

Empowering Arctic Indigenous Scholars and Making Connections 2019 Call for Applications

Applications due Monday, 10 January 2019 by 5:00pm AKST

Arctic Indigenous scholars have historically and continue to advance a variety of issues, such as food security, hunting and fishing rights, community resilience, climate change, biodiversity, and a number of other topics and disciplines. The information and understanding put forward by such scholars is invaluable. It is increasingly clear that the study of the Arctic depends upon successfully empowering Arctic Indigenous Scholars with the opportunity to provide insight and expertise to those scientists studying the Arctic within the realm of academic research, often from urban-based settings. The objective of this opportunity, led by the Arctic Research Consortium of the U.S. (ARCUS) and the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) Alaska, is to create a space for Indigenous scholars to educate and inform policy- and decision-makers engaged in Arctic issues from the nation's capital, Washington, D.C.

To empower Indigenous scholars and provide a key opportunity for officials at U.S. government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other groups working on Arctic issues to learn and integrate information/perspectives from multiple Arctic knowledge systems, ARCUS and ICC Alaska invite applications from and/or nominations of leading Arctic Indigenous scholars to travel to Washington D.C. Four scholars will be selected to participate in 2019 and travel expenses and per diem will be provided. While the selected Arctic Indigenous Scholars are in D.C., ARCUS and ICC-Alaska will facilitate meetings with officials at relevant agencies and organizations, where scholars will be able to share their interests, learn of available resources, build toward collaborative relationships, and provide on-the-ground perspectives to key decision-makers. Indigenous Scholars will also provide an open seminar/webinar to Arctic policy-makers and others interested in the Arctic. The Smithsonian Center for Arctic Studies will also host the scholars for a full day, with opportunities for scholars to present their issues, meet staff, and tour collections.

What is an Indigenous Scholar?

We define a scholar as an expert within their own knowledge system. This includes hunters, fishers, and gatherers; those that process and store food; health aides; and others. It includes youth, elders, and adults. Your education may have come from the land, the water, or a classroom.

Participating Indigenous scholars will be selected by a committee composed of Arctic Indigenous leaders both within and outside of Washington D.C. Criteria for selection will include factors such as the Scholar's potential overall impact during their D.C. visit, applicant's ability to share the benefit from meeting D.C.-area officials and decision-makers, and the potential for that applicant to advance knowledge of all kinds and its application to real-world challenges through broader connectivity.

Over the course of four to five days, the visiting scholar will be engaged in many formal and informal activities to connect with the Arctic research community located in Washington, D.C. Depending upon the Scholar's specific expertise and interests, a customized agenda, as well as timing of the visit, will be scheduled. For example, the following types of activities may be included:

- Seminar (with live-streamed and recorded webinar) at the ARCUS D.C. office;
- A full day hosted by the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center;

- Meetings with:
 - Senior Arctic research officials at agencies like the U.S. Arctic Research Commission and the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee;
 - Non-governmental organizations like the National Academy of Sciences Polar Research Board and American Association for the Advancement of Science;
 - Federal agencies relevant to the Scholars' work, such as in the Department of the Interior (e.g., USFWS, USGS, USDA, BLM), Department of Commerce, National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, or Environmental Protection Agency; and
 - Policy-makers such as Congress (Alaska Delegation, Indian Affairs Committee members).

How to Apply

To apply for the opportunity yourself, please choose one of the following formats to submit your application **by 10 January 2019**:

1. Online application form: <https://www.arcus.org/indigenous-scholars/apply>
2. Download a printable application form (<https://www.arcus.org/indigenous-scholars>) and mail to Lisa Sheffield Guy, Arctic Research Consortium of the U.S. 3535 College Road – Suite 101, Fairbanks, AK 99709-3710
3. Submit an audio recording (MP3) or arrange a telephone interview to apply (applications via phone will be recorded for committee review). To schedule a time, please contact Lisa Sheffield Guy at lisa@arcus.org or 907-474-1600.

To Nominate a Scholar

To nominate an Indigenous scholar, simply send us a letter of nomination outlining why and how you believe the scholar and their community would benefit from this opportunity. Please provide full contact information for your nominee and we will follow up with them to complete the application process. Nomination letters can be emailed to lisa@arcus.org or mailed to ARCUS, 3535 College Road - Suite 101, Fairbanks, AK 99709-3710. Nomination letters should be emailed or postmarked **by Friday, 28 December 2019** to allow time for nominees to complete application materials.

For any questions regarding the project or application process, please contact Lisa Sheffield Guy at lisa@arcus.org or 907-474-1600.

EMPOWERING INDIGENOUS SCHOLARS AND MAKING CONNECTIONS 2019

APPLICATION FORM



APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Thank you for your interest in becoming an Arctic Indigenous Scholar! For the purposes of this opportunity, we define a scholar as an expert within their own knowledge system. This includes hunters, fishers, and gatherers; those that process and store food; health aides; and others. It includes youth, elders, and adults. Your education may have come from the land, the water, or a classroom. Candidates should be Indigenous persons with U.S. citizenship.

Supplemental information, such as a resume and/or bio, may be included but is not required. Further information and an online application form is available at <https://www.arcus.org/indigenous-scholars>.

Please contact Lisa Sheffield Guy at lisa@arcus.org or 907-474-1600, with any questions.

Applications are due by 5:00 PM AKST on Monday, 10 January 2019

SCHOLAR CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	
Street Address or PO Box	
City ST ZIP Code	
Phone	
E-mail Address	

REQUIRED QUESTIONS

Instructions: Please provide an answer to questions 1 and 2 below. There is no minimum or maximum length for your answer. Answers provided in other formats, such as an audio recording, can also be accommodated. Answers written in an Indigenous language are welcomed, but we ask the applicant to provide an English translation for review by our multi-lingual selection committee.

- 1. What issue(s) is most important to you/your community that you feel decision-makers (e.g., members of congress, government officials, resource managers) in Washington, D.C. should know more about?**

Some examples might be subsistence rights, health concerns, or shoreline erosion, but any issue is welcome.

2. How might you and/or your community benefit from the opportunity to speak about this issue(s) with decision-makers in D.C.?

An example might be issues in your community with health & safety or infrastructure that have not received the attention they need from government officials or resource managers.



OPTIONAL QUESTIONS

Instructions: The following questions are not required to be considered for the Arctic Indigenous Scholars opportunity but provide space for you to discuss your topic(s) of interest in more detail, if desired. There is no word minimum or maximum for your answers.

3. Who in DC would you like to talk with about your issue(s)?

For example, policy makers, such as Congress (Alaska Delegation, Indian Affairs Committee members), political appointees at agencies (e.g., NOAA, Department of Interior), administrative officials (e.g., White House, Office of Science and Technology Policy), resource managers (e.g., Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Energy, US Department of Agriculture), non-profits (e.g., Native American Rights Fund, National Congress of American Indians), academics, science entities (e.g., National Science Foundation, National Academy of Sciences), think tanks (e.g., Wilson Center), ENGOs (e.g., Oceana). If you are unsure, we will help you find the right people.

Also, what format would you like those meetings to take (e.g., one on one conversation, round-table discussion, interviews with media)?

- 4. Why is your perspective important to share with this entity? What are they currently doing, and how should that be changed, and why? How would it benefit Indigenous Peoples in the Arctic?**

- 5. When you return home, do you hope to share your experience with others in your community? If so, what do you propose as next steps so that you and others in your community can take action on your issues?**

AGREEMENT AND SIGNATURE

BY SUBMITTING THIS APPLICATION, I AFFIRM THAT THE STATEMENTS MADE ABOVE ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE.

Name (printed)	
Signature	
Date	

THANK YOU!

Thank you for applying to this opportunity. Please send completed forms via email to Lisa Sheffield Guy, lisa@arcus.org or by mail to Arctic Research Consortium of the U.S., 3535 College Road – Suite 101, Fairbanks, AK 99709-3710.