

Empowering Arctic Indigenous Scholars and Making Connections Call for Applications

Applications due Thursday, 15 February 2018

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 an intellectual and political space for Indigenous scholars to educate and influence 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. Two scholars will be selected to participate in 2018 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.

What is an Indigenous Scholar?

We define a scholar as a person who is an expert within their own knowledge system. No formal education is required.

Participating Indigenous scholars will be selected by a committee composed of diverse Indigenous leaders, D.C.-area officials, and other Arctic researchers. 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 with policy-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 three 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.
- 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, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Arctic 21 coalition.
 - 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;

- Representatives of other nation states or inter-governmental organizations.
- Leading D.C.-area Arctic researchers.
- If appropriate, meetings with local science educators and their students.

Apply or 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. Letters should be emailed or post-marked by 15 February 2018.

To apply for the opportunity yourself, please choose one of the following formats to submit your application:

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. Arrange a telephone interview to apply (applications via phone will be recorded for committee review). To schedule a time, please call the ARCUS office at 907-474-1600.

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
2018
APPLICATION FORM**



APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

For the purposes of this opportunity, an Indigenous scholar is defined as a person who is an expert within their own knowledge system. No formal education is required. Candidates should be Indigenous persons with U.S. citizenship. The applicant must complete all sections below for consideration.

Applicants may include supplemental information such as a resume, bio, or a relevant photograph with their application, but this 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 Thursday, 15 February 2018

SCHOLAR CONTACT INFORMATION

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

QUESTIONS

Please provide an answer to each question below. Include additional pages if needed.

- 1. What issue is most important to you/your community that you feel policy-makers in Washington, D.C. should know more about?**

2. How might you and/or your community benefit from the opportunity to speak about this issue with Arctic policy- and decision-makers?

3. What types of individuals or groups are you hoping to meet and share with on your trip (if you are unsure, we will help you find the right people), and what format would you like those meetings to take (one-on-one conversation, round-table discussion, interviews with media, etc.)?

4. What information or new perspective would you want a policy- or decision-maker to gain a better understanding of and learn about, especially for their future work in the Arctic?

5. When you return home, do you have ideas about how to share your experience with others? If so, what will you do to inform others about your trip, the meetings you were involved in, and the other benefits of this opportunity?

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.