



## PLC 2008 in Edmonton a Huge Success!

by Joycelyn Jaca, Virginia Pow, Deborah Hicks, and Sandy Campbell, University of Alberta

By all accounts, the 22<sup>nd</sup> PLC in Edmonton was a huge success. Fifty-six registrants heard interesting papers, rode the steam train at Fort Edmonton Park, snapped up exotic goods at the silent and outcry auctions, and danced the night away at the Old Timer's Cabin.

This year's Colloquy was held in early June to coincide with the University of the Arctic (UARctic) Council Meeting. While the meetings took place in adjacent buildings, the coffee breaks and social events were held together to give all of the participants an opportunity to mingle and make new friends across the two organizations.

### Day 1

The Colloquy opened with brief greetings from the University of Alberta Libraries, the Canadian Circumpolar Institute, the School of Library and Information Studies, and representatives of national, provincial, regional, and local library associations.

Dr. Niobe Thompson, a documentary film maker and partner in Edmonton-based Clearwater Media, presented the first keynote. He opened his session with a collection of insightful comments on the topic "Life of an Arctic Filmmaker." Thompson went on to discuss how polar library collections (and librarians) could benefit from collaborations with film makers.

He then screened an episode from a documentary series he co-produced, *Medicine Men Go Wild*. The episode, *Healthiest Hearts*, features two medical doctors and identical twins who travel to eastern Siberia to find out why the Chukotka people, living on a subsistence diet almost entirely of sea mammals, have virtually no heart disease. The brilliant film examines the link between diet and health, and explores the culture and traditions of the Chukchi community. (See <http://medicinechest.info/episodes/3.>)

In the afternoon, Thompson changed topics with a screening and discussion of his documentary, *Tar Sands: Canada for Sale*. Thompson used an excellent analytical lens to delve into this highly controversial topic. His thought-provoking and balanced documentary captured the perspectives of the full spectrum of groups, people, corporations, and countries with vested interests in the tar sands and the shifting struggles involved in operating them. Both of his sessions were very well received and praised throughout the conference.

Later in the afternoon, David Jones (University of Alberta) gave an interesting overview of the antiquarian maps held at the William C. Wonders Map Collection, which was a primer for a visit to the collection as part of a tour of the University of Alberta campus. The tour included a visit to the exhibit, *Environmental Change in Arctic Canada: Ice Age to Present*, made up of field photographs taken by Dr. John England and graduate students working with the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. Roy Colthard, one of the graduate students, gave a spirited introduction to the exhibit.

The second William Mills Book Prize was awarded to *Encyclopedia of the Antarctic*, edited by Beau Riffenburgh and published by Routledge. An honourable mention was awarded to Ann Fienup-Riordan for *Yuungnaqpiallerput* /



David Walton and "Preston," the Mountie Bear.



*The Way We Genuinely Live: Masterworks of Yup'ik Science and Survival*, which was published by the University of Washington Press.

### Day 2

The morning began with the first joint meeting between PLC and UArctic. It included welcoming addresses from all levels of government, and the official opening of UArctic's 11th Council Meeting.

The group was entertained by Asani performing a unique rendition of the Canadian National Anthem and the song, *Me, You, Us, and the World*. Asani is a brilliant aboriginal trio made up of Debbie Houle, Sarah Pocklington, and Sherryl Sewepagaham. The vocal group, whose name means "rock" in Cree, was quite a hit with the conference attendees.

Next came a behind-the-scenes look at publishing by Larry Loyie and Constance Brissenden. Speaking alternately throughout their presentation, Loyie and Brissenden talked about the challenges facing aboriginal authors and small publishers in Canada. In particular, Brissenden stressed the importance of encouraging aboriginal authors to write their own stories.

PLC members reconvened next door, where, continuing the aboriginal theme, Lia Ruttan (Canadian Circumpolar Institute) spoke about traditional knowledge. Rae-Lynne Aramburo (Nunavut Arctic College Library) described key book publication efforts in Nunavut. She discussed characteristics common to the publishers and the importance of their publications, especially to local library users in the Polar Region. According to Aramburo, Nunavut publishers "provide the much needed Inuktitut resources, and they present information and stories from Inuit perspectives."

While PLC was engaged in the plenary session on aboriginal knowledge, UArctic was honouring its most recent graduates. The nine students—one from University of Northern British Columbia and eight from Northlands College / University of Saskatchewan—walked across the stage to receive a graduation scroll and a rose.

The eight students from Saskatchewan, seven of whom were of aboriginal descent, represented three "firsts" as they graduated. They are the first cohort to complete their degrees through distance education in their home communities of northern Saskatchewan; the first to complete the new degree of Bachelor of Arts in Northern Studies from the University of Saskatchewan; and the first Canadian UArctic graduating class. PLC members

were invited to the lunch that was held in honour of the students that day.

On Tuesday afternoon, Sharon Tahirkheli (American Geophysical Institute) led us through a discussion of whether the Cold Regions Bibliography project is needed. Most of the group recognized the value of having geographically specific information tools.

Arto Vitikka (University of Lapland) followed with a discussion about the successes and challenges of information and data management in the Barents Region. He proposed using emerging web technologies to improve on the many information management successes that the Barents region has already enjoyed.

Lynn Lay and Heather Lane both spoke about image collection projects. The Byrd Polar Research Center and Ohio State University are at the stage of documentation and identifying images. The Scott Polar Institute, home to large image collections, is working on the Freeze Frame Project, in which 20,000 images will be digitized and a series of interpretive webpages will be created to support education and research activities.

The day ended with National Caucus meetings, where librarians and UArctic delegates from each country met together to focus on national issues. After the Caucus meetings, many participants visited the exhibit, *A Most Dangerous Voyage*, at the Bruce Peel Special Collections Library. A copy of the exhibition catalogue was included in the conference packets.

Canada's three Territorial colleges—Aurora College, Nunavut Arctic College, and Yukon College—sponsored the evening's ice-breaker, during which participants nibbled on bannock with cranberries, glazed musk-ox tenderloin, caribou meatballs, and Arctic char nicoise.

### Day 3

Wednesday morning was dedicated to the International Polar Year (IPY). The day opened with another joint UArctic / PLC session in which the group heard from Dave Carlson, the head of the IPY International Office, and David Hik, the Canadian IPY secretary. Elena Sparrow, director of the UArctic / IPY Coordination Office, spoke about education and outreach.

Scott Forrest, project manager with the UArctic International Secretariat, rounded out the panel with a discussion of the UArctic Atlas project. UArctic itself is an IPY project.



PLC and UArctic then reconvened separately for their own IPY discussions. The PLC session, chaired by Julia Triplehorn (Geophysical Institute), first discussed the IPY Publications Database and then moved on to “The Coolest Panel Session,” in which we heard about IPY initiatives at the National Science Foundation (Susan Olmstead) and NOAA (Anna Fiolek), in Norway (Berit Jakobsen), and in Antarctica (Marianne Douglas).

Wednesday afternoon’s treat was a field trip dedicated to Alberta’s history. Participants of both PLC and UArctic toured Fort Edmonton Park. At the 1846 replica fort, they learned about life in the fort and conversed with interpreters who represented Hudsons’ Bay Company employees of that time.

On ‘1885 Street,’ participants encountered uniformed Northwest Mounted Police Officers as well as the original *Edmonton Bulletin* office, and some made memorable stops at Lauder’s Bakery. On ‘1905 Street,’ participants encountered homesteaders camped in tents where they lived prior to moving out to homesteads on the prairies. Conference attendees rode on the trolley which served the burgeoning City of Edmonton at the time and marveled at the ‘modern’ fire department. On ‘1920 Street,’ ice cream from Bill’s Confectionery was the hit of the hot afternoon.

The evening was dedicated to a country dinner and dance at the Old Timer’s Cabin. Everyone had great fun dancing the Broom Dance and the Red River Reel.

#### Day 4

On Thursday, we returned to the serious business of polar information. Bjorn Olav Skancke (University of Tromso) presented the NAROS project, which is designed to create a portal for open-access scholarly documents from Northern Areas. The group encouraged him to rename it PAROS and to include documents from both poles.

Sandy Campbell (University of Alberta) discussed the geographic limits of “The North” as it applies to the Circumpolar Collection.

The next session was dedicated to discussions of the future of polar libraries. Peter Geller and Stan Gardner (University College of the North) described initiatives to build a new regional library system in Northern Manitoba. David Walton (British Antarctic Survey) chaired a session in which librarians from Australia, the United Kingdom, Canada, Denmark, and USA pondered the potential impact of new technologies on polar libraries.

Thursday afternoon began with a panel of UArctic instructors discussing the information needs of their students. Katie Dana (USA) and Amanda Graham (Canada) spoke eloquently about the gaps in information access faced by their students. Dana presented a proposal for a UArctic Library. The group was joined by an instructor from Pomor State University in Archangel, Russia, who spoke about the information challenges facing Russian students.



*Delegates check out early conference accomoation at Fort Edmonton*  
*(Photo by S. Campbell)*



A session on periodicals rounded out Thursday afternoon. Sharon Rankin (McGill University) presented her work on a web bibliography for Canadian Inuit Periodicals. Phil Cronenwett (USA) examined the pricing of polar periodicals and the increasing value of rare polar materials.

Day 5

Friday opened with a fascinating session by Steve Schafer (Athabasca University) and John Gilbert (Canada), who gave an overview of the archival and historical information about the Joint Arctic Weather Stations in the Canadian and American North.

Shelly Sommer (INSTAAR) shared her ambitious and low-budget outreach activities designed to bring more users into her library.

Two excellent—and diverse—plenary sessions concerned Antarctic issues and the media in relation to polar topics. In the first session, David Walton presented his continuing research analyzing 50 years of science publication by the British Antarctic Survey. He demonstrated how publication rates, journal choice, and general science trends can be linked to changing movements in the non-scientific world. David John Hyett followed, discussing the British Antarctic Survey's participation in the NORA project (NERC [Natural Environment Research Council] Open Research Archive).

In the second session, Lindsay Johnston (University of Alberta) gave a presentation about her involvement in a team that examined English-language media coverage of the U.S. government's decision to place polar bears on the threatened species list. Johnston discussed her role as a librarian in this interdisciplinary research team and the research findings to date.

Mary Katherine Jones (University of Tromso) followed with a study of the international media coverage of Russia's recent flag planting on the seabed at the North Pole. She focused on how different media publications from four countries (Canada, Denmark, Norway, and the U.S.) presented the story.

During the final session, David Walton reviewed the 2008 Colloquy. Marcel Brannemann presented Bremerhaven, Germany, as the site of the 2010 Colloquy. Heather Lane, incoming PLC Chair, formally closed the 22<sup>nd</sup> PLC.

That evening, the group gathered for a final meal together at the Snow Valley Ski Club. Martha Andrews toasted the founders of PLC, and David Walton ably auctioned the beautiful items reserved for the outcry auction. See page 1 for a photo of David and "Preston," the Mountie bear.

As organizers and volunteers of the 22<sup>nd</sup> PLC, we are pleased that evaluations of the Colloquy and ongoing messages from attendees tell us that everyone had a good time and enjoyed both each other's company and Edmonton.

We would once more like to recognize and thank Elaine Maloney and Cindy Mason of the Canadian Circumpolar Institute for all of their hard work in organizing the combined meeting.

We would also like to recognize and thank Marianne Douglas, director of the Canadian Circumpolar Institute, for her support of the event and her ongoing support of polar libraries and polar education. We very much look forward to 2010 in Bremerhaven.



*Polar Libraries Colloquy 2008, Edmonton, Alberta.*



## PLC Edmonton: A Message from the Past Chair

by Julia Triplehorn, Keith B. Mather Library, Geophysical Institute, Fairbanks, Alaska

The Polar Libraries Colloquy in Edmonton was a great joint meeting with UArctic. Sandy Campbell and her staff wonderfully coordinated a spectacular program, for which Edmonton and the University of Alberta provided a lovely venue. Accommodations were close to both the convention center and terrific restaurants. The fieldtrips gave us a chance to see the area and network with our new colloquy friends. We all enjoyed the historical Fort Edmonton Park and a glimpse into the life of the early settlers. For me, the Tyrrell Museum was a special day—networking with friends and seeing the dinosaurs.

There were lots of memorable sessions. The movies at the opening session—*Life of an Arctic Filmmaker* and *Tar Sands: Canada for Sale*—left a real impression with all of us. Vivid images come to mind just thinking about these two films.

A number of new polar databases were brought to the attention of the group, and you will want to read about them in the proceedings. These included the Joint Arctic Weather Stations (JAWS), Caninuit for Canadian Inuit periodicals, Northern Areas Open Scholarly Documents (NAROS), the International Polar Year Publications Database (IPYPD), the Canadian IPY Publications Database (CIPYPD).

Also included were the Bibliography on Cold Regions Science and Technology, the Antarctic Bibliography, the Byrd Polar Archival Project, Arctic Centre's Arctic and Barents region portal, the Directory of Open

Access Repositories (Open DOAR), and the Scott Polar Research Institute's Freeze Frame Project.

The International Polar Year (2007–08) was celebrated with a variety of programs on history, legacy, education and outreach, and the activities of various countries, as well as by a progress report on the IPY Publications Database. As librarians, we should stay alert for publications to include in this database. Notify Sharon Tahirkheli ([snt@agiweb.org](mailto:snt@agiweb.org)) at the American Geological Institute if you have additions.

Recipient of the 2008 William Mills Prize was the *Encyclopedia of the Antarctic* by Beau Riffenburgh (New York, Routledge, 2007). Honorary Mention went to *Yuungnaqpiallerput / The Way We Genuinely Live: Masterworks of Yupik Science and Survival* by Ann Fienup-Riordan (Seattle, University of Washington Press, 2007). Congratulations to the winners! And many thanks to the committee and its chair, Jude Baldwin with Alaska's Fairbanks North Star Borough Public Libraries.

PLC 2008 greeted a number of new and enthusiastic participants. Their fresh ideas and concerns are most welcome and will help provide a bright future for the organization. Heather Lane from the Scott Polar Research Institute is PLC's new chair, and I am sure she will welcome suggestions for the next meeting.

Do circle your calendars to attend PLC 2010, which will be hosted by the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research in Bremerhaven, Germany. Marcel Brannemann showed pictures of the area, and it promises to be a another great meeting.

## The Legal Status of the Colloquy

by David Walton, PLC Treasurer

After further enquiry and discussion, the Steering Committee has decided that the costs of seeking charitable status in either the UK or the USA are too high. Not only would the registration and legal costs be considerable but the annual costs for audit and returns would be a constant drain on our funds.

The present situation in the UK is that, in legal terms, the PLC is a "members club." As such it is liable for tax on interest that it gains from its investments or savings but not on the membership subscriptions. The current capital of the PLC is held in an account on which no interest is payable so the question of tax does not arise.



You may not think our meetings are dangerous but accidents can happen! As a private club we need to be certain that our events are adequately insured for any third-party claims and for those from members themselves. In the past this has been assumed to have been done by the insurance of the venues hosting the biennial meetings, but this is not sufficient. The Steering Committee will need to be certain there is adequate insurance coverage at future meetings.

To be quite certain that there are no other legal questions on our status or operations, the current constitution and bylaws will be examined before the next PLC, and any necessary changes will be proposed at the next Colloquy's general meeting.

## A Few Impressions of the 22nd Polar Libraries Colloquy

**Lynn Lay**, Goldthwait Polar Library, Byrd Polar Research Center, The Ohio State University, writes:

I missed the Colloquy in Rome, so I was looking forward to going to Edmonton. I was not disappointed. The Colloquies always have an informal and friendly air about them and this one was no exception, making it easy to converse with colleagues and meet new people. Some people I hadn't seen for a long time, so it was good to chat and compare stories.

Since I work in a one-person library, albeit at a big university, I sometimes feel that our library exists in a vacuum, but at Edmonton I realized I have a great deal in common with most of the polar librarians, even though some of them have much bigger budgets and, of course, more staff. We share common goals and aspirations for our libraries, and we share some of the problems of too much information to manage and too little time to get all the things we have on our to-do lists accomplished.

I thoroughly enjoyed the presentations and was especially pleased to see that even though things are going "hi-tech" at a rapid speed, we are using these new technologies for the benefit of our patrons and to improve access to our amazing collections.

The Colloquy was a fantastic way for me to catch up on these new and exciting initiatives and see what others are doing to keep pace with all the new demands. Many thanks go to Sandy and her colleagues from the Circumpolar Institute for a wonderful Colloquy!

**Daria O. Carle**, UAA / APU Consortium Library, University of Alaska Anchorage, writes:

My favorite part of Colloquy is getting together with colleagues old and new. With such a small group, and a longer conference than most, there are many opportunities to network, interact, and enjoy conversations at the meetings and over dinner (where PLC-ers ended up as regulars at the local Italian restaurant. Some of us dined there four times!). We all learned some Canadian history at the Fort, some cultural history at the Royal Museum, and even more evolutionary history on the field trip to the Tyrell Museum in Drumheller.

Having a joint meeting with the University of the Arctic added an interesting flavor, as it offered even more opportunities to meet new people. The film sessions on opening day were thought-provoking and provided food for much discussion over the week. And as always, the PLC sessions were both stimulating and practical. Many thanks to Sandy and all the folks at the Canadian Circumpolar Institute and everyone at the University of Alberta for their hard work hosting such a great conference.

**Andie Smithies**, Librarian, Australian Antarctic Division, Tasmania, writes:

After attending my first PLC in Rome in 2006, I commented that I had never previously been to a conference that was so relevant to my everyday work. Well, PLC Edmonton carried on from where Rome left off, providing an enriching experience on many levels.



The Colloquy program was varied and well balanced and provided me with invaluable information in many of my areas of current interest—IPY, open access repositories, managing image and archival collections, some crystal ball gazing, and much, much more. Inclusion of Niobe Thompson, arctic filmmaker, was inspired and to have the opportunity to view his documentary work was a real treat. The presentation by Larry Loyie, Cree author, was also a special and totally unexpected experience.

As in Rome, the leisurely pace of the Colloquy was most conducive to excellent networking. The excursion to Fort Edmonton was fun and the authentic arctic cuisine served at the 'Icebreaker' function was particularly memorable. The two dinners were really enjoyable and it was great to see everyone entering into the spirit of things on both occasions.

All in all, a top Colloquy and congratulations to Sandy and her team. I can't wait for Bremerhaven in 2010!

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**Arto Vitikka**, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finland, writes:

Coming to the 22<sup>nd</sup> PLC was my first time visiting North America, so I was very curious to see what one part of that vast continent would look like. Here are my impressions about both the Colloquy and my experiences with Canada and Edmonton especially.

Let me start with the Colloquy. This was my third time to take part in the meeting and—now that everything was not so new to me and I was beginning to know some of the people—it was possible to take things a little bit relaxed and enjoy the warm and laidback spirit of the meeting. People there are very friendly and it's easy to start talking with them. One thing I like especially about Colloquy is that there is no dress code. I like traveling with little luggage, and it's great that you don't have to carry extra clothes for dinner or opening sessions.

As usual for the Colloquy, this year's program was very good and we heard a lot of good and interesting presentations. The keynote lectures were impressive. Hearing Niobe Thompson talk about his documentaries was exciting; it was like being at a film festival. I really learned a lot about Canada in a short time from his *Tar Sands* documentary and the ensuing conversation. And hearing Larry Loyie talk about his craving to be a writer and finally fulfilling his lifetime dream was touching.

Holding the Colloquy together with the UArctic meeting was a successful ideal in my mind. Historically and traditionally university and library are one entity, and I think that this should be the case with the UArctic and PLC: we need to know about each other and try to find ways to also work together. Besides, UArctic people are also very good company—between the time when they are not making speeches and clapping hands.



*Wrong Way Edmonton. (Photo by A. Vitikka)*



Now some short notes on my first experiences from Canada: it's big! Coming from a small country and from a small town where I can bicycle to work in five minutes and walk through downtown in 15 minutes, Edmonton and Canada are in a different league. After walking about an hour along one street I felt I was still in the same place that I had started, surrounded by the same houses and same streets. But I liked the small roads with their houses and beautiful trees.

As we Finnish are not famous for our small talk, the friendliness of the people in the shops and bars (cafes) surprised me at first. Questions like "How are you today?" when I entered a shop were strange to begin with but after a while started to feel very nice. It felt good to have strangers walking by on the streets smiling at me and saying "Good day." Although I must add that once in a small shop where there were four people working and exchanging complements—with all four of them in two minutes it was too much for me and I had to escape the shop. But now, being back in Finland, I kind of miss this habit.

One funny detail I noticed about Canadians is that many of them carry water bottles with them. Maybe

drinking water is a cool thing there and people are afraid of dehydrating. I found it really funny that when I ordered a beer and a double espresso at the Sugerbowl, the waitress expressed her concern that I would be dehydrated. So to calm her down I asked for a glass of water.

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*David Hyett, British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge, writes:*

PLC 2008 was my first Colloquy. I was impressed by the broad range of interesting topics covered, the enthusiasm of all the attendees, and the fact that I was made so welcome.

All the sessions were useful—of particular note were the IPY and Future of Polar Libraries sessions, and I'm currently following up some IPY actions. Edmonton was a great venue—highlights were the trip to Fort Edmonton Park and the visit to the Royal Tyrrell Museum in Drumheller after the conference.

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## 2010 Colloquy Will Be Held in Bremerhaven, Germany

The 23rd Polar Libraries Colloquy will be hosted by the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven, in 2010. Marcel Brannemann is coordinating details for the conference and can be emailed at [mbrannemann@awi-bremerhaven.de](mailto:mbrannemann@awi-bremerhaven.de). If you would like a preview of Bremerhaven, go to [http://www.bremerhaven-touristik.de/bremerhaven-tourism/index\\_eng.html](http://www.bremerhaven-touristik.de/bremerhaven-tourism/index_eng.html)



*The 'Havenwelten' Bremerhaven—Vision of the 'Museum Mile,' 2009. (Photo from BIS Touristik Bremerhaven, Germany)*





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## Winner of the 2008 William Mills Prize

by **Jude Baldwin**, Fairbanks North Star Borough Public Libraries, Fairbanks, Alaska

The award committee for the William Mills Prize for Non-Fiction Books is pleased to announce that *Encyclopedia of the Antarctic* edited by Beau Riffenburgh (NY, London: Routledge, 2007) was selected as the winner of the 2008 prize. An Honorary Mention was awarded to Ann Fienup-Riordan for her book *Yuungnaqpiallerput / The Way We Genuinely Live: Masterworks of Yup'ik Science and Survival*. The honors were announced by committee members Gloria Hicks and Sharon Rankin at an awards ceremony on Monday June 2, 2008, in Edmonton, Alberta, at the biennial Colloquy.

In his introduction to *Encyclopedia of the Antarctic*, Dr. Riffenburgh states that the goal of the two-volume encyclopedia was to “produce a comprehensive, multivolume work that would cover the entire scope of Antarctic knowledge.” To meet that goal, Antarctica is approached from many different angles, with entries covering topics such as Antarctic history, exploration, treaties, culture, scientific research, biology, geology, oceanography, climatology, and other scientific disciplines. Also included are more recent issues such as human impact, eco-tourism, politics, and research being conducted at various Antarctic field stations. This expansive coverage was made possible by the 319 specialists who were invited to contribute articles in their areas of expertise.

Topics are covered in 495 articles, each ranging from approximately 500 to 6,000 words in length. Each volume begins with an alphabetical listing of the entries for the entire set, from “Adaptation and Evolution” to “Zooplankton and Krill,” followed by a thematic list of entries with headings such as Birds, Conservation and Human Impact, and Solar-Terrestrial Physics and Astronomy. Individual articles are concluded by a list of suggested further readings and tempting cross-references to related entries. A detailed index of the set is located in the back of each of the volumes.

Other features include the complete text of the Antarctic Treaty, text of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, a chronology of Antarctic exploration, and a list of scientific research

stations as well as a variety of maps, photos, and other illustrations.

This year’s award winner is a nice complement to *Encyclopedia of the Arctic*, edited by Mark Nuttall, which won the William Mills Prize in 2006. As one selection committee member commented: “The *Encyclopedia [of the Antarctic]* was an enormous undertaking, corralling so many scholars and asking them to write concisely about myriad subjects. I know what a job that was for the editors. Beyond the mechanics, the *Encyclopedias—Arctic and Antarctica*—are a fundamental resource for polar inquiry and should be widely used.”

*Encyclopedia of the Antarctic* editor Dr. Beau Riffenburgh is an associate with the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge, England, where he previously served for 14 years as editor of the journal *Polar Record*.

Choosing only one title for the William Mills Prize was a difficult decision this year, and the committee felt strongly about finding a way to recognize another outstanding title: *Yuungnaqpiallerput / The Way We Genuinely Live*, by Ann Fienup-Riordan, research associate with the Smithsonian Institute’s Arctic Studies Center in Anchorage, Alaska.

*Yuungnaqpiallerput* presents Yup’ik Elders’ stories, observations, and cultural traditions about, as well as the scientific principles behind, the tools that the Yup’ik people have developed to successfully and respectfully live in the harsh environment of southwest Alaska. Committee members particularly liked the book for “the nice interplay among archival materials, museum artifacts, and personal knowledge illustrating science in the daily lives of Yup’ik people.”

The richly illustrated book was published as a companion to a museum exhibit of the same name, curated by Fienup-Riordan. Both were collaborative projects between Fienup-Riordan, the Anchorage Museum, the Calista Elders Council, and numerous Yup’ik Elders.

The other wonderful titles nominated for the 2008 award were (alphabetically by author): *Names & Nunavut: Culture and Identity in the Inuit Homeland*



by Valerie Alia; *Antarctic Fishes* by Mitsuo Fukuchi and Harvey J. Marchant; *A Most Dangerous Voyage: An Exhibition of Books and Maps Documenting Four Centuries of Exploration in Search of a Northwest Passage* by Jeannine M. Green and Robert J. Desmarais; *The Polar World: The Unique Vision of Sir Wally Herbert* by Sir Wally Herbert; *Resilience: Overcoming Challenges and Moving On Positively* by Marja Korhonen; *The Opening of a New Landscape: Columbia Glacier at Mid-retreat* by W. Tad Pfeffer; *Arctic Spectacles: The Frozen North in Visual Culture, 1818–1875* by Russell Potter; *Among the Inuit* by Robert Semeniuk; *Khuzhir-Nuge XIV, a Middle Holocene Hunter-Gatherer Cemetery on Lake Baikal, Siberia: Volume 1: Osteological Materials* and companion *Volume 2: Archaeological Materials* edited by Andrzej Weber, M. Anne Katzenberg, and Olga I. Goriunova. Many thanks to everyone.

This year's six members of the William Mills Prize Selection Committee were (in alphabetical order): Jude Baldwin (Fairbanks North Star Borough Libraries, Alaska), Clare Flemming (American Museum of Natural History and Pratt Institute), Gloria Hicks (National Snow & Ice Data Center / University of Colorado at Boulder), Ron Inouye (University of Alaska Fairbanks, retired), Milbry Polk (Wings WorldQuest / Explorers Journal), and Sharon Rankin (McLennan Library / McGill University, Montreal).

For more complete information about the award, please visit the Polar Libraries Colloquy website at: <http://arcticcentre.ulapland.fi/polarweb/plc/mills.asp>.

## Please Assist! Archives of the Polar Libraries Colloquy

by *Julia Triplehorn, Geophysical Institute, Fairbanks, Alaska*

After checking the PLC Archives, I realize there are some gaps in the collection. If you have any items or pictures from the meetings listed below, please send them to me. I will coordinate and deposit the material in your name at the Rasmuson Library archives here at the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus. It is important to archive a complete organizational record for PLC— someone might want to write a history of it one day.

### Northern Libraries Colloquy

Have reels only:

- 1<sup>st</sup> 1971 – Edmonton, Canada
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 1972 – Hanover, USA
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 1973 – Cambridge, England
- 4<sup>th</sup> 1974 – Montreal, Canada

No archival files:

- 7<sup>th</sup> 1978 – Paris, France
- 8<sup>th</sup> 1980 – Edmonton, Canada
- 9<sup>th</sup> 1982 – Tromso, Norway

Please check your personal papers and see if you can help fill in the missing items.

Send archival material to Julia Triplehorn, Keith B. Mather Library, Geophysical Institute, 903 Koyukuk, Fairbanks, AK 99775. Thank you.

### Polar Libraries Colloquy

No archival files:

- 17<sup>th</sup> 1998 – Reykjavik, Iceland
- 18<sup>th</sup> 2000 – Winnipeg, Canada
- 20<sup>th</sup> 2004 – Ottawa, Canada
- 21<sup>st</sup> 2006 – Rome, Italy



## IPY Publications Database

by **Ross Goodwin**, Arctic Institute of North America, University of Calgary; **Sharon Tahirkheli**, American Geological Institute; **Heather Lane**, Scott Polar Research Institute (SPRI) Library, University of Cambridge; and **Ruth Duerr and Allaina Wallace**, National Snow and Ice Data Center, University of Colorado, Boulder

As of August 2008, the International Polar Year Publications Database (IPYPD) described 707 publications. The database is freely available online at <http://www.nisc.com/ipy>.

As discussed at this year's Colloquy in June, IPYPD is attempting to identify and describe all publications resulting from, or about, the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007–2008 and the three previous IPYs. Publications containing the research results of IPY 2007–2008 will not be available in large numbers until 2009. Much of our work is currently focused on the publications of the three previous IPYs.

The records in IPYPD contain citations, abstracts, subject and geographic indexing terms, and, in most cases, links to the online full text of the publications. The success of IPYPD, which is part of the IPY Data and Information Service, depends on the willingness of IPY researchers, educators, and communicators to report their publications, as required by the IPY Scholarly Publication Policy and the IPY Data Policy.

IPYPD was created by the Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS) at the Arctic Institute of North America at the University of Calgary; the Cold Regions Bibliography Project (CRBP) at the American Geological Institute; the Scott Polar Research Institute (SPRI) Library at the University of Cambridge; the Discovery and Access of Historic Literature of the IPYs (DAHLI) project at the National Snow and Ice Data Center at the University of Colorado; and the National Information Services Corporation (NISC).

Any library contributing records to NISC's *Arctic & Antarctic Regions database* can help build IPYPD. To learn how, see the link to "Contributing Records" on the IPYPD "About" page. Colloquy members who don't contribute directly to NISC can report publications about IPY 2007–2008 to ASTIS, CRBP, or SPRI as described on the "Reporting Your Publications" page of the IPYPD website. You can report publications about the three previous IPYs to DAHLI at <http://nsidc.org/dahli/contact.html>.

To make IPYPD available to your library users, and to remind IPY researchers to contribute their publications, please put a link to IPYPD on your library's website. Thank you.

## Editor's Note

The spring issue will contain the business meeting minutes for this past Colloquy and a note from the new chair, as well as articles from the two winners of the Hubert Wenger Award. If anyone has photographs from PLC 2008 they would like to share, please send them to the editors.

The spring issue will also include articles about digitizing projects. Thanks very much to everyone who has so kindly sent material for the *Bulletin*. As always, suggestions, announcements, and ideas for future issues are welcome.



## So What Did PLC 2008 Participants Really Think?

Many thanks go to PLC Secretary Sandy Campbell for preparing a terrific analysis and summary of the evaluation questionnaires that were completed by Colloquy participants. If you are interested in the full report, send a request to [sandy.campbell@ualberta.ca](mailto:sandy.campbell@ualberta.ca). The complete document was sent out on the Pollib listserv and has been deposited with the PLC Archives. Some highlights of the findings follow.

### **Evaluation analysis**

Thirty-two of 56 registrants (57 percent) returned the questionnaire. Of these, only 9 (28 percent) were first timers. Obviously, the Colloquy largely serves its membership. Registrations are augmented by librarians from the vicinity, who have the opportunity to attend because the conference is local. Advertising of the event should probably be targeted to members and library staff in the area where the Colloquy is held.

### **Will they attend again?**

Of the respondents, 53 percent plan to attend the next PLC and 25 percent do not know. Many indicated that they would like to, but are limited in some way, usually because they lack travel funds.

### **What do they look for when deciding to attend?**

Attendees are looking for an interesting program and location, and opportunities to present, network, and see old friends. This would indicate that the program should be established earlier rather than later. However, it was the case in both Rome and Edmonton that not enough papers were submitted by the initial deadline.

### **What did they like?**

Attendees cited virtually all parts of the Colloquy as the “best” part. The program, specific papers, keynotes, films, excursions, cooperative and collegial membership, networking, and meeting with UArctic were all mentioned as being enjoyed.

### **What did they dislike?**

Attendees expressed a desire for more time at the end of presentations for questions, more discussion-based activities (panels, breakout sessions, workshops), and more time for informal discussions (longer coffee breaks, more free time).

### **What would they like to see covered in future Colloquies?**

The many suggestions generally clustered around various web-based services, such as open access and the semantic web.

### **What advice do they have for future Colloquy organizers?**

Attendees would like to see shorter papers and more discussion. They want costs to be kept low. They value the extra-curricular activities—excursions, films, etc. They want to be able to register online.



## Maps, Myths, and Narratives: Cartography of the Far North, July 12–17, 2009

The conference organizers, in particular the Royal Danish Library and Imago Mundi Ltd, are delighted to invite you to the 23rd International Conference on the History of Cartography (ICHC 2009).

ICHC is dedicated to advancing the knowledge of the history of maps and mapmaking, regardless of geographical region, language, period, or topic. The conference promotes global cooperation and collaboration among cartographic scholars from any academic discipline, as well as curators, collectors, dealers, and institutions through illustrated lectures, presentations, exhibitions, and a social program. Sponsored by leading educational and cultural institutions biennially since 1964, ICHC 2009 will be held in Denmark.

Two optional pre-conference meetings have been scheduled. These are the biennial meeting of the International Society of Curators of Early Maps and a session organized by the International Cartographic Association. For more information, please visit [www.ichc2009.dk/index.html](http://www.ichc2009.dk/index.html).

## New Face at the Canadian Circumpolar Collection

Joy Jaca, whom many of you will remember as one of the volunteers at the 2008 Colloquy, has joined the Science & Technology Library of the University of Alberta as a public service librarian for a one-year position. She has taken up the collection and instruction responsibilities associated with the Canadian Circumpolar Collection, and we are very glad to have her join us!

Joy has been a part of the University of Alberta's academic librarian internship program for almost two years. Before arriving, she spent 11 years working in libraries, including seven years with responsibility for the Reference and Serials Section of the University of the Philippines College of the Sciences Library. Contact Joy at [jjaca@library.ualberta.ca](mailto:jjaca@library.ualberta.ca) or by phone at 780-492-6653.



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