

Just a Few Short Days Until PLC 2008!

by Sandy Campbell, University of Alberta

Having dug out of a mid-April snowstorm, Edmonton is beginning to green-up for the June 2–6, 2008, Polar Libraries Colloquy. June is one of the best months to visit Edmonton. We still have some late spring flowers and it is usually not rainy.

The Program for the Colloquy is on the website at <http://www.library.ualberta.ca/ocs2/index.php/plc/PLC2008>. Click on "View Conference Details" and then click "Program" on the right. There may still be some changes as we work at gaining the best advantages from meeting jointly with University of the Arctic.

About 30 presentations are scheduled for our five days of meetings. In addition to a screening of the documentary, *Tar Sands*, with one of the producers present, we will have our old time dinner and dance

at the Oldtimer's Cabin, a visit to Fort Edmonton Park, and the silent and outcry auctions.

Please remember to bring goodies for the auctions. All proceeds go to the Wenger Fund, which supports individuals to attend the Colloquy.

Our first day and joint sessions with UArctic will be spent in The Timms Centre, with other sessions next door in the Telus Centre.

If you arrive on Sunday, you will be able to pick up your registration package at the Canadian Circumpolar Institute, third floor of Campus Towers, across the avenue from the Timms Centre.

We very much look forward to seeing you in June in Edmonton!

Who Is the 2008 Winner of the William Mills Prize for Nonfiction Polar Books?

This prize honors the best Arctic or Antarctic works of nonfiction published throughout the world. The author and publisher of the winning title receive certificates in the amount of \$100 US and the right to use the William Mills Prize logo when advertising the work.

The prize was established in memory of William Mills, consummate polar librarian and author, whose many contributions helped shape PLC and the world of polar information. This year's winner will be announced during the Colloquy.

A Photography Exhibit *Environmental Change in Arctic Canada: Ice Age to Present*

Photographs by Dr. John England and graduate students of the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Alberta

Foyer, Rutherford Library South
University of Alberta

The images in this exhibit exemplify the Canadian arctic landscape, its animals, and its researchers. At the forefront of research in the Polar Regions today are University of Alberta researchers, whose work continues much as it has since the first International Polar Year held 1882–1883.

This early example of peaceful international collaboration has continued to the present time, with 2007–2008 marking the fourth International Polar Year. These photographs are dedicated to those researchers who spend their summers camped in flapping tents while studying the Polar Regions.

PLC 2008 participants will visit this exhibit during the campus walking tour.

Alaska's Digital Archives

<http://vilda.alaska.edu>

Alaska's Digital Archives presents a wealth—more than 30,000 items and growing daily—of historical photographs, albums, oral histories, moving images, maps, documents, physical objects, and other materials from archives, museums, and cultural heritage institutions throughout the state. Partners are encouraged to select materials that exemplify the diversity of Alaska and their collections.

The project began a few years ago as a collaborative effort of three institutions: the Consortium Library at the University of Alaska Anchorage, Rasmuson Library at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and the Alaska State Library in Juneau. It has been funded through several congressional awards, along with contributions from the participating institutions and additional support from the Rasmuson Foundation, an Alaska philanthropic organization.

With collections representing thousands of primary Alaska source materials covering a broad range of topics, the project's goal is to support the instructional and research needs of Alaskans and others interested in Alaska history and culture.

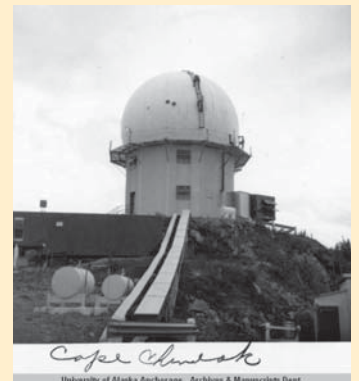
Response to Alaska's Digital Archives has been tremendous. Serving a worldwide audience, some participating institutions have reported significant increases in the use of their materials since joining the project. Users are nearly as diverse as the materials in the database; they range from students and teachers, to historians and scientists, genealogists and film producers.

Not only are researchers finding the materials useful, but many are also providing more information about individual items, allowing partners to describe their materials even more effectively.

All photographs reproduced here are courtesy of the Archives and Special Collections Department, University of Alaska Anchorage.

White Alice facility at Cape Chiniak, Kodiak Island, ca. 1950s.

The White Alice Communications System was a telecommunication link system constructed by the U.S. Air Force in the mid-fifties during the height of the Cold War. Numerous White Alice sites were installed throughout Alaska, carrying both military and civilian transmissions.



Cape Chiniak
University of Alaska Anchorage, Archives & Manuscript Dept.



University of Alaska Anchorage, Archives & Manuscript Dept.

Capt. Glenn and Capt. Culp, Prince William Sound, 1898.
Photograph taken at Portage Bay during the 1898 Edwin F. Glenn Cook Inlet U.S. Army Expedition.

See page 3



Six Women Posing, Southeast Alaska, ca. 1890–1910.



University of Alaska Anchorage. Archives & Manuscripts Dept.

Drying Salmon at Pawik (Naknek), 1919.

Photograph taken during the National Geographic Society expedition to the Katmai area, 1919.



University of Alaska Anchorage. Archives & Manuscripts Dept.

Where Does the North Begin, Where Does It End?

Nordicity, Borders and Territories
April 16–17, 2008

Conference Report by Sandy Campbell, University of Alberta

In mid-April, I had the opportunity to attend a unique northern conference called *Where Does the North Begin, Where Does It End? Nordicity, Borders and Territories*, held at the Sorbonne Nouvelle University, Paris.

Jointly organized by Chaire d'études du Québec contemporain at the Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Laboratoire Espaces, Nature et Culture (Centre national de la recherche scientifique, CNRS) and the International Laboratory for the Comparative Multidisciplinary Study of Representations of the North (Université du Québec à Montréal, UQAM), the conference brought together about 40 scholars from a variety of disciplines to consider the boundaries and borders of the north in geography, literature, culture, and discourse.

Delegates came from France, Canada, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland. Presentations and papers were in either French or English, with largest number presented in French.

Several of the papers addressed geographical or functional northern boundaries and borders. For example, Michel Letourneau spoke about the

geopolitics of Northern Quebec. Nicolas Baumert (Université Sorbonne Paris) drew attention to historical occupation lines and the northern extent of rice culture as boundaries for the “north” in Japan.

Much of the conference involved discussions of the imaginary north, the romantic north, and the literary north as they appear in written work. For example, Johan Schimanski and Ulrike Spring (University of Tromsø) spoke about narrative borders in the discourse surrounding the 1872–1874 Austro-Hungarian Arctic Expedition, while Florence Davaille (Université de Rouen) discussed the imaginary north in the poetry of Rina Lasnier. Ardis Magnúsdóttir (University of Iceland) described the north in contemporary Icelandic novels.

The conference also saw the launch of *Le(s) Nord(s) imaginaire(s)*, a volume of articles collected under the direction of Daniel Chartier (Université du Québec à Montréal and Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3). More information about this work can be found at <http://www.quebecsorbonnenuouvelle.org/2007-2008/Publications.html>.

While the conference had quite a narrow focus, the speakers interpreted the theme in an amazing variety of ways. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet scholars from many different northern sites, in the vibrant and inspiring environment of the Sorbonne and Paris.



New Release from Canadian Circumpolar Institute Press

(See special offer to POLLIB members below*)

Khuzhir-Nuge XIV, a Middle Holocene Hunter-Gatherer Cemetery on Lake Baikal, Siberia: Archaeological Materials.
Andrzej Weber, Olga I. Goriunova, and Hugh G. McKenzie, eds.

The fourth volume in the Baikal Archaeology Project's (BAP) Northern Hunter-Gatherers Series presents comprehensive archaeological data from fieldwork conducted by the project at the mortuary site Khuzhir-Nuge XIV (KN XIV) on Lake Baikal in Siberia.

BAP is a major collaborative research initiative of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, based at the University of Alberta and partnered with the University of Irkutsk. Its goal has been to identify and understand the processes associated with culture change and continuity among prehistoric boreal forest hunter-gatherers in Siberia's Baikal region.

Of the several gravesites dating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age located and excavated in the Little Sea region of the Lake Baikal coast, KN XIV is by far the largest. Six seasons of excavation at this mortuary site have produced a wealth of material on 79 graves, including the remains of 89 individuals.

Complementing an earlier companion volume on *Osteological Materials*, this fourth volume describes the excavated archaeological features and artifacts collected from the KN XIV graves, and includes several analytical papers on grave architecture and mortuary protocols.

Northern Hunter-Gatherers Research Series No. 4 (2008)

Retail: \$80

Companion Volume

Khuzhir-Nuge XIV, a Middle Holocene Hunter-Gatherer Cemetery on Lake Baikal, Siberia: Osteological Materials.
Andrzej Weber, M. Anne Katzenberg, and Olga I. Goriunova, eds.

The cemetery yields of the Bronze Age cemetery of KN XIV, particularly the archaeological and osteological materials, have been subjected to a number of analyses. This volume describes the entire human osteological collection acquired from the KN XIV graves, and provides a basis for all other studies that have been or will be carried out on this skeletal sample.

The volume focuses on three main aspects: the condition of the human remains, demographic profile and health indicators, and the effects of fire on human osteological remains.

Northern Hunter-Gatherers Research Series No. 3 (2007)

Retail: \$60

For a full description of the two volumes, see <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/polar/nav01.cfm?nav01=40630>.

*Special offer on the two-volume set if ordered direct from publisher. Buy the set for \$112, plus shipping / handling, postage. (Please quote "POLLIB-L 04-08 CCIP offer" on order.)

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In Memoriam

Submitted by Martha Andrews, former INSTAAR Librarian

Geza T. Thuronyi (1919–2007)

The world of polar and cold regions bibliography lost a giant with the death on December 31, 2007, of Geza Thuronyi, Head of the Cold Regions Bibliography Project at the Library of Congress from 1966 until his retirement in 1990. Mr. Thuronyi and his staff at the Library of Congress produced the *Antarctic Bibliography* and the *Bibliography on Cold Regions Science and Technology* with sponsorship from the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and the U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL).

Mr. Thuronyi was a visionary leader in the early computerization of bibliographic databases on cold regions information. He was a key presence at the 2nd Colloquy on Northern Library Resources held at CRREL in 1972, where he and his staff demonstrated their computerized preparation system for the printing of the *Bibliography on Cold Regions Science and Technology*.

Six years later, at the 7th Northern Libraries Colloquy, Nancy (Dumont) Liston, CRREL Librarian, demonstrated the online version of this bibliography. It was one of the first online, interactive bibliographic databases of cold regions publications searchable on a commercial system.

With ongoing support from CRREL and NSF, coverage of cold regions literature in *Antarctic Bibliography* and the *Bibliography on Cold Regions Science and Technology* continues to this day. They may be searched with the *Arctic and Antarctic Regions NISC* databases on the Web and on CD-ROM.

Colloquy members of a certain age will still remember Mr. Thuronyi as a highly cultured, very courtly gentleman who was a wonderful dancer.

A comprehensive obituary by Joe Holley was published in the *Washington Post* (Jan. 4, 2008, p. B07).

Albert Lincoln Washburn (1911–2007)

Albert Lincoln Washburn, a significant contributor to the world of arctic information, died in Seattle on January 30, 2007. Among Dr. Washburn's many academic and administrative accomplishments are several of relevance to the Polar Libraries Colloquy.

He was the first executive director of the Arctic Institute of North America from 1945 to 1950, and has been highly commended for his efforts in making the Institute the success it remains today.

Under his directorship, the journal, *Arctic*, was first published in 1948. Dr. Washburn also served as director of the U.S. Army Snow, Ice, and Permafrost Research Establishment, which later became the U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory.

Dr. Washburn was instrumental in establishing the Quaternary Research Center at the University of Washington, and he helped found the journal, *Quaternary Research*. He received many national and international honors for his valuable scientific contributions to the geology of the Arctic and for his outstanding service on numerous national and international committees.

In 1946, he proposed the creation of the *Arctic Bibliography* as a comprehensive source on the Arctic, with entries arranged by author, subject, and geographic region. It was initiated the following year under the editorship of Marie Tremaine.

The 16 published volumes, along with a previously unpublished volume 17, were recently digitized and are now available with the *Arctic and Antarctic Regions NISC* databases on the Web and on CD-ROM.

A comprehensive obituary by Carl Benson appeared in 2007 in *Arctic* 60(2): 219–224.



Announcing

North by Degree:

An International Conference on Arctic Exploration, 1850–1940
May 21–23, 2008, at
American Philosophical Society and The Academy of Natural Sciences
Philadelphia, PA

Arctic Exploration Film Festival
May 24, 2008, at
The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, PA

In May 2008, in conjunction with the International Polar Year (2007–2008), an interdisciplinary conference on North American arctic (and sub-arctic) exploration will be held in Philadelphia. This event is co-hosted by The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, the American Philosophical Society, Bowdoin College (Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum and Arctic Studies Center), and the Philadelphia Area Center for History of Science (PACHS).

Conference Sessions are built around the themes of:

- Nationalism, identity, and exploration of northern regions
- Consequences of culture contact between Inuit and Westerners, and issues of race and gender on expeditions
- Technological advancements and their impact on arctic exploration
- Increased understanding of the natural world
- Arctic exploration as reflected in popular culture

The Arctic Exploration Film Festival will present rare, historic motion picture film footage drawn from a number of film archives. It will feature arctic explorers in action, Inuit working with explorers and involved in various pursuits, arctic landscapes and wildlife, technological advancements in northern work, and sites and communities of significance to the history of arctic exploration. The organizers will offer brief commentaries, providing background information and context for watching the films, many of which are silent.

For more information, a complete schedule, and to register, go to <http://www.pachs.net/north>.

Greenland Operations: Part Two

In the *Bulletin's* Fall 2007 issue, we published a short account by David H. Stam about his June 2007 excursion to Greenland. Professor Stam had travelled there by invitation of the New York Air National Guard Wing 109 during a media week intended to demonstrate the Guard's services to the National Science Foundation and to polar research. He accompanied film crews from the *Voice of America* and *Dan Rather Reports*, as well as print journalists from New York's Albany area.

One member of this excursion, Tara Lynn, has graciously given the *Bulletin* permission to

reproduce some of the photographs she took during the trip. The photographs included here are from her online album, *Greenland 2007: In Which a Motley Crew of Media People and One Professor Take a Polar Expedition to the North Pole—Give or Take a Thousand Miles*. All captions are adapted from her album.

Also of interest is the segment from *Dan Rather Reports*. Entitled *A Trek to Greenland Where Scientists Report the Ice Is Melting Much More Rapidly than They Anticipated*, it's available online at <http://www.hd.net/drr233.html>.



Greenland Operations: Tara Lynn's Photographs



Tara Lynn and Michael flying cargo class to Greenland in the C-130.



Landing in Kangerlussuaq. Note the NSF banner under the wing.



David, put your hood on! It's 36 below!!!



Houses in Kangerlussuaq (they look like Legoland).



If you get caught between the North Pole and New York City.



The village of Ilulissat.



Russell Glacier, seen in the film *An Inconvenient Truth*.

Announcing The 16th Annual Arctic Conference

Barrow, Alaska
October, 2–4, 2008

The 16th Annual Arctic Conference will be held October 2–4, 2008, in Barrow, Alaska, the farthest north city in the U.S. Meetings will take place in Barrow's new science support facility, the Barrow Arctic Research Center. For more information about the Center, go to <http://www.arcticscience.org/newfac.php>.

The conference was timed to maximize the probability of coinciding with fall whaling. Tours of the 1881–1883 International Polar Year site, the Inupiat Heritage Center, and active climate change research sites will be available.

Adventurous participants may have the opportunity to snow-machine to Point Barrow, where the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas meet and where

the National Science Foundation has a large multi-year archaeological project underway.

For further information and to submit an abstract, please contact:

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Polar Libraries Bulletin
Spring 2008
Issue 60

Formerly entitled *Northern Libraries Bulletin*, this *Bulletin* reflects the name change of the Northern Libraries Colloquy to the Polar Libraries Colloquy, as approved at the June 1988 biennial meeting.

The *Bulletin* is published twice yearly in the Fall and Spring. Members of the Polar Libraries Colloquy receive the *Bulletin* as part of their membership. Personal dues are £20 or US \$35 for a two-year period. Institutional dues are the same. Please send dues to David Walton, Emeritus Fellow, Environment and Information Division, British Antarctic Survey, High Cross, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ET, United Kingdom.

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Please send submissions to Juli (anjb1@uaa.alaska.edu, phone 907-786-7666) or to Daria (afd@uaa.alaska.edu, phone 907-786-1869), both c/o UAA / APU Consortium Library, University of Alaska Anchorage, 3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508.

PLC Homepage: <http://arcticcentre.ulapland.fi/polarweb/plc/default.asp>
PLC Weblog: <http://www.plcblog.blogspot.com/>
Polar Web: <http://arcticcentre.ulapland.fi/polarweb/>



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