

## AINA NEWS

*2015 Bourque Scholarship Winner*

Nicole Iaci, a member of the Kwantlen First Nation from Fort Langley, British Columbia, is the 2015 recipient of the Jim Bourque Scholarship administered by the Arctic Institute. Nicole is currently in her third year of the Juris Doctor degree program at the Peter A. Allard School of Law, University of British Columbia (UBC). Before starting her studies at UBC, Nicole earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Victoria, where she majored in history and political science. She also spent one summer at the University of Saskatchewan, enrolled in the Program of Legal Studies for Native People. As part of her law degree, Nicole will attend the Intensive Program in Aboriginal Lands, Resources & Governments at Osgoode Law School in Toronto, Ontario, from January to April 2016. Nicole's goal in becoming a lawyer is to specialize in Aboriginal and environmental and resource law.

*AINA's 70th Anniversary Photo Contest*

As part of AINA's 70th anniversary celebrations this year, we asked readers to submit photographs on northern subjects, with the winning photo to be featured on the cover of the December 2015 issue of *Arctic*. The selected photo was submitted by Scott Zolkos. It was taken on the Dempster Highway in the southwestern Northwest Territories near the Yukon border on August 26, 2014, while Scott and his colleagues were returning from a field season on the Peel Plateau. Scott is a doctoral student at the University of Alberta, where he is studying the influence of permafrost thaw on carbon cycling across the terrestrial-freshwater interface.

Thank you to all those who participated in the photo contest!

*Arctic Observing Summit 2016*

The Arctic Observing Summit (AOS) is an international, biennial forum of stakeholders, managers, scientists, agencies, Arctic community members, and other participants from both public and private sectors. Its purpose is to coordinate the design, development, and implementation of a comprehensive and sustained pan-Arctic observing system. In collaboration with international partners, the International Study of Arctic Change (ISAC, <http://www.arcticchange.org/>) leads the planning and development of the AOS, a Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON) task. The inaugural AOS in 2013 was held in Vancouver, Canada, and AOS 2014 was held in Helsinki, Finland, in conjunction with the Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW). A selection of papers and reports from AOS 2013 was recently published by the Arctic Institute of North America in a special issue of the journal *Arctic*.

The upcoming AOS 2016 will take place in Fairbanks, Alaska, on March 15–18 ([www.arcticobservingsummit.org](http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org)), immediately following ASSW 2016 on March 12–15 ([www.assw2016.org](http://www.assw2016.org)). The 2013 and 2014 Summits included participants from more than 30 countries, representing all sectors and diverse disciplines, who contributed white papers and perspectives on programs, our current observing capacity, the design and coordination of systems and initiatives, engaging stakeholders and addressing community needs, innovation, and data management and accessibility. Recommendations from previous summits and these white papers guided theme selection for AOS 2016. Once again, community input is being invited as white papers and poster abstracts. Although the deadline has passed for submissions, some space for poster presentations may still be available, and interested authors are welcome to contact the ISAC Program Office ([aos@arcticobserving.com](mailto:aos@arcticobserving.com)). The selected themes for AOS 2016 include (1) International and national strategies for sustained support of long-term Arctic observing; (2) Technology and innovation for sustained Arctic observations; (3) Contributions of the private sector and industry to sustained Arctic observations; (4) Actor and stakeholder engagement and needs in sustained Arctic observations; (5) Arctic observations in the context of global observing initiatives; and (6) Interfacing traditional knowledge, community-based monitoring and scientific methods for sustained Arctic observations. Detailed theme descriptions and the names of the co-leads for these themes can be viewed at: <http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org/aos-2016-theme-descriptions>. The Summit welcomes diverse perspectives, and participation from all sectors in AOS and ASSW 2016 activities is encouraged.

*ASTIS Subset Databases Expand*

The ArcticNet Publications Database ([www.aina.ucalgary.ca/arcticnet](http://www.aina.ucalgary.ca/arcticnet)) has grown significantly in the past year and now describes more than 2900 publications from ArcticNet, 346 publications from the Canadian Arctic Shelf Exchange Study (CASES), and 208 publications from the International North Water Polynya Study (NOW). There are currently 3300 publications in this database, including 2000 refereed publications and 465 student theses. ASTIS is pleased to work with ArcticNet to provide this searchable archive of ArcticNet's refereed and non-refereed scientific publications.

The Inuvialuit Settlement Region Database ([www.aina.ucalgary.ca/isr](http://www.aina.ucalgary.ca/isr)) currently describes more than 13 000 publications and research projects about the Inuvialuit Settlement Region in Canada's Northwest Territories and Yukon. This database is maintained by both ASTIS and the Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat and is funded through corporate donations.



Patty conducting excavations in 2013 at Phillip's Garden, a large Dorset site in northwestern Newfoundland.

### New AINA Postdoc Researcher

In October, Patricia (Patty) Wells joined the institute team through the Eyes High Postdoctoral Program established by the University of Calgary. She is involved in a SSHRC-funded research project aimed at understanding human and marine interactions within the Arctic system over the last 1000 years. Patty's role is focused on gathering climate information from historical documentary sources, including the journals of fur traders, expedition leaders, ship's logs, and commercial whaling and sealing records of the past 400 years. These written records have the potential to characterize climate conditions at a seasonal or annual level and to track the ecology of marine mammals, sea birds, and other species within the system. Furthermore, they will be integrated into existing syntheses of paleoenvironment, past human adaptation, regional climate, and sea ice evolution. The project will address both short- and long-term trends across a broad area extending across the Canadian Arctic Archipelago, from the Beaufort Sea in the west to the Labrador Sea in the east. The broad temporal and geographic scope of this project will enhance

present characterizations of past changes in marine systems and human responses and inform developing frameworks for understanding future change.

Patty's academic background is in zooarchaeology, particularly as it pertains to Arctic Small Tool cultures—the Groswater and Dorset—in Newfoundland and Labrador. She has conducted butchery and settlement and subsistence studies and analyzed osseous tool industries to understand the social and technical practices of Arctic cultures in the region. In addition, Patty has conducted research involving a number of documentary sources such as the records of the Hudson Bay Company, northern exploration journals, and newspapers. She is delighted to be combining her archaeological and documentary research interests in this important project.

### *Due North Student Conference a Success!*

The 11th triennial Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies (ACUNS) student conference was hosted on 5–8 November 2015 by the Arctic Institute of North America at the University of Calgary. The conference, coordinated by students from many faculties of the university, highlighted student research in the circumpolar North. Aptly titled *Due North: Next Generation Arctic Research and Leadership*, the conference explored research in the natural and social sciences, as well as the arts and humanities.

The conference was attended by 115 people, which included more than 60 student and early career scientist presenters. The best poster presentation and the top three speakers all received awards for their hard work. The poster prize went to Theo Harvey (University of Lethbridge), for his poster titled *Quantifying the Extent of Arctic Fog over Glaciers Using MODIS and Ground Observations*. Third place in the oral presentations went to Keegan Smith (Carleton University) for his talk, *A Multi-Scale Landscape Analysis of Snow Distribution and Ablation Processes on Southern Baffin Island*. Second place was awarded to Maggie Cole Crump (Carleton University), who presented *Attempting to Define Poverty in Nunavut: Public Engagement and the Makimaniq Plan for Poverty Reduction*. First place went to Peter Aukes (University of Waterloo) for his excellent presentation on *Comparing Dissolved Organic Matter Quality from a High Arctic (Lake Hazen, NU) and a Subarctic (Yellowknife, NWT) Environment*.

Eight noteworthy academics and Arctic researchers were invited to share some words of wisdom with the attendees. The list of high-profile speakers included University of Calgary President Dr. Elizabeth Cannon, Calgary-Varsity MLA Stephanie McLean, Government of Yukon Senior Science Advisor Dr. Aynslie Ogden, Vice-Consul Lee Wilbur from the United States Consulate General in Calgary, and the Director of the Center for Alaska Education Policy Research and Professor of Education Policy, Dr. Diane Hirshberg. Assistant Professor Dr. Brent

Else and Professor and Associate Dean of Research and Infrastructure Dr. Brian Moorman spoke on behalf of the Department of Geography, and Assistant Professor Dr. Sabrina Perric spoke on behalf of the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology. Finally, Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi shared an inspirational video message with the conference attendees.

The conference was well received by all who attended. The conference provided a platform for networking and collaboration of participants, from visual artists to natural scientists, across all of the important disciplines in Arctic research. Congratulations to all the students, staff, and volunteers who contributed to the success of the *Due North: Next Generation Arctic Research and Leadership Conference!*