

Polar Libraries Bulletin

POLAR LIBRARIES COLLOQUY



Fall 2016, Issue 77

PLC 2016: Day-by-Day

Hello from the 26th PLC in Fairbanks, Alaska! Here's a day-by-day summary, as posted on the conference blog by **Sandy Campbell** (SC) and **Peter Lund** (PL), and adapted by your *Bulletin* editors.

10 July 2016 • Sunday Evening • Welcome Reception • Conference Centre • Creamer's Field

It was lovely to see retired Fairbanks PLC members Judie Triplehorn and Ron Inouye at the opening reception at the Wedgewood Resort, where the conference is being held. There is a natural area on the grounds with a pond and nature trail, along with a world-class automobile museum that includes exhibits of period clothing. The resort is adjacent to [Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge](#), with 2,200 acres of forest, shrub, muskeg, and wetland habitats. Surrounding a former dairy whose buildings are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the site is today a popular bird sanctuary, hosting Goose Day, an annual Sandhill Crane Festival, and other events. (SC)

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11 July 2016 • Monday Morning • Pavva Iñupiaq Dancers • Welcome • Presentations

The Colloquy opened with a performance of three traditional dances by the Pavva Iñupiaq Dancers, a troupe of three drummers and four dancers. The dances were about seal hunting, cutting up the seal, and a story about raven and wolf tricking each other. The dancers were dressed in traditional clothing with beaded boots and dance mittens, which have tassels on the tips. Their performance was a treat.

On behalf of the university, UAF Interim Dean of Libraries Suzan Hahn, along with Interim Chancellor Mike Powers and Vice Chancellor Mike Sfraga all welcomed and wished us well.

Our first paper was from Andrew Gray (British Antarctic Survey), who has studied the publication patterns in Arctic and Antarctic literature based on the publication record reported in the SCOPUS database of peer-reviewed literature. He presented many interesting charts showing the output from various countries. One notable finding was the increase in polar publications from China. This is definitely a paper I look forward to reading closely when the proceedings are published.

The morning was rounded out by a fascinating talk from Brian Barnes (Institute of Arctic Biology, UAF), who has been studying hibernation for 30 years. He reported some surprising findings on the hibernation of ground squirrels, whose unusual physiology makes them intriguing study subjects for potential medical advances. Barnes reported that these animals can be taken off of an experimental heart/lung bypass machine for as long as 45 minutes with no neural or tissue damage. (SC)

PLC 2016 Day-by-Day *continued*

11 July 2016 • Monday Afternoon • Oral History Workshop

Leslie McCartney (Oral History Program, Rasmuson Library, UAF) offered an Introduction to Oral History workshop for 18 PLC members. In addition to “Do’s and Don’ts,” we had a chance to play with some of the audio recorders. This workshop is the first step in PLC’s project to record the oral histories of our members, particularly those who have had long experience with the Colloquy. Several participants signed up to conduct interviews with retired or former members living in their region, and more volunteers are welcome. Before starting an oral history, remember that files have to be in .wav format; contact McCartney (lmccartney@alaska.edu) for help in setting up your recorder. She has completed two recordings already (with Flora Grabowska and Paul McCarthy). They are available with transcripts on Rasmuson Library’s [Oral History site](#), or via the [library’s catalog here](#). (SC)

12 July 2016 • Tuesday Morning • Presentations

Day 2 began at the beautiful University House, until recently the residence of the UA president. Open, airy, and filled with local paintings and sculpture, the house is designed for meetings and executive entertainment. Several papers introduced UAF’s Rasmuson Library and its collections. The morning closed with Terrence Cole, UAF History professor and author, giving a talk entitled *Books for the Frontier: Early Libraries in Alaska and the Yukon*. Reputed to be a much loved instructor, Cole’s presentation was animated, dynamic, and funny. (SC)



Tlingit drum at the University House.
(Photographs courtesy of M. Brannemann unless otherwise credited)



Behind the Scenes at UA Museum of the North.



Joë Bouchard at UA Museum of the North.
(Photograph courtesy of S. Biondo)

12 July 2016 • Tuesday Afternoon • Poster Session • Field Trips

After a boxed lunch and poster session at the University House, UAF buses took participants to one of three field trips. I chose to go to *Behind the Scenes* at the [UA Museum of the North](#), to learn more about its focus on research and student training. Our guided backroom tour began at the loading dock. Not the first place you might think of to show guests, but when you are dealing with collections that include sleds and dinosaur skeletons, the ability to get artifacts in and out of the building is important.



UA Museum of the North.

In the research and collections sections, we viewed various freezer and specimen preparation areas. We passed through large compact storage shelves full of artifacts of all sorts—mammoth tusks, historical field gear, and indigenous tools and goods—and were able to examine a number of artifacts by hand, including seal skin mittens, a mammoth tooth, and an Eskimo yoyo. Many students were working, some packing up goods to head out into the field. In one of the labs, students prepared bird skins for storage. The final lab we visited was the cryolab, where biological samples, including DNA, are stored in liquid nitrogen.



PLC 2016 Group Photo & Attendees

PLC was small in number this year, but that did not dampen our enthusiasm! Librarians, professionals, specialists, and others officially registered were:

Bev Ager, Katherine Arndt, Stéfano Biondo, Joë Bouchard, Marcel Brannemann, Christann Burke, Sandy Campbell, Daria O. Carle, Marvin Falk, Betty Galbraith, Andrew Gray, Suzan Hahn, Liisa Hallikainen, Gloria Hicks, Ronald Inouye, Laura Kissel, Peter Lund, Ritva Mäntylä, David Ongley, Susanna Parikka, Shelly Sommer, Sharon Tahirkheli, Judie Triplehorn, Trip Triplehorn, and Shannon Vossepoel.

UAF presenters and staff included:

Brian Barnes, Director, Institute of Arctic Biology
Grace Bieber, Rasmuson Library
Suzanne Bishop, Rasmuson Library
Terrence Cole, Prof. History & Northern Studies
Marvin Falk, Prof. Emeritus, Rare Books & Maps, Rasmuson Library
James Kari, Prof. Emeritus, Alaska Native Language Center
Leslie McCartney, Oral History Program, Rasmuson Library
Ben Potter, Prof. Anthropology
Mike Powers, Interim Chancellor
Angela Schmidt, Film Archivist, Rasmuson Library
Mike Sfraga, Vice Chancellor
Rose Speranza, Archivist, Alaska & Polar Regions Collections, Rasmuson Library
Amy Topkok, Coordinator, Pavva Iñupiaq Dancers

Participants from five countries represented 20 libraries, centers, institutes, or other entities:

Canada

Arctic Institute of North America,
UCalgary, Alberta
John W. Scott Library, UAlberta,
Edmonton, Alberta
Université Laval, Quebec City, Quebec

Finland

Lapland University Consortium Library,
Arctic Centre, Rovaniemi
Oulu University Library, Oulu



Group photo taken on grounds of the Colloquy venue.

Germany

Alfred Wegener Institute, Hemholz Centre for
Polar & Maritime Research, Bremerhaven

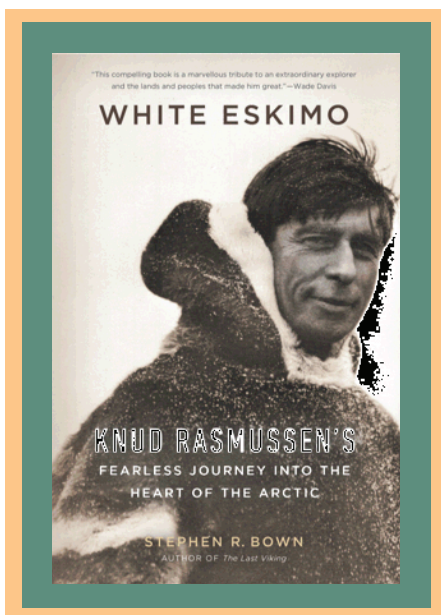
United Kingdom

British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge
Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge

United States

American Geosciences Institute,
Alexandria, Virginia
Byrd Polar Research Center, The Ohio State
University, Columbus
Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, UAF
Alaska & Polar Regions Collections; Alaska
Film Archives; and Oral History Program
Institute of Arctic & Alpine Research,
UColorado Boulder
Keith B. Mather Library,
Geophysical Institute, UAF
Roger G. Barry Archive & Resource Center,
National Snow & Ice Data Center,
UColorado Boulder
Owen Science & Engineering Library,
Washington State University, Pullman
Tuzzy Consortium Library, Ilisagvik College,
Barrow, Alaska
UAA/APU Consortium Library,
UAlaska Anchorage

Stephen Bown's *White Eskimo* Awarded 2016 Mills Prize

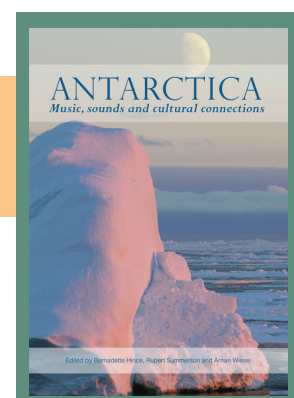
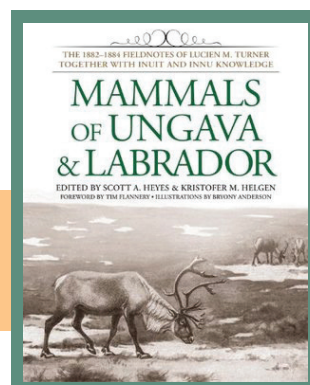


PLC was pleased to announce this year's winner of the 2016 William Mills Prize for Non-Fiction Polar Books at an awards ceremony held in Fairbanks, Alaska, on 13 July 2016. The honor went to *White Eskimo: Knud Rasmussen's Fearless Journey into the Heart of the Arctic*, written by Stephen Bown and published in 2015 by Merloyd Lawrence Books, Da Capo Press.

Two other titles received Honorable Mentions. The first, *Mammals of Ungava and Labrador: The 1882–1884 Fieldnotes of Lucien M. Turner together with Inuit and Innu Knowledge*, was edited by Scott A. Heyes and Kristofer M. Helgen and published in 2014 by Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press. The second, *Antarctica: Music, Sounds and Cultural Connections* by Bernadette Hince, Rupert Summerson, and Arnan Wiesel was published in 2015 by Australian National University Press and is available for [free download here](#).

For more information about the titles, see this issue of the *Bulletin*, page 12. A full list of nominated titles, including those that were shortlisted, is available on the PLC website and will also be featured in the *Bulletin's* Spring 2017 issue.

The William Mills Book Prize is awarded every two years and honors the best Arctic or Antarctic non-fiction books published throughout the world. First presented in 2006, the prize commemorates polar librarian and author William Mills, a core member of PLC during its formative years. For more information, please contact Julia Finn at millsprize@gmail.com.



— PLC 2018 —

Lapland University Consortium Library proudly announces that the 27th PLC will be held in Rovaniemi 10–16 June 2018. The Colloquy will open with an evening ice-breaker on Sunday the 10th and close on Friday the 15th. Saturday the 16th will be an optional post-conference excursion.

The theme will be *Developing Polar Networks: Ideas & Possibilities for the Future*.

Welcome all to Finland, Lapland, and Rovaniemi!

Susanna Parikka

Kirjastonjohtaja / Library Director

Lapin korkeakoulukirjasto / Lapland University Consortium Library

susanna.parikka@ulapland.fi





Just below the Arctic Circle: Hubert Wenger Award Recipient 2016

by *Stéfano Biondo*

Map Librarian, Spatial Information and Mapping
Centre GéoStat, Université Laval, Québec City, Québec, Canada

The 26th PLC, *Mapping Change*, was the first one I had participated in, thanks to financial assistance from PLC's Hubert Wenger Award. These funds enabled me to meet new colleagues from different universities around the world, all facing similar challenges. This participation has been a great opportunity to discuss common experiences with colleagues and allowed for the development of new partnerships. It was also the ideal chance to come up with new ideas and increase my knowledge of northern regions, especially for the management and dissemination of maps and geospatial data.

I considered it to be a rich, interesting, and varied conference program, a good balance between colleagues' presentations and those from professors of the University of Alaska Fairbanks. I enjoyed the film festival, especially *Byrd 1933*. The PLC group is composed of dynamic people with good ideas about how they have promoted their collections, and they generously shared these experiences. The arrangement of activities at the Colloquy was ideal for me. I was happy with my choice of field trip, which was the Riverboat *Discovery* on the Chena River. I would like to extend my thanks to the organisation committee. The live auction was an experience in itself and very enjoyable. The people from PLC know how to have fun!

I also would like to share that during my stay in Alaska, from Fairbanks and along the trans-Alaska

pipeline, to Anchorage, I found everybody very friendly and welcoming—even the bus driver taking us from the UAF housing to the Colloquy each day. Joë Bouchard, my colleague and travel companion, shared in experiencing this warm welcome throughout our travels.

Furthermore, I was very impressed by the UAF facilities in place to stimulate research on the North despite the small number of students. The Museum of the North with its many laboratories in the basement is an eloquent example. With training in geography and being responsible for the map and geospatial data at Laval University, I was more than pleased with the facilities of the Geophysical Institute with its Satellite Tracking Station, its GeoData Center, and its Climate Research Center, to name a few.

This stay in Fairbanks, located just two degrees below the Arctic Circle, was also a unique chance to appreciate the wildlife and the beautiful landscape of The Last Frontier. With my colleague Joë, we explored Denali National Park and Preserve during the long days of summer before the start of the Colloquy. Our eyes were more than fulfilled and stimulated; we saw Dall sheep, arctic ground squirrels, a fox, several caribou, a wolf (yes, a wolf!), and we had to escape from a grizzly mom with her two cubs! As a result of our wildlife excursion, we almost missed the Colloquy!



PLC on Social Media



Want to keep up with your PLC colleagues? Join us on Facebook! Once in your Facebook account, search for @PolarLibrariesColloquy to easily find and join our page. Or, send a message to [Laura Kissel](#), PLC Secretary, and ask to have your Facebook account added.

To join PLC on Twitter, go to [@PolLibColloquy](#).

See you there!



UArctic Congress Issues Declaration on *The Sustainable Future of the Arctic*

Submitted by **Sandy Campbell**

PLC Liaison to UArctic

John W. Scott Health Sciences Library

University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada

The recent University of the Arctic (UArctic) Congress held 12–16 September 2016 in St. Petersburg, Russia, issued a Declaration explaining how it will contribute to *The Sustainable Future of the Arctic*.

The Congress gathered 450 participants representing 200 institutions from more than 20 countries. The Science Section revolved around five issues of current scientific interest: vulnerability of Arctic environments; vulnerability of Arctic societies; local and traditional knowledge; building of long-term human capacity; and new markets for the Arctic, including trade, tourism, and transportation. These themes constitute the core of UArctic research activities in identifying, addressing, and creating solutions to key scientific questions and raising awareness of Arctic issues globally. This transdisciplinary collaboration is conducted by Thematic Networks and UArctic Institutes, as well as through cooperation with Arctic scientific organizations, such as the International Arctic Science Committee and the International Arctic Social Sciences Association.

[Click here](#) for information about UArctic, a link to its annual online *Shared Voices Magazine*, and to view the 14-point Declaration.

UAA Researchers Meet Secretary John Kerry in Antarctica

McMurdo Station, Antarctica, recently hosted US Secretary of State John Kerry, who spoke with polar researchers about their work supported by the National Science Foundation. During the 11 November 2016 visit, Kerry met with a team of Alaska scientists studying Weddell seals in Erebus Bay, led by Professor Jennifer Burns of the University of Alaska Anchorage. The team's four-year study aims to determine how climate change is affecting the mammals' life cycles, specifically their breeding and molting patterns, by collecting data on hormone levels, diving patterns, body mass, and speed of fur regeneration. The project also includes a strong education and outreach component. Read more about the project at [Weddell Seals in the Ross Sea](#), and at [The Graduates of Seal Team 6](#).

—Adapted from "Secretary of State John Kerry speaks with UAA researchers in Antarctica," Green & Gold News, UAlaska Anchorage, 16 November 2016.



L to R: Jennifer Burns (UAA professor), Michelle Shero (UAA post-doctoral student), Roxanne Beltran (UAA–UAF doctoral student), John Kerry, Amy Kirkham (UAA–UAF doctoral student), Skyla Walcott (UAA master's student) and Rachel Bergartt (DVM, UAA research professional).

A Note from Outgoing PLC Chair

The 2016 Colloquy had a sense of homecoming for me. The pleasure of seeing old and new friends had a lot to do with that. It was especially nice to see so many PLC members on their home turf. Of course, there is always some professional relief to be felt in a whole room full of people who care deeply about connecting people with information. I'm most appreciative of our hosts, who, in addition to a great Colloquy, gave us many chances to get out into Fairbanks and the UAF community.

I'll let the conference proceedings detail the sessions, but I've been using many of the methods and resources I learned about since my return home. Presentations delved into historical sources and digital corpora, and showed newly built online tools and innovative ways of tapping old sources. One highlight was watching *Byrd 1933*, historic footage documenting Richard Byrd's second Antarctic expedition. Laura Kissel had first shown us the preservation problem presented by the rotting original films at the 2012 Colloquy; it was great to see the final result that will preserve these images for future generations. Marvin Falk described early work on the *Arctic Bibliography* and showed video clips of Hubert Wenger talking about his collections—and of a young Ron Inouye editing an online record using a flickering CRT. I sure hope both of those videos soon join the UAF archives!

It was a gift to catch little glimpses of what life in Alaska is like. At the Colloquy opening, I really appreciated watching the Pavva Iñupiaq Dancers perform dances about seal hunting and about wolf and raven playing tricks on each other. Another highlight was seeing (and smelling) musk oxen up close at the UAF Large Animal Research Station. Who knew that musk ox calves consider Cheerios a treat? Kayaking on the Chena River through Fairbanks one afternoon, and driving to Denali National Park for a day with Sandy Campbell after the Colloquy was over, were special experiences. Another "special" experience was attempting a walk around the lake in Creamer's Field, which quickly devolved into a mosquito-driven rout!

Mosquitoes and all, I got so much out of Colloquy in Fairbanks. It was wonderful to see our tribe together again, and I very much hope to see many of you in two years in Rovaniemi, Finland, and two years after that in Quebec City, Canada.

Shelley Sommer

Institute of Arctic & Alpine Research
University of Colorado Boulder

Workshops Planned to Consider an Arctic Library Portal

In August 2016, the National Science Foundation, Division of Polar Programs, Arctic Social Sciences awarded a \$50,000 grant to convene two workshops for discussions about creating an integrated access portal for some of the world's largest Arctic collections. The project, as envisioned, would encourage digitizing an extensive new base of primary sources. It would also support continued scanning for already existing projects that relate to social, economic, geographic, cultural, ethnographic, environmental, and historical aspects of the Arctic. Further, the project would enable increased awareness and creation of practical tools, networks, and best practices that could be replicated worldwide.

Project goals are to:

- Provide unified access to a full scope of Arctic records to be used by scholars and government policymakers, as well as for educational purposes



Grant to Digitize Historical Glacial Photograph Collection

by **Athea Merredyth**

Sponsored Project Archivist

University of Colorado Boulder Libraries

The University of Colorado Boulder and the National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) are pleased to announce they have been awarded a grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR). The grant is one of 18 awarded from CLIR's Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives national competition, generously funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

NSIDC is responsible for managing, archiving, and disseminating cryospheric and polar data. Today, these records are digital. However, hidden within the NSIDC is a collection of historical archival materials that recorded the earth's glaciated regions prior to modern data gathering methods. The materials in the archive include 600 glass plate negatives and prints, 22 expedition notebooks, and more than 23,000 print photographs of glaciers from around the globe. From a cultural heritage perspective, these repeat photographs of glaciers are a time capsule of ecological landscape changes, making this collection of analog data distinct for its use in scientific research.

With roughly 14,000 images already searchable online, the assistance of the CLIR grant will allow us to digitize, describe, and publish the remaining photographic prints over the course of the next year. Alongside preservation of the materials, we intend to provide digital images and associated metadata in two digital platforms, one of which is co-discoverable with born-digital cryospheric data, while the other is co-discoverable with collections more likely to reach humanists and social scientists. We see this project as a contribution to the curation of scientific evidence that has the potential to enable future scientific discoveries while showcasing the archive as a learning tool. For more information, contact [Athea Merredyth](#).

SouthPole-sium v.3 — Update

by **Robert B. Stephenson**

Coordinator, The Antarctic Circle, Jaffrey, NH

SouthPole-sium v.3 is definitely going ahead in Oslo in May 2017. Actual details at this time are sparse or may change, but will be set by the January 2017 registration. Activities, some optional, in the works include visits to the Ski Museum at Holmenkollen, as well as to Uranienborg (Amundsen's house). In addition there will be an exhibit and talk at the National Library and an all-day excursion to Sandefjord and Larvik. Events may also include a coastal cruise of the Norwegian coast.

As always, success of the SouthPole-sium depends on the participants. Most important are the short talks (limited to 15 minutes) given by attendees.



Topics should relate to books, history, and similar non-science subjects. At least one panel discussion, probably related to books, is also planned. If you are interested in making a presentation, email me via [The Antarctic Circle](#).

For full information, now and as things develop, click on [SouthPole-sium v.3](#).

We are looking forward to seeing you in Oslo!



Arctic Library Portal *continued from page 7*

- Support the expansion of a practical set of open-source tools for digitization and interactive exhibitions of the cultural history and geography of Arctic communities and their evolution
- Support Arctic communities and related institutions that want, but do not know how, to digitally preserve and create access to the cultural heritage held within their museums, libraries, and archives
- Promote tools for citizens to engage in a complex regional analysis of Arctic history and its living meaning in contemporary lives

Participants in the two workshops will represent a consortium of institutions that have significant Arctic collections and may be interested in working together to create an Arctic library portal. To date, those identified include the:

Smithsonian Institution, Arctic Studies Center
 American Museum of Natural History, Arctic Collections
 Bowdoin College Library (Maine), Special Collections & Archives
 Dartmouth College, Rauner Special Collections Library and Cold Regions Research & Engineering Laboratory holdings
 University of Alaska Anchorage, UAA/APU Consortium Library
 University of Alaska Fairbanks, Rasmuson Library, Alaska & Polar Regions Collections & Archives
 University of Alberta, Circumpolar Collection
 Russian State Museum of the Arctic & Antarctic
 University of Cambridge, Scott Polar Research Institute
 University of Uppsala Library, Polar Project
 National Library of Norway, University of Oslo Library
 Royal Library of Denmark, University of Copenhagen Library
 National and University Library of Iceland

The first workshop is scheduled to take place over the course of two days in early December 2016 in Washington, DC, and Monticello, VA. Attended by researchers, policy-makers, librarians, archivists, and others, it will highlight the condition and importance of various Arctic collections, while also soliciting the scientific and other information needs of government in approaching current and future Arctic challenges.

The second workshop, held in Boston in 2017, will engage the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) and the broader academic community at Harvard, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and other local universities that have been working on novel ways to categorize and integrate topical materials from widely scattered collections. It will focus on technical issues involved in creating the portal, as well as ways to integrate this project within the expansion of the larger national digital infrastructure envisioned by DPLA. The Arctic Library Portal also seeks to contribute to this emerging infrastructure by serving as an aggregator for DPLA to gather circumpolar files from far-flung institutions.

For more information, please contact Principal Investigator Aaron Presnall at apresnall@jeffersoninst.org, Thomas Jefferson Institute for the Study of World Politics, 160 N Carolina Ave SE, Washington, DC 20003-1841.

A Note from the New PLC Chair

Activities at the 26th Polar Libraries Colloquy are summarized elsewhere in this issue, but my favorite was visiting the Robert G. White Large Animal Research Station, located just outside of Fairbanks. I should note that PLC's outgoing Chair (Shelly Sommer), incoming Chair (me), and 2018–2020 Chair Elect (Peter Lund), all chose to go on this excursion. Clearly, the Colloquy's leadership has a weakness for baby muskox. And have you seen them? Who could blame us?

PLC's usual lively outcry auction, with proceeds benefitting the Hubert Wenger Award, was missing the talent of long-time auctioneer David Walton, who was unable to attend. In his absence, I was joined by fellow Steering Committee members Sandy Campbell, Shelly Sommer, and Laura Kissel. We lovely ladies still managed to raise a great deal of support for the Wenger Award.

Of note in the auction was a tie previously owned by retired member David Stam (and previously won at auction some years ago by donator Dennis Stephens), and a framed logo from PLC's predecessor, the Northern Libraries Colloquy. The framed logo became an issue of Canadian sovereignty with a bidding war between the provinces of Quebec and Alberta.



Muskox having a snack.

In the end, Alberta's Arctic Institute of North America conceded, and Quebec's Université Laval took the item home. To be fair, I was greatly outnumbered as Laval's Stéfano Biondo was aided by both colleague Joë Bouchard and a five-headed hand puppet (one of the items for auction) that appeared to be giving him advice.

Though unable to attend, David Walton was not forgotten. I would like to congratulate him on being named an Honorary Member at this meeting in recognition of his many years of service and outstanding contributions to the PLC. In addition to David's exceptional skills as an auctioneer, he



L to R: PLC Chairs S. Sommer, P. Lund, and S. Vossepoel. (Photographs courtesy of S.C. Vossepoel)

also served as the 2002–2004 PLC Chair and several terms as PLC Treasurer.

A highlight of the week was, for me, not only starting my term as Chair, but being crowned 'Queen of the Colloquy' by long-standing member Ron Inouye. I do not believe that previous Colloquies have included a coronation, but I look forward to continuing this new tradition at the 27th PLC and crowning incoming Chair Peter Lund. Thank you, Ron!

Thanks also to outgoing Chair Shelly Sommer! I look forward to continuing her great work.

I think I speak for all the attendees when I thank the 26th PLC's host organization team: Suzan Hahn, Suzanne Bishop, Katherine Arndt, Leslie McCartney, and Rose Speranza. We appreciate all your work in putting together this wonderful event!

Thank you as well to the Lapland University Consortium Library, our incoming hosts for the 27th PLC in Rovaniemi, Finland.

I look forward to seeing you all there!

Shannon Christoffersen Vossepoel
Arctic Institute of North America,
University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada



Call for Papers: ICASS IX — People & Place

This call is for an upcoming conference session at the 9th ICASS in Sweden on how library, archival, and information sciences can facilitate social sciences and humanities scholarship about and in the Arctic. The session, co-chaired by Spencer Acadia and Hannele Näveri-Ranta, and titled *Facilitating Social Sciences and Humanities Scholarship of the Arctic through Library, Archival, and Information Sciences*, will be held during the 9th International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS–IX) on 8–12 June 2017 at Umeå University in Umeå, Sweden. Deadline for submissions is 16 December 2016.

Possible questions and topics to be explored in this session are:

- How are librarians, archivists, and information professionals working with researchers and scholars in the social sciences and humanities, as well as with local indigenous populations, toward sustainable development across the Arctic?
- What best practices and methods are libraries, museums, and research centers using to preserve and provide access to Arctic histories and cultures?
- What unique needs are there regarding access to information for and about indigenous Arctic populations, and how are they being addressed?
- How are public, government, school, and academic libraries assisting Arctic peoples with information and literacy needs?
- How might concepts and principles of library, archival, and information sciences be relevant to researchers, scholars, and professionals toward the organization, delivery, and assessment of Arctic resources, e.g., classification and organization of information; social media and communication; copyright issues, especially regarding indigenous works of literature, art, etc.?

Paper proposals addressing these questions, or any topic in library, archival, and information sciences as it pertains to the Arctic, will be considered. All types of paper proposals are welcomed, including research projects, case studies, white papers, and reports on problems/issues and ways to solve them.

To submit a proposal, [click here](#). From the Submissions menu, select 17–Research Methodologies and choose 17.3 for this session. Please include the name and contact details of all authors; the title of the proposed paper; and an abstract of no more than 150 words.

If your proposal is accepted, a complete paper must be submitted closer to the conference date, and at least one author must attend in person to deliver the presentation. In addition to conference registration, presenters must agree to become a member of the [International Arctic Social Sciences Association](#).

Please direct questions to [Spencer Acadia](#).



THE NINTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ARCTIC SOCIAL SCIENCES

ICASS IX

June 8-12, 2017 | Umeå Sweden



IASSA

INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SOCIAL SCIENCES ASSOCIATION



Minutes of the 26th PLC Business Meeting

13 July 2016, Fairbanks, Alaska

1. The meeting was called to order by outgoing Chair of the PLC, Shelly Sommer, at 3:45 pm. The agenda was approved, as were the minutes of the 2014 PLC Business Meeting in Cambridge, UK, as published in the Fall 2014 issue of the *Polar Libraries Bulletin*.
2. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Andrew Gray. In short, Colloquy finances are good. Please refer to the separate report [published in this *Bulletin* issue, page 17] for the detailed accounting.
3. The members re-affirmed Laura Kissel as Secretary and Andrew as Treasurer. New member Peter Lund is standing as Chair-Elect. Liisa Hallikainen was reaffirmed as Member-at-Large.
4. New Members-at-Large were nominated and affirmed:
 - a. Shelly Sommer (whose term as Chair concluded with this Colloquy)
 - b. Joë Bouchard
5. Marcel Brannemann stepped down as a Member-at-Large, in light of his upcoming retirement. The group thanked Marcel for his service. We will miss you, Marcel!
6. The Colloquy organizers of UAF thanked the members of the Steering Committee and granted each of them with a generous gift of a lovely pen.
7. The PLC thanked the UAF hosts and awarded each a special gift as a token of our appreciation.
8. Shelly announced this year's Wenger Award winner, Stéfano Biondo, who thanked the PLC for the opportunity to join this year's Colloquy.
9. On behalf of the Mills Book Prize Committee, member Ron Inouye announced that this year's winning title is Stephen Bown's *White Eskimo: Knud Rasmussen's Fearless Journey into the Heart of the Arctic* (Merloyd Lawrence Books, Da Capo Press). It is described as "the first full-scale biography of the explorer and ethnographer who opened up the culture, the language, and the life of the Arctic."

Two other nominations were awarded Honorary Mentions. *Mammals of Ungava and Labrador: The 1882–1884 Fieldnotes of Lucien M. Turner together with Inuit and Innu Knowledge*, edited by Scott A. Heyes and Kristofer M. Helgen (2014, Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press), sees the publication, after more than 125 years, of the the natural history research of Smithsonian Institution Arctic scientist Lucien McShan Turner, who travelled to Ungava District (Northern Quebec and Labrador) in 1882 for the International Polar Year.

Antarctica: Music, Sounds and Cultural Connections, by Bernadette Hince, Rupert Summerson, and Arnan Wiesel (ANU Press, Australian National University), offers a unique consideration of the music and sounds associated with Antarctica and "demonstrates the intellectual and creative engagement of artists, musicians, scientists, and writers."

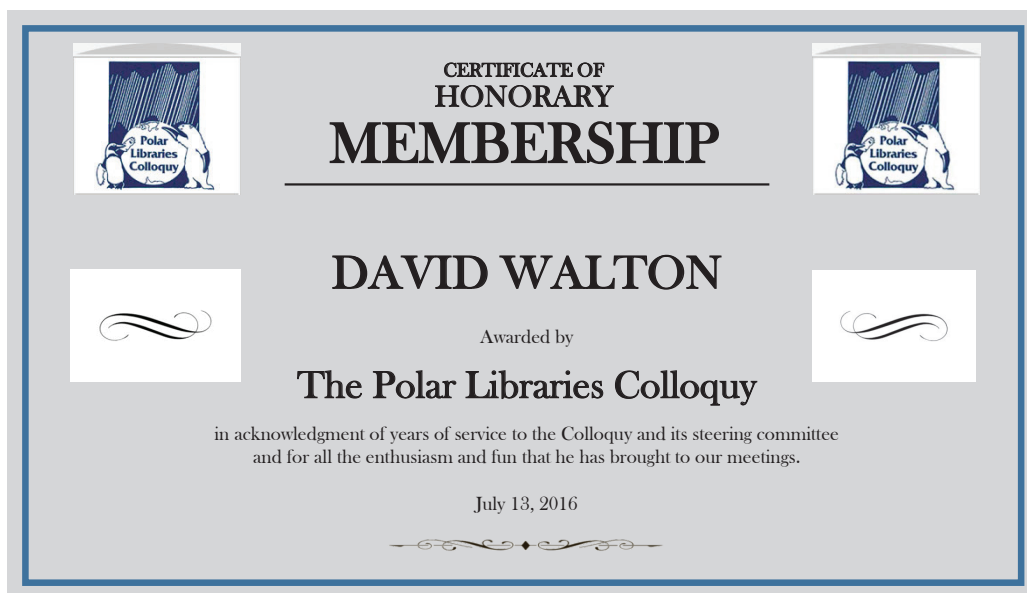
Special thanks to Julia Finn, Chair, and to the other members of the Mills Book Prize Committee: Milbry Polk, Ron Inouye, Rob Stephenson, and Martin French. There were 21 nominations for consideration this year, the most ever since inception of the prize!



Minutes of the 26th PLC Business Meeting *continued*

10. Sandy Campbell raised the topic of Honorary Membership. Our Bylaws state: Honorary Membership: "The PLC may award Honorary Membership to members who have retired or who have a long record of service to PLC, in recognition of exceptional, long-term service to the organization and professional support for PLC peers." The group had some discussion regarding the fact that we have not granted this very often, yet there were many members who we may want to consider. Members were urged to think about folks we might nominate as Honorary Members. A call to the membership for nominations for Honorary Members will go out prior to the next Colloquy in 2018.
11. Sandy nominated David Walton as an Honorary Member. Betty Galbraith seconded the nomination. The motion was affirmed by the membership. Since David was not present, Shannon Vossepoel will notify him of the award via email. Shannon also created an honorary award certificate [see this page, below]. Andrew will grant David the award in person (and document the event for the group!).
12. Shannon introduced the group to the new PLC website that she has created using WordPress. The group met with this change favorably. Thank you, Shannon, for taking this on! Shannon anticipates launching the new site publicly very soon.
13. Andrew raised the issue of low membership numbers and encouraged everyone to invite others to join our fun, amazing, and yet productive group!
14. Katherine Arndt and Leslie McCarthy of UAF requested that members please get their final papers to them by 15 Sept 2016 so that they can work on compiling the proceedings.
15. Shannon reminded members of the presence of PLC on social media: you can find us on Facebook and Twitter.
16. Announcement of the 2018 Colloquy site: Suzanna Parikka and Liisa Hallikainen invited the PLC to Rovaniemi in 2018! We look forward to visiting Finland!
17. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by **Laura Kissel**, PLC Secretary.



PLC 2016 Day-by-Day *continued from page 2*

When our excursion was over, we joined the folks who had gone on the other tours—the [Cold Climate Housing Research Center](#) or [Keith B. Mather Library, Geophysical Institute](#)—back at the Rasmuson Library. There we viewed a collection of polar maps that Katherine Arndt and Rose Speranza (Alaska & Polar Regions Collections, Rasmuson Library, UAF) had prepared for us. It is always a thrill to see rare maps. The afternoon finished up with refreshments in the Library. (SC)

13 July 2016 • Wednesday Morning • Local Radio Interviews • Presentations

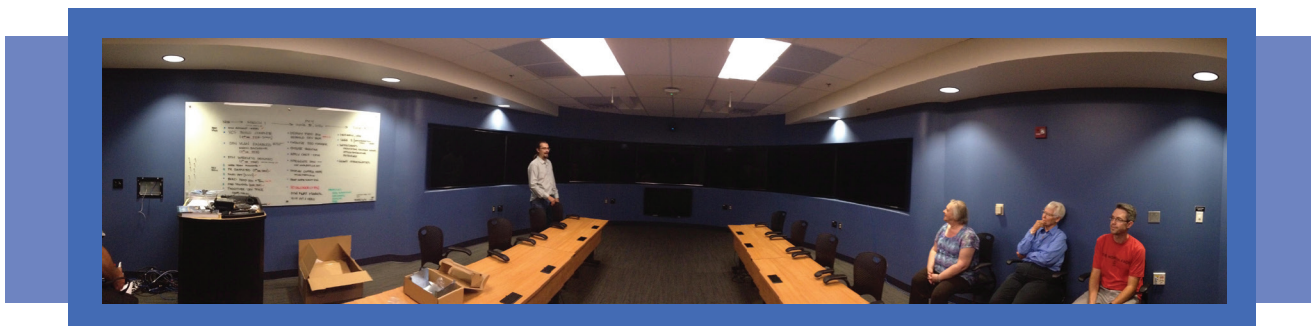
Sandy Campbell (John W. Scott Library, UAlberta) and Marcel Branneman (Alfred Wegener Institute) were interviewed about the Colloquy on KFBX Radio Fairbanks. The story was subsequently picked up by the local public radio station, with Andrew Gray describing PLC activities. [Click here](#) to listen and for the short story.

Shannon Vossepoel (Arctic Institute of North America, UCalgary) introduced, among other initiatives, the ArcticConnect Project, showing us mapping visualisation software, and Arctic Scholar, a site that uses mapping coordinates where available. She announced that ASTIS (Arctic Science and Technology Information System) will change its name to AIDA (Arctic Information Discovery and Access); quite unusually, this change is welcomed by staff in the Institute.

Next up Stéfano Biondo spoke to the Colloquy theme of *Mapping Change*. He gave an inspiring talk about GeoIndex+ and demonstrated how it is adding value and giving a second life to collections. Biondo is from the [Centre GéoStat](#) at the Université Laval Bibliothèque in Quebec, so he was bravely and capably speaking in a second language. There are many capable people in this room, methinks! GeoIndex+ is a platform for research data of the North that allows you to find, use, and exploit geospatial data. Biondo gave two live demonstrations as examples of data that can be retrieved using the software:

- 1) John Franklin's journey served as an example of how a historical map of his route can be retrieved and analysed. Creative Commons licenses are used and maps can be downloaded and used as required. Google maps format can be specified.
- 2) Bathymetric data from the CCGS *Amundsen*, a Canadian icebreaker that facilitated mapping of the Canadian Arctic seafloor.

James Kari (Alaska Native Language Center, UAF) described the complexity of researching Native place names in Alaska. For example, there are seven different words for stream in the Athabaskan Dene languages. Sharon Tahirkheli (American Geosciences Institute) described the development of the *Cold Regions Bibliography* from its start in 1962. Today, although new records are not being added (except those on permafrost), the database has been migrated and can even be used on a mobile phone. The final speaker, Bev Ager (British Antarctic Survey), again applied the theme of *Mapping Change* to working in Antarctica using the BAS Archives. (PL)



The "Decision Room" with PLC members Sharon Tahirkheli, Judie Triplehorn, and Joë Bouchard at the Keith B. Mather Geophysical Institute Library, UAF.

PLC 2016 Day-by-Day *continued*

13 July 2016 • Wednesday Lunch • *Arctic Bibliography & the Wengers*

While we enjoyed another tasty lunch, Marvin Falk (Alaska & Polar Regions Collections, Rasmuson Library, UAF) gave some glimpses into the history of polar information and the PLC. He described some of the early work on the *Arctic Bibliography*, prepared by the Arctic Institute of North America with support from the US and Canadian governments. [Click here](#) for a 1955 book review that appeared in the *American Alpine Journal* following the publication of the first four volumes. Falk went on to speak at length about the work of Hubert and Beatrice Wenger, whose passion for the Arctic resulted in the creation of the *Hubert Wenger Eskimo Database*, with 200 full-text titles of first contact literature pertaining to the Inuit, Aleut, and Yup'ik cultures. We were treated to a video clip of Hubert Wenger talking about his collections and also saw a video of Ron Inouye demonstrating online editing of records, or at least how it was done circa the 1970s. (SC)

13 July 2016 • Wednesday Afternoon • Presentations • PLC Business Meeting

Joë Bouchard (Université Laval Bibliothèque, Quebec) described a project to create a collection of foundational documentary sources in Northern Studies. Of interest is the clear and detailed collections policy he presented. Next, Laura Kissel (Byrd Climate and Research Center, The Ohio State University) showed a "teaser" video for the film that we will see on Friday. After his Antarctic experiences, Robert Byrd undertook a lecture series, illustrated with films. Kissel described the complexities of dealing with multiple versions of his films. Some of the most interesting film content includes "cows in Antarctica" and the "Knights of the Grey Underwear." Can't wait to see the film on Friday! The final presentation was from Ben Potter (Anthropology Department, UAF), who described his current research excavating a site (not far from Fairbanks, but only accessible by air) where sub-Arctic cultures are providing information on how human adaptation and economic change has occurred over millennia. The afternoon concluded with the PLC Business Meeting [see page 12 for the Minutes]. (SC)

14 July 2016 • Thursday Morning • Presentations

Marcel Brannemann's presentation featured two research platforms. Meereisportal.de is a multi-agency open portal that provides scientific information about sea ice. Using the portal Expedition, Brannemann

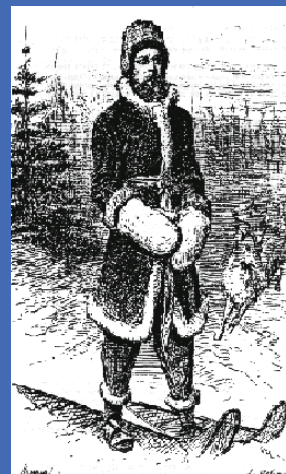


Illustration courtesy of the Hubert Wenger Eskimo Database website, UAF.



For more information about Robert Byrd's cows, see [Some Cows that Headed South in 1933](#) posted in Series Seven by Robert B. Stephenson in his A Low-Latitude Antarctic Gazetteer. (Image courtesy of the Heritage Jersey Chatroom)



PLC Steering Committee dines out.



Exhibition of robes made of maps or aerial photographs at the Geophysical Institute, UAF.

PLC 2016 Day-by-Day *continued*

showed impressive real-time feeds of wind and water conditions from Neumayer Station in Antarctica and the Svalbard station and two ships, including the icebreaker *Polarstern*. He also showed an amusing promotional animation video of a polar bear using Meerisportal to find a place where the ice is thick enough to play soccer. Gloria Hicks (Roger G. Barry Archives and Resource Center, UColorado Boulder) presented a number of fundraising strategies for supporting the NSIDC Archives, including an outdoor gear auction and a fundraiser banquet.

In the next session, Sandy Campbell described her collaborative efforts to establish a digital library service for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. Next, Shelly Sommer (INSTARR, UColorado Boulder) discussed the transition of the INSTAAR library from a traditional reading room into a science communication center in a newly built space. Finally, Shannon Vossepoel elaborated a roadmap that polar researchers and PLC members can use to navigate the range of polar libraries, databases, and archives online. (SC)

14 July 2016 • Thursday Afternoon • Field Trips

Of the three field trips on offer, I went on the Riverboat *Discovery*, a large sternwheeler with a capacity of 900 people, piloted by a woman who is a third-generation captain. We were treated to a float plane show alongside the ship, with the pilot demonstrating landings and take-offs. We paused at Iditarod musher Dave Monson's sled dog kennels, where he demonstrated a dog team pulling a small all-terrain vehicle. Onshore we visited a reconstruction of Chena Village, where we observed the process of smoking salmon, got close to reindeer, and saw some beautiful Athabascan traditional clothing. (The other two options were trips to the [Robert G. White Large Animal Research Station](#) and [Tails of the Trail with Mary Shields](#).) (SC)

14 July 2016 • Thursday Evening • Banquet • Silent & Outcry Auctions

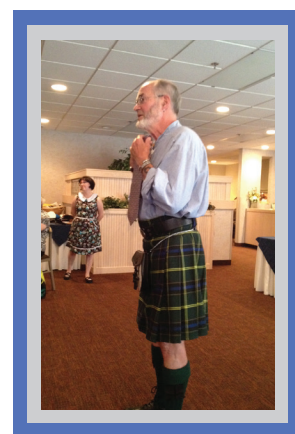
After the outings, some attendees rushed back to outbid their colleagues at the silent auction. During a tasty salmon dinner, Paul Krejci (Department of Music, UAF) spoke about sea shanties and the role of the accordion in the North. We even had a sing-along.

The outcry auction, ably conducted by Shannon Vossepoel, Shelly Sommer, Laura Kissel, and Sandy Campbell, saw competitive bidding for chocolate, a book of painting reproductions co-edited by retired colleague Heather Lane, a Tlingit-themed art scarf, and other gorgeous donations. Among the items attracting the most attention was a penguin tie formerly owned by retired PLC member David Stam, presented by also retired member Dennis Stephens, who attended dressed in his kilt. Another item that created a bidding war was a framed logo from the Northern Libraries Colloquy (our previously named iteration), which went to our colleagues at Université Laval. (SC)

15 July 2016 • Friday Morning • Film Festival

The much anticipated Friday film festival opened with Angela Schmidt (Alaska Film Archives, Rasmuson Library, UAF) presenting two short films shot by Alaska adventurers of the early 1950s. Laura Kissel then showed *Byrd 1933*, a full-length silent film constructed of footage from Byrd's 1933 Antarctic expedition.

Finally, we came to the sad part of PLC, where we close and say "Farewell." Some of our retiring colleagues will not attend Colloquy again, but happily, we will see many in 2018 at the 27th Colloquy in Rovaniemi, Finland. (SC)



D. Stephens and
the penguin tie.



M. Brannemann's
favourite
Alaskan beer.

PLC Treasurer's Report 2016

During the past two years, I have taken over the accounts from David Walton. We have had some trouble making payments in dollars, but this is now (mostly) resolved. Payments in sterling, and receiving money in both currencies, are working fine.

During 2014–16, we approximately broke even. The 2014 Colloquy turned a small loss as an event, offset by subscription income from the attendees and a very successful Wenger auction. At current exchange rates, our surplus for the year was around \$320 USD.

I expect that we will have a small loss in 2016–18, as the Colloquy this year was smaller than usual. We will also be spending more on the Wenger award (now \$400 plus fees, not simply Colloquy fees), plus any additional costs from the oral histories. However, given we have very large cash reserves and need to spend them on something, this is not a problem.

As of June 2016, our assets amount to around £10,500 GBP and \$8,400 USD. At current exchange rates, this is around \$22,300 USD. This is generally in line with previous years.

Accounts

PLC 2014 event accounts	(£555.28)	\$280.00
Cambridge silent auction	£593.50	\$85.00
Membership fees (Cambridge attendees)	£660.00	
Membership fees (paid direct)	£20.00	\$385.00
Mills Prize 2014		(\$300.00)
Bank fees		(\$60.97)
Oral History project costs (<i>estimated</i>)	(£275.00)	
Membership fees (paid direct)		\$35.00
University of the Arctic meeting costs		(\$693.10)
TOTAL	£443.22	(\$269.07)

Balances

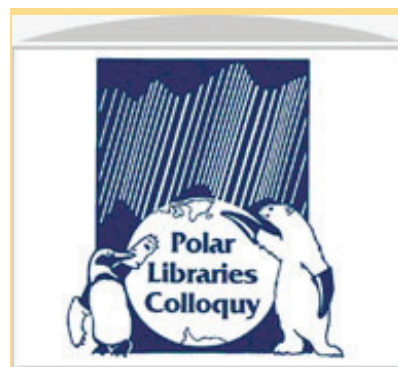
April 2010	£8643.05	\$10592.99
June 2012	£9726.13	\$6964.02
June 2016	£10991.32	\$9517.99

The June account totals are pending as some transactions are still being cleared. An expected balance after taking account of these transactions would be approximately:

June 2016 £10500.00 \$8400.00

Summary respectfully submitted
by **Andrew Gray**, PLC Treasurer.

13 July 2016



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JOIN US!

PLC membership is open to any interested person or institution. Dues are £20 or US \$35 for two years. For queries about membership or payment methods, please contact [Andrew Gray](#), Treasurer. To join PLC, please [complete the form here](#) and send payment as directed.

PLC Launches New Website

by *Shannon Christoffersen Vossepoel*
PLC Chair and Webmaster

PLC has launched a redesigned and mobile friendly website at www.polarlibraries.org. In addition to capturing the information from the previous site (which is still online), the update adds new information, including Past Chairs and Honorary Members, and links to PLC on Facebook and Twitter.

Please take some time to explore the new site and send us a message (via the Contact Page there) if you have any suggestions, corrections, additional

information, or ideas for new features. We would love to hear from you!

Thank you to the members of the 2014–2016 PLC Steering Committee for their help and feedback in getting the new site off the ground. Thank you as well to past PLC Webmaster Joanne Noel for all of her work and to Arto Vittikka for his continued help with the PLC site.

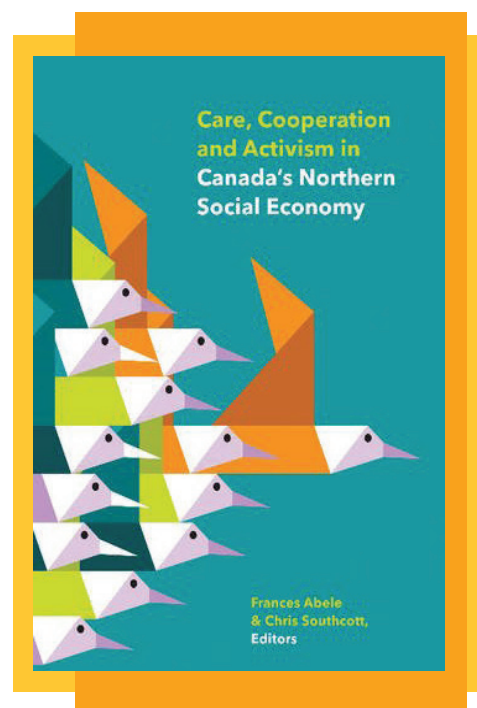
New Publications

Abele, Frances, and Chris Southcott, eds. 2016. *Care, Cooperation and Activism in Canada's Northern Social Economy*. Edmonton: Polynya Press; University of Alberta Press.

People across Canada's North have created vibrant community institutions to serve a wide range of unique social and economic needs. Neither state-driven nor profit-oriented, these organizations form a relatively under-studied third sector of the economy. Researchers from the Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada explore this third sector through 15 case studies brought together in this work. The studies encompass the artistic, recreational, cultural, political, business, and economic development organizations that are crucial to the health and vitality of their communities.

All told, *Care, Cooperation and Activism in Canada's Northern Social Economy* shows an innovative diversity as well as the utter necessity of home-grown institutions in communities across Labrador, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, Nunavut, Northwest Territories, and the Yukon. Readers, researchers, and students interested in social economy, Aboriginal studies, and northern communities will find much to enjoy and value in this book.

Editor Frances Abele is Professor in the School of Public Policy and Administration, as well as Academic Director of the Carleton Centre for Community Innovation, both at Carleton University in Ottawa. Co-editor Chris Southcott has been involved in community-based research in the circumpolar north for more than 26 years, and has more than 100 publications dealing with social and economic change in Northern Canada and the rest of the circumpolar world.





New Publications *continued*

Barraclough, Eleanor Rosamund, Danielle Marie Cudmore, and Stefan Donecker, eds. 2016. *Imagining the Supernatural North*. Edmonton: Polynya Press; University of Alberta Press.

As Polar Regions become the focus of political and ecological controversies, scholars in the humanities and social sciences are turning their attention to the cultural meanings of Northernness. In this interdisciplinary collection, 16 scholars from 12 countries explore the notion of the North as a realm of the supernatural. This region has long been associated with sorcerous inhabitants, mythical tribes, metaphysical forces of good and evil, and a range of supernatural qualities. It was both the sacred abode of the gods and a feared source of menacing invaders and otherworldly beings.

Whether from the perspective of traditional Jewish lore or of contemporary black metal music, few motifs in European cultural history show such longevity. With their broad appeal, the themes of North and the supernatural will ensure this book attracts a wide audience.



Eleanor Rosamund Barraclough is a lecturer in medieval literature at Durham University in the UK. Danielle Marie Cudmore is a lecturer at Halmstad University in Sweden. Stefan Donecker is a research fellow at the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna.

—Both reviews adapted from the publisher's announcement.



Polar Libraries Bulletin
Fall 2016, Issue 77
ISSN 1944-1177

Formerly entitled *Northern Libraries Bulletin* when first published in 1972, the *Polar Libraries 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 mail to PLC Treasurer: Andrew Gray, British Antarctic Survey, Madingley Rd., High Cross, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB3 0ET, UK. Questions regarding membership may be sent to him at anday@bas.ac.uk.

Editors: Juli Braund-Allen and Daria O. Carle
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PLC Homepage: <https://www.polarlibraries.org>
Polar & Cold Regions Library Resources: A Directory
<http://www.spri.cam.ac.uk/resources/directory/libraries/>



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