PLC 2018: At a Glance

Hello from the 27th PLC in Rovaniemi, Finland! Here’s a day-by-day summary from the Colloquy blog by Shelly Sommer (SS), Sandy Campbell (SCa), Shannon Christoffersen (SCh), Cecilie Møldrup (CM), and Peter Lund (PL), as abridged by your Bulletin editors. Click here to read the Colloquy blog in its entirety.

10 June 2018 • Sunday Evening • Icebreaker Party at Alaruokanen House

Coming directly from the airport, I slid into the Icebreaker late and exhausted from travel. How welcoming it was to enter the beautiful, old Alaruokanen House, where I received a registration packet and glass of wine simultaneously, filled a plate with local delicacies, and caught up with old friends and new ones.

Built in 1860, Alaruokanen House gave a good introduction to Rovaniemi. It is one of the very few older structures in town; the rest were burned during the Lapland War of 1944–45. Once the home of a wealthy family, it showcases the log construction and floor plan typical of the region and was furnished in historic colors and woven rag rugs that are still favorites here. (SS)

11 June 2018 • Monday Morning • Welcome and Keynote • Presentations

Day 1 opened with coffee and sweet buns that are a Finnish delicacy. It was held in the beautiful foyer of the wing of the Faculty of Art and Design, University of Lapland (ULapland). Vice-rector Kaarina Määttä warmly welcomed us to the university, whose motto is For the North, For the World.

Professor Timo Koivurova, director of ULapland’s Arctic Centre, gave the keynote in which he addressed the history of Arctic governance and Finland’s role as the 2017–2019 chair of the Arctic Council. He highlighted the contributions of Indigenous organizations and the growing numbers of observer delegations from non-Arctic countries. Despite being unable to make legally binding decisions, the Council wields considerable influence. For example, its November 2017 ‘Declaration concerning the prevention of unregulated high seas fishing in the Central Arctic Ocean’ (the area outside any country’s 200-mile limit) resulted in a 16-year moratorium on fishing.

The presentations that followed featured the collaborative Atik”, the Northern and Arctic Studies

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Alaruokanen House in Rovaniemi. (Photograph courtesy of H. Bergius and M.C. Routa, Wikimedia Commons)
Portal (J. Bouchard, Université Laval) and use of Story Maps to integrate text, images, and other information into cartographic products (S. Biondo, Université Laval). Story Maps facilitates creating interactive materials for a number of different applications, including teaching. (SCa)

11 June 2018 • Monday Afternoon • Presentations • Poster Session

Presentations featured portals, interfaces, and engines designed to make access to polar information easier. These included High North Research Documents (L. Longva, UiT–Tromsø); Alaska’s Discovery Portal and SLED: Statewide Library Electronic Doorway (D.O. Carle, UAlaska Anchorage); and CCADI: Canadian Consortium of Arctic Data Interoperability (S. Christoffersen, Arctic Institute of North America, UCalgary).

Late afternoon was dedicated to the poster session. P. Lund (Scott Polar Research Institute, UCambridge) featured how to make theses more available as open access. S. Olmsted (LAC Group, Maryland) addressed digitizing documents from the Antarctic Bibliography Microfiche Collection. A. Kelil Ali (UiT–Tromsø) described efforts to increase research data collected from professors, particularly those retiring, and make it available to others. M. Puustinen (Lapland University Consortium Library) showed the research development and innovations at the Lapland University of Applied Sciences.

Further presentations included B. Ager (British Antarctic Survey) discussing efforts and challenges in making the BAS Archives more accessible. Our busy hosts S. Parikka and L. Hallikainen took time out of their Colloquy management duties to introduce us to the Lapland University Consortium (LUC) Library and LUC Arctic Centre Library. Together with the Arctic Centre Library, the LUC Library serves the Lapland University of Applied Sciences, the University of Lapland, and the Lapland Institute for Tourism Research and Education.

Opening day concluded with a reception at City Hall, where we all had a chance to catch up with our colleagues and be reminded of some of the great work that polar librarians are performing. (SCa)
Group Photo & PLC 2018: At a Glance continued

more about the Sámi Bibliography through this link, and click here to access the Bibliography itself. (SCh)

12 June 2018 • Tuesday Afternoon • Keynote • Excursion

After a delicious lunch at the Restaurant Felli, M. Heikkilä (head of Science Communications, Arctic Centre) gave the keynote ‘Arctic Media, Arctic Journalism: Lessons Learnt from the Barents Mediasphere Project.’ This 2012–2014 effort was launched to improve cross-border communication and information flow for journalists and other media specialists working in the Finnish, Norwegian, Swedish, and Russian Barents regions.

We then boarded a bus, ostensibly to visit the Arktikum science center and museum. However, conference organizer Susanna Parikka had a surprise for us all: we would be making a stop first to have our group photo taken…with Santa Claus! We drove just outside of Rovaniemi to Santa’s office at the Arctic Circle, where we were met by some very cheerful elves. Santa was lovely and conversed with participants in English, Swedish, and French! He also wore some pretty amazing striped socks!

Next was our visit to the Arktikum, which houses the University of Lapland’s Arctic Centre and the Regional Museum of Lapland. We were greeted with a variety of sweet and savoury pastries and taken on a short tour that included diorama displays of Rovaniemi before and after the 1944 Lapland War between Finland and Nazi Germany, an exhibit explaining different ways of defining the Arctic, and some ‘Hot Stuff’—a ‘Sexhibition’ on Arctic mating and dating that included a content warning. Afterwards, we explored the Arktikum on our own, finishing the day in this beautiful building. (SCh)

13 June 2018 • Wednesday • Field Trip

On Day 3 we embarked on a 90-minute bus ride that carried us north into the heart of Lapland to Sodankylä, where we visited the Sodankylä Geophysical Observatory. This was followed by a lecture at the Finnish Meteorological Institute, also located in Sodankylä, where we saw a robotic

continued on p. 17

PLC 2018 Group Photo

Group photo taken just outside Rovaniemi in Santa’s office at the Arctic Circle.

Participants from 10 countries represented 25 libraries, centers, institutes, or other entities:

**Belgium**  
Energy Buildings

**Canada**  
Arctic Institute of North America  
University of Calgary  
J.W. Scott Heath Sciences Library  
University of Alberta  
Université Laval

**Denmark**  
University of Copenhagen

**Finland**  
Lapland University Consortium Library  
Arctic Centre  
Rovaniemi City Library  
University of Lapland  
University of Oulu  
VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd

**Germany**  
Alfred Wegener Institute, Hemholz Centre for Polar & Maritime Research

**Greenland**  
University of Greenland  
Public and Central Library of Greenland

**Norway**  
UiT–Arctic University of Norway  
Nord University  
Norwegian Polar Institute  
The University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS)

**Sweden**  
Umeå University

**United Kingdom**  
British Antarctic Survey  
Scott Polar Research Institute  
University College London

**United States**  
Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center  
The Ohio State University  
Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research  
University of Colorado Boulder  
LAC Group, Maryland  
(National Science Foundation contractor)  
UAA/APU Consortium Library  
University of Alaska Anchorage

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**Arktikum Science Museum:** ‘In Winter’ by Timo Lindholm; ‘Outside Courtyard’ by Francisco M. Marzoo Alonso. (Photographs courtesy of Wikipedia Creative Commons)
In Memoriam: Shirley Sawtell Braddick (1946–2018)

Shirley Sawtell and the Scott Polar Research Institute Library—
So Much More than “Senior Information Assistant”

by Hilary Shibata, Antarctic Bibliographer, retired
Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, UK

The 11th of October 2018 was a sad day—I attended the funeral in Cambridge of Shirley Braddick, whom many PLC members will remember with affection and respect as Shirley Sawtell.

Shirley completed her post-graduate Diploma in Librarianship in 1987, and in 1988 started her career as Information Assistant in the Library of the Scott Polar Research Institute. We all know how fascinating the Polar Regions are, and soon Shirley was smitten in a big way. In those days the SPRI Library was the pivot on which the other work of the Institute hinged, and Shirley was the first point of contact for both visiting scholars and Institute staff in need of information. By 1990 she had qualified as a Chartered Librarian.

Her knowledge of the Library’s collections was both broad and deep, and for 24 years she worked at SPRI with a succession of Librarians: Ann Clocksin, William Mills, and Heather Lane. William in particular valued Shirley’s work: “Shirley’s performance over many years may accurately be described as outstanding. She has become the public face of the library, always friendly and helpful....”

One of Shirley’s first tasks at SPRI involved organising a significant donation of artefacts, books, and lantern slides relating to Pond Inlet on Baffin Island, which had been acquired by the Reverend Harold Duncan, missionary in the settlement during 1929–34. Julian Stargardt was researching in the library at that time. “Shirley’s entrance to life at SPRI was dramatic and memorable... she brought in a narwhal tusk... and quickly established herself as knowledgeable, professional, helpful, considerate, firm, kind... she glowed with an aura of compassionate integrity. We developed a warm and mutual respect for one another, a feeling and regard I think all at SPRI came to hold for Shirley.”

Shirley was a committed Christian and developed a keen interest in the work of early missions in the Arctic. In 1992 she worked with Maria Pia Casarini-Wadhams on a video interview with Reverend Harold Duncan, which became the first contribution to the SPRI Oral History Programme. During the PLC in Cambridge in 1994, Dan Weinstein, an American Friend of SPRI, offered her a lift in his private plane to Pond Inlet and she jumped at the chance. It was as a result of this first visit that collaborative links were established between the library at Pond Inlet and SPRI, and copies of various early film and photographic records were sent to Philippa Ootoowak’s local history collection. Shirley returned to the Canadian Arctic in 1997, visiting libraries in Arviat, Rankin Inlet, Iqaluit, Pond Inlet, and Yellowknife. Her account of this collaboration was published in the Proceedings of the 19th PLC held in Copenhagen in 2002. (Click here for the Proceedings, see Session 11.)

In the 1990s Captain Lawson Brigham (recently retired from the US Coast Guard) was starting his Polar academic career at SPRI. “Shirley was a very kind and sensitive person who took her work very seriously. She was a ‘rock’ at SPRI and interacted with hundreds of researchers and students each year. We became friends and I respected her very much. The memories of her work and communications will remain with me forever.”

Besides the SPRI Library’s collections, Shirley gradually accumulated a Polar Library of her very own, made up of books presented to her by their grateful authors, one of whom was Polar exploration author Michael...
Smith: “I will miss her thoughtful, kind and patient presence and visits to SPRI will not be the same. She made an important contribution to every book I have written... good librarians are invaluable, and she was a diamond. She always managed to somehow create the impression that each individual’s enquiry was all that mattered in the entire world. She was a credit to her profession.”

The well-known explorer and writer Sir Ranulph Fiennes, who has extensive experience travelling in the Arctic and Antarctic, remembers her with gratitude: “Shirley was such a pillar of help and advice about any questions of polar history and so helpful with my Scott book.”

I first met Shirley in 1993 when I joined the SPRI Library as a cataloguer, and I was soon as much in love with all things Polar as she was. My memories of her as a colleague are of immense enthusiasm and huge helpfulness, a beaming smile, and her penchant for jumpers and waistcoats covered in polar bears or penguins. Her photographs of both Arctic and Antarctic ice and wildlife were amazing, and though her first visit to Antarctica was thwarted by bad ice conditions, it was followed by two successful cruises.

I remember how shocked and upset everyone was at the 2012 PLC in Boulder, Colorado, when they heard that Shirley was to take early retirement for reasons of ill health. She had been such a great help to so many Polar researchers and historians from all over the world.

Shirley had achieved most of her goals in life by the time she retired, but the last was only sealed in June 2015 when she married Norman Braddick at the Baptist Church in Cherry Hinton, Cambridge. Their time together was cut short by Shirley’s premature death at the age of 56, on 14 September 2018 due to early-onset Alzheimer’s disease. SPRI held a Memorial Tea on 9 November where colleagues and friends shared their fond memories of Shirley.

The 27th Polar Libraries Colloquy, *Developing Polar Networks: Ideas and Possibilities for the Future,* was hosted by Lapland University Consortium Library in Rovaniemi, Finland, 10–16 June 2018. As always, the Colloquy was brilliant with amazing talks, events, and people. It was, however, a little bittersweet for me as this event coincided with the end of my term as PLC chair. There are several people I would like to thank for all of their help during my 2016–2018 term:

- Lapland University Consortium Library for organizing and hosting the 27th Colloquy and particularly Susanna Parikka and Liisa Hallikainen,
- The PLC Steering Committee—these great folks do a lot of behind-the-scenes work and still manage to make it fun,
- Juli Braund-Allen and Daria O. Carle for all of their work putting out the *Polar Libraries Bulletin,*
- Shelley Sommer for being a wonderful resource as the 2014–2016 PLC chair,
- Arto Vitikka for his help migrating the PLC website to its new home at polarlibraries.org,
- Joë Bouchard, Stéfano Biondo, and Bibliothèque de l’Université Laval for their successful bid to host the 28th PLC 2020 in Québec—I cannot wait!
- And the Arctic Institute of North America staff for supporting me in this role.

It has been an honour and a joy to serve in this position for the past two years.

Congratulations to Peter Lund who now takes over as the 2018–2020 PLC chair! I look forward to continuing to serve PLC in the positions of past chair and website administrator.

*Shannon Christoffersen*  
Arctic Institute of North America  
University of Calgary, Canada
Minutes of the
27th PLC Business Meeting
14 June 2018, Rovaniemi, Finland

1. The meeting was called to order by outgoing PLC Chair Shannon Christoffersen at 16:10.

2. Shannon announced the winner of the William Mills Prize for Non-Fiction Polar Books:

   The Committee for the selection of the William Mills Prize for Non-Fiction Polar Books has the pleasure to announce that *Narwhal: Revealing an Arctic Legend* is the William Mills Prize winner for 2018. [See p. 19 for the report from the Prize Committee, with further information on the winning title and two honorary mentions.]

3. Shannon acknowledged the hard work of the Mills Prize Committee. Our sincere thanks to Chair Julia Finn, as well as Ron Inouye, Milbry Polk, Robert Stephenson, and Martin French. Great job!

4. Treasurer’s Report

   Andrew Gray reported that the PLC has a balance of funds in the amount of approximately $23,000 [Editor’s note—this includes $694 US brought in from this year’s Colloquy Auction]. Our current membership is about 50–60 members. Andrew encouraged members to consider any projects that might be candidates for funding by the PLC. Anyone who has ideas in this regard should contact any member of the Steering Committee. It will then be added to the agenda for the next quarterly Skype/Zoom virtual meeting.

5. Qualifications for PLC Honorary Members – The Steering Committee proposes the following addition of language to the Constitution and Bylaws for qualifications of PLC Honorary Members:

   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.

6. Additionally, the Steering Committee also suggests a modification to the Bylaws that states:

   Any nomination of Honorary Members must be submitted to the Steering Committee, in writing, prior to the Steering Committee meeting that takes place during the week of Colloquy. Further, the Steering Committee may limit the number of nominations during any given cycle.

7. Sandy moved to accept items 5 and 6; Andrew seconded. None opposed, motion carried. The language as specified in items 5 and 6 will be added to the Bylaws.

8. Nominations for PLC Honorary Members – Ron Inouye, nominated by Sandy Campbell and Daria O. Carle; Ross Goodwin, nominated by Shannon Christoffersen; and Julia Finn, nominated by Laura Kissel. [See pp. 9–10 for the full submissions.]

9. All three nominations were confirmed, with none opposing. Congratulations Ron, Ross, and Julia!

10. Shannon announced that the 28th Colloquy will be held in Quebec City, Canada, in 2020, hosted by Joë Bouchard and Stéfano Biondo. Shannon invites our non-North American friends to consider hosting Colloquy in 2022.
Minutes of the 27th PLC Business Meeting

11. Steering Committee Members
   A. Peter Lund is now the Chair of PLC
   B. Shannon Christoffersen remains on the Steering Committee as Past Chair
   C. Stéfano Biondo joins the Committee as ex-officio in his role as co-host of the next PLC
   D. Joë Bouchard remains on the Committee as ex-officio in his role as co-host of the next PLC
   E. Sandy Campbell remains on the Committee as ex-officio as our representative for UArctic
   F. Juli Braund-Allen and Daria O. Carle remain on the committee as ex-officio members in their roles as Bulletin editors

12. The following members are standing for election/re-election:
   A. Andrew Gray – would like be re-elected as Treasurer
   B. Laura Kissel – would like to be re-elected as Secretary
   C. Susanna Parikka – would like to run as Chair-Elect
   D. Shelly Sommer – would like to run as an at-large member
   E. Liisa Hallikainen – would like to run as an at-large member
   F. Cecilie Møldrup – would like to run as an at-large member
   G. Bolethe Olsen – would like to run as an at-large member

13. All members standing for re-election/election were acclaimed. Congratulations to our new Steering Committee members as well as our re-elected members.

14. Shannon thanked our hosts Susanna Parikka, Liisa Hallikainen, and Marjatta Puustinen, and all of the others who worked hard to make this a successful Colloquy. Shannon presented Susanna, Liisa, and Marjatta with small tokens of appreciation from the Colloquy.

15. Shannon introduced Peter Lund as the new Chair of the PLC.

16. Peter presented Shannon with a small token of appreciation for her work as Chair over the last two years. Thank you, Shannon!

17. Peter’s first official act as Chair was to close the meeting at 16:46.

Minutes respectfully submitted by PLC Secretary Laura Kissel.

Personnel Change at the SPRI Library

The Library at the Scott Polar Research Institute is very pleased to welcome Frankie Marsh as the new senior library assistant. She has replaced Martin French, who after five years at SPRI, is now collections librarian for user experience at the Natural History Museum in London.

According to the SPRI website, Marsh previously worked at college libraries in Cambridge and Durham, and with an international youth movement in Brussels. Alongside her role at SPRI, she is also studying for an MA in Library and Information Studies at University College London. She has a BA in English Literature from Durham University.
Nominations for the Distinction of Honorary PLC Membership

Ronald K. Inouye

Ron Inouye has been a stalwart member of PLC for many years. He was first mentioned in the *Northern Libraries Bulletin* 31 years ago (July 1987, no. 35).

Ron has always been a most welcoming member of the Colloquy, concerning himself with new members and making them feel at home. In 1994, Ron proposed a silent/outcry auction at the Colloquy to raise funds to support attendance of librarians who might not otherwise attend. The auction has been held at every Colloquy since and funds the Wenger Award, especially fitting since he was a very good friend to Beatrice and Hubert Wenger during their lifetimes. Ron worked closely with them on the *Wenger Eskimo Database* project, established through an agreement with University of Alaska Fairbanks in 1988.

In 1987 he earned a degree in Polar Studies at the Scott Polar Research Institute, then returned to Fairbanks to develop and edit the *Alaska Polar Periodical Index*, a catalog of articles and other gray literature related to Alaska and the Polar Regions.

An expert in Alaska history, he has been an interviewer for numerous oral history recordings for the Alaska and Polar Regions Collections and Archives at UAF Rasmuson Library.

A long-time advocate of Alaska history and libraries, he has been involved in a number of literary projects throughout the state. In 2013, he was recognized by the Alaska Center for the Book as one of the recipients of the Contributions to Literacy in Alaska Awards “honoring people and institutions deemed to have made a significant contribution to literacy, literary arts or the preservation of the written or spoken word in Alaska.”

Ron has attended several Colloquies as a retired member and has continued to contribute as a member of several Mills Book Prize Committees.

At the 2016 Fairbanks Colloquy, Ron was a gracious source of local knowledge for many visitors. For that Colloquy, he also was a member of the committee that organized the Oral History Workshop.

For his long and varied service to the Colloquy, we recommend that Ron Inouye be awarded the distinction of Honorary Member of the Polar Libraries Colloquy.

C. Ross Goodwin

Ross Goodwin has been an active member of the Polar Libraries Colloquy for many years. His first Colloquy was the 6th, held in Fairbanks, Alaska, in 1976. At his second Colloquy, the 7th Polar Libraries Colloquy in Paris in 1978, he presented on the Arctic Science and Technology Information System, the database which he developed and would go on to maintain over his 36-year career at the Arctic Institute of North America (AINA).

Ross served as a Member-at-Large during 2008–2012 on the PLC Steering Committee. In 1994, he suggested that the PLC membership keep in touch between *Bulletin* publications via a listserv which he ran for the PLC and the PLC Steering Committee from 1994 until 2013. He also served on many PLC working groups and committees on special topics over the years, as reported through the *Northern Libraries Bulletin* and the *Polar Libraries Bulletin*, and he wrote frequent updates and articles for the *Bulletin* as well.

Ross served as ASTIS Manager at AINA during 1976–2012 and took on the role of Acting Executive Director for that organization at least twice. In his time there, he also authored and edited...
Honorary PLC Membership


Prior to his AINA work, he conducted ecosystem modelling for the Devon Island International Biological Program Tundra Biome project at the University of Alberta Botany Department and developed the Western Canada Waterfowl Database for the Canadian Wildlife Service.

Ross obtained his BSc in Computational Science from the University of Saskatchewan in 1970 and an Advanced Certificate in Computational Science from the same institution in 1973. A lifelong learner, he further completed his Management Development Certificate from the University of Calgary in 1983, an Information Systems Professional certificate from the Canadian Information Professionals Society in 1990, as well as numerous seminars and courses related to online database management.

For his continued and tireless work in the area of polar data and information services, Ross was named a Fellow of AINA in 2011. He continues to work for the Institute as a volunteer and is a strong advocate for the use of ORCID identifiers in online databases. He continues to keep up with PLC news via the listserv and the *Bulletin*.

For his long and dedicated service to the Colloquy, we recommend that Ross Goodwin be awarded the distinction of Honorary Member of the Polar Libraries Colloquy.

Julia Finn

Julia Finn is known to current members of PLC as Chair of the William Mills Prize for Non-Fiction Polar Books. She graciously volunteered to lead this important committee beginning in 2014. Under her guidance, the Committee has thoughtfully selected the winner of this award three times, with members taking many hours to read all of the submissions. To date, they have read more than 60 nominated titles.

Her dedication to this role is extremely impressive, particularly when one realizes that she has been retired from her work for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada since 2012, where she began as Manager, Client Services, and advanced to the position of Departmental Librarian, during her 25-year tenure. During Julia’s time as Manager, she supervised up to 20 employees, including students, and casual and temporary help, and she managed all aspects of library and departmental public enquiries services.

Among Julia’s many professional accomplishments was the creation of the AANDC eLibrary, which provided desktop access for all employees to a comprehensive collection of online products (e.g., ebooks, full-text journals and magazines).

Additionally, she worked to expand the departmental public enquiries services into a national Public Enquiries Contact Centre, providing information about AANDC programs. In her final year as manager, it received more than 100,000 calls!

Julia’s involvement in the PLC has been strong. She served as Member-at-Large during 1996–1998 and assumed the role of Chair during 1998–2000. In 2004, she co-hosted the PLC in Ottawa. In 2006, she started a PLC weblog, its primary use being to communicate the events of Colloquy as they happened, for those who were unable to attend in person. Additionally, those who went to Colloquy when Julia was actively attending will remember the beautiful hand-knit items she donated to the auction in support of the Wenger Award.

Julia has always been of generous and kind spirit, and her dedication to the PLC is apparent.

For her long service to the Colloquy, we recommend that Julia Finn be awarded the distinction of Honorary Member of the Polar Libraries Colloquy.
A Note from the Incoming PLC Chair

This year’s Colloquy in Rovaniemi was chock-full of thought-provoking and inspiring speakers. Blog posts provided prompt insights on the papers—I thank all who blogged—and the proceedings will follow.

Based in Cambridge, I do wish to convey something of the way the Colloquy brought some particular polar problems into focus and the ways in which libraries and information contribute to research aimed at solving them. For instance, I was fascinated to learn about the importance of animal welfare as tourism continues to develop in the Arctic and the role of Finnish design in the creation of new buildings, not least libraries. I’m also inspired to adopt altmetrics to support our early career researchers and to top up the collection of well-written children’s literature at the Scott Polar Research Institute.

The superbly organised Colloquy in Rovaniemi was a chance to meet our tribe (borrowing from Shelly Sommer here) of polar library folk, and for me it was a joy that started at Heathrow airport (not a phrase I ever thought I’d use!), continued throughout the Colloquy, and spilled over to the journey home via Helsinki. The visits to Sodankylä and the Tornio River Valley provided an insight into research and gave us a strong sense of place which will live long in memory. I would like to thank Susanna Parikka, Liisa Hallikainen, and all the team at the University of Lapland for creating such a wonderful Colloquy and looking after us so well.

In leading a project to digitise theses recently, I was struck anew by the way the electronic environment means goal posts continue to move for us as librarians and information workers. Leaping the hurdles involved in making one particular Cambridge thesis on Svalbard available digitally required the assistance of Berit Jakobsen at the University Centre in Svalbard, illustrating the value of collaboration. The PLC shares these issues and in collaboration we will, I’m sure, be able to rise to the challenges and take more of the opportunities offered by the digital environment.

I am, therefore, very proud to have become chair of the PLC for the two years leading up to our next Colloquy in Quebec, and I look forward to working with you in making polar information more accessible.

Peter Lund
Scott Polar Research Institute
University of Cambridge, UK

2018 UArctic Congress in Oulu, Finland

by Susanna Parikka
Library Director, Lapland University Consortium Library, Rovaniemi, Finland

The second UArctic Congress was held in Finland 3–7 September 2018 as a part of Finland’s Arctic Council chairmanship program. The Congress brought together key UArctic meetings and a science conference, highlighting the themes and priorities of the Finnish chairmanship, including the goals of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Gender Equality, and the Paris Agreement under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Two cities in Finland—Oulu in the north and Helsinki, the southern capital—hosted it together. It began in Oulu during the weekend, ran through Thursday evening when it moved to Helsinki, where a full slate of programs continued through the very end on Friday. Liisa Hallikainen was officially representing PLC
2018 UArctic Congress continued

at the Congress, and I heard that the entire Congress was a great success. My role was to participate in some gatherings in Oulu because of my work tasks. I also witnessed the great opening ceremony with very beautiful Finnish choir songs and speeches, a speech from the Finnish Prime Minister, and an interesting panel discussion.

The opening ceremony had some unusual security measures because one of the speakers was His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco. He talked very reasonably about the importance of protecting our Arctic nature and environment for the future generations. And of course it is always nice to meet people interested in Arctic issues, both old friends and new.

Very informative for me was a session called ‘Data, Science and Metrics in Global Arctic Research.’ In this session, international researchers discussed how research is published and measured, and how the gaps and challenges of these trends are identified in relation to the Arctic sciences. The other important issue for me was the Board Meeting of the UArctic Science and Research Analytics Institute, a new institute within UArctic. The members to date are ARCUS, Dartmouth University, Memorial University of Newfoundland, UiT–The Arctic University of Norway, University of Lapland, and the University of Stockholm.

Digitising the Gino Watkins Expedition Reports

by Peter Lund
Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, UK

The Gino Watkins Memorial Fund, under the joint trusteeship of the University of Cambridge and the Royal Geographical Society, gives grants towards expeditions that meet its objectives of guiding and inspiring enterprising people towards scientific research and exploration in the Polar Regions. The Fund was set up in 1933 in memory of Henry George ("Gino") Watkins who had drowned whilst hunting for seals in his kayak off the coast of East Greenland the previous summer.

Need to know what provisions to take for a month-long ski mountaineering expedition? Reports of expeditions such as a 2017 expedition to the Stauning Alps in Greenland provide detailed information from which others can learn. Born-digital reports of recent expeditions are available, and now a further 128 earlier reports covering the period back to 1961 have been digitized and included on the site. Find them through the Scott Polar Research Institute community under the School of the Physical Sciences on the University of Cambridge Repository.

Memorial to Gino Watkins at St. Peter’s Church, Dumbleton, UK. (Photograph courtesy of Wikipedia)
Executive Members

Peter Lund
Chair
Scott Polar Research Institute
University of Cambridge
Cambridge, UK
opl21@cam.ac.uk

Susanna Parikka
Chair-Elect
Lapland University Consortium Library
Arctic Centre
Rovaniemi, Finland
susanna.parikka@ulapland.fi

Shannon Christoffersen
Past Chair & Webmaster
Arctic Institute of North America
University of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
shannonv@ucalgary.ca

Laura Kissel
Secretary
Byrd Polar Research Center
Archival Program
The Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio, USA
kissel.4@osu.edu

Andrew Gray
Treasurer
University College London
London, UK
andrew.gray@ucl.ac.uk

Members-At-Large

Liisa Hallikainen
Lapland University Consortium Library
Arctic Centre
Rovaniemi, Finland
liisa.hallikainen@ulapland.fi

Cecilie Tang Møldrup
Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies
University of Copenhagen
Copenhagen, Denmark
cqw916@hum.ku.dk

Bolethe Olsen
Ilisimatusarfik University of Greenland
Ilimmarfik Library
Nuuk, Greenland
bool@uni.gl

Shelly Sommer
Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research
University of Colorado
Boulder, Colorado, USA
shelly.sommer@colorado.edu

Ex-Officio Members

Juli Braund-Allen
Senior Bulletin Editor
UAA/APU Consortium Library
Alaska Resources Library & Information Services
University of Alaska Anchorage
Anchorage, Alaska, USA
jebraundallen@alaska.edu

Daria O. Carle
Bulletin Editor
UAA/APU Consortium Library
University of Alaska Anchorage
Anchorage, Alaska, USA
docarle@alaska.edu

Sandy Campbell
Liaison, University of the Arctic
J.W. Scott Heath Sciences Library
Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre
University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada
sandy.campbell@ualberta.ca

Stéfano Biondo
Representative, 2020 Colloquy
Bibliothèque de l’Université Laval
Centre GéoStat
Québec City, Québec, Canada
stefano.biondo@bibl.ulaval.ca

Joë Bouchard
Representative, 2020 Colloquy
Bibliothèque de l’Université Laval
Québec City, Québec, Canada
joe.bouchard@bibl.ulaval.ca
A Few Colloquy Impressions

The Rovaniemi Colloquy was my second PLC meeting. As I live in Finland, this journey lasted only two hours instead of 30. At my first PLC in Fairbanks, Alaska, I spent an immemorial week two years ago. This time I took part only for two days, which was a pity I realized later, because I missed meeting with Santa Claus and a possibility to search for amethysts, not to mention many interesting sessions. Nevertheless, as we say in Finland, sokerit pohjalla (sugar’s in the bottom), the two last days were rich of occasions, too.

Others have already written praiseworthy texts about sessions, so I won’t mention them. Instead, I will praise the wonderful evening we spent on Vartiosaari Island, where the Colloquy Banquet was held. The fun started when we left the bus after a short drive outside of the city and had to walk across the bridge to the island, where the hostess of the hotel area welcomed us with a glass of wine.

The Kota Restaurant featured a grand open fireplace in the center, with tables set by the wall around the fire. There we enjoyed a gourmet dinner that included all the best flavors of Finland, with a delicious and beautifully plated parsnip soup, roasted pike perch with horseradish and carrot-orange puree, and cloudberry ice cream with chocolate fondant. The Colloquy Auction was next, and it was such fun to follow along as people were relaxed and cheerful.

The nature around Vartiosaari was beautiful and peaceful in spite of some mosquitos who wanted to have their part of pleasure. We also learned about the history of the island, dating back to as early as 1712, which I always find interesting. During the Second World War, the island was used by the Finnish Defence Forces. We even saw the dancing pavilion where German soldiers took some turns on the dance floor. The light summer evening passed by, leaving a pleasant memory.

Ritva Mäntylä
Pegasus Library
University of Oulu, Finland
Hyvää huomenta! Good morning!

This was my second participation at PLC, and this opportunity was again made possible by assistance from the Hubert Wenger Award. These funds enabled me to meet again colleagues from different universities around the world that are facing similar challenges about polar documentation collections, and gave me the chance to share my experiences using ESRI’s Story Map application to promote our own polar collections. It was also an opportunity to actually be on the Arctic Circle and to learn more about the Native people of Lapland, the Sámi.

As with my first experience two years ago in Fairbanks, Alaska, I found this PLC to be a rich, interesting, and varied conference program. It was also a good balance between presentations from PLC colleagues and those from professors of Lapland University. I really appreciated the keynote presentation of Professor Timo Jokela from University of Lapland about ‘Sustainable Art with the Arctic.’ Once again, the arrangement of activities at the Colloquy was impeccable.

The all-day field trip on Wednesday to Sodankylä and Luosto, with visits to the Sodankylä Geophysical Observatory, Finnish Meteorological Institute, and Lampivaara Amethyst Mine, were really instructive and captivating. We had a good time at the banquet on Vartiosaari Island and during the live auction, and I believe the skills that I developed from the Fairbanks auction served me well in Rovaniemi. The group picture with the real and unique Santa Claus was such a good idea.

For that wonderful week, I would like to warmly thank the organising committee who did fantastic work. I would also like to point out that the Finnish people were very friendly and welcoming.

Fortunately, the Hubert Wenger Award will not be necessary for my participation at the next PLC since it will be held in my city. I hope to see many of you at the Colloquy in Québec in 2020!

Stéfano Biondo
Université Laval
Québec City, Canada
UArctic Launches New Thematic Network
CAFE—Circumpolar Archives, Folklore, and Ethnography

by Sandy Campbell
J.W. Scott Heath Sciences Library
Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre
University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada

Liisa Hallikainen (Arctic Centre, Lapland University Consortium Library, Rovaniemi, Finland) attended the UArctic Council meeting in Oulu, Finland, in 2018 September on behalf of PLC. Liisa reports that UArctic has launched a new thematic network of interest to PLC members, focused on Circumpolar Archives, Folklore, and Ethnography (CAFE).

A UArctic Thematic Network is a network of people with similar interests. Each network is hosted by a UArctic institution and consists of individual experts from at least three UArctic member institutions. Each network has members from the three major northern regions (North America, northern Europe, and Russia) and may have participants from non-UArctic organizations.

This new CAFE thematic network is led by Professor David Anderson of the University of Aberdeen, with members from Berkeley College, University of the Faroe Islands, North-Eastern Federal University, Northern (Arctic) Federal University, UiT–The Arctic University of Norway, University of Lapland, University of Turku, University of Helsinki, University of the Highlands and Islands, and the KTH Royal Institute of Technology.

The thematic network proposal describes the new network as being “centered around the existing folklore, photographic, and ethnographic collections held by its founding members and will seek to involve community organizations, indigenous research institutes, local artists and media producers, and new academic partners to create a forum for discussing the role of these archives in cultural revival as well as collaborating to create innovative ways for archival materials to reach wider audiences.”

Mark your calendars now for a trip to Dublin for SouthPole-sium v.4.

More information will be forthcoming as the date approaches.

SouthPole-sium v.4 to be held in Dublin for those who collect, write, publish, buy, sell & love books relating to Antarctica and the South Polar Regions.

7-9 June 2019.
weather balloon launcher that now performs most
of the launches.

Rounding off our trip was a stop at the Lampivaara
Amethyst Mine at Luosto. The “mine” is a hillside
of mixed sand and naturally shattered rock, with
small purple amethysts sometimes visible on the
surface, beneath which larger pieces were buried.
We learned how amethyst is formed and, armed
with baskets and small rock hammers, we searched
among the broken rocks for the stones. Having
collected a basket of likely pieces, we each went to a
washing station to see whether or not we had been
successful. We were all able to take home one small,
palm-size sample. (SCa)

14 June 2018 • Thursday Morning •
Keynote • Presentations

Day 4 commenced with the keynote, ‘Service Design
in the Arctic’ presented by ULapland’s S. Miettinen,
a designer specializing in service experiences. She
noted that users’ experiences of service quality
can be affected by scent, sound, and vision, and
that service can be tailored and designed, even
prototyped, in storyboards or video clips.

I. Stokkeland (Norwegian Polar Institute), speaking
for K.-G. Kjaer, presented on ‘Arctic Marine Mammal
Products in 19th Century European Industries,’ as well
as the development of the north Norwegian sealing
fleet (1859–1909), and the Kjell-G. Kjaer Historical
Register of Arctic Vessels.

L. Kissel (The Ohio State University Byrd Polar
and Climate Research Centre) talked about ‘Thinking
Outside of the (Hollinger) Box: Professional Writing
for the Archives.’ (Not all of us knew that the gray,
acid-free document boxes in archives are actually
called Hollinger boxes!) She described a new
university course that matches students learning
how to write grant proposals with real-world clients.

K. Hossain (ULapland) gave a keynote on ‘Human
and Societal Security in the Arctic.’ He has written
extensively on the subject and more about his work
in Human Security can be found at his HuSArctic
project website. (Sch)

14 June 2018 • Thursday Afternoon •
Presentations

Day 4 featured the opening talk ‘Archives and
Libraries of the People, by the People, for the
People,’ by M. Ekman (Rovaniemi City Library). She
described an experience using a type of
crowd sourcing known as niche sourcing, wherein
assistance is enlisted from experts or amateurs
with specialized knowledge to help the library with
certain collections.

This project involved a collection of rare maps of
a small area called Petsamo. The maps were from
from the 1920s–1930s, and their availability had
been forbidden by the Soviet Union. Now, through
niche sourcing, they were to become accessible
online. The library called upon amateur historians
and elderly professionals to digitize the maps. The
Library was only the facilitator and did no quality
control. See the result of the Petsamo Project here.

The focus then turned to publishing and the many
factors contributing to the dilemma of Open
Access for the academic world as well as publishers.
Presentations by P. Lund (Scott Polar Research
Institute) and by A. Koivula and P. Kassinen (Lapland
University Press) described the current state of
Open Access and its lack of a clear business model,
considered the impact of article processing charges,
and posited the role of academic communities in
ensuring the integrity of peer-review and open
science, open data, and open research.

The day’s concluding presentation by S. Forest
(UArctic) described the UArctic and its primary
focus on gaining beneficial impacts through
collaborations and and powerful networks brought
to bear on cooperative education, research, and
outreach in and about the North. He addressed the
challenges of showing measurable impacts. (CM)

15 June 2018 • Friday Morning • Keynote •
Presentations • Closing

Day 5: If you were to twist my arm and force me
to take just one thing from this morning’s final
day, it would have to be the description of a
metric described by A. Gray (University College
London) comparing the number of publications on
Antarctica produced by a country with the number of beds in their Antarctic research stations.

Chile and Russia are doing notably less science than their number of beds would suggest. Having a research station does not mean that science has been done; nor is building a station enough. Following a BAS policy change, all Antarctic countries now need to produce at least some scientific papers.

But before we got to that, we had several other wonderful papers, kicking off with the keynote presentation on human-animal encounters in Arctic tourism by J. Garcia-Rosell and M. Åijälä (both of ULapland). In Lapland 35 companies now offer tourism related to reindeer, and 42 companies offer tourism relating to sled dogs, making animal welfare a growing concern but lacking research. The presenters intend to change this using videography as a research tool.

T. Aarrevaara (ULapland) and S. Parikka (Lapland University Consortium Library) discussed ‘Arctic Value for Society University Ranking (AVS).’ It is a proposed way of providing a useful ranking for Arctic universities based on their value to society, rather than through prestige, reputation, or citation indexes (Arctic themes are hidden in Scopus and Web of Science).

Then we moved on to ‘Bibliometrics for Studying Polar Research’ presented by A. Gray. The overall number of polar science publications is increasing, with those being found in Open Access mega-journals such as PLOS rising fastest. Arctic work is more highly cited than Antarctic work.

Gray introduced us to the concept of the national focus on the Arctic. The off-the-chart-leader in this metric is Greenland, with 85 percent of its research being on the Arctic. New Zealand is highest scoring in Antarctic research. China’s rate is increasing hugely, and Bulgaria is putting a surprisingly high amount of its national focus on Antarctic research.

S. Sommer (UColorado Boulder) gave us the lowdown on how librarians might use Altmetrics. Whilst H-Index and citation indexes will measure an author’s long-term scholarly performance, altmetrics can be useful in demonstrating public engagement and can be particularly helpful for researchers in demonstrating their early impact, e.g., to a tenure review board.

The penultimate paper came from M. Abrahamsson-Sipponen (director of the University of Oulu Library). Her library has developed four positions devoted to bibliometric analysis, which has become a crucial part of the academic recruitment process. In concluding, Abrahamsson-Sipponen anticipated what type of expertise libraries may need to thrive in the future, mentioning avatar librarians and software architects.

It’s been a superbly organised PLC 2018 with some fascinating speakers and before we wrapped up, there was just time for Joë Bouchard and Stéfano Biondo from the Université Laval to give us a sneak peek of what we might expect from the next Colloquy to be held in Québec City in 2020. It looks like it will be terrific! (PL)

Of Interest

David Stam, Syracuse University, shares the following for Bulletin readers:

Some of you might not know of the Book Collector, the periodical “Bible” of bibliophiles and the fount of rare book gossip in its highest form. While it is not open access, the recently published Autumn 2018 issue, edited by Fergus Fleming (Barrow’s Boys), is mostly devoted to polar studies. I found it a most engaging issue (volume 67, no. 3) and thought you’d all find it of interest if you didn’t know about it already.
The Committee for selecting the William Mills Prize for Non-Fiction Polar Books has the pleasure to announce that *Narwhal: Revealing an Arctic Legend* is the William Mills Prize winner for 2018. The winning title was announced on 14 June 2018 in Rovaniemi, Finland, at the business meeting of the Polar Library Colloquy’s biennial conference.

Unicorns are mythical. The people of the North have the real deal—narwhals.

*Narwhal: Revealing an Arctic Legend* is the title of both a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary book and a special exhibition through 3 August 2019 at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History on the Mall in Washington, D.C. Organized and edited by veteran Arctic anthropologist William W. Fitzhugh and Dental School lecturer and narwhal researcher Martin T. Nweeia, the exhibition and book comprehensively unite what is known and erroneous about *Monodon monoceros*, the medium-sized toothed whales uniquely identifiable by their spiral tusks.

Maps, photographs, and illustrations enhance the many easily comprehensible, stand-alone essays in this well-designed and edited 2017 volume published by the Arctic Studies Center of the Smithsonian Institute. Northern Canadians and western Greenlanders contributed Indigenous Inuit stories and their deep knowledge of narwhals. Specialists contributed essays on the biology, dentition, genetics and DNA, art and symbolism, and the evolving natural, human, and geopolitical ecologies of narwhals. Reading one chapter will lead specialists and browsers to other chapters in this valuable reference.

The William Mills Book Prize Committee for the 2018 PLC reviewed 26 nominations and agreed this title deserves the prize. It features new research, clarifies previous incorrect assumptions, and codifies into a single, readable volume the traditional Inuit knowledge, science, and awe of narwhals. This information is timely for discussions of prehistoric, contemporary, and projected climate changes in northern waters. It will become the definitive narwhal reference when the Smithsonian exhibit closes in 2019.

This year two other nominations were awarded Honorary Mentions.

The first, *Arctic Guide: Wildlife of the Far North* by Sharon Chester (Princeton University Press) is a beautifully illustrated field guide to more than 800 species of plants and animals found across the world’s entire Holarctic region.

This year the Mills Prize Committee was impressed by the diversity of book subjects covered by the 26 nominated works, and the presses supporting titles with limited markets. While the publishing world appears to be contracting, the Committee was so pleased to see Indigenous and local inhabitants authoring titles which only they can, and on subjects which are significant regionally. Researchers, seasoned and new, expose readers to new fields of study and made us aware of new sources on classic topics. The Mills Prize Committee members tip our hats to the authors and publishers for doing what they do and encourage others to follow suit.

Twenty-six nominations qualified for consideration this year, the most ever since the inception of the prize. A full list of all titles nominated for the 2018 William Mills Prize, including shortlisted titles, is available in the Spring 2018 issue of the *Bulletin* and on the PLC website. The Prize is awarded every two years to the best Arctic or Antarctic non-fiction books published throughout the world. The prize was first presented in 2006, and is named in honor of William Mills, a polar librarian and author, and a core member of the PLC during its formative years.

For more information, please email Julia Finn at millsprize@gmail.com