



2007-2009

INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR ALASKA™



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NORTH by 2020- An IPY Forum Initiative

Craig Dorman, UA Vice-President for Research, set-aside statewide FY06 carry forward funds to help “jump start” the North by 2020 IPY Forum Initiative. The Forum Executive Committee (Hajo Eicken, Amy Lovecraft, Anita Hartmann) approved allocation of seed funds to Forum projects, based on brief proposals submitted by Theme Leaders and active members

THEME: Coastal and offshore oil and gas development: balancing competing interests through enhancing information and synthesis.

Leaders: Hajo Eicken, UAF Geophysical Institute

Amy Lovecraft, UAF College of Liberal Arts/Political Sciences

Sharman Haley, UAA Institute of Social and Economic Research

Project supported: Funded travel of graduate students in Adaptive Management Class (with Gary Kofinas, UAF Assistant Professor of Resource Policy and Management) to Barrow, AK (April 2007) to participate in coastal oil conference and subsequent student-organized mini-workshop that would include representatives from North Slope oil activities.

THEME: Changing Land and Water Use.

Leaders: Dan White, UAF Institute of Northern Engineering

Amy Tidwell, UAF Institute of Northern Engineering

Project supported: Participate in American Water Resources Association meeting in Fairbanks, and collaborate (with AWRA and other stakeholders in urban and rural Alaska) on development of a water theme seminar series to be included as part of the Water and Environment Research Center seminar series.

THEME: Resilient Communities: health, food security, and communication in a changing North.

Leaders: Siri Tuttle, UAF College of Liberal Arts/Linguistics & Alaska Native Language Center
John Heaton, UAF College of Liberal Arts/ History
Craig Gerlach, UAF College of Liberal Arts/Anthropology
Larry Duffy, UAF College of Science & Mathematics/Biochemistry
Cecile Lardon, UAF College of Liberal Arts/Psychology
Anna Godduhn, UAF IGERT doctoral student
Olga Lovick, UAF College of Liberal Arts/IPY Post-doctoral Fellow
Jessica Cherry, UAF International Arctic Research Center

Project supported: Speaking of Harvest: documenting the relations between language and the land in Northway, Alaska. Funds support necessary field work: community relationship building, logistical analysis, preliminary interviews, and so forth.

THEME: Sustainable Development of Living Marine Resources.

Leaders: Keith Criddle, UAF at Juneau
Chanda Meek, UAF IGERT doctoral student
Martin Robards, UAF IGERT doctoral student

Project supported: Convene full-day symposium in Juneau, AK (May 2007) with local and international key investigators, policy makers, local stakeholders. Anticipated outcome is a set of broad recommendations on the suitability and resiliency of alternative governance institutions and management strategies in the face of challenges associated with environmental change of the type being experienced and predicted to occur in the Bering and Chukchi seas.

THEME: Interface between indigenous, local knowledge, and western science.

Leaders: Ray Barnhardt, UAF College of Liberal Arts/Cross-Cultural Studies
Pia Kohler, UAF College of Liberal Arts/Political Science

Project supported: participate in planning for 2007 Denakkanaaga Elders and Youth Conference to include a workshop that is designed to: 1) engage Athabaskan Elders from Interior Alaska into IPY discussions and activities; 2) to promote collaborations between Elders, current and potential Native PhD candidates, and practicing scientist; 3) to review current guidelines and protocols related to cultural and intellectual property as they bear on IPY activities; and 4) to convene an Elders anel/Talking Circle around the theme of local observations on climate change in Interior Alaska.

Preliminary reports from projects supported are anticipated in summer 2007.

Prepared 04/20/2007 for posting by Anita Hartmann, Forum Executive Committee