. As the presenters pointed out, the cost of goods is often times 75% greater than that of most other cities. Since the federal government has not put in place any adjustment for these communities, they are not able to purchase as many products as their southern counterparts. The cost of living isn't the only issue that these communities must overcome.

A new hydroelectric dam that is being built in the northern part of Québec. However, the electricity from the dam will not be routed up into communities north of there but rather down into New Hampshire. Reliable infrastructure is necessary in order to help facilitate economic growth, especially in communities where each house relies on a diesel generator for their power needs. The reason behind this decision is the cost of running power lines up into that area. Yet, if we are to assist in developing these areas, our standard models of cost-benefit analysis needs to be reconsidered. –Jordan Habenicht

Members of the 2016 Arctic Task Force

Instructors:

Nadine C. Fabbi is the managing director of the Jackson School's Canadian Studies Center, chair of the UW minor in Arctic studies and the UW representative for the University of the Arctic. Her research focuses on indigenous diplomacies and international relations in the Arctic. She teaches ARCTIC 200 and co-teaches the Task Force on the Arctic for the Jackson School. She has also taught Inuit history and political mobilization at the University of Alberta and the University Centre of the Westfjords in Ísafjörður, Iceland. Her publications include "Inuit foreign policy and international relations in the Arctic," (in L. C. Jensen & G. Hønneland (Eds.), *Handbook of the Politics of the Arctic* 2015); "Inuit political involvement in the Arctic," (in L. Heininen (Ed.), *Arctic Yearbook* 2012); and "Geopolitics, Arctic Council, and Arctic resources," with V. Gallucci and D. Hellmann (in C. Carothers, et al. (Eds.), *Fishing People of the North: Cultures, Economies, and Management Responding to Change*, 2012).

Vincent Gallucci is the chair and director of the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies' Canadian Studies Center, director of the Center for Quantitative Science in the UW College of the Environment, professor in the UW School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences and adjunct professor with the Ellison Center for Russian, East Europeans and Central Asian Studies at the Jackson School, and also at the School of Marine and Environmental Affairs. His research focus is the geopolitical dimensions of Arctic development as viewed through the impact of international actors on the Arctic Council. He is also deeply involved with Arctic and sub-Arctic marine fisheries management, endangered species protection, Russian fisheries science and Russian involvement in the Arctic Debate. He serves on an Arctic biodiversity assessment team appointed by the Arctic Council and on the Russian Academy of Sciences editorial board for the journal *Regionalistica*, devoted to research on the social and economic processes occurring in the Russian Far East.

Brandon Ray is a research assistant in University of Washington's Department of Atmospheric Science and a Carnegie International Policy Institute Fellow. His research focuses on sea ice predictability in the Arctic at season to inter-annual timescales, with the goal of allowing stakeholders to better understand the limitations of seasonal forecasts. Brandon was a member of the inaugural Arctic Research Fellowship program at University of Washington, where he worked with another graduate student, Brit Sojka, and Nadine Fabbi on a project which examined how climate change narratives of scientific, political, and indigenous communities have evolved and influenced each other in the Arctic. A naval officer of nine years, Brandon is also interested in how climate change has been incorporated into national security strategies, focusing specifically on the Arctic.

Joël Plouffe is a Research Fellow at the Interuniversity Research Center on the International Relations of Canada and Québec (CIRRICQ) at ENAP, Montréal, Co-Managing Editor of the Arctic Yearbook, and Fellow at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute (CGAI). Joël's research and publications focus mainly on Arctic geopolitics and security, Canada-U.S. relations. He was a Visiting Scholar at Western Washington University in 2010 and 2015, and a Visiting Scholar and Faculty Advisor at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies (JSIS) at the University of Washington in 2013. He is a member of the Northern Research Forum's (NRF)/UARctic Thematic Network on Geopolitics and Security; ArcticNet's Arctic Transportation Programme; and an International Visitor Leadership Program Arctic Security Alumnus, U.S. Department of State. Joël is a PhD candidate in Public Analysis at ENAP and his thesis deals with U.S. Arctic region foreign policy making and implementation.

Task Force Students:

Erika Doane is a student in the UW's University Honors Program and a graduating senior pursuing her bachelor's degree in International Studies and Spanish. She plans to attend law school in the future and continue her work toward ending educational inequity and other systemic injustices that plague this country.

Laura Heckenlively is originally from Sacramento, California, where she was involved with various philanthropic and environmental cleanup groups that focuses along the local American River. She is currently a graduating senior at the University of Washington, majoring in International Studies and minoring in Environmental Science and has been involved with the on-campus student advocacy group to gain student support for environmental policy decisions.

Danika Moore is an International Studies student at the University of Washington, focusing on Environmental Studies. She has a strong interest in human rights, environmental justice, and intercultural communication. She is a Polish-American, grew up mainly in Poland and Italy, and loves learning about different world-views and ways of being through traveling.

Kelsey Brewster is in her last year at the University of Washington majoring in International Studies with an emphasis in Environmental Studies. Her interest in International Studies is a result from living abroad in Germany and Belgium with her family for nine years. After graduation, she hopes to move overseas for some time before pursuing graduate school or a career in international affairs.

Allison Rutz was raised in Central Asia from the time she was five, where she acquired her passion for language, culture, travel, and serving others. Her undergraduate years at the University of Washington have been spent pursuing a major in International Studies with a focus in Foreign Policy, Diplomacy, Peace and Security. After graduation she hopes to continue language learning and engage her heart for others through volunteering abroad.

Claire Wang is originally from China and currently an undergraduate student at the University of Washington with a B.S. in Economics and a B.A. in International Studies. Her career interest lies in management consulting. In 2015, she led the Seattle chapter of AIESEC - the world's largest student-run NGO with a focus on developing youth leadership.

Elizabeth Castro identifies as the daughter of farmworkers. She is from Mesa, Washington and Veracruz, Mexico. Elizabeth is a senior in the Jackson School focusing on Latin American studies and a minor in Education. She aims to advocate toward education equity and her research interests include immigrant youth experiences, education as a human right, and civic engagement.

Jordan Habenicht is currently a senior in the Jackson School of International Studies focusing on International Political Economy. His interest is in economic policies of development and finding ways to implement more effective legislation. Previously he served six and a half years with the U.S. Army, which involved multiple humanitarian missions. One of these missions saw him assisting in relocating the town of Newtok, Alaska as a result of the effects of climate change.

Michael (Mac) Zelle is originally from Rollinsford, NH. He is a double major in Economics and International Studies at the University of Washington, graduating in June 2016. Mac's area of focus is sovereign debt markets. He has long had an interest in international legal systems, and being a lifelong sailor, has a novice's interests in maritime law.

Kyle Wheeler is a senior at the University of Washington and is from Tacoma, Washington. He is majoring in International Studies with a focus in Diplomacy, Foreign Policy, and National Security. Kyle has particular interests in nuclear security and proliferation, and how they have shaped foreign policy. Kyle is currently planning on going to law school in order to do work in international humanitarian law.

Jake Creps is an undergraduate student in the Jackson School of International Studies at the University Washington with a minor in Arctic Studies. Prior to studying at the University of Washington, Jake was an intelligence analyst with the United States Air Force where he studied the culture, politics, economies, and militaries of state and non-state actors in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. As part of the Carnegie International Policy Institute Fellowship, Jake plans to continue work in policy writing and development in the Arctic region.

Ivalene Laohajaratsang is currently a graduating senior of the Jackson School of International Studies at the University of Washington. Her concentration includes international law, human rights, and diplomacy. Growing up in Thailand, Ivalene spent most of her childhood in a diverse community, attending international schools. She aspires to devote her life to improving the lives of others through advocating for equality and justice.

Thanks again from the Arctic Task Force group!



(From Left to Right)

Bottom Row- Ivalene Laohajaratsang, Claire Wang, Allison Rutz, Danika Moore, Elizabeth Castro, Kelsey Brewster, Erika Doane, and Kyle Wheeler

Top Row- Jake Creps, Mac Zellem, Brandon Ray, Laura Heckenlively, Jordan Habenicht, Nadine Fabbi, and Else Kveinen (Norwegian Minister Counsellor)



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