What Is the Arctic Research Consortium of the United States (ARCUS)?

Robert H. Rich, Ph.D., CAE, Executive Director

ARCUS: More than 25 Years of Connecting Arctic Research
The Arctic is a Complex, Interdependent System

Source: SEARCH, 2005
Understanding the Arctic Requires Connecting Across Boundaries

Sector Boundaries
- Academic
- Government
- Industrial
- Indigenous
- Non-Governmental Organizations
- Public and Society

Disciplinary Boundaries
- Physical Science
- Life / Natural Science
- Engineering
- Social Science
- Education
- Community Development

Geographic Boundaries
- International / Circumpolar (National Boundaries)
- Arctic Residents / Global Population (Regional Perspectives)

Photo by Robyn Staup (PolarTREC 2007)
What Does “Connecting Arctic Research” Mean?

- Communication
- Coordination
- Collaboration
Understanding the Arctic Requires Connecting Across Boundaries

Source: John Farrell, USARC, 2011
Who We Are

- A Consortium of 30 of the leading Arctic research organizations around the U.S. and the world
- A growing association with 54 individual members
- An engaged Board of Directors
- A dedicated team of 13 professionals spread throughout Alaska, D.C., and five other U.S. states
- Many teams of volunteers making things happen
- A grantee of the U.S. National Science Foundation and other agencies
- Dedicated to “Connecting Arctic Research” since 1988
Key ARCUS Partners in the U.S.
Communication: Electronic

ArcticInfo
Community job, meeting, and resource announcements
More than 6,000 subscribers – You could be one

Witness the Arctic
Publication issued 3 times per year
More than 12,000 subscribers – You could be one

Directory of Arctic Researchers
Online resource for scientific contacts and collaborators
Contains more than 4,000 individuals – Are you included?

Arctic Calendar
Community events schedule
Over 60 events currently posted – Is your event listed?

Other ARCUS Communication Vehicles
Twitter: @ArcticResearch
Polar Education Email List, Web-Based Resources, Images, Videos
You can subscribe and explore

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Donald L. Wetterman, USAF
Communication: Meetings

• Community Knowledge Exchange Workshop:
  Impacts of Arctic Sea Ice Loss
• White House Arctic Science Ministerial Side Event
• AGU Fall Meeting: Arctic Community Meeting
  Rooms
  Request space at www.arcus.org/communitymeetings/agu/2016
• Permafrost Methane Synthesis Workshop
• ASSW 2017 Panel
  Multiple knowledge systems to understand a dynamic Arctic
• Arctic Research D.C. Seminar/Webinar Series
  Bringing the latest, most significant Arctic research results to
  the D.C. community and the world

November 30 – Dr. Hajo Eicken
Sign up at www.arcus.org/research-seminar-series

Photo by ARCUS staff.
Communication:
Informal Meetings and Conversations:

At ARCUS, we work to:
• Promote communication, coordination, and collaboration
• Apply resources to advance the research
• Connect organizations, individuals, and activities
• Inform participants about other related activities
• Trigger creativity and innovation
• Support IARPC awareness, capacity to engage
• Help in outreach and education
• Understand concerns and challenges, bring other resources to bear

Bottom Line: The community is often fragmented and ARCUS can provide connections across boundaries.

Photo by Christina Galvan
(PolarTREC 2010)
Coordination: Sea Ice Prediction Network
Sea Ice Outlook & Sea Ice for Walrus Outlook

- Ever-increasing record numbers of submissions each month to Sea Ice Outlook
- Produces reports in June, July, and August each year

- Collaborative project with NWS, NOAA, coastal Arctic communities
- Exploring expansion to other places

Photo by Dave Withrow, Courtesy of Robyn Staup (PolarTREC 2007)
Collaboration: Study of Environmental Arctic Change (SEARCH)

• Generates and synthesizes research findings
• Identifies emerging issues in Arctic environmental change.
• Provides scientific information to stakeholders
• Facilitates research activities, supports decision-makers.
• Collaborates with national and international programs.
• Regularly solicits research community input.

Current SEARCH Focus Areas

• **Sea Ice**: Communicating what matters
• **Land Ice/Glaciers/Greenland Ice Sheet**: Coordinating measurement of what matters
• **Permafrost**: Synthesizing what matters for Carbon, Infrastructure, and Landscapes/Ecosystems
• **Planned**: Coastal Resilience, Arctic Future Scenarios

Photo by Ute Kaden (TREC 2005)
Collaboration: Educational

PolarTREC
• Invigorating polar science education and understanding by bringing K-12 educators and polar researchers together
• More than a decade of positive impact on researchers, teachers, students, the public
• Opportunities open for 2017-2018

The Arctic in the Classroom
• Connecting Arctic Alaska teachers, their students and communities with research

Photo by Lauren Watel, Courtesy of Regina Brinker (PolarTREC 2014)
Scientific Cooperation

• The Arctic research community needs to work across all of the many boundaries
• ARCUS is here to help support this communication, coordination, and collaboration

• You are invited to join with us in “Connecting Arctic Research”

Photo by Robert Harris (PolarTREC 2007)