

## AINA NEWS

### *David Hik Elected President of IASC*

Arctic Institute board member David Hik was elected president of the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) for the next four years during the organization's annual council meeting in Nuuk and Copenhagen in April.

Professor Hik, who holds the Research Chair in Northern Ecology at the University of Alberta, succeeds Kristján Kristjánsson as IASC president. Other members of the IASC Executive Committee are Susan Barr (Norwegian Directorate for Cultural Heritage), Naja Mikkelsen (Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland), Jacqueline Grebmeier (University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science), and Byong-Kwon Park (Korea Polar Research Institute).

The IASC is an international associate of the International Council for Science and an observer in the Arctic Council. Its head office is in Potsdam, Germany.

### *Arctic Security Focus of Study Led by Rob Huebert*

AINA research associate Rob Huebert, a University of Calgary political scientist and associate director of the Centre for Military and Strategic Studies, will lead a national team in an examination of Arctic security—one of today's most important emerging issues in international geopolitics.

Climate change is rapidly reshaping the North. As receding sea ice opens new transportation routes and opportunities for resource development, countries around the world eye the region for new economic opportunities. At the heart of Huebert's study, which received an \$85,000 grant from ArcticNet, a Network of Centres of Excellence based at Laval University, is whether governments approach this new Arctic in the spirit of cooperation or competition.

"The Arctic is in the process of massive transformation. This grant gives us the opportunity to assess whether it will be developed in a peaceful, cooperative framework or one based on conflict and competition," says Huebert.

### *ASTIS News*

Canada's northern database, the Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS), grew by a record amount during fiscal 2009–10. More than 3500 records describing publications and research projects about northern Canada were added to the database during the year. ASTIS now contains 70,400 records and provides links to PDF files of 16,000 publications. ASTIS is available for free from the AINA website at [www.arctic.ucalgary.ca](http://www.arctic.ucalgary.ca).

The Canadian IPY Publications Database at [www.aina.ucalgary.ca/ipy](http://www.aina.ucalgary.ca/ipy) now describes 1925 Canadian IPY publications. The database's "IPYs and Projects" menu now lists 113 IPY 2007–2008 projects. The database is funded by the Government of Canada Program for International Polar Year and by Encana Corporation.

The international IPY Publications Database at [www.nisc.com/ipy](http://www.nisc.com/ipy) is also growing rapidly. After its February

update, the database described 2957 publications, and by the time you read this note, the May update will have increased that number.

Another year of work has increased the size of the Northern Granular Resources Bibliographic Database at [www.aina.ucalgary.ca/ngr](http://www.aina.ucalgary.ca/ngr) to 1926 records. The database describes publications about granular resources (gravel, sand, and crushed rock for use in construction) in the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. More than 700 granular resources reports are available through the database as PDF files from the AINA publications server. The database is funded by the Land and Water Management Directorate of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

More work on the Kluane Lake Research Station Bibliography this spring has increased its size to 940 publications. Spencer Apollonio's letter to the editor in this issue of *Arctic* prompted ASTIS to identify 220 Devon Island Research Station publications that have ASTIS records. Both AINA research station bibliographies, one searchable and the other just a list by author, are available from links near the bottom of the page at [www.arctic.ucalgary.ca/index.php?page=astis\\_database](http://www.arctic.ucalgary.ca/index.php?page=astis_database).

### *Northern Lights Series: Call for Manuscripts*

The Northern Lights Series, a collaborative initiative by the Arctic Institute of North America and the University of Calgary Press, now includes 13 published titles, and we intend to add two books each year. Manuscripts are subjected to a rigorous peer-review process. Those already published cover a wide spectrum of topics, including education, resource management, anthropology, politics, and history. We invite submissions of suitable manuscripts on any aspect of the circumpolar North. Interested authors should first submit an outline of the book to the Series Editor, Professor William Barr ([wbarr@ucalgary.ca](mailto:wbarr@ucalgary.ca)).

### *Geology Partnership to Enhance Arctic Energy Research*

The University of Calgary and the Government of Canada are joining forces to create a world-class geoscience research centre in Calgary. The two parties signed a collaborative research and development agreement to share laboratory space and equipment at the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) – Calgary facility, located just north of campus, and to work together on projects of mutual interest. The GSC operates a major geoscientific laboratory in Calgary to provide critical research and expertise on the geology, geochemistry, geophysics, and resource potential of sedimentary basins in western and northern Canada.

"This agreement is very exciting. The largest remaining conventional oil and gas fields in Canada are in the Arctic, and this centre will provide new and necessary opportunities for research and exploration," said Benoit Beauchamp, geoscience professor and executive director of the Arctic Institute of North America.