

AINA NEWS

Ross Goodwin's Retirement

After 36 years as Manager of the Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS), Ross Goodwin retired at the end of September 2012. Ross developed ASTIS for the Arctic Institute of North America and has guided it to its current position as Canada's national northern database with 77 000 records. Ross has been a long-standing pillar of support at the Arctic Institute, leading ASTIS through economic downturns and even stepping in on occasion as the Institute's acting Executive Director. Ross's hard work and dedication will continue to be appreciated at the Arctic Institute as he moves into his new role as a volunteer for ASTIS. His colleagues at the Institute are very happy to have Ross move into this new position and wish him all the best in his retirement.

Circumpolar Health Bibliographic Database

The Circumpolar Health Bibliographic Database (CHBD) now contains 6400 records describing publications about all aspects of human health in the circumpolar region. This free and publicly accessible database is available at www.aina.ucalgary.ca/chbd. Originally a project of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Team in Circumpolar Health Research, it covers both peer-reviewed and grey literature. The CHBD is maintained by, and is a subset of, the Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS), which is also available for free online at www.aina.ucalgary.ca/astis.

2012 Jim Bourque Scholarship Recipient

The 2012 winner of the Jim Bourque Scholarship is Baillie Redfern, who is currently a full-time master's degree candidate in the Genome Science and Technology Program at the University of British Columbia. Baillie is currently working in the field of medicinal plant genomics and hopes to develop a career in public policy and outreach programs related to Aboriginal concerns.

The Jim Bourque Scholarship was established in honour of the late James W. Bourque, PC, a vocal activist for Native people and the environment, who was appointed to the Queen's Privy Council for Canada in 1992. The \$1000 scholarship is awarded annually to a Canadian Aboriginal student enrolled in post-secondary studies in education, environmental studies, traditional knowledge, or telecommunications. Further information on the scholarship is available on the AINA website at <http://www.arctic.ucalgary.ca/scholarships>.

Grant-in-Aid Recipients for 2012

Of the 28 students who applied for a Grant-in-Aid Award in 2012, 10 received awards of \$1000 to assist them with research costs. The successful applicants were Sean Desjardins, McGill University; Edward Dunn; Simon Filhol, International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks; Joanne Heslop, University of Nevada, Reno; Amanda Koltz, Duke University; Veronica Lech, Memorial University; Jennie McLaren, University of British Columbia; Jennifer Provencher, Carleton University; Heidi Tomes, University of Toronto; and Scott Williamson, University of Alberta.

The members of the Grant-in-Aid Selection Committee for 2012 were Mark Johnson, Matthew Sturm, Thomas Newbury, Peter Johnson, and Stephen Braund. Proposals for 2013 are due on 1 February. Please refer to the AINA website for information on applying for program.

The Shackleton Autumn School, 2012

Over the weekend of 26–29 October, Senior Research Associate William Barr participated, by invitation, in the Shackleton Autumn School in the small town of Athy, County Kildare, Ireland. Sir Ernest Shackleton was born near the village of Kilkea, not far from Athy, and for the last 12 years a dedicated group in Athy has organized an annual conference in Shackleton's honour. For the event this year, a special exhibit of photos and artifacts from Shackleton's Antarctic expeditions was organized in the Athy Heritage Centre and Museum, and the conference was held in Athy Library, housed in the same building. It was gratifying to see that the town had rallied around the event, with a large banner stretched above the main street and posters in prominent places. The event was opened on Friday evening by Mr. Michael Higgins, President of Ireland, who in his address, delivered in Gaelic and English, focused on Ireland's need for the endurance and perseverance displayed by Shackleton to weather her present economic difficulties.

The title of Bill Barr's presentation was: "Antarctic Debacle: Oberleutnant Filchner's Antarctic Expedition 1911–12: Differing Versions of the Allocation of Blame." Other lecture titles included: "Endurance at South Georgia," by Bob Burton; "Mrs. Shackleton and Other Polar Wives," by Kari Herbert (daughter of Sir Wally Hebert); and "Scott's Irishmen: Crean, Forde, Keohane and McCarthy," by Michael Smith.

Also participating in the event were Ms. Alexandra Shackleton, Sir Ernest's granddaughter, and Mr. Falcon Scott, Captain Robert Scott's grandson.