

DESCRIPTION

The Arctic Council at Twenty:

Permanent Participants, Arctic Policy in Canada and the United States, and Stewardship

Friday, 20 November 2015, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Odegaard 220, University of Washington

The [Arctic Council](#) is the leading intergovernmental forum promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic states, Arctic Indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues. The Arctic Council is a unique international forum both historically and globally. It is the first international institution formed in dialogue with Indigenous peoples and the first where government and Indigenous organizations work on almost equal par to provide coordination for international decision making and activities in and concerning the circumpolar world. According to Griffith (2011) the Arctic Council was the result of a ground swell in civil society where scholars, practitioners and Indigenous leaders engaged in a dialogue concerning the need for an international coordinating body to address Arctic issues from a government and Indigenous perspective.

This workshop – supported by the Korea Maritime Institute, and hosted by the Canadian Studies Center/Arctic and International Relations in the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies – will reflect on the almost 20-year history of the Arctic Council, its influence on Arctic policy in North America, and future options concerning its role. Participants will present and discuss their reflections on the Arctic Council including its influence on Canadian and U.S. Arctic policy, and the role of four of the six Permanent Participant organizations who are represented in the Pacific Northwest.

The discussion may touch on some of the following questions and reflections:

- Have we achieved the original vision for the Arctic Council? Is future reform of the Council needed and if so, what reforms should be undertaken?
- Have we achieved full integration of nation-state and Indigenous organization influence in all activities of the Arctic Council and, if not, what reforms need to take place to enhance and ensure the voices of the Permanent Participants in all Council proceedings?
- How will the Arctic Council deal with the tremendous interest and growth in observer status? What is the relationship between the non-Arctic nations and Permanent Participants?
- What role do other forums play in furthering the mandate of the Arctic Council including the Arctic Economic Council (AEC), University of the Arctic, others? The AEC has been some attention, but what about other capacities such as education, health care, culture and language?
- How has the Arctic Council shaped the Arctic policies for Canada and the United States? What will be the role of Canada's new liberal government for the Arctic? How will the second U.S. Chairmanship shape the Council for the future?

Finally, perhaps most importantly, the presenters will speak to the concept of stewardship in the Arctic asking what are the "effects of external forces on Arctic socio-ecological systems" (Young, 2012, p. 2) – effects such as climate change, globalization and the influence of multinational corporations? And, how should the Arctic Council respond to these effects? At the Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting in Iqaluit in April 2015 U.S. Secretary of State John F. Kerry stated at the Iqaluit meeting, "There's only 'one Arctic' and all of us – the United States, other nations, indigenous peoples, and Arctic communities – must join together to ensure responsible stewardship of this incredible region." What does that stewardship look like from the perspective of Canada, the United States, and the Permanent Participants? Is there a North American Arctic perspective on environmental stewardship – a perspective unique to Canada, the United States, the Inuit Circumpolar Council, Aleut International Association, Arctic Athabaskan Council and Gwich'in Council International?

This workshop is dedicated to Dr. [Terry Fenge](#) who passed away suddenly on November 8, 2015. Terry was an Ottawa-based consultant specializing in Arctic, Aboriginal and Environmental issues. Terry worked tirelessly on issues concerning the Arctic region. He was a great friend and colleague of the Center visiting the UW several times over the last few years and welcoming Jackson School Task Force students in Ottawa. Terry will be dearly missed by us and by the Arctic studies community.

PROGRAM

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Conference Co-Chairs: Vincent Gallucci and Nadine Fabbi, Canadian Studies Center/Arctic and International Relations, Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies; and, Justin Jim, Korean Maritime Institute

8:30-9 a.m. – Coffee and Continental Breakfast

9-9:15 a.m. – Welcome to Participants

Judy Howard, Divisional Dean, Division of Social Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Washington (UW)

Chinsoo Lim, Vice President, Korea Maritime Institute (KMI)

9:15-9:30 a.m. – Setting the Context

Conference Co-Chairs, Vincent Gallucci, Nadine Fabbi and Justin Jim

9:30-11 a.m. – Panel 1: The Arctic Council from Founding Vision to Current Status

Discussant: Tony Penikett, Mediator/Negotiator, Vancouver, B.C.

Franklyn Griffiths, Political Science, University of Toronto

Oran Young, University of California, Santa Barbara

Rosemary Kuptana, former president of the Inuit Circumpolar Council

11-11:15 a.m. – BREAK

11:15-12:30 a.m. – Panel 2: Permanent Participant Influence and Capacity on the Arctic Council

Discussant: Jean-François Arteau, former Executive Assistant to the President of Makivik Corporation

Rosemary Kuptana, former president of the Inuit Circumpolar Council

Jim Gamble, Executive Director, Aleut International Association

Joe Linklater, Chairperson, Gwich'in Council International

Chief Michael Stickman, International Chair of the Arctic Athabaskan Council

12:45-1:45 – LUNCH (Group 1), Host: Don Hellmann, JSIS

1-2 p.m. – LUNCH (Group 2)

2:15-3 p.m. – Panel 3: Economic Development and Climate Change in the Arctic

Discussant/Presenter: Tom Leschine, School of Marine and Environmental Affairs, UW

Robert Pavia, School of Marine and Environmental Affairs, UW

Scott Montgomery, JSIS, UW

3-3:10 p.m. – Break

3:15-4:15 – Panel 4: Arctic Council and Arctic Policy in Canada, the United States and Québec

Discussant: Heather Nicol, 2015-16 Canada Fulbright Chair in Arctic Studies, UW; and Matt Morrison, Pacific Northwest Economic Region

Harkiran Rajasansi, Consul Foreign Policy and Diplomacy, Consulate General of Canada, Seattle

Lynne G. Platt, Consul General, U.S. Consulate General, Vancouver, British Columbia

Jennine Jordan, Arctic Economic Council Representative, Arctic Athabaskan Council

Jean-François Arteau

4:15-4:30 p.m. – Closing Remarks

Vincent Gallucci & Nadine Fabbi

Rapporteurs – Brandon Ray, Atmospheric Sciences, UW and Jeehye Kim, Researcher, KMI