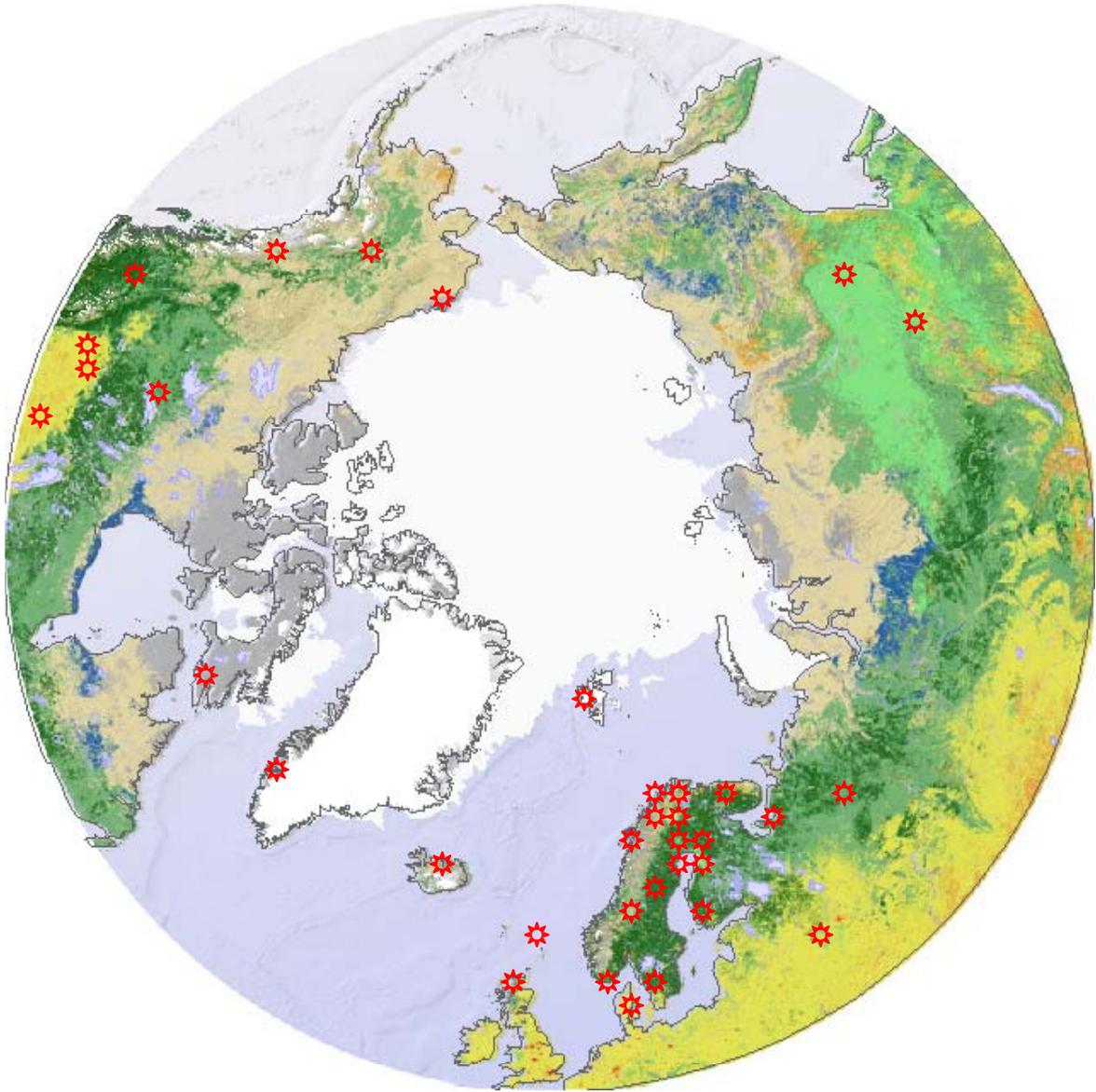




# UNIVERSITY OF THE ARCTIC

Progress Report 2001-2002  
Circumpolar Coordination Office



University of the Arctic Membership map

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# University of the Arctic Progress Report 2001-2002

## **Foreword**

As I write this, students from around the circumpolar North are taking our web course BCS331, Contemporary Issues of the Circumpolar North, following the successful pilot of the first course of the Bachelor of Circumpolar Studies, BCS100, one year ago. Many of the students who participated in that first course are continuing their exploration of different 'Norths' by learning from one another. These students can access materials and communicate with one another without leaving the communities where they live, thanks to the interactive capabilities provided by the Arctic Learning Environment. At the same time, others from that first course are now expanding their firsthand knowledge of the North through the north2north mobility program. These facts speak for themselves.

The past two years of our history have seen a careful transition from the planning of governance structures and programs to providing real educational opportunities for students. As the University of the Arctic moves forward, we can be justifiably proud of what has already been accomplished.

Care must now be taken that these achievements continue, with the further development of the core programs and their extension through various forms of continuing education. Securing sustained funding is a key to the success of our efforts. Other challenges also lie ahead. The means to deliver programs to all northerners, not just those on the campuses of our member institutions, must be found. Effective systems for registration and transfer of credit and seamless access to online resources are needed to provide flexible options for students. We must also address the issue of language, to find ways to eliminate, or at least minimize barriers to accessing UArctic programs, while allowing the cross-cultural exchange that has made UArctic programs so valuable. The challenge of inclusiveness is present in all of these issues. The University of the Arctic is founded on the principle of "shared voices," which reflects our commitment to serve the needs of both the region's indigenous peoples and its other permanent residents. Our vision must also extend beyond our region, to provide a more sophisticated understanding of Arctic ecological and cultural systems to those in the South whose actions unavoidably affect us.

With the appointment of the University of the Arctic's first Director, the institution now has the qualities of leadership needed to address these challenges. With the commitment of its member institutions and organizations through the Council, the vision of the Board of Governors, the work of the CCO, the support of the Arctic states and other public and private funders, and the energy and enthusiasm of our first students, the University of the Arctic is confident of success.

I warmly invite you to join us in this endeavour,

Oran Young,  
Chair, University of the Arctic Board of Governors

## **Introduction**

The University of the Arctic was officially launched in Rovaniemi, Finland, in conjunction with the first Senior Arctic Officials of the Arctic Council meeting under Finland's chairmanship and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rovaniemi process on June 12, 2001. Over 200 people celebrated the launch of the new University. The event was hosted by Maija Rask, Finland's Minister of Education, who took the opportunity to invite all Arctic governments to work hard to investigate collaborative ways to fund the University of the Arctic and its programs.

The launch marked the shift from planning of governance structures and programs to the implementation of programs. The first two years of operation for the University of the Arctic has meant real students, real programs, and a growing enthusiasm and expectation of more to come for those students.

The first evaluations of the University of the Arctic's pilot programs have been conducted. They show that the early enthusiasts were right in saying that we do need structural solutions to address the need for truly Circumpolar education that takes the needs of the primary client group to heart.

## **University of the Arctic: Mission, Values and Goals**

During the period after the Launch, University of the Arctic not only moved from the planning stage to the implementation phase, but also underwent a thorough analysis of its mission, values and goals. These were approved in the University of the Arctic Strategic Plan by the Council of the University of the Arctic in November 2002.

### **Mission**

The University of the Arctic is an international non-governmental organization dedicated to *higher education* in and about the *Circumpolar North*. UArctic is a *decentralized* university without walls that mounts programs of higher education and research, builds local and regional educational capacity, and stimulates cooperation among participating institutions.

### **Values**

#### *Regional identity ...*

UArctic shall promote a northern voice in the globalizing world that reflects a shared regional identity across all eight Arctic states and among all Arctic peoples and cultures.

#### *Interdisciplinarity ...*

UArctic shall promote an understanding between different learning systems, bringing together perspectives from both social and natural sciences and traditional knowledge to foster an approach based on issues and needs rather than disciplines.

#### *Diversity...*

UArctic shall promote cultural diversity, language plurality, and gender equality while highlighting the partnership between the region's indigenous peoples and other northerners.

### **Goals**

Guided by our vision and our values The University of the Arctic seeks to...

#### *Empower the North...*

1. Empower the residents of the Circumpolar North, by building human capital through higher education.

*Improve Access to Education ...*

2. Reduce barriers to higher education in the North in order to provide increased opportunities for northerners.

*Serve Our Community...*

3. Develop initiatives in partnership with our community that are responsive to their needs and support their aspirations.

*Create Shared Knowledge...*

4. Create Shared Knowledge and provide for quality discussion on contemporary issues related to the Circumpolar North.

*Build Regional Identity*

5. Build a shared regional identity, while valuing inclusiveness and respect for diversity across the region.

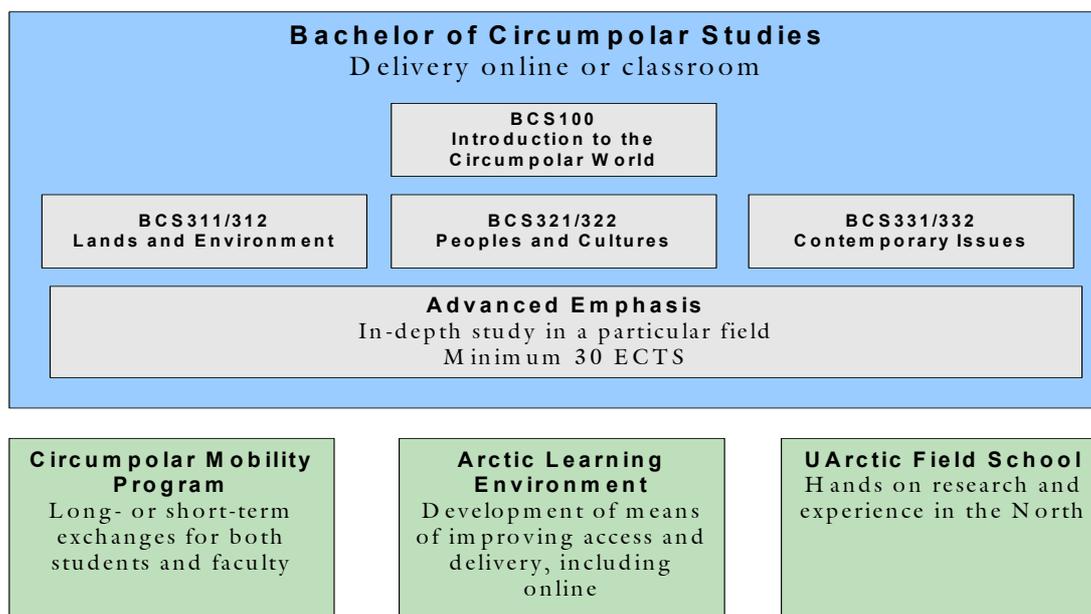
*Strengthen the Voice of the Arctic ...*

Strengthen the Circumpolar North's role in the world by increasing knowledge about Arctic issues.

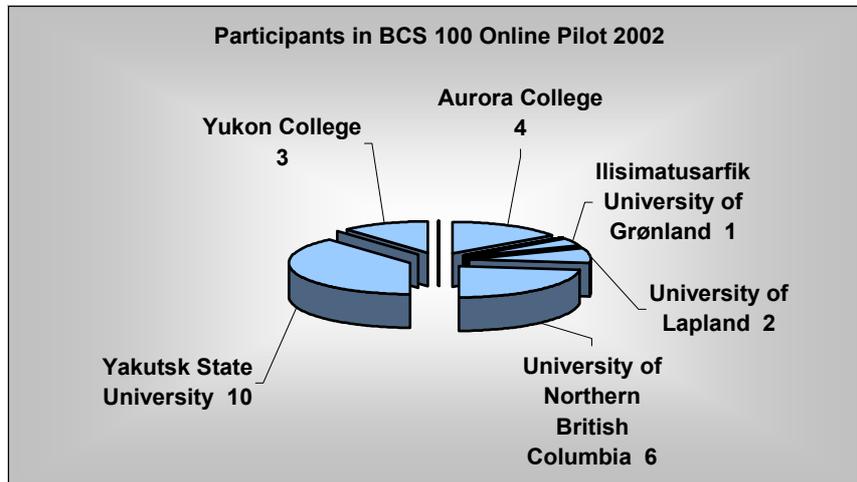
## **Programs**

### **Bachelor of Circumpolar Studies**

The University of the Arctic's signature program, the Bachelor of Circumpolar Studies (BCS), provides undergraduate-level students with an opportunity to learn about the lands, peoples, and issues of the Circumpolar World while preparing them for advanced study or professional employment in fields such as community health, sustainable resource management, self-government, and tourism. Online and traditional access to the program is provided throughout the Circumpolar World by the University of the Arctic's Arctic Learning Environment (ALE) and its Circumpolar Mobility Program (CMP) respectively. Thanks to funding from Canada, BCS benefited significantly from having the full-time leadership of Aron Senkpiel in 2001-2002. The BCS Program Team was co-chaired by Aron Senkpiel from Yukon College and Jon Haukur Ingimundarsson until June 2002, after which the leadership has been provided by Greg Poelzer from the University of Northern British Columbia, Canada, and Olav Hesjedal from Scandinavian Seminar Group, Norway.



In the winter term, beginning in February 2002, BCS100 was piloted in both online and traditional classroom formats. The simultaneous delivery in both forms allowed the BCS and ALE teams to assess both the appropriateness of the content and the effectiveness of delivery. The traditional classroom offering occurred at the University of Northern British Columbia in Canada under the instruction of Dr. Heather Myers, with 40 students participating. The online version, delivered through ALE, involved six UArctic sites across the Circumpolar region.



Amanda Graham of Yukon College served as the instructor/facilitator of the online course. Delivery using WebCT was supported by Athabasca University with additional funding from the Government of Finland. Following delivery of the BCS 100 pilot, a comprehensive evaluation took place, led by Dr. Leo Pekkala from the University of Lapland and Prof. Bill Johnston from Manchester Metropolitan University. This included an arms-length project evaluation, and specific practical feedback from instructors and students. This evaluation and feedback will be used in the development of the core courses and in the revision of BCS 100.

Canadian funding has also supported three international curriculum development teams, each working on a different element of the Circumpolar Studies Core—the heart of the BCS program. The next pilot was planned in spring 2002 for the two ‘contemporary issues’ courses developed by the team led by Dr. Chris Southcott of Lakehead University. This next critical step in the realization of the BCS is currently being piloted in 2003, with funding from the Nordic Council of Ministers.

In the early years, the BCS Program Team focussed on the development of the foundation principles, terms of reference and structure of the BCS program, and the coordination of the development of BCS 100 and the six core courses. To date, BCS 100 has been created and piloted, and the full Core is well underway. The BCS, also, is now moving from a period of development to one of implementation and management. The remaining core courses are to be ready for delivery in September 2003. In 2002, BCS also produced guidelines for the advanced emphases; the detailed planning of these has commenced in the member institutions.

**ALE portal**

The Arctic Learning Environment (ALE) has completed a year of significant accomplishments with regard to the design and maintenance of an online portal system for the pilot of the BCS 100 course, An Introduction to the Circumpolar World. Hosted by Athabaska University in Alberta Canada and managed by Judith Hughes, the ALE acts as a gateway for students from around the circumpolar region to access their course materials, their instructor and each other in a completely online environment.

### **Circumpolar Mobility Program: *north2north* organization and pilots**

The UArctic Circumpolar Mobility Program (CMP) supports both faculty and student mobility between northern institutions in the Arctic states. In addition to offering enriching first-hand experiences of other northern regions and homelands, CMP is key to fostering the connections, dialogues and shared identity vital to building capacity in Arctic regions. The Circumpolar Mobility Program is currently comprised of two programs: northTREX and north2north.

NorthTREX provides opportunities for UArctic Members to invite northern scholars to participate in short-term residencies on other northern campuses. Program planning is headed by the CMP Program Team, chaired by Outi Snellman of the CCO. The first element of the northTREX program, the Mobile Faculty Roster, is already operational. This Roster allows northern experts across the world to volunteer for short-term exchanges, and for institutions to identify potential visiting scholars. Currently fifty-four teachers have given their information to the Mobile Faculty Roster.

North2north is a multilateral exchange program that facilitates longer-term student and faculty mobility. Supported by an international network of national agencies, north2north enriches the education of its participants and lays the foundations for international Arctic cooperation at the individual, institutional and administrative levels. North2north is unique because it aims specifically to include undergraduate students, who are still developing their ideas about and level of commitment to the Arctic as a region, students from institutions that are normally marginalized by lack of resources or geographical isolation, and indigenous students who are traditionally under-represented. North2north's student selection criteria also strive to support the participation of individuals from a variety of educational, cultural and socio-economic backgrounds and incorporates flexible standards for academic standing.

The north2north program was launched in February 2002, with five of the Arctic states (Finland, Sweden, Norway, Russia, and USA- with funding from Scandinavian Seminar Group) committing to fund and participate in the program. Each has identified a national mobility agency that will coordinate the program within each country:

- Centre for International Mobility, CIMO (Finland)
- Svenska Instituttt (Sweden)
- Finnmark University College (Norway)
- Ministry of Education (Russia)
- Scandinavian Seminar (USA)

Initial coordination of the network of national agencies was provided by CIMO. The UArctic CCO coordinated the program's information services, including the web site. Fifteen UArctic institutions participated in the first pilot phase. Students from participating institutions were selected for exchanges during the 2002-2003 academic year and a total of twenty-five mobility grants were awarded in the pre-pilot. Further development of the program and network will continue; UArctic hopes that the remaining countries will soon be able to join what is the firsttruly circumpolar mobility program.

The second pilot, with twelve participating institutions in five countries, was launched in the fall of 2002. Student applications are due in January 2003.

### **NRF: Veliky Novgorod**

Convening every second year, the Northern Research Forum (NRF) is an intensive dialogue that promotes policy-relevant discussion on the role of research in addressing northern issues. The forum encourages participation by younger people and people with new and unconventional approaches. Participants at each session include researchers, educators, politicians, business

leaders, civil servants, community leaders, resource users and managers. NRF is supported by a coordinating secretariat at the University of Akureyri, Iceland, with additional funding for its activities from the Ford and Carnegie foundations. Its activities are being steered by the NRF Steering Committee, chaired by Lassi Heininen from the Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Rovaniemi, Finland.

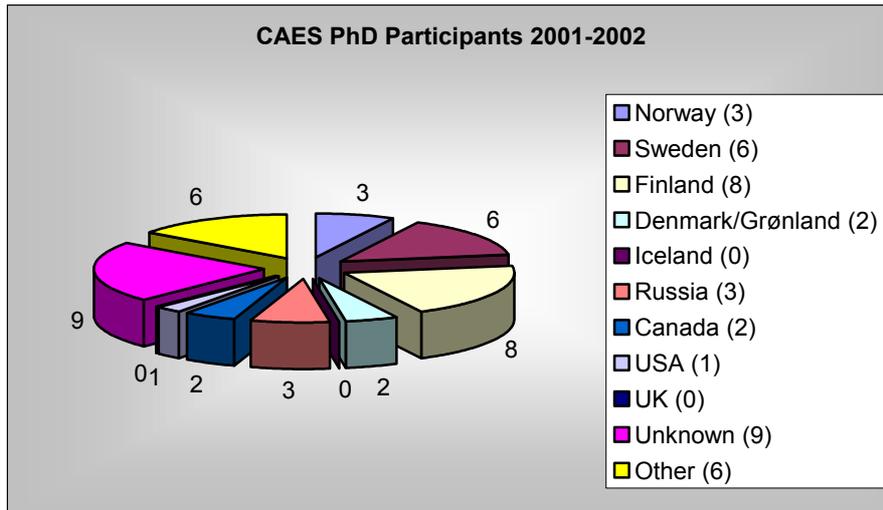
Following the successful first NRF Congress in Akureyri, Iceland in November 2000, the NRF convened again in Veliky Novgorod, Northwest Russia, in September 2002. The official hosts were the Novgorod Oblast Duma, Novgorod Oblast Administration and Novgorod State University. This meeting included sessions on Human Capital in the North, Innovation in Northern Governance, Applying the Lessons of History, and 'Day of Projects' presenting information and results from various northern research projects.

Veliky Novgorod, Northwest Russia, from the 19th to the 22nd of September 2002. The event was organized by the NRF Secretariat and Steering Committee, the 2nd NRF Organizing Committee in Veliky Novgorod, and the Northern Research Forum of Russia. Within the venues of the Novgorod Oblast Administration Main Auditorium and Yaroslav-the-Wise Novgorod State University campuses, *Northern Veche* attracted a wide range of stakeholders with 172 participants. Participants included heads of state and autonomous regions, politicians, business leaders, civil servants, community leaders, NGO representatives, resource managers, activists, scientists, university students and educators.

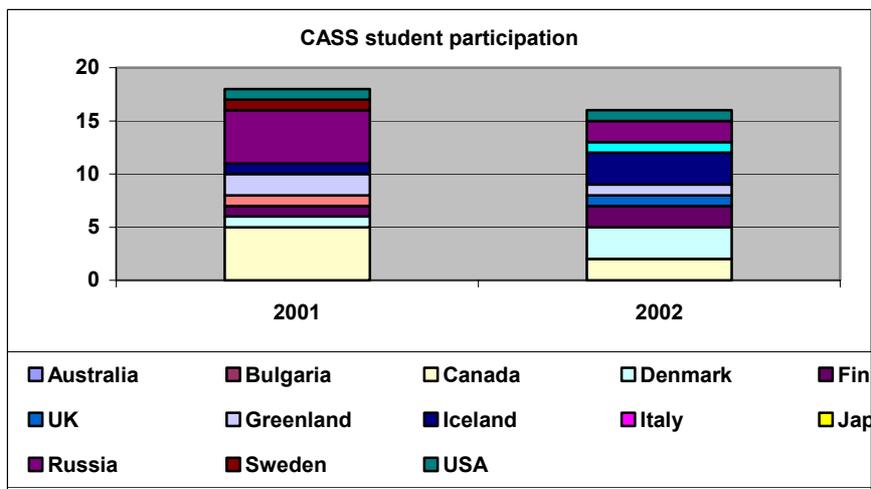
As a precursor to the second NRF Open Meeting in Russia, the NRF secretariat released, in both Russian and English, an Introduction to the 2nd NRF by Lassi Heininen, Chairman of the NRF, and 14 essays, or "position papers," written specifically for the event by people prominent in Northern issues and activities from a variety of backgrounds. These papers will be published, along with the presentations and other products of the Forum, in a book in both English and Russian, as well as on the NRF web-site.

### **PhD networks**

The Circumpolar Arctic Social Science (CASS) PhD Network and Circumpolar PhD Network in Arctic Environmental Studies (CAES) continue to demonstrate the promise of UArctic cooperation by bringing together students and lecturers from around the circumpolar world both through interactive networking and focussed annual field courses in different locations. Cooperation between the two PhD Networks took a major step forward in September 2001, when a "twin course program" was organized between the two networks in the Kola Peninsula of northwest Russia. For the first time, members of both PhD Networks interacted while focussing on a common course theme, "Industrial Impact on Natural and Social Environment." The two courses held events both independently and jointly during the field excursions.



In 2002 the CAES PhD Network held the course, “Sustainable Development and the Environmental, Political, Economic and Legal Institutions of Society in Luleå, Sweden, with over 30 participants. The course continues to successfully maintain its goals of encouraging cooperation between young and senior researchers, as well as promoting interdisciplinary research in the Arctic. The course focussed on varying themes around the topics of environmental culture and policies, industrial and developmental impacts on the environment, and sustainable economics.



The CASS PhD Network held the course on “Management of Human and Natural Resources” in several locations in northern Iceland with 16 participants on August 14-28, 2002. The course involved the study of landscapes, power plants, water sources, environmental impact research and other historical and economical studies of the regions in northern Iceland.

### Field School

The UArctic Field School was designed in 2002 to create stronger identifiable links between UArctic and its field course activities. Most of the field courses existed independently before becoming affiliated with UArctic and maintain their previous client base. The grouping of courses offers greater potential for expanding participation and cooperation. The Field School also promotes further student mobility, one of the primary aims of UArctic. In terms of student recruitment, the title ‘UArctic Field School’ clearly identifies the kinds of courses available and how they are related to the University of the Arctic.

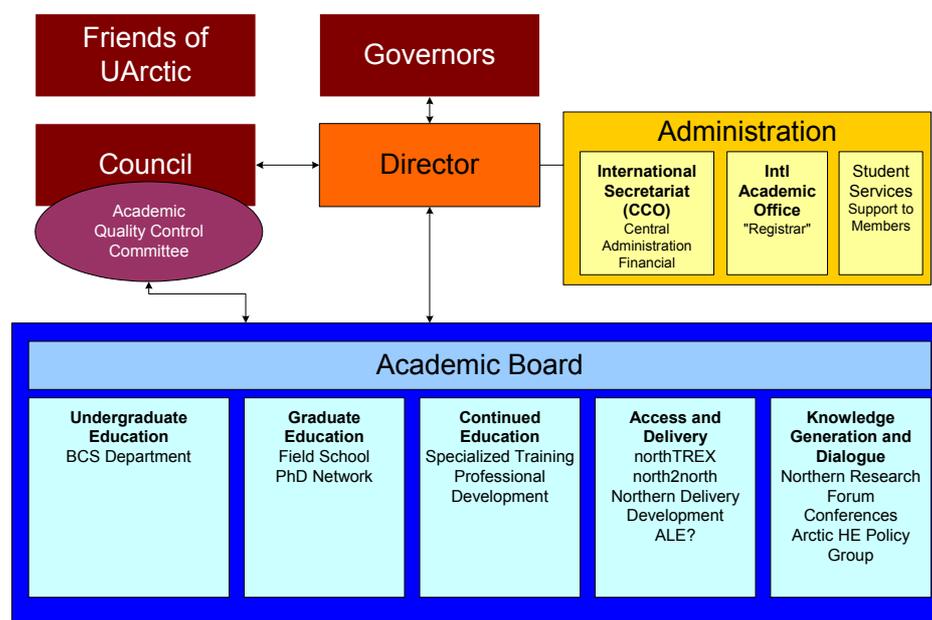
The following courses were part of the UArctic Field School in 2002:

- **NABO International Field School**  
took place from late July to late August and centered on the *Viking Age* archaeological site of Hofstaðir near Lake Myvatn in Northern Iceland. The course featured group projects, field trips, and hands on instruction by environmental and archaeological instructors, and some in-classroom work. The course emphasized practical fieldwork on the archaeological excavation sites for the 15 participating students from Iceland, UK, US, Russia, Ukraine, Austria, Germany, Denmark, and Norway.
- **IRISEN II**  
Held at the Abisko Research Station of the Swedish Academy of Science, the course's theme focused on issues of global change, impact of climate changes on terrestrial and marine ecosystems, as well as impacts of climate change on socio-economic systems in the European North and methods and experiences with integrated regional impacts studies in the circumpolar North. The field course included 30 graduate students from various European countries and 26 eminent scientists from around the world for two weeks in July/August 2002.
- **GlacioEurolab**  
Held in Rovaniemi and Kilpisjarvi, Finland over the first week of March 2002, the course was intentionally very multi-disciplinary which was influenced in part by the diverse academic backgrounds of students, ranging from physics to geography. Thematically, the course focused on snow studies and in particular, avalanches and modern warning technology. This featured in-classroom lectures and multimedia presentations, as well as, field exercises on vital avalanche safety for the 32 researchers who came from such places as Finland, Canada, Denmark, Norway and the Netherlands.

## Governance

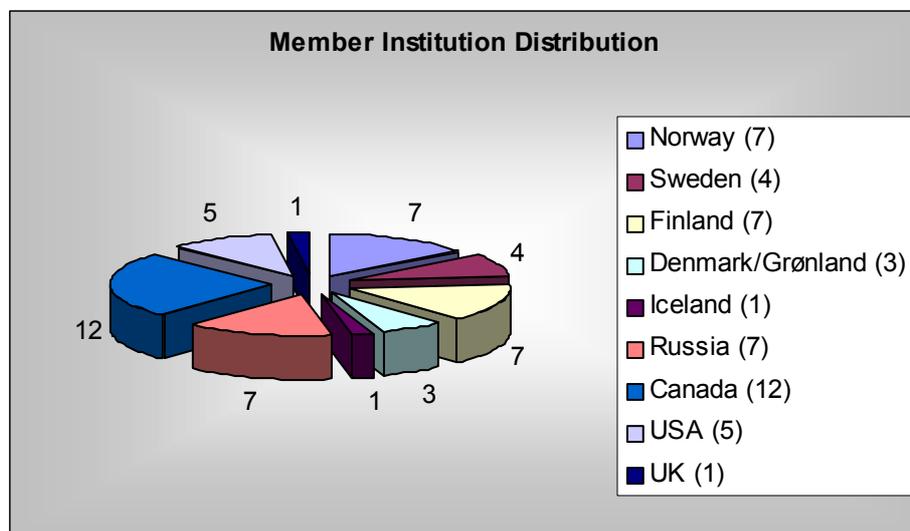
The 2001-2002 period saw the consolidation of the work of all the governance and administration structures of the University of the Arctic and the finishing of the recruitment process for the first Director.

The governance system functions as follows:



## Council and Membership

The Council of the University of the Arctic consists of representatives of Members. The membership grew to a total of forty-six higher education institutions and other organizations at the end of 2002. The full membership of the Council is given in Appendix 1.



The Officers of the Council have been:

<b>Term 9.1.2000 - 11.6.2001</b>
Chair: Asgeir Brekke, University of Tromsø, Norway Vice-chair: Sally Ross, Yukon College, Canada Secretary: Richard Langlais, University of Lapland, Finland/University of Tromsø, Norway
<b>Term 12.6.2001- present</b>
Chair: Sally Webber, Yukon College, Canada Vice-Chair: Claudia Federova, Sakha State University, Russia Secretary: Bård A. Berg, University of Tromsø, Norway

The Council held two meetings each year in 2001-2002, each attended by 40-50 people:

Host	Location	Date
University of Lapland, Finland	Rovaniemi, Finland	June 2001
Luleå University of Technology	Luleå, Sweden	November 2001
Sakha State University	Sakha Republic (Yakutia)	June 2002
Sami College/Tromsø University	Kautokeino/Tromsø, Norway	November 2002

The Council focussed its work on overseeing the various operations of the University. Its work was assisted by the following Standing Committees:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair of Committee</b>
Executive Committee	Sally Webber, Yukon College, Canada (2001-02) Asgeir Brekke, Universitet i Tromsø, to June 2001
External relations Committee	Rune Ryden, Scandinavian Seminar Group, Sweden
Membership Committee*	Robin Fisher, University of Northern British Columbia, Canada (2001-02)
Nominations Committee*	Oran Young, Dartmouth College, USA (2001-2002)
Membership and Nominations Committee	James MacDonald, Association of Canadian Universities of Northern Studies, Canada (2002)
Registrarial Committee	Gunilla Johansson, Luleå University of Technology, Sweden
Northern Research Forum Board	Lassi Heininen, Arctic Centre, Finland
Indigenous Issues Committee	Cindy Dickson, Council of Yukon First Nations, Canada
Programs Committee	Peter Johnson, Association of Canadian Universities of Northern Studies, Canada

*\* these committees merged officially at the Yakutsk meeting, June 2002*

Much of the Council's work in 2002 focussed on the development of University of the Arctic's Strategic Plan under guidance from the Board with leadership from the Director, and is reflected in the newly adopted Strategic Plan as well as the program's priorities.

### **Board of Governors**

The Board has the following members:

Shirley Adamson Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada  
 Lloyd Axworthy Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada  
 Ingmar Egede, Nuuk, Greenland  
 Mika Flöjt, Student Representative, Rovaniemi, Finland  
 Jan Henry Kesitalo, Kautokeino, Norway  
 Audrey McLaughlin, Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada  
 Erling Olsen, Klampenborg, Denmark  
 Rune Rydén, Council liaison/External relations, Lund, Sweden  
 Oran R. Young, California, USA  
 Lars Kullerud, ex-officio, Arendal, Norway  
 Outi Snellman, CCO liaison, Rovaniemi, Finland

The Board of Governors (Board) held its first meeting in Rovaniemi on June 9 to 11, 2001 in conjunction with the UArctic launch. At that meeting the Board established that the recruitment of the Director and the development of a fundraising strategy would be their first priorities.

The Board nominated Professor Oran Young from Dartmouth College, USA, as their first Chair. The Board also recognized that Board membership would need to include a student representative. In the absence of real UArctic students at the time, the Chair nominated Mika Flöjt, a student from the University of Lapland, Finland, as the Board student representative.

As one of the primary tasks of the Board is to appoint UArctic staff, the Board participated actively in the Director recruitment process and the negotiations for the collaboration on the

Director funding with the University of Lapland, GRID/Arendal and UNEP. Other areas that the Board focussed on in the first two years were the development of a fundraising strategy as well as a Strategic Plan for the institution.

The Board held its first face-to-face meeting on 10 August, 2002, in Stockholm at the Swedish Parliament. This was an important opportunity for Board members to become engaged in the work of the University of the Arctic and to get a better sense of the concerns of the Council. Key decisions included the initiation of a Governance documents review as well as introducing a continuing education focus to UArctic's programs.

### **Circle of Elders/Friends of the University of the Arctic**

Several prominent northerners have joined the ranks of the Circle of Elders, a non-decision-making advisory body of UArctic. The name was changed at the end of 2002 to Friends of the University of the Arctic to better reflect the role of the members have in the work of UArctic. Individual members of this group have been actively supporting the initiative, for example with fundraising activities. The Friends of the University of the Arctic has the following members:

Professor Asgeir Brekke, University of Tromsø, Norway  
President Olafur-Ragnar Grímsson, Iceland  
Professor Emeritus William O. Heal, University of Durham, UK  
Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen, Finland  
Professor Ole Henrik Magga, Saami University College, Norway  
Mikhail Efimovits Nikolaev, Republic of Sakha, Russia  
Rector Ingegerd Palmér, Luleå University of Technology, Sweden  
Rector Esko Rieppula, University of Lapland, Finland  
President Sheila Watt-Cloutier, ICC, Canada

## ***Administration***

### **Director**

The appointment of Lars Kullerud as UArctic's first Director is a major milestone in the development of the University of the Arctic. The process for the recruitment reached completion when the Board of Governors chose Lars Kullerud, previously the manager of Polar Programs for UNEP's GRID-Arendal from a large number of excellent candidates. The funding for the Director position is shared between the University of Lapland, GRID-Arendal and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The agreement to cooperate on the funding for the director position is a result of a meeting that several UArctic representatives had with Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director of UNEP during the celebrations of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rovaniemi process in Finland in June 2001.

Lars Kullerud assumed office on May 1, 2002 and is based at UNEP- Grid/Arendal. The Director's Office was also supported with an Intern through the International Institute for Sustainable Development in Canada, Gwen Healey (September 2002-September 2003). The greatest challenge for the Director in his first six months in office was steering the process for the development of the Strategic Plan for the University of the Arctic as well as the development of a focussed Fundraising Strategy in cooperation with the Board of Governors.

### **Circumpolar Coordination Office**

#### Personnel

The University of the Arctic Circumpolar Coordination Office (CCO), with project funding from Finland's Ministry of Education, continued to serve the University of the Arctic from the Arctic

Centre, Rovaniemi, Finland. The CCO has three full-time permanent staff members : Outi Snellman, Head of CCO; Scott Forrest, Information Manager; and Riitta Aikio, Project Secretary.

In addition, a number of interns worked at the CCO in 2001-2002:

<i>Intern</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>
Amy Krause	1.10.2000 - 31.8.2001	support from the Government of Canada
Kasia Kneblewski	1.10.2001 - 31.3.2002	support from the Government of Canada
Joella Hogan	1.3 - 31.8.2001	support from the Council of Yukon First Nations
Mark Fernandes	15.9.2002 - 16.3.2003	support from the Government of Canada
Lilya Taibarey from RAIPON	1.6.-17.7.2002	with funding from the UArctic CCO

### Information and Communication

The CCO is primarily responsible for information and communication for the University of the Arctic network, maintaining the general UArctic web site internal and external e-mail lists, and publishing the Shared Voices newsletter. The UArctic web site, [www.uarctic.org](http://www.uarctic.org), provides regular information on the University of the Arctic, its activities and developments including program updates, application deadlines (for membership and new programs), summary news of Council decisions and publicity materials. A private internal web site (or extranet) is maintained exclusively for members, supporting the activities of the Council, Board of Governors, and other UArctic bodies.

In 2001-2002, seven Issues of the University of the Arctic's newsletter, Shared Voices, were distributed via the external email list. One of these, the special Johannesburg edition in August 2002, was printed for the Johannesburg Summit. The distribution list of Shared Voices currently has 1220 entries.

UArctic has focussed on the creation of central descriptive documents, in 2001-2002, to establish criteria and guidelines for programs such as: ' A Brief History of the University of the Arctic', 'Milestones in UArctic History', the Mobile Faculty Roster, 'The Circumpolar Mobility Program: north2north' and guidelines, as well as program descriptions for the ALE, the UArctic field school, north2north and northTRENCH programs.

UArctic also printed several international publications, all of which are available to the public online at the UArctic web site. Some publications of these publications are as follows: the general brochure "In the north, for the north, by the north" (2001); program brochure "Sharing knowledge: University of the Arctic Activities" (2001); "The University of the Arctic Governance System and Council Rules of Procedure" (2001); "Launching the University of the Arctic: from Ideas to Action" a report to the Senior Arctic Officials of the Arctic Council (2001); as well as other promotional materials such as folders and posters.

UArctic issued a total of eight international press releases during this time period. UArctic received excellent coverage in the international press, including articles in: *The Ottawa Citizen* (14.12.2002); *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (11.10.2002), *The Guardian* (26.3.2002 ), *SCI-TECH* magazine (14.3.2002), *Northern News Service* (11.3.2002), and *Nature* (12.7.2001).

Significant work was also completed on UArctic's visual image, including the publication of Graphic Guidelines for members and programs, and a suite of new print and promotional materials. These tools enable member institutions and affiliated programs to readily convey their association with the University of the Arctic, and in turn facilitate UArctic's promotion of their activities.

### **UArctic Meetings**

UArctic organized a number of international meetings. The largest one of these was the UArctic Launch on June 12, 2001 in Rovaniemi, Finland attended by some 200 prominent Arctic dignitaries. Other key meetings were the Council and Board of Governors meetings listed under the relevant section on Governance.

In addition, UArctic organized or participated in a number of other international meetings, including (list not exhaustive):

- CUA-conference, Tromsø, Norway (19.-22.9.2001)
- Arctic Connections, Helsinki, Finland (1.-3.10.2001)
- Northern Dimension Forum, Lappeenranta, Finland (22.-23.10.2001)
- Arctic Council Capacity Building Workshop, Helsinki, Finland (1.-2.11.2001)
- EAIE Conference, Tampere, Finland (5.-7.12.2001)
- Canadian Partnership Meeting, Ottawa, Canada (24.-25.1.2002)
- North2north- Kick-off meeting, Helsinki, Finland (21.-22.2.2002)
- BCS Core3 Curriculum Planning Meeting, Copenhagen (19.-21.4.2002)
- UArctic BCS-meeting, Amherst, USA (16.-19.3.2001)
- UArctic Consultation meeting Umeå, Sweden (10-11.4.2001)
- IASSA meeting, Quebec, Canada (16-20.5.2001)
- Arctic Council SAO meetings, Rovaniemi, Finland (12-13.6.2001)
- NCM-ALE meeting, Copenhagen, Denmark (20.11.2001)
- EAIE Conference, Tampere, Finland (5.-7.12.2001)
- ECUSCAN Conference, Miinster, Germany (11.-12.12.2001)
- Canadian Partnership Meeting, Ottawa, Canada (24.-25.1.2002)
- On Thinning Ice: Climate Change and New Ideas about Sovereignty and Security in the Canadian Arctic Ottawa, Canada (26.-27.1.2002)
- Core Implementation Team meeting, Rovaniemi, Finland, April 2002
- North Calotte meeting, Inari, Finland (6-7.5.2002)
- Arctic Council SAO meeting, Oulu, Finland (12-14.5.2002)
- Scandinavian Seminar, Board of governors 25-29.6
- 5th Conference of Parliamentarians of The Arctic Region, Tromsø, Norway (11-13.8.2002)
- National Agencies Meeting about north2north in Oslo, Norway (27-28.8.2002)
- Johannesburg World Summit, Johannesburg, South-Africa (30.8-8.9.2002)
- Circumpolar Education meeting, Quebec, Canada (16-20.9.2002)
- NRF Conference, Great Novgorod, Russia (19-21.9.2002)
- UArctic BCS Core 3 planning meeting, Aix-en-Provence, France (23-26.9.2002)
- Arctic Council Ministerial and SAO meeting, Saariselkä, Inari (7-10.10.2002)
- Northern eDimension Forum, Pori, Finland (11-12.11.2002)
- North2north Canada meeting, Ottawa, Canada (12-14.12.2002)

## **External Relations**

The University of the Arctic began to develop a focussed external relations strategy within its first year of operation. The first steps were the creation of the External Relations Committee and hiring of the Director, who is primarily responsible for the day-to-day handling of external relations. The first concrete action in the implementation of this strategy was the decision to apply for observer status in the Arctic Council. Also, ethical guidelines to assist with the links with the private sector were developed.

Ties, either formal or informal, are maintained with at least the following international organizations in addition to the governments of the Arctic Council and the member organizations:

- Arctic Council (UArctic was granted observer status in the Arctic Council in September 2002)
- Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region
- Nordic Council of Ministers
- Partners in Circumpolar Education
- International Arctic Science Committee
- International Arctic Social Sciences Association
- Circumpolar Universities Association
- United Nations Environment Programme UNEP (MOU signed in August 2002)
- Northern Forum

The University of the Arctic participated in the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa in August-September, 2002. This historic conference was an important opportunity to demonstrate the important role that education has in capacity building in the Arctic region.

During our first years of operation the University of the Arctic has been able to consolidate cooperation with UNEP. In 2002 University of the Arctic and UNEP signed a Memorandum of Understanding, agreeing on cooperation in various areas.

### **Funding Sources and Support**

As it moves from the planning stage to the operational stage UArctic has had to address the challenge of core funding, without which a university cannot conduct programs or initiate projects. Considerable effort to establish the basic infrastructure of the university and pilot its key programs has been successful. However, it is vital to the future of the University of the Arctic that sustainable funding be secured for the continued operation of its core administrative infrastructure and delivery of its core programs beyond the pilot stage. As Finland's Minister of Education, Maija Rask, noted in her speech at the launch of the University of the Arctic:

*Now that we have put in place the administrative structures and the core services of the University, we need strong political and financial commitment. Curricular development, mobility schemes, research networks and portals cannot be realized without money. We need financial contributions from the member states and member institutions to keep the University of the Arctic alive and dynamic.*

The funds needed for core support are, at one and the same time, the most important for an undertaking of this magnitude and the hardest to mobilize. With the partial exception of private universities in the United States, core support for higher education in the Arctic countries comes from the public sector. A variety of specific systems are in place. In some countries, for example, support for higher education is a function of county, provincial, or state governments, whereas national ministries of education and national research councils are the major players in other countries. Whatever the differences among individual systems may be, however, there is no

escaping the need for public support to meet UArctic's challenge of core funding. Those who have led the effort to create UArctic will continue to devote time and energy to this enterprise. But it is time for appropriate government agencies to step forward to address the challenge of core funding. The development of UArctic's Funding Strategy, supported with a comprehensive budget, during 2002, has been one of the priority tasks for the Director during his first year in office.

### **Funding Sources in 2001-2002**

The government of Finland continues its strong support by funding the costs of operating the CCO, as well as contributing to the salary of the Director. As previously noted, the Director's position is being funded through the cooperative support of the Government of Finland/University of Lapland, the government of Norway, GRID-Arendal and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). With the establishment of the Board of Governors, UArctic gained considerable knowledge and experience in fundraising. One of the first tasks of the Board of Governors was to develop a fundraising strategy, now completed, and secure funds for its own activities.

The mobilization of support for the third of UArctic's core programs, the CMP's north2north program continued through the Arctic Council context, with commitment from Finland, Sweden, Norway, US (Scandinavian Seminar Group) in place by the time of the kick-off meeting in February 2002 which launched the pilot phase of the program. Every effort is now made so that the remaining Arctic states, Canada, Iceland, and Denmark/Greenland can participate in 2003.

Continued Canadian support of UArctic's signature program, the Bachelor of Circumpolar Studies, has supported both leadership for the project and the development of concrete curriculum for the Circumpolar Studies Core. This support has brought the program to reality. The Finnish government provided additional support to the BCS in 2002 for web design work. Building on the experience gained in the first BCS100 pilot, the Nordic Council of Ministers are funding an online pilot of two courses in the BCS Core, Issues of Sustainability theme.

## ***Conclusion***

The governments of the Arctic have recognized the potential of the University of the Arctic to make a real contribution towards sustainable development in the circumpolar north. This means that a healthy future for the Arctic must be secured by northerners themselves, both to ensure sound management of its resources and to support its inhabitants, but also to ensure that the Arctic will continue to be a key provider of valuable goods and services to the rest of the world.

The pathway to a sustainable future for all northerners lies in our ability to use education to harness the unrealised potential of our communities. To be successful, we must insist that northerners should have the opportunity to stay in the North and receive a valuable education that is relevant to their reality. A particular focus is the educational needs of northern indigenous peoples and people in small communities. Knowledge generated and disseminated through our member institutions and programs will be able to teach those both inside and outside the Arctic about the threats to the northern environment and the opportunities that the Arctic resources provide. Connections made among students and to researchers can create bonds that bring together northerners from all over the circumpolar region around common issues.

The University of the Arctic looks to its partners in this mission to join us in making a commitment to the future. An investment in our finest resources, our people, will return a thousand-fold through the power of education.

Lars Kullerud  
Director, University of the Arctic

## Appendix 1 - Council Membership

Name	Location
Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies	Prince George, British Columbia, Canada
Arctic State Institute of Culture and Arts	Yakutsk, Sakha Republic, Russia
Athabaska University	Athabaska, Alberta, Canada
Aurora College	Fort Smith, Northwest Territory, Canada
Barents Virtual University	Arkhangelsk, Russia
Bodø Regional University	Bodø, Norway
Center for Northern Studies	Wolcott, VT, USA
Council of Yukon First Nations	Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada
Dartmouth College	Hanover, NH, USA
Finnmark University College	Alta, Norway
GRID-Arendal	Arendal, Norway
Helsinki University of Technology	Espoo, Finland
Hunter College CUNY	New York, NY, USA
Ilisagvik College	Barrow, Alaska, USA
Ilisimatusarfik University of Grønland	Nuuk, Grønland
Kemi-Tornio Polytechnic	Tornio, Finland
KOLA Science Centre	Apatity, Russia
Lakehead University	Thunder Bay, ON, Canada
Luleå University	Luleå, Sweden
Mid Sweden University	Östersund, Sweden
Nunavut Arctic College	Iqaluit, Nunavut, Canada
Oulu Polytechnic	Oulu, Finland
RAIPON	Moscow, Russia
Roskilde University	Roskilde, Denmark
Rovaniemi Polytechnic	Rovaniemi, Finland
Saami Education Centre	Inari, Finland
Saami University College	Kautokeino, Norway
Sakha State University of Russia	Yakutsk, Sakha Republic, Russia
Scandinavian Seminar Group	Lund, Sweden
Stefansson Arctic Institute, University of Akureyri	Akureyri, Iceland
Syktyvkar State University	Syktyvkar, Komi Republic, Russia
Thule Institute	Oulu, Finland
Tromsø University College	Tromsø, Norway
Umeå University	Umeå, Sweden
Universite de Laval	Laval, PQ, Canada
University of Alaska	Fairbanks, Alaska, USA
University of Alberta	Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
University Courses on Svalbard	Longyearbyen, Svalbard
University of the Faroe Islands	Faroe Islands
University of the Highlands and Islands	Stornoway, Scotland
University of Lapland	Rovaniemi, Finland
University of Northern British Columbia	Prince George, BC, Canada
University of Saskatchewan	Saskatoon, Sask., Canada
University of Tromsø	Tromsø, Norway
Yakutsk Agricultural Academy	Yakutsk, Sakha Republic, Russia
Yukon College	Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada

## Appendix 2 – UArctic Milestones

### UArctic Milestones

#### Nov. 2002

- Finnish PM Paavo Lipponen mentioned UArctic's role in bringing about more Circumpolar cooperation in his speech to the delegates at the Northern eDimension Forum in Pori Finland
- 4th Council meeting: Kautokeino/ Tromsø, Norway. Bjørn Haugstad, Norway's State Secretary for Education, highlighted the University of the Arctic as a strong part of Norway's commitment to internationalization in education to the UArctic Council

#### Oct. 2002

- UArctic granted official “Observer” status with Arctic Council SAO & 3 rd Ministerial, Inari/ Saariselkä, Finland; UArctic Board of Governors Chairman, Oran Young, was appointed co-chair of the Arctic Human Development Report

#### Sept. 2002

- 2nd NRF Open Meeting in Veliky Novgorod, Russia
- first *north2north* study exchanges take place

#### Aug. 2002

- Board of Governors meeting, Stockholm, Sweden
- National Agencies Meeting about *north2north* in Oslo, Norway
- 5th Conference of Parliamentarians of The Arctic Region
- Memorandum of Understanding with UNEP
- UArctic sends representatives to World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa

#### June 2002

- 3rd UArctic Council Meeting: Yakutsk, Siberia, Russia

#### May 2002

- The first students of the BCS program successfully completed BCS100, Introduction to the Circumpolar World

#### Feb. 2002

- Appointment of 1st Director of the University of the Arctic, Lars Kullerud
- Kick-off meeting for *north2north* undergraduate exchange program, Helsinki
- Arctic Learning Environment (ALE) online learning materials piloted
- BCS 100: An introduction to the Circumpolar North introductory bachelor-level course curriculum begins
- UArctic focus in Arctic Council Workshop on Capacity Building in Helsinki

#### Nov. 2001

- 2nd UArctic Council meeting: Luleå, Sweden
- Presentation to Senior Arctic Officials, Arctic Council

### **June 2001**

- University of the Arctic Official Launch
- 1st UArctic Council Meeting; Rovaniemi Finland
- 1st UArctic Board of Governors Meeting; Rovaniemi Finland
- Circle of Elders Announced

### **Mar. 2001**

- 1st Call for New Programmatic Activities
- 1st recruitment sent to North scholars to join Mobile Faculty Roster

### **Jan. 2001**

- 1st Circumpolar Mobility Program activity, *north2north*, presented to Arctic Council members meeting in Finland with an invitation to participate

### **Nov. 2000**

- UArctic Interim Council is replaced by the Council of the University in Nuuk, Greenland
- 1st Northern Research Forum: North Meets North, held in Iceland

### **Oct. 2000**

- Release of UArctic Integrated Plan: implementation of Bachelor of Circumpolar Studies
- Arctic Learning Environment, and Circumpolar Mobility Program
- 1st Field Course of Circumpolar PhD. Network for Arctic Environmental Studies (CAES): “Reindeer as a keystone species in the North: biological, cultural and socio-economic aspects”

### **Sept. 1999**

- 3rd Interim Council Meeting; Svalbard, Norway

### **May 1999**

- 2nd Interim Council Meeting; Akureyri, Iceland
- 1st Shared Voices Newsletter

### **Apr. 1999**

- Preliminary Plan for Bachelor-level curriculum of Circumpolar Studies

### **Jan. 1999**

- UArctic Circumpolar Coordination Office (CCO) is founded in Rovaniemi Finland, with financial support from the Government of Finland

### **Dec. 1998**

- CUA working group is replaced by the newly formed, University of the Arctic Interim Council in Fairbanks, Alaska USA
- 1st UArctic Interim Council Meeting; Fairbanks, Alaska USA

### **Sept. 1998**

- Feasibility Study Final Report presented to the Ministers of the Arctic Council. The Arctic Council receives report and voices support for a proposed University of the Arctic
- Shared Voices Commitment announced

### **Jul. 1998**

- Presentation made to the Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC). This presentation resulted in ICC’s resolution 98, voicing support for a proposed University of the Arctic.

**May 1998**

- Circumpolar Conference of Sustainable Development in the Arctic, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada
- CUA Working Group makes a presentation with an exhibit, and solicits feedback from conference participants about a proposed University of the Arctic
- 2nd CUA working group meeting: Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada

**Apr. 1998**

- Presentation made to the 3rd Conference of the Standing Committee of Arctic Parliamentarians. This presentation resulted in a statement of support for a proposed University of the Arctic

**Oct. 1997 - Sept. 1998**

- Consultation Process and Feasibility Study

**Jan. 1998**

- 1st CUA Working Group Meeting; Rovaniemi, Finland

**Oct. 1997**

- Development Plan presented by the Task Force to the Senior Arctic Officials. The Arctic Council requests that a feasibility study for a proposed University of the Arctic be undertaken by the Circumpolar Universities Association (CUA) in collaboration with the Arctic Council's Permanent Participants

**Mar. 1997**

- Presentation made to the Senior Arctic Officials (SAO) of the Arctic Council on the concept of a circumpolar university. The SAOs invite Professor Bill Heal to form a Task Force which will undertake the initial Planning for an Arctic university.