**POLAR GEOGRAPHIES:**
Social and Environmental Systems in the Polar Regions

**Description:** Polar Regions remain at the center of attention among geographers and general public due to unprecedented environmental, economic, and political changes they are presently experiencing. The sessions bring together papers examining various aspects of the human, physical, cultural, political, and environmental geography of the Polar Regions.

**Organizers:** Andrey N. Petrov, University of Northern Iowa: andrey.petrov(at)uni.edu  
Timothy E. Heleniak, University of Maryland: heleniak(at)umd.edu

**Sponsors:** Polar Geography Affinity Group; Russia, Central Eurasia and Eastern Europe  
Canadian Studies and Cryosphere AAG Specialty Groups

**Journal:** Polar Geography

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**Polar Geographies I: Polar Science and Climate Change**

**Chair:** Timothy Heleniak, University of Maryland

**Participants:**
Presenter: Olav Slaymaker, UBC *Norway's polar presence: the legacy of Nansen and Amundsen*
Presenter: Marilyn Raphael, UCLA *Seasonal Influence of Zonal Wave Three on Antarctic Surface Temperature Trends*
Presenter: Thomas Ballinger, Kent State University *On the Statistical Relation between the AMO and Beaufort and Chukchi Seas Late Summer Ice Retreat, 1953-2009*
Presenter: Scott Stephenson, UCLA *Projecting Arctic Maritime Access to 2100*
Presenter: Lawson W Brigham, University of Alaska Fairbanks *The New Geography of the Central Arctic Ocean*

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**Polar Geographies II: Environmental Systems and Implications of Climate Change**

**Chair:** Andrey Petrov, University of Northern Iowa

**Participants:**
Presenter: Susan Meerdink, University of Northern Iowa *Taimyr Wild Reindeer Spatial Fidelity and Calving Grounds Dynamics in a Changing Climate*
Presenter: Jonathon Launspach, University of Northern Iowa *Climate Change, Tundra Wildfires and Arctic Livelihoods: A Spatio-temporal analysis of recent trends and possible impacts*
Presenter: Justin Vanderberg, Pennsylvania State University *A Ricardian Analysis of How Accessibility Determines Arctic Land Value*
Presenter: Ellen Hatleberg, George Washington University *Looking at Russian Arctic Change in an Integrated Way*

**Discussant:** Jessica Graybill, Colgate University
Polar Geographies III: Political Systems in the Polar Regions
Chair: Stanley Brunn, University of Kentucky
Participants:
Presenter: Michael Bravo, University of Cambridge *Technology, Autonomy and Arctic Transnationalism*
Presenter: Elana Wilson Rowe, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs *Expert knowledge and transnational networks in Arctic politics*
Presenter: Heather Nicol, Trent University *Sovereignty, Human Security and the Arctic*
Presenter: Mark T Burnett, Mount Royal College *Canada and the Geopolitics of the Arctic Region*
Discussant: TBA

Polar Geographies IV: Economic Systems in the Polar Regions
Chair: Mark Carper, Northeastern State University
Participants:
Presenter: Philip Cavin, University of Northern Iowa *Engaging cultural capital: Arctic 'bohemia' as a factor of regional development*
Presenter: Elisabeth Öfner, University of Vienna *Workforce for the Russian North - the historical dimension of long-distance commute worker*
Presenter: Tuomas Suutarinen, University of Helsinki *Restructuring of mining community in the Russian North - achieving the success through recreation of the existing?*
Presenter: Vesa Rautio, University of Helsinki *Is Norilsk Nickel becoming a global company?*
Discussant: Chris Southcott, Lakehead University & Yukon College

Polar Geographies V: Social Systems in the Polar Regions
Chair: Jessica Graybill, Colgate University
Participants:
Presenter: Igor Pasternak, University of Alaska Fairbanks *In the Land of the Free and the Home of the Customary and Traditional: Ethics and Aesthetics of Ice Fishing among ex-Soviet Alaskans*
Presenter: Sveta Yamin-Pasternak, University of Alaska Fairbanks *Vulnerability Boils Down to a Cup: Assessing Human Agency and Resilience in the Bering Strait through a Study in Beverage Ethnography*
Presenter: Tobias Holzlehner, University of Alaska Fairbanks *Informal Space and Networks in the Russian Far East: A Comparative Approach to North Pacific Borderlands*
Presenter: Peter Schweitzer, University of Alaska Fairbanks *Resilience, Vulnerability, and Adaptation: Alaska EPSCoR and the Study of High Latitude Social-ecological Systems*
Discussant: Stanley Brunn, University of Kentucky
Polar Geographies VI: Change and Sustainable Development in the Arctic

**Chair:** Peter Schweitzer, University of Alaska Fairbanks

**Participants:**
Presenter: Chris Southcott, Lakehead University *Building Sustainable Communities in the Arctic: the Resources and Sustainability in the Arctic Project*
Presenter: Nikolay Shiklomanov, George Washington University *From Prominence to Collapse to Sustainable Development: The Past, Present, and Future of Igarka*
Presenter: Colin Reisser, George Washington University *Post-Soviet Economic Transition in the Arctic: The Case of Norilsk*
Presenter: Tor Benjaminsen, Norwegian University of Life Sciences *Political ecology of Sámi reindeer pastoralism in Finnmark, Norway*
Presenter: Kalb Stevenson, University of Alaska Anchorage *Food Security Through Sustainable Agriculture in Alaska and the Circumpolar North*

Polar Geographies VII: Arctic Social Indicators and Arctic Human Development Report Panel

**Description:** Arctic Social Indicators and Arctic Human Development Report Panel will discuss results and upcoming issues pertaining to the ASI-II and AHDR-II.

**Organizers:** Andrey Petrov & Timothy Heleniak

**Chairs:** Andrey Petrov, University of Northern Iowa

**Participants:**
Panelist: Timothy Heleniak, University of Maryland
Panelist: Peter Schweitzer, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Panelist: Chris Southcott, Lakehead University
Panelist: Philip Cavin, University of Northern Iowa
Panelist: Andrey Petrov, University of Northern Iowa