**SouthPole-sium v.2**

1–4 May 2015, Craobh Haven, Argyll, Scotland

by Robert Stephenson
Coordinator, The Antarctic Circle, Jaffrey, New Hampshire, USA

Nearly 70 Antarcticans traveled to Craobh Haven, Argyll, Scotland, to attend the second SouthPole-sium over the May 2015 Bank Holiday weekend. The venue was Lunga House, a fine old rambling place with lots of charm. Attendees came from Australia, Canada, the US, France, Ireland, and the UK. The SouthPole-sium—the first held in 2012 in Jaffrey, New Hampshire—is aimed at those who “collect, write, publish, buy, sell, and love books relating to Antarctica and the South Polar Regions.”

There was a Friday night reception complete with a piper, a banquet on Saturday night with music, an auction, contests, tributes and many toasts, and two and a half days of informal presentations on a wide variety of subjects.

![A great time was had by all! (Photographs courtesy of Cathy Cooper)](image)

Participants received a personalized penguin placard with their name on it as well as several specially prepared keepsakes; and like every good conference, beer, wine, and m&ms were freely available much of the time. At the conclusion, two groups went to Dundee to enjoy consecutive nights dining in the wardroom aboard Scott’s RRS Discovery. The successful gathering generated some talk about perhaps doing a version 3 in Oslo in two or three years.

Click here to see numerous photographs of the gathering. For full information on who attended, descriptions of the various talks, the schedule, and much more, click here.
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami Launches Digital Library Collection of Early Learning Materials

by Helen Halbert, Inuit Qaujisarvingat, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada and Anna Claire Ryan, Dept. of Health & Social Development, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

On 2 September 2015, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, the national voice of Inuit in Canada, successfully launched Katiqsugat: Inuit Early Learning Resources, an online resource designed primarily for parents, educators, service providers, and other childcare centre staff. Katiqsugat (Inuktitut for the word collection) is a multilingual digital library that aims to provide access to a diversity of Inuit-specific educational materials, from teaching tools and policy manuals to activity ideas and original research on Inuit early childhood development.

The idea to create a library collection to support Inuit educators was first developed by the Inuit Early Childhood Development Working Group, a subcommittee of the National Inuit Committee on Health. The Working Group identified the need for a central repository for materials that contribute to high-quality, culturally relevant Inuit early learning. Early years are critical to a child’s development; however, Inuit early childhood education faces many challenges, from the absence of a standardized Inuit-specific early childhood curriculum to a lack of training opportunities available to educators living in remote communities across Inuit Nunangat (the Inuit homeland). Katiqsugat is one way that Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami is working to address this need by ensuring that—despite a lack of resources and infrastructure for Inuit early childhood education—Inuit children still have the opportunity to develop to their full potential.

Katiqsugat was built using Omeka, an open source web publishing platform for creating and showcasing digital archives, library collections, and museum exhibits. Its developers (the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and News Media and George Mason University) note that the Swahili word omeka means to display or lay out wares. They describe the award-winning software as being at the crossroads of web content management, collections management, and archival digital collections systems.

Materials currently in the Katiqsugat collection come from Inuit organizations and governments, but Katiqsugat was designed to encourage the contribution of original work by individuals, including educators, parents, and childcare centre staff. Katiqsugat provides full text of materials where possible. Copyright remains with the creator, and licensing agreements are mindful of rights related to the respectful use of Inuit knowledge. Contributors are encouraged to submit items in English as well as any dialect of Inuktut.

For more information, visit the Katiqsugat: Inuit Early Learning Resources website.
Université Laval and its Library: Expanding Northern Studies

by Joë Bouchard
Bibliothèque de l’Université Laval
Québec City, Québec, Canada

Université Laval, located in Quebec City, recently learned of some promising new developments that will help expand teaching, research, and documentation in the field of Northern Studies.

First, the institution was awarded a C$98 million grant by the Canada First Research Excellence Fund for its Sentinel North research program, which aims to map the Arctic, sub-Arctic, and northern ecosystem and geosystems using advanced technologies such as optics and photonics. The goal of this real-time mapping project is to improve understanding of humanity, its environment, and the impacts environmental changes are having on humans and their health.

Concurrently, the Quebec government has decided to finance the gradual implementation of the Institut nordique du Québec (INQ; Northern Institute of Quebec), a multidisciplinary organization that will be created with the mandate of pooling expertise in Northern Studies from Université Laval, McGill University, and the Institut national de recherche scientifique (National Institute of Scientific Research). Ultimately, with support from the governments of Quebec and Canada, Université Laval and Quebec City plan to build a new C$75 million building on the university campus to house the INQ headquarters.

Both projects will strengthen the already prominent profile of Northern Studies at Université Laval, where more than 140 professors and researchers are currently conducting work on northern issues in areas such as climate, health, economy, transportation, and food.

The Université Laval Library will play an active role in the Sentinel North project by providing e-filing systems and professional expertise for the management and dissemination of the extensive data collected by scientists. The librarians may also apply their skills to help organize the documentation resources used by INQ’s future members, in particular by creating a multidisciplinary web portal dedicated to Northern Studies. Moreover, in view of recent developments related to the Sentinel North and the INQ programs, the Library plans to increase its efforts to provide access to the latest and most specialized documentation in Northern Studies, and also to preserve and share documentary sources from past generations linked to knowledge building and transfer in this field.

To this end, librarians are currently working on a project aimed at identifying, acquiring, and making best use of the major documentary sources in the field of Northern Studies. Still in its infancy, this project has been marked to date by the acquisition and use of Gerard Mercator’s 1595 geographical map Septentrionalium Terrarum Descriptio, and Sir John Franklin’s 1823 travel journal, Narrative of a Journey to the Shores of the Polar Sea.

—Editors’ Notes: Launched in 2014, the competitively based Canada First Research Excellence Fund is investing approximately C$200 million or more yearly to support Canada’s postsecondary institutions in their efforts to become global research leaders. It is a joint initiative of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

Franklin’s account of his first voyage to find the Northwest Passage, Narrative of a Journey to the Shores of the Polar Sea, was hugely popular when first published in London by John Murray. Click here to link to some of the book’s illustrations showing the people, animals, plants, and landscapes that Franklin and his crew encountered (from the National Library of Scotland’s John Murray Archive).
This Save the Date: 10–15 July 2016 shoutout comes from the PLC16 website, to which you can subscribe to receive new updates by email.

The 2016 Colloquy theme is Mapping Change. Please take note that Abstracts for both paper and panel discussion proposals are due to the Papers Committee on 15 January 2016, with acceptance notice by 15 February 2016. Please submit all proposals to Leslie McCartney at lmccartney@alaska.edu and include PLC26 Papers in the subject line. The website announcement gives a list of theme topics to consider.

The website also includes information about registration, the program, and discounted accommodations through the Colloquy hotel venue. For more information, please contact PLC16 coordinators Suzanne Bishop and Cat Williams via email at cat.williams@alaska.edu or by calling +1-907-474-7224.

Suzan Hahn, Dean of Libraries, writes:

We are pleased to invite you to attend the 2016 Polar Libraries Colloquy in Fairbanks, Alaska, at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Our planning committee is busy putting together a program that will incorporate the important business of the PLC and allow us to share the beauty of our city and state.

Watch your email for a call for papers, as well as program and registration information in the coming months. In the meanwhile, contact us if you have questions or other thoughts. Looking forward to seeing you in Fairbanks!

2016 SCAR Open Science Conference Accepting Abstracts

Abstract submission is now open for the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) Open Science Conference to be held 20–30 August 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Conference theme is Tropics to the Poles, and in addition to multiple sessions for scientific researchers, several sessions may be of interest to those in the humanities, social sciences, media, and library disciplines:

S33. The role of humanities and social sciences in Antarctic studies
S34. Footprints in Antarctica, and Antarctica’s footprint: Perspectives from history
S35. Data access and sharing for cutting-edge science
S36. Antarctic education, outreach, and training
S37. Innovative communication of Antarctic science
S38. Scientific advice for policy
S39. Antarctic research and the media

More details on each of these sessions are available by visiting the 2016 SCAR Conference site. Deadline for abstract submission is 14 February 2016.
The Polar Libraries Colloquy established the Hubert Wenger Award in 1996 in his honor for the many contributions he and his wife Beatrice made to polar libraries. The award covers registration costs for one or more delegates who otherwise might not be able to attend a Colloquy; funds cannot be used for travel or accommodations. The deadline to apply for PLC2016 is 31 March 2016.

See the PLC website for details of the Wenger Award application process and whom to contact. Please note that the process asks for your vita, the title and abstract of your proposed paper presentation, and a statement of why your organization is interested in participating in PLC.

For impressions of the Colloquy from a few past winners of the Wenger Award, see the Polar Libraries Bulletin issues Fall 2014 (p. 1), Spring 2013 (p. 2), Fall 2012 (p. 7), and Spring 2011 (p. 4).

To read a memorial article about Beatrice Wenger, her life and work with her husband, as well as a bit about the Hubert Wenger Eskimo Database, see the Spring 2011 issue (p. 3–4).

ARLIS Makes News!

The Anchorage-based Alaska Resources Library and Information Services (ARLIS) has been featured in media outlets of late, particularly regarding its unique collection of realia—animal furs and skulls, bird and fish mounts, and wildlife education kits—that library patrons can check out. ARLIS works cooperatively with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) and the US Fish & Wildlife Service to circulate these items to the public. Unfortunately, interlibrary loan borrowing is not possible, as materials are quite fragile.

The story that started it all appeared in the Alaska Dispatch News on 6 October 2015. The article was reprinted in Alaska newspapers in Juneau and Ketchikan, and picked up as a segment on the local news. From there, national media outlets, NPR (National Public Radio) and CNN, featured ARLIS and this unusual collection. The story was broadcast on NPR’s Morning Edition on 7 October 2015.

Not long after, a CNN-affiliated crew spent half a day in ARLIS doing an onsite shoot that resulted in a Great Big Story video called The Library That Checks Out Dead Animals. The video essentially went viral with more than 255,700 views, and counting. Celia Rozen, ADF&G Librarian at ARLIS, subsequently authored an article in the November 2015 issue of Alaska Fish and Wildlife News.


—Adapted from the 13 November 2015 Friday Bulletin, the electronic newsletter of the Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.
In Memoriam: Winifred Reuning (1953–2015)

Winifred May Reuning—National Science Foundation (NSF) editor, writer, webmaster, and warm-hearted friend and colleague to so many for decades—died at age 62 on 4 August 2015 in Alexandria, Virginia. “Winnie,” as she was known to all, was a lodestar who guided NSF’s Polar Office from the old way of communicating with scientists and the public to our online world.

During 35 years at NSF, Winnie brought her twinned gifts of memory and empathy to bolster those who worked with her. “Winnie had a memory for people, documents, and events that was astonishing,” said Guy Guthridge, who originally recommended her hiring at NSF. “Countless times, after exhausting my own search, I quickly got the missing information from Winnie.”

Valedictorian of her high school class in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania, she studied English literature and writing at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. In her earlier NSF years, she was one of the pioneering women to deploy to Antarctica. In 1980, she became editor of NSF’s Antarctic Journal of the United States, with her name appearing on every masthead from 1980 through its final issue in 2005.

A key player in the fledgling NSF-wide webmaster group, she developed and introduced the online identity of the Division of Polar Programs. She also collaborated with the Department of State to publish the first online edition of the Handbook of the Antarctic Treaty System, for which she received an NSF award.

Her memorial service was led by an old college friend, Minister Robert John Andrews, who recalled how, after 40 years, he and Winnie finally reconnected this summer in Pennsylvania. “She taught me over that lunch how her Antarctic world wasn’t a single discipline but many, all interconnected,” he said, “where even a cold desert offers the promise of life.”

In that cold desert, Winnie is commemorated for her many contributions by Reuning Glacier, which was named for her. It is located on Alexander Island adjoining the southernmost part of the Antarctic Peninsula. Now this place takes on special meaning.

—Editors’ Note: Shortened from the original article by Lynn Teo Simarski, which appeared in The Antarctican Society Newsletter, October 2015, pp. 6–7. Thanks go to Jerry Brown and Guy Guthridge for sending along this information about their longtime friend and colleague.

UAF Archivist Accepts New Position at Iowa State

University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) Archivist Rachel Seale of the Alaska and Polar Regions Collections & Archives at the Elmer E. Rasmuson Library has announced that she is leaving for a new position at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. While at UAF, Seale was responsible for working with donors with historical collections, and increasing access and visibility of the more than 20,000 linear feet of manuscript and photograph collections in the library. She has been active in the Alaska Library Association where she chaired its annual conference and Special Libraries Round Table. We wish her well!
Stams Donate Extraordinary Collection of Polar Exploration to AGS Library

New York couple Deirdre and David Stam say that cold weather childhoods and subsequent polar encounters evolved into first, an interest in, and then an obsession with, collecting books, pamphlets, games, and other materials related to polar exploration. Other encouraging events included David’s naval journey to Antarctica as part of Operation Deep Freeze in 1957–58 aboard the USS Wyandotte, and the couple’s honeymoon visit to Evelyn Stefansson (widow of the famous Icelandic-Canadian-American explorer and book collector) at Dartmouth College in 1963. The Stams’ collection grew to some 3,500 items and was the basis of a 2005 exhibition, *Books on Ice: The Literature of Anglo-American Polar Exploration* (and a catalog), at the Grolier Club in New York City, as well as the Stams’ own critical writings on the subject.

The couple has chosen to give this unique collection to the American Geographical Society Library (AGSL) at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The first portion of the gift was delivered to AGSL in spring 2013 and a second in spring 2015, with more to arrive in the coming year.

The Stams’ donation strengthens AGSL’s collection of polar materials in many ways, says AGSL Curator Marcy Bidney. “In addition to widening the breadth of the collection by adding more popular fiction materials, it also increases the depth of the collection with the addition of numerous rare books about Antarctica that we previously did not own. ... We are honored that Deirdre and David have donated their marvelous collection to the AGSL.”

AGSL has been busy cataloging the materials and readying them for scholars and the general public.

According to David, Deirdre has concentrated “on a panoply of objects, books (adult and juvenile), games, and other realia dealing with Matthew Henson, Robert Peary’s African-American polar assistant and companion.” This subsection of their collection alone, he says, “is one of the largest such collections in private hands.” David’s favorite items include “the bulk of the biographical materials (journals, memoirs, diaries, biographies, and autobiographies) of both celebrity explorers molding their own myths, and their crucial but obscure colleagues, which should make this collection useful for future generations of researchers and a general public.”

Both donors have had long and distinguished library careers in museums and academia. Deirdre has held a variety of curatorial, library, and information technology posts at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, SUNY Purchase, The Cooper-Hewitt Museum, Drew University, Syracuse University, the Museum Computer Network, and the Bibliographical Society of America. David was head librarian at Johns Hopkins University (1973–78), director of the research libraries at New York Public Library (1978–86), and then head of Syracuse University Library, retiring in 1998.

The Stams presented a talk entitled *Innocents on the Ice: Collecting the Literature of Polar Exploration* at AGSL in November 2015 about their collection. More information about AGSL can be found here.

—Editors’ Note: Adapted with permission from information about their collection and generous donation supplied by David Stam.
Byrd Polar Center Celebrates 25 Years

by Laura Kissel
Polar Curator, The Ohio State University Libraries
Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center Archival Program
Columbus, OH

The Ohio State University’s Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center Archival Program is 25 this year! We are celebrating with an exhibit and a number of great events.

The exhibit, called Mysteries in Ice, opened on 5 October 2015 and runs through 3 January 2016 at the Thompson Library Gallery. It features historical collections of the Polar Archives, along with contemporary items that represent current exploration in ice-covered regions. This exhibit, curated by Jason Cervenec, Laura Kissel, and Lynn Lay, addresses daily life in harsh environments, including lodging and food, as well as the communication of scientific concepts in media and pop culture. Documents, artifacts, and imagery highlight The Ohio State University’s contribution to our understanding of Earth’s changing climate.

Inside the gallery, visitors can try on gear worn in Antarctica, view an ice core from China, hold rock samples from remote regions, and play a game to determine the identity of an ice explorer.

Many related events have been scheduled, including a presentation about the value of ice cores in climate research, demonstrations of glacial flow using flubber (for those who may have forgotten how to make flubber, click here!), two movies, and a panel discussion about COP 21, the 2015 United Nations Conference on Climate Change recently held in Paris.

For a full listing of all of the anniversary events we are holding, along with the most up-to-date information, please visit us here.

—Editors’ Note: Thanks also to Marcel Brannemann for sharing a fascinating write-up about the exhibit by K.J. Wetherholt, available to read on HuffPost: The Blog.
Peter Lund Named New Librarian at SPRI

Peter Lund started his position as the new Librarian at the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge, UK, in August 2015. He provided this bit of background upon his arrival at SPRI:

“I've arrived from New Zealand where, for four years post-earthquakes, I worked at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch providing support for researchers. In particular I furthered support for open access. Being a gateway to Antarctica, Christchurch provided an introduction to cold regions, and I look forward to working with the polar research community to develop tools for resource discovery. I hope to take the opportunity to attend the Colloquy in Fairbanks and look forward to discussing issues with the PLC then.

Lund can be reached via email at opl21@cam.ac.uk. His full contact information, as well as highlights of his career, research interests, and publications can be found here on the SPRI website. Congratulations and welcome, Peter!

Nominations Accepted for William Mills Prize

The 2016 William Mills Prize Committee is accepting nominations of titles for the William Mills Prize for Non-Fiction Polar Books, honoring the best Arctic or Antarctic nonfiction books published throughout the world. Established in memory of William Mills, a polar librarian and author, and a core member of Colloquy during its formative years, the prize consists of US$300, certificates for the author and publisher, and the right to use the William Mills Prize logo when advertising the winning book.

Qualifications for nomination can be found on the Polar Libraries Colloquy’s website.

Nominations should be sent via email to Julia Finn, William Mills Prize Coordinator, at millsprize@gmail.com. The deadline to submit a nomination is 31 March 2016.

Recent Antarctica Books


Explorer Jules-Sebastien-Cesar Dumont d’Urville (1790–1842) is sometimes called France’s Captain Cook. Born less than a year after the beginning of the French Revolution, he lived through turbulent times. He was an erudite polymath: a maritime explorer fascinated by botany, entomology, ethnography, and the diverse languages of the world. As a young ensign, he was decorated for his pivotal part in France’s acquisition of the famous Venus de Milo.

“This is one ponderous book! It weighs in at 4 lbs. 4 oz. And monumental as well: Besides the 470 pages of text, there are 65 color and black & white illustrations, 10 maps, a seven-page Appendix (on d’Urville’s library!), seven pages of Acknowledgements, 82 pages of Notes, a seven-page Glossary, 40 pages of Archival, Bibliographic &
Recent Antarctica Books  continued

Periodical Sources, and a 71-page Index. Exhausted yet? This is not a book you’re likely read on the bus on your way to work.”

The author examines d’Urville’s scientific contributions, including the plants and animals he collected, and his navigational achievements with two pioneering Antarctic expeditions. “Dumont d’Urville is one of the triumvirate of pioneering Antarctic explorers of the late 1830s; the others: Sir James Clark Ross and Lt. Charles Wilkes. … Only about 40 pages of the book are actually devoted to d’Urville’s time in the Antarctic, but he had a highly interesting life elsewhere so there’s no reason the polar reader shouldn’t take on the whole thing.”

The book uses primary documents that have long been overlooked by other historians. It dispels many myths and errors about this daring explorer of the age of sail and offers readers a grand adventure along with surprising drama and pathos.

—Both reviews are adapted from the publishers’ announcements, with quoted text from book reviews kindly supplied by Robert Stephenson of The Antarctic Circle. His full reviews will be published in the upcoming issue of Nimrod, The Journal of the Ernest Shackleton Autumn School.

Scottish-Norwegian shipwright Colin Archer designed the Fram. (Photograph from Fridtjof Nansen’s 1897 Farthest North, vol. 1, p. 58, courtesy of Harvard University Library Open Collections Program)


This wonderful book “is a welcomed addition to the Antarctic canon. What Ann Savours did for Discovery, Michael Tarver for Terra Nova, Harding Dunnett for the James Caird, and Rorke Bryan for all Antarctic ships, Charles Johnson has done for Fram.”

Ice Ship is the story of that extraordinary ship, the Fram, from conception to construction, through 20 years of three epic expeditions to its final resting place “at the Fram Museum in Oslo where it welcomes visitors today.” It is also the story of the extraordinary men who steered the Fram over thousands of miles exploring unmapped lands in the vast Canadian Arctic and on a voyage to Antarctica to discover the South Pole.

The Fram was built for Norway’s scientist-explorer Fridtjof Nansen, “and employed a radical design by the naval architect and shipbuilder, Colin Archer, to prevent it from being crushed in the Arctic ice. It worked amazingly well. Fram made three significant voyages, the third being Amundsen’s 1910–13 Antarctic venture. The book is really more about the three expeditions than the boat itself, although there’s more about the boat here than in any other book in English so it certainly deserves a place on the bookshelf.”

Ice Ship will appeal to all those fascinated with polar exploration, maritime adventure, and wooden ships, and will captivate readers of such books as The Endurance, In the Heart of the Sea, and The Last Place on Earth. With more than 100 original photographs, the book brings the Fram to life and light.
New Publications


Alfred Wegener, the author of the theory of continental drift, also made major contributions to geology, geophysics, astronomy, geodesy, atmospheric physics, meteorology, and glaciology. This landmark biography is the only complete account of Alfred Wegener’s life and work, and is the result of more than 20 years of intensive research by author Mott T. Greene, affiliate professor of earth and space sciences at the University of Washington and John Magee Professor of Science and Values emeritus at the University of Puget Sound.

Greene places Wegener’s upbringing and theoretical advances in earth science in the context of Wegener’s eclectic career, bringing him to life by analyzing his published scientific work, delving into letters and journals, and tracing both his passionate commitment to science and his thrilling experiences as a polar explorer, a military officer during World War I, and a world-record-setting balloonist.

The book is a powerful portrait of the scientist who pioneered the modern concept of unified Earth science. It should be of interest not only to earth scientists, historians, and students of polar travel and exploration, but to anyone interested in the great minds of science.

—Adapted from the publisher’s announcement, which also features a short video clip of Greene discussing his book.


What makes for sound design, conduct, and documentation in traditional knowledge research? This timely and practical report gives detailed technical guidance and supporting rationale for best practices that should be fully considered by anyone contemplating, undertaking, and applying traditional knowledge research on the Yukon North Slope, and elsewhere. This is a must-read for researchers, government agencies, environmental assessment boards, aboriginal authorities, and industry that require and work with traditional knowledge.

—Adapted from the publication’s foreward. Click Tribal Climate Change Guide to find the report’s full text, licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.
The image of a static Arctic—heralded first by explorers—prevailed for a long time, but today the world sees the Arctic very differently. Few other places on Earth are currently experiencing the kind of dramatic change we are witnessing in the Arctic. According to model forecasts, these changes are likely to have profound implications on biophysical and human systems, and will accelerate in the decades to come.

The New Arctic highlights how the natural and political systems are being transformed in a region where demography, culture, and economics are increasingly diverse. Although many common interests and aspects remain, the new Arctic is now firmly placed in a global context.

Contributing to our further understanding of the changing Arctic, this book offers the perspectives and deep insight of scientific scholars across many disciplines, who bring a wide range of expertise. The New Arctic will appeal to a broad audience, including policy-makers, students, and scientific colleagues.

—Adapted from the publisher’s announcement.