

AINA NEWS

IPY Publications Database Growing

As of early November, the International Polar Year Publications Database (IPYPD) at <www.nisc.com/ipy> described 321 publications. The database will attempt to identify and describe all publications that result from, or that are about, IPY 2007–08 and the three previous IPYs. The database, part of the IPY Data and Information Service, is expected to grow to approximately 20 000 publications in the next ten years.

The records in the IPYPD contain citations, abstracts, subject and geographic indexing terms, and, in most cases, links to the online full text of the publications. The success of the IPYPD depends on the willingness of IPY researchers, educators and communicators to report their publications, as requested by the IPY Data Policy.

The IPYPD was created by AINA's Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS), the Cold Regions Bibliography Project at the American Geological Institute, the Scott Polar Research Institute Library at the University of Cambridge, the Discovery and Access of Historic Literature of the IPYs (DAHLI) project at the National Snow and Ice Data Center at the University of Colorado, and National Information Services Corporation.

The Canadian IPY Publications Database at <www.aina.ucalgary.ca/ipy> described 210 publications as of early November. This bilingual database makes the IPYPD's Canadian content available separately. Seed funding for the Canadian component of the IPYPD has been provided by EnCana Corporation.

Diary and Photo Album on Loan to Photo Archive Project

A diary depicting the harrowing 1921 journey of a Vancouver woman on the maiden voyage of a Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) schooner has been loaned to AINA. Frances Gladys O'Kelly made the trip from Vancouver to Tree River, NWT, with her husband, Patrick Thomas O'Kelly, an HBC employee. In her diary, she captured highlights of the five-month-long journey, including the ramming of the schooner by an American tug, a fire onboard, and becoming lost in heavy fog and ice. At one point, the ship was trapped in ice, and the captain believed they would have to spend the winter marooned up north. Fortunately, a few days later the ice broke. O'Kelly wrote, "Everyone smiling and hopeful of getting out of the country now before freeze up." The *Kindersley* did manage to sail out of the Arctic, and O'Kelly and her husband returned to Vancouver, where she continued to live into her eighties.

This generous loan was made to AINA by Vickie Newington, a Calgary resident whose father was raised by Frances and Patrick O'Kelly (his aunt and uncle). The diary and album have been digitized and are available in AINA's online photo archives.

Arctic Issues under Microscope at Gussow

This October, the Arctic Institute of North America collaborated with the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists to organize the 2007 Gussow Conference on Arctic Energy Exploration at the Banff Centre. Participants in the two-day conference heard more than 25 experts speak on a variety of issues ranging from northern pipeline development to terrestrial and underwater reserves, Arctic sovereignty, and the potential impacts of climate change on exploration and development. The wide range of topics reflected the changing state of the Arctic and the challenges facing the North. Presenters at the 2007 Gussow Conference agreed that while the Arctic has significant oil and gas resources, the lack of a pipeline and the complex, multi-layered regulatory regime are significant obstacles to oil and gas exploration and development there.

AINA Research Associate Receives RSGS Award

AINA Research Associate Norman E. Hallendy has been awarded the 2007 Mungo Park Medal by the Royal Scottish Geographical Society (RSGS). Dedicated to the memory of Scottish explorer Mungo Park, who died 200 years ago while exploring the River Niger in West Africa, the medal recognizes outstanding contributions to geographical knowledge through exploration or research in potentially hazardous environments. For over 40 years, Mr. Hallendy has conducted ethnographic research in the Eastern Arctic, particularly on southwest Baffin Island, where he spent many seasons traveling with the elders and learning the meaning of the stone *inuksuit*. In 2001, Douglas & McIntyre published Hallendy's definitive book on the subject, *Inuksuit: Silent Messengers of the Arctic*. Mr. Hallendy received the 2007 Mungo Park Medal, according to the RSGS, "in recognition of his distinguished contribution to the study of the people and landscape of the Canadian Arctic."

AINA Continues Active Outreach Program

This fall AINA continued with its busy outreach program and co-hosted several public events. On October 30, Brigadier-General C.T. Whitecross, OMM, CD Commander, Joint Task Force North, Canadian Forces, spoke on Canadian Arctic security issues. The public talk at the Rozsa Centre was jointly sponsored by AINA, the Centre for Military and Strategic Studies, and the Department of Political Science.

On November 5, McGill paleontologist Dr. Hans Larsson spoke on his adventures and discoveries made while fossil hunting in the Arctic and Africa. This talk at the Calgary Zoo was co-hosted by AINA and the Zoo's new Polar Interpretive Centre of Canada.

AINA partnered with the Alberta Global Forum to host a talk on Arctic sovereignty by political scientist Rob Huebert. This late November event was held at the Rozsa Centre.

Also in November, Executive Director Benoît Beauchamp spoke on Arctic issues at the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists' Honorary Address. The annual address was held at the Jubilee Auditorium and was heavily attended by public school students as well as members of the general public. Also speaking was Jeff MacInnis, son of deep-sea diver Joe MacInnis. The younger MacInnis spoke on his adventures sailing the Northwest Passage in an 18-foot boat in just 100 days.

AINA Staff Help with Shoreline Cleanup

Silk wedding flowers, one lens from a pair of glasses, and a makeshift coffin containing the remains of a pet hamster were among the 674 pieces of garbage collected along the Bow River by staff of the Arctic Institute of North America (AINA). For the second year in a row, AINA staff volunteered to clean a portion of the riverbank as part of the TD Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup in September. The group worked the shoreline along Baker Park and collected two bags of trash, which included items such as toys, cans, plastic bags, coffee cups, and the ubiquitous cigarette butts.

The annual event was started 14 years ago by four Vancouver Aquarium employees who decided to clean a small beach. Since that date, participation in the event has grown steadily. This year, more than 50 000 Canadians registered to clean over 1 200 shorelines throughout Canada.

Northern Granular Resources Bibliographic Database

The Northern Granular Resources Bibliographic Database at <www.aina.ucalgary.ca/ngr> now describes more than 1 730 publications about granular resources (gravel, sand, and crushed rock for use in construction) in the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. The database also describes publications about surficial geology, geotechnical investigations, permafrost, and ground ice as they relate to granular resources. AINA's Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS) maintains the database for the Land and Water Management Directorate of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC).

In order to make publications more accessible to users in the North, over the past five years the Land and Water Management Directorate has devoted considerable effort

to the digitization of granular resources reports that were prepared by or for INAC. More than 700 database records now contain links to online PDF files.

New Member Services Coordinator

The Arctic Institute was pleased to welcome Jenny Hoops to the staff in October. After earning degrees in biology and psychology from Queen's University, Jenny worked as a water resources technologist and enforcement officer for Alberta Environment before establishing her own professional speaking and publishing business. Eager to spend more time with her young family, Jenny has taken on the part-time position as coordinator of member services for AINA. In addition to handling new AINA memberships and renewals, Jenny provides administrative support for the Northern Scientific Training Program and the AINA scholarships. Her long-term goals are to expand the AINA membership base and to raise awareness of the scholarship programs available to graduate students conducting research in the North.

AINA Library Collection Relocated

Increased visibility and greater accessibility are two benefits of the relocation of the library collection of the Arctic Institute of North America (AINA) from the MacKimmie Library Tower to the Gallagher Library. The collection had been housed in an out-of-the-way corner in the basement of MacKimmie Tower, a space that did not encourage browsing by people walking to and from other library collections. The Gallagher Library, on the other hand, is located in a busy corridor in the Earth Sciences building.

Especially pleased with the move are some scientists in Earth Sciences. "I've heard from a number of researchers with northern interests who are quite excited that the collection is closer to them," says Northern Studies librarian Claudette Cloutier. And, points out Ross Goodwin, manager of the Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS), the move will benefit the institute as a whole. "AINA staff who use the collection will have to walk farther, but this move will raise our profile on campus." AINA staff, who are located on the eighth floor of the MacKimmie Tower, regularly access the collection to create new records for the ASTIS database.