



UNIVERSITY OF THE ARCTIC



Statement on the IPY legacy from Lars Kullerud, President of the University of the Arctic, member of the IPY Education and Outreach Subcommittee

The IPY EOC subcommittee has a range of experts from around the world representing many disciplines and professional backgrounds. The cross-disciplinary group has developed common strategies, specific activities and events and is organized in the following audience-specific flexible working groups:

- Education Working Group
- Tertiary Education Working Group
- Media Working Group

Much of the result of the IPY only starts to materialize after the end of the IPY. The IPY Education and Outreach subcommittee finds it natural that the communication, education and outreach activities from IPY needs to continue at least till the IPY early science conference in 2010. Some of this could be taken care of by an "International Polar Office" that should ensure continuation of the essential parts of the Outreach and Education activities through 2010.

It could be natural that some international polar research organizations with a long term mandate take the responsibility for this. The long term legacy in tertiary education, with the goal "To foster the leadership of the next IPY" should primarily be taken care of by higher education institutions, under the leadership of UArctic (University of the Arctic), IAI (International Antarctic Institute), and APECS (Association of Polar Early Career Scientists) who all have a long term responsibility for this.

Some examples of IPY legacies, already organized, include:

- Establishment of APECS (Association of Polar Early Career Scientists). This origination should be supported, for example by giving it concrete roles in polar scientific cooperation. It also has the potential to be a natural network of young polar researchers beyond IPY
- APECS and UArctic will work together to facilitate the design and implementation of training workshops for early career scientists;
- The growth of UArctic to a complete network of Arctic Higher Education institutions has been achieved during IPY, with over 100 members. UArctic, totaling over 650.000 students, provides a strong northern science and education network.



UArctic is endorsed by the
International Polar Year (IPY)

- The establishment of the International Antarctic Institute(IA) is a promising start of southern hemisphere higher education cooperation.
- The UArctic GoNorth! program and the UArctic Studies Catalog, already featuring more than 1000 Arctic study opportunities for students from southern latitudes, including regions where polar awareness is considered low. The Studies Catalog is a listing of polar learning resources and opportunities specifically for tertiary education that encourages open sharing of resources and limited duplication of effort.
- The UArctic Field School and PhD networks target students who are currently involved in polar studies and encourage aspiring and young researchers to pursue polar related careers.
- The UArctic Office for International Polar Year (IPY) Education and Outreach is located at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and is supplemented by the Field School and IPY coordinator at University Centre at Svalbard, UNIS.

The University of the Arctic very much welcomes the Norwegian proposal "Maximizing the IPY Legacy" and the initial ideas and options summarized by the IPY International Program Office and is ready to work with IAI and APECS to ensure long term legacy in higher education of UArctic that fosters the leadership of the next IPY. We are happy to work closely with the two major polar science organizations, IASC and SCAR, who have very distinct roles in ensuring the long term scientific legacy of the IPY. UArctic is looking forward to participating in these legacy discussions, and encourages the Arctic Governments to start cooperating more closely to increase circumpolar cooperation to ensure maximum use of the good investments in Arctic Higher Education and Research. This also includes improved use of the growing Arctic research cooperation and capacity in the Arctic Council working groups.

Lars Kullerud
 President
 UArctic