

UArctic Annual Report 2011

University of the Arctic
International Secretariat
University of Lapland



UArctic
uarctic.org



UNIVERSITY OF THE ARCTIC

UArctic Annual Report for 2011

Governance

Board of Governors

UArctic's highest decision-making body is the Board of Governors (Board). The Board consists of up to 11 individuals who are nominated by the Council to serve in their personal capacities and act on behalf of UArctic. The Board has the authority and primary responsibility for strategic planning and setting institutional priorities, organizational development and institutional accountability, fundraising, finances, and budgeting as well as public and external relations.

The Board of Governors met in Tromsø, Norway. March 25-27 hosted by the University of Tromsø. The Board reached a number of key decisions on UArctic's future direction. Finance policy was at the centre of the Board's agenda, with the approval of an overall budget and work plan for 2012.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks hosted the University of the Arctic's Board of Governors meeting from Dec 4-6, 2011. Lasse Lönnum of the University of Tromsø was elected as the new Vice Chair of the Board of Governors, replacing Andy Greenshaw who stepped down from the position. The Board also discussed the strategic development of UArctic and decided to conduct a self-evaluation as well as an external review of UArctic in preparation for the planning of UArctic's next Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan process will be completed in the spring of 2013 and then submitted to Council for final approval.

Council

The Council of the University of the Arctic (Council) consists of representatives of all UArctic member institutions. The Council gives strategic guidance on academic priorities, and acts as a forum for cooperation on the implementation of UArctic programs through member institutions. The Council has the authority and primary responsibility for initiating and overseeing program development and delivery, prioritizing academic programs within the approved program structure, and representing UArctic's members in its overall governance.

The annual Council meeting was hosted in Lapland, Finland in June 2011 by the three members of the Lapland University Consortium (University of Lapland, Rovaniemi University of Applied Sciences, and Kemi-Tornio University of Applied Sciences), in cooperation with the Sámi Education Institute in Inari. The meeting was a celebrations of 10 years of the University of the Arctic since it was launched – also in Rovaniemi – in 2001. In addition to the anniversary celebrations, which culminated in a gala dinner, the theme of the meeting was 'Green Growth'. The centre point of this theme was a Green Growth Seminar featuring speakers Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson (President of Iceland), Hannele Pokka (Permanent Secretary of Finland's Ministry of the Environment), Gustaf Lind (Sweden's Arctic Ambassador), and J. Okalik Eegeesiak (President of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association) as well as a panel of northern scientists. The seminar discussions examined the question of whether a 'Green Growth' opportunity exists for the Arctic, or whether the destiny of the North is to remain an area of resource extraction.

Ten new institutions were approved as full members of UArctic, and the first five associate members joined. Associate membership is available for institutions from outside the Arctic states. These additions, together with subsequent mergers and withdrawals of membership bring the current total members to 134.

New full members: Aalborg University, Aarhus University, Brandon University, Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia, Petrozavodsk State University, University of Iceland, University of Oslo, and Ural Federal University, Nenets Agrarian Economic Technical School, and Murmansk Marine Fish Industrial College

New associate members: European Centre for the Arctic (University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines), Hokkaido University, Swedish University of Agricultural Science (Faculty of Forest Sciences), International Polar Foundation, and TELUS World of Science.



SUMMARY OF CURRENT UARCTIC MEMBERSHIP																
(including new members from Council 2011)																
Total membership = 134																
UARCTIC MEMBERSHIP	Full Members	Associate Members	HEI	Other	Arctic (8) Countries								Non-Arctic (8) Countries			
					CAN	DNK	FIN	ISL	NOR	RUS	SWE	USA	Belgium	France	Japan	UK
Full-Members	129	-	96	33	33	6	9	5	16	43	6	10	0	0	0	1
Associate members	-	5	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
Total = 134	129	5	99	35	34	6	9	5	16	43	7	10	1	1	1	1
Higher Education Institutions	96	3	99	-	24	6	9	4	10	32	6	5	0	1	1	1
Other Organisations	33	2	-	35	10	0	0	1	6	11	1	5	1	0	0	0

UArctic Rectors' Forum

UArctic Rectors' Forum is a forum for the leaders of UArctic's higher education institutions.

Leaders of universities and other higher education institutions from across the Arctic region convened in Guovdageaidnu (Kautokeino), Norway for the 5th UArctic Rectors' Forum and for the opening of the UArctic Institute for Circumpolar Reindeer Husbandry: UArctic Ealát Institute. The theme of the 5th Rectors' Forum was, "Indigenous and non-indigenous societies in the North: Challenges for research and Education within UArctic". Rectors and presidents from the eight Arctic countries engaged in key discussions not only with each other, but with indigenous representatives, and northern students. The UArctic Students Forum met back-to-back during the Rectors' Forum and presented a student declaration to the assembled university leaders. Special guest, H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco was forced to cancel his participation at the last moment due to a death in the family.

External Relations

UArctic continued to foster a close relationship with the Arctic Council through involvement with the Swedish chairmanship and the Senior Arctic Officials, particularly around issues of Arctic research strategies and continuing the theme of green growth in the Arctic.

Cooperation with the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), the Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA) was formalized with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to work together to strengthen Arctic research. UArctic signed MoUs with the Arctic Frontiers conference to host UArctic meetings in conjunction with that event, and the Yamalo-Nenets Okrug government.

UArctic leadership also continued to engage external partners at the European Union, Nordic Council, United Nations and Standing Committee of Arctic Parliamentarians, with which we have established relationships of trust and cooperation.

UArctic as an Organization

UArctic President

The President serves as the chief executive officer of UArctic, and is responsible for its overall administration and the development and delivery of its programs. Lars Kullerud is the current UArctic President, who is based in Arendal, Norway. The President participates ex officio in meetings of the Council, the Executive Committee, and the Board, and works closely with these bodies to ensure that programmatic activities are initiated and implemented in a timely manner.

UArctic Vice President Indigenous

Jan Henry Keskitalo was appointed as UArctic's first Vice President Indigenous Affairs in June 4, 2010. In his first year in the position, Keskitalo has made considerable progress in refocussing the work of the Indigenous Peoples Issues Committee and ensuring that the indigenous perspective remains present in all UArctic activities. Formal cooperation was also developed with the Permanent Participant Organizations of the Arctic Council, which will be formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding. Together with this committee, the Vice President is working to develop a new set of guidelines and principles that will serve as a working framework for an indigenous paradigm in education for the University of the Arctic and its members.

Offices

UArctic programs are coordinated and delivered through members and administered through many decentralized offices.

- **UArctic President's Office** Arendal, Norway
- **UArctic International Secretariat** Rovaniemi, Finland
- **UArctic Vice-President Indigenous Office** Kautokeino, Norway
- **UArctic Thematic Networks Office** Oulu, Finland
- **UArctic Research Office** Arkhangelsk, Russia
- **UArctic Graduate Studies Office** Fairbanks, USA
- **UArctic Field School Program Office** Longyearbyen, Norway
- **UArctic Undergraduate Studies Office** Yakutsk, Russia
- **UArctic BCS Regional Office** Bodø, Norway
- **UArctic BCS Regional Office** Prince George, Canada

- **UArctic north2north Program Office** Alta, Norway
- **UArctic GoNorth Program Office** Tromsø, Norway
- **UArctic International Academic Office** La Ronge, Canada
- **UArctic Russian Information Center** Yakutsk, Russia
- **UArctic Finance Office** Fairbanks, USA
- **UArctic Press Office** Edmonton, Canada

Secretariat

The Secretariat consists of Vice President Administration, Administrative Secretary, Senior Administrator and Information Manager. Long-serving Administrative Secretary Riitta Aikio left the Secretariat in 2011.

The International Secretariat, hosted by the University of Lapland, supports information services across the University of the Arctic network, including the website, UArctic News, study Catalogue, and the annual member survey and activity reporting. The Secretariat is the primary contact for external partners and enquiries, as well as providing support to programs and members where needed.

The continued development of the UArctic news and information service was the main focus of Information Management in 2011, with a communications workshop held during the Council meeting and another following in 2012 at Arctic Frontiers. The UArctic Catalogue also finalized its restructuring, and began collecting course and program information from members.

The UArctic News service continues to be an important means of sharing information of common interest across the network, and with our external partners. In 2011, over 500 news stories were published. The News is published on the website, and to RSS subscribers, as well as sent monthly as the Shared Voices newsletter to over 2600 subscribers.

A major restructuring of the program and member reporting process began in 2011, with the plan to drastically reduce the need for the previous 'member survey'. The plan, being trialed in 2011-2012, will see activity reports generated from UArctic News stories that form the basis of reporting for each unit and Strategic Area. Members will still be responsible for regularly updating their member profile and contact information.

Undergraduate Studies

The Undergraduate Studies strategic area has responsibility for overseeing the delivery and development of one of UArctic's key education programs, Circumpolar Studies. Together with the International Academic Office which tracks student completion, and a set of regional coordination offices, the Office of Undergraduate Studies, hosted by the University of Saskatchewan, coordinates this strategic area.

The stability of the Circumpolar Studies program and the Office of Undergraduate Studies was put at risk by the decision by the Government of Canada to dramatically cut funding to the University of the Arctic. This decision will have an impact on not only the ability of Canadian students to participate in UArctic programs, but also on thousands of other students around the circumpolar world who benefited from the program. In reaction to this decision, UArctic immediately took steps to ensure the continuity of service of Circumpolar Studies.

A Memorandum of Understanding between North-Eastern Federal University (NEFU) and the University of the Arctic during the Board of Governors meeting in Fairbanks on Dec 5, 2011. The MoU addresses NEFU's hosting of UArctic's Undergraduate Office, and Claudia Fedorova becomes UArctic's new Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

The International Academic Office is hosted by Northlands College, La Ronge, Saskatchewan, Canada. The IAO acts as the central information service for students and institutions participating in the Circumpolar Studies program. The IAO conducts the registration and transcript process for all International Online Courses and issues completion documents for all graduates.

Confirmation of Completion: completing a Bachelor degree with the Circumpolar Studies seven core courses and an Advanced Emphasis.

Confirmation of Achievement: completed the entire seven Circumpolar Studies courses.

UArctic Graduates 2006-2011			
Year	Completion	Achievement	Total
2006	17	N/A	17
2007	19	N/A	19
2008	38	8	46
2009	27	12	39
2010	44	9	53
2011	21	7	28
Total	166	36	202

In 2011, **312** students registered in **International Online Courses** from twenty-three member institutions:

Institutions Offering Courses
Yukon College
University of Nordland
University of Northern British Columbia
University of Alaska Fairbanks
University of Manitoba
Finnmark University College
Lakehead University
University of Saskatchewan

Students Registered in International Online - 2011	
Arctic State Institute of Culture and Art	1
Aurora College	13
Baikal State University	6
Center for Circumpolar Studies	1
Lakehead University	52
Norilsk Industrial Institute	6
North-Eastern Federal University	39
Northern (Arctic) Federal University	21
Northlands College	19
Nunavut Arctic College	1
Open Learners	13
Oulu University of Applied Sciences	9
Sakha Republican Teachers' Retraining Institute	2
Syktyvkar State University	1
Technical Institute North Eastern Federal University	12
Ukhta State Technical University	4
University of Alaska Fairbanks	3
University of Helsinki	1
University of Manitoba	18
University of Northern British Columbia	29
University of Saskatchewan	15
University of Turku	13
Yakutsk Agricultural Academy	1
Yukon College	32
2011 TOTAL	312

Graduate Studies

UArctic's Graduate Studies strategic area seeks to foster and assist in the development of high-quality, joint, and parallel graduate and postgraduate program activities.

Rich Boone, University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), was appointed as Dean of the UArctic Graduate Area in June 2011. Previously Pierre Andre Forest at the University of Lapland and Larry Duffy at UAF shared the leadership of the Graduate Area. Boone's activities were carried out on a reduced basis through the end of 2011, as he took a term position at the U.S. National Science Foundation on detail from UAF.

Graduate Area activities included University of the Arctic Endorsement of two multi-institutional, Arctic collaborative Master's degree programmes: the Comparative Social Work

programme led by the University of Lapland, Finland and the Northern Tourism programme led by Finnmark University College, Norway. The two universities each have collaborated with several international UArctic partner institutions to develop the programmes and, with their partners, will share the programme delivery. Institutional partners collaborating with the University of Lapland include the Northern Arctic Federal University, Karelian State Pedagogical University, Petrozavosk State University, the Murmansk Humanities Institute, Murmansk State Technical University (Russia); and the University of Oulu (Finland). The University of Lapland programme is offered through the Barents Cross Border University; institutional partners include the University of Oulu and University of Lapland (Finland); Umeå University (Sweden); the University of Northern British Columbia and Lakehead University (Canada); and the University of Iceland and University of Akureyri (Iceland).

Master's Studies

The UArctic Endorsement certifies that the Master's programmes have been developed and are jointly delivered by UArctic member institutions from at least two countries, include a knowledge generation/research base, contain an integrated mobility component, are northern relevant, and provide insights into traditional forms of indigenous knowledge and perspectives. Students may receive their degrees from a partner institution or from the lead institution depending upon the programme.

Graduate Studies and Field School

Other UArctic Graduate Area activities included collaboration with APECS to develop a joint study catalogue database of polar graduate programmes as part of the UArctic Catalogue and cross-linked to the APECS website. The 2011 Field School at UNIS in Svalbard, Norway was the main activity of the UArctic Field School program. The database, which has grown to over 40 graduate programmes, provides prospective students with descriptions of the programmes, with application deadlines, research themes, and financial information. Finally, at the Secretariat Office work continued to update the searchable UArctic Catalogue to include information on Arctic graduate courses and programmes.

Knowledge and Dialogue

Mimir seeks to ensure that Arctic research meets the needs of Northern communities by ensuring that University of the Arctic members and their community partners are actively involved in Northern research initiatives.

The new UArctic Research Office was established at the Northern (Arctic) Federal University in Arkhangelsk, with the appointment of Marina Kalinan as Director. The Research Office was launched during the Arctic 2nd International Arctic Forum "The Arctic: Territory of Dialogue", Sept 21-23, 2011. The establishment of a research office is a critical step in creating a collective capacity for UArctic members to coordinate northern research.

In January the lead of the Knowledge and Dialogue strategic area participated in the Thematic Networks meetings in Kilpisjärvi.

In June Chris Southcott represented UArctic at the International Congress of Arctic Social Science (ICASS) in Akureyri, Iceland. He was also elected to the Executive Council of the International Arctic Social Science Association at these meetings.

The Executive of the Board of the University of the Arctic's new Research Office held their first meeting in October in Oslo. Chris Southcott of Lakehead University is the Chair of the Board with Øyvind Paasche of the University of Bergen and Maria Kalinina as Vice-Chairs. Lars Kullerud, President of the University of the Arctic, also attended the meeting. The Board

Executive meeting follows up on the successful opening of the University of the Arctic's Research Office at the Northern (Arctic) Federal University in Arkhangelsk on September 22 in the presence of Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, President of Iceland and Russian parliamentarian and well-known Arctic explorer Artur Chilingarov.

Following the meetings in Oslo, Chris Southcott represented the UArctic at the Arctic Futures Conference hosted by the International Polar Foundation in Brussels.

In addition to the above activities both the President and the Lead and the Vice-Chairs participated in planning related to IPY follow-up activities, the Arctic Resilience Report proposal, the International Polar Decade proposal, and ICARP III. The suggested creation of UArctic Chairs, and the Montreal IPY Conference. Members of Mimir also discussed the development of a series of short filmed talks, similar to the TED talks, that would be used to further the objectives of UArctic and its members.

Mobility

The overall goals for the Mobility strategic area are to develop an understanding of the quality mobility brings to education and research within the framework of UArctic and to enhance the attractiveness of the north in the north and outside the north. This strategic area consists of two units, the students exchange program north2north and the teacher exchange program northTREX.

north2north

The north2north program embraces all student exchanges within the University of the Arctic. A special north2north scholarship program has been established under and students placed in a north2north exchange can, for most countries, apply for a north2north scholarship and/or a travel grant, but also apply for funding from other scholarship opportunities. The north2north Student Mobility Program has also at its disposal a number of north2north tuition waivers offered by member institutions in North America.

The main activity of the north2north mobility program has focussed on student mobility between the Nordic countries and North America. This activity is funded partly by government grants from governments, partly by tuition waivers from US (Alaskan) and Canadian universities. Each of the Nordic countries have a national program which funds north2north student exchange for outgoing national students, and to a certain extent also incoming students to their respective universities. Organizing these exchanges is the task of each north2north National Agency.

The allocation of waivers from the North American institutions has been undertaken by the International Coordination Office, after consultations with the National Agencies of the Nordic countries.

The situation in Canada needed some attention as the federal funding of UArctic was terminated. Consequently there was no funding of a national agency, and the scholarship scheme for outgoing Canadian students was ended. This brought uncertainty as to whether the whole program would collapse, since the Canadian contribution is of critical importance. Fortunately the Canadian institutions in unison decided to continue to contribute with the tuition waivers. There is however a risk that an unbalance will develop between ingoing and outgoing north2north students because of lack of scholarships for Canadian students, which in the long run will demotivate Canadian institutions to continue the arrangement with tuition waivers. This situation should be addressed in the coming year

HOST COUNTRIES	Norway	Sweden	Finland	Iceland	Canada	USA	Russia	2011
HOME COUNTRIES								Outgoing
<i>Norway</i>	0	0	0	2	12	0	20	34
<i>Sweden</i>	0	0	0	0	9	3	0	12
<i>Finland</i>	0	0*	0	2*	24*	3*	4*	33*
<i>Iceland</i>	0	0*	0*	0	1*	0*	0*	1*
<i>Canada</i>	0	1*	4*	0*	0	0*	0*	5*
<i>USA</i>	2	6	2	0	1	0	1	12
<i>Russia</i>	33	10*	14*	0*	0*	0*	0	57*
Incoming	35	17*	20*	4*	47*	6*	25*	154

In spite of the lack of funding for Canadian National Agency, Chris Southcott of Lakehead University has taken the responsibility of doing some coordinating work among the Canadian institutions. In Russia there is a lack of such an agency, and with many individual universities seeking information and applying for exchange opportunities this reduces the possibility of having a systematic and coordinated approach towards the Russian institutions.

Unfortunately the quality of the reports on the activity is very variable between the different countries, so the following statistics are in some cases very approximate based on available data.

Table 1 north2north Student Mobility Between Countries 2011

Table 2: north2north student mobility; total number of exchanges 2002-2011

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Exchanges	16	30	85	101	133	100	109	167	197	154

The total number of 154 is a 22% decrease from last year. The overall impression since the program started is that there has been a steady increase in the number of exchanges.

*all the figures here are very rough estimates

Thematic Networks

UArctic's Thematic Networks foster issues-based cooperation within networks which are focused but flexible enough to respond quickly to topical Arctic issues. They form a natural framework for development of UArctic education and research providing an optimal structure for increasing the knowledge generation and sharing across the North.

Four new thematic networks were endorsed in the council meeting in June 2011:

- Thematic Network on Arctic Law; host University of Lapland, Finland, Timo Koivurova.
- Thematic Network on Sustainable Arts and Design; host University of Lapland, Finland, Prof. Timo Jokela
- Thematic Network on Managing Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in the North; Harstad University College, Norway, Svein Johansen [presentation]
- Thematic Network on Environmental Training and Education for Sustainable Development of the Arctic (NETESDA); Syktykvar State University, Russia, Olga Bakhireva



The research activities including joint publications and conferences and workshops increased quite a lot from 2010. Of course the number of networks also increased but the networks which were mostly responsible of increased activity are older ones. All together thematic networks hosted 13 seminars and workshops and 6 international symposiums and conferences. From these seven publications were produced, most of them also as an electronic publications. Some of the conferences have become annual events, such as Garcia conference which theme in 2011 was Sport, Tourism and Place Development and Calotte Academia with title: From

Circumpolar Stability toward Nordic Peace in 2011. Garcia conference is organized by Thematic Network on Local and Regional Development and Calotte Academia Thematic Network on Geopolitics and Security. In 2011 one other big effort was made by Thematic Network on Social Work which organized their first international conference Social Work in the High North.

Education is very much linked to the research and within thematic networks the education is mostly held at the graduate level. First UArctic endorsed Master's was master's program on Tourism, initiative by Thematic Network on Tourism. In addition the Master's program in health and wellbeing in the circumpolar Area, activity by Thematic Network on Health and Well-being in the Arctic (formerly Arctic medicine) and Northern Governance continued their enrollment. The health and well-being Master's program has had its first graduates and is already running a second set of student. Thematic Network on Social Work was also organizing international Master's courses and is developing a joint program.

In addition to new program developments, student exchange has been going on between the partners and new funding has been granted for graduate students. As an example TN on Global Change and TN on Health and Well-being were jointly granted for three year funding (2010-12) from NordForsk Top Level Research Initiative network for PhD training courses on People and Ecosystems in a Changing Environment. In 2011 two PhD training courses were organized with this funding. Co-operation with these two thematic networks is continuing and new initiative is the UArctic PhD program on Health and Well-being in the Arctic which was granted Nordic Arctic co-operation funding in spring 2012.

Project Arctic Virtual Learning Tools by TN on Global Change in co-operation with other UArctic areas and Arctic organizations finalized its Arctic online learning platform with electronic library, virtual learning tool platform and other features, all found at the one website (www.vlt.is). The electronic publications produced by thematic networks will be added to the electronic library with open access to all UArctic members.

Individual activity summaries follow

Arctic Coastal and Marine Issues

- Build up an Arctic Coastal and Marine Management Network of teachers, researchers and students.
- Symposium on Cod Aquaculture, August 2011
- Developing and marketing field schools in the field
- Developing a study kit on Coastal and Marine issues for the Bachelor of Circumpolar Studies

Arctic Engineering and Science

- Student exchange via on campus, on-line education and/or international semester in Greenland
- Ph.D. course in "Frost in Geotechnical Engineering" at the Luleå University of Technology
- On-line courses offered in at the University of Alaska Anchorage:
- International Semester in Greenland by the ARTEK of Danish University of Technology
- Development of shared learning materials

Arctic Law

- Organizing seminars and conferences and in order to disseminate Arctic legal knowledge.
- Development of legal education programmes, including the masters programme that will commence during 2012 in the Faculty of law of the University of Lapland (where we will organize the specialisation on Arctic law) and helping out in organizing the Polar Law Masters Programme
- Facilitating the preparation of joint funding applications.

Arctic Sustainable Arts & Design

- Host a biannual symposium on arts, design and visual culture education in the Arctic;
- Support joint presentations at national and international seminars and congresses
- Initiate collaborative workshops and seminars for students, teachers and researchers across the Arctic
- Promote educational collaboration in the fields of arts, design, visual culture and craft education, for example through joint educational programmes
- Instigate exhibitions, events and publications
- Initiate and oversee joint research projects

- Support the development of context-sensitive research methods and arts & design practices in the Arctic

Digital Media and Media Arts

- Workshops, art installations, student and teacher exchange, aiming for a cross-disciplinary joint degree (minor) program in the future.
- Student workshop and installation at UArctic 10 Years celebrations
- Planning of workshop during Rovaniemi Design week, February 2012

Distance Education and e-Learning

- Share experience from E-learning with members of the TN
- Identify the relevant challenges and problems in the field of E-learning in the Arctic countries Facilitate student and teacher exchange
- Facilitate collaborative research projects, conferences, and publications in the area of E-learning.
- Send applications for funding the network and activities within the network.

Energy in New Time

- Activities in the field of research:
 - Research projects: NAREC (www.narec.no); “Logistics in the High North”
 - Internship of master students writing Master theses at each other’s universities
 - Exchange of researchers and internship of PhD students and researchers from ENT TN member institutions
- Activities in the field of education:
 - Joint programs and joint courses at graduate level: “Energy in a New Time” Catalog; Master of Science in Sustainable Management (http://www.hhb.no/msc_sm_nor); weekly summer course “Business Practice in Norway”; “Business in the High North” and other joint and short term courses
- Conferences and workshops examples:
 - Annual Arctic Dialog and Sea study Tour (www.hhb.no/ast)
 - Anniversary Seminar “Perspectives on Cooperation between Norway and Russia”: 20 years of Cooperation between Bodø Graduate School of Business at University of Nordland and Russian Universities (<http://www.hhb.no/index.php?ID=18386&lang=nor&displayitem=809&module=communicator>)
 - International Conference ”Synergies of Innovations in developing Oil & Gas Industry” (<http://www.hhb.no/index.php?ID=17849&lang=nor&displayitem=672&module=communicator>)
 - Synergies: Industry, Education and Research “Challenges and Opportunities in Light of 20 Years Cooperation Norway-Russia” (www.hhb.no/anniversary)

- Workshops devoted to the development of joint courses portfolio and harmonization of the program content and requirements
- Activities aimed to continue development bilateral as well as multilateral cooperation between ENT TN members and partners

Environmental Impact Assessment of Industry Contaminated Areas

- EU FRP7 are constantly monitored to find suitable calls.
- Funding options for operating the network are explored.
- Establishment and development of a web platform for internal communication.

Environmental Training and Education for Sustainable Development of the Arctic (NETESDA)

Research (joint interdisciplinary international research work on various ecological topics), joint degree programs in various fields (e.g. Ecology), curriculum development(new courses with implemented interdisciplinary approach), exchange of faculty, sharing resources, study offerings, information development, strong influence governance, etc

- International Round table on the Thematic Network of Environmental Training and Education for Sustainable Development of the Arctic under UArctic, Syktyvkar State University, November, 2011.

Geopolitics and Security

Among planned activities are first, to run annual workshops for the members of the TN as well as for PhD students on political sciences back-to-back to international conferences and seminars, such as NRF Open Assemblies and Calotte Academy; second, to implement the interplay between research and teaching, between senior and young researchers and between science and politics; third, to act as a joint platform for discussion on these matters in general and particularly between the NRF and the UArctic; and final, to launch and run an international research project on the themes.

Global Change

- Develop and deliver new PhD training courses under the [NCM Top Level Research Initiative](#) project "People and ecosystems in a changing world" in 2010-2012. See information on the courses [here](#).
- Develop new PhD program on Health and Well-being in the Arctic jointly with Thematic Network on Health and Well-being in the Arctic with NCM Arctic co-operation program funding for 2012-14.
- Partner in NCM Arctic co-operation project "[Arctic virtual learning tools](#)" in 2009-2011. In the project new virtual classroom and UArctic Library will be developed and made available for all UArctic members. VLT is now up and running and can be found at www.vlt.is.
- Plan for future activities for the UArctic Thematic Network on Global Change in the Arctic including plans for future research needs and cooperation.

- Plan for northern research in relation to possible continuation of ACIA.

Health and well-being in the Arctic

- International Master's program in Health and wellbeing in Circumpolar Area is a joint program under the TN
- International PhD studies jointly and collaboration with other TNs and universities/programs/institutes/networks
- The focus areas at the moment are indigenous health and wellbeing (Sami, First Nations), environmental health, climate change and adaptation
- Exchange program is under the Master's program
- Collaboration with SDWG, AMAP and AHDR give a lot of possibilities in the further development of TN

Indigenous Arts and Crafts

- Curriculum development for net-based education
- Workshops both in artistic work and on discursive level
- Annual conferences
- Duodji gift project for UArctic 10 years celebrations

Local and Regional Development in the North

- Gargia Conference 2011
- Student and teacher exchange
- Course and study program development
- Further develop BCS Advanced emphasis
- Develop an international applied master in regional development in the North
- Regional research and development
- Stimulate joint research and development projects.

Managing Small and Medium Sized Enterprises in the North

- Conducting case studies including comparative case studies
- Organizing courses on case-writing, enabling faculty in the region to develop case-material from regional businesses
- Develop curriculum and educational material based on real business cases on SME's in the North.
- Organizing internship exchange between educational institutions and businesses in different countries

- Facilitating the development of contacts and collaboration between business- and management scholars from different countries in the North (e.g. through the dissemination of ongoing research and publications, workshops and faculty exchange).
- Disseminating findings to regional SME's through local workshops or meetings

Northern Food Security

- First Saskatchewan Food Summit, Saskatoon, March 2011
- Organization of the Inaugural Summit: Advancing the Food Security and Self-Sufficiency of Northern Communities (Sept. 2013)
- Research in areas of Plant Cold Hardiness, and Food Production in Northern Regions (e.g. vegetable and fruit production in hoop houses, solar greenhouses).
- Initiation of Joint Degrees in areas of Plant Cold Hardiness, and Northern Agriculture as it relates to Food Security in Northern Communities.

Northern Governance

- Arctic Governance – University of Lapland
- Northern Scandinavian Politics and Society-Bodø University College
- Master of Northern Governance and Development – ICNGD, USask. The International Centre for Northern Governance and Development will continue expanding and improving upon its signature program.
- Master of Northern and Indigenous Innovation – ICNGD and University of Tromsø.
- Integrated degree in Northern Governance and Development – ICNGD and Yukon College.

Northern Tourism

The network will work to address gaps in knowledge about northern tourism through comparative, circumpolar research that builds baseline data and profiles. As well, this work will seek to expand our understanding of issues with particular relevance for current challenges and future needs that contributes to the wider academic tourism literature. The network will use a variety of methods to disseminate knowledge, including conferences, publications, community meetings and study materials.

Social Work

- The Conference on Social Work in the High North in Reykjavik, Supporting Healthy Communities through Social Work / 16.08.2011
- Collaboration with the [SW-VirCamp project](#). The SW-VirCamp project was funded by the EACEA-LLP programme for 2 years and is since 2010 a Consortium of 7 Higher Education Institutions in Europe.

The Verdde Program

World Images of Indigenous Peoples of the North

The thematic network makes it possible to spread the results of the research among interested members of UArctic. Within the network it will be possible to conduct such research among peoples all over the Circumpolar North, which will contribute to develop mutual understanding among the Arctic nations and to intergate the scientific results into the Uarctic's educational process.

Services to Members

GoNorth

The GoNorth program, led by an office the University of Tromsø, continued to transition from efforts at direct student marketing towards services that would support the promotion, marketing and recruitment efforts of UArctic's member institutions. These activities include supporting and guiding the development of the UArctic Catalogue, developing workshops aimed at student recruitment and communications staff, and working towards the creation of an online resource portal where members can exchange experiences and best practices in the realm of student recruitment and institutional marketing.

In December 2011, GoNorth and UArctic Catalogue successfully had a joint project approved by the Norwegian Ministry of Northern Affairs, "Global Access to Higher Education in the North," which will provide funding to support the further development of the Catalogue as well as supporting the student recruitment and marketing efforts of our members.

Catalogue

The UArctic Catalogue completed the pilot phase of its redevelopment in 2011 and began the collection of northern-relevant course and programs from UArctic members. Additionally, the Catalogue developed cooperation with APECS on a joint Field School catalogue, and Graduate program catalogue.

The Catalogue has engaged in partnership with GoNorth program on Catalogue development, guidance and oversight to support services to members. The Catalogue is now fully integrated into the 'member profile' pages of UArctic members, displaying relevant courses and programs.

Institutes

UArctic Institute for Applied Circumpolar Policy is a cooperative effort between Dartmouth College and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The mission of the Institute is to advance the objectives of the UArctic Strategic Plan 2008-2013 by promoting discussion and analysis of critical issues facing the region and its people and to provide appropriate educational opportunities and policy-oriented advice as northern peoples face the challenges resultant from climate change.

UArctic EALÁT Institute is a virtual, federal institute established as a legacy of the International Polar Year (IPY), to maintain networks established in the circumpolar north during IPY and to increase the cooperation related to information exchange, research and education in the circumpolar reindeer husbandry in Eurasia.

The UArctic EALÁT Institute formally opened during the 5th Rectors' Forum, and was also active in piloting online courses in the Arctic Virtual Learning Tools project. UArctic EALÁT Institute was endorsed by the Board of UArctic and founded by Association of World Reindeer Herders (WRH), Sámi University College (SUC) and International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry (ICR). The first official institute meeting was held in Tromsø, January 26, 2011.

The **Northern Research Forum** (NRF) is an international forum that provides an international platform for an effective dialogue between members of the research community and a wide range of stakeholders including researchers, educators, politicians, business leaders, civil servants, community leaders, NGO representatives, and resource users and managers.

The 6th Open Assembly of the Northern Research Forum (NRF), entitled Our Ice Dependent World was held in Hveragerði, Iceland, 3rd - 6th of September 2011. The Open Assembly addressed the three "poles" – the Arctic, the Antarctic and the Himalayans – targeting policy-makers, the research community, business people, civil society and community leaders from these areas.