



UARctic Assembly Meeting / Bodø, Norway / June 2024

Agenda item: 6.2

Proposal – Election of Board Student Representative

Proposal: The UARctic Nominations Committee proposes that the Assembly makes the following decisions:

- a) *The Assembly accepts the nomination and elects **Linda Lyberth Kristiansen** as Student Representative on the Board of UARctic for a fixed three-year term (2024-2027).*
- b) *The Assembly acknowledges and wishes to thank **Juho Kähkönen** (2021-2024) and **Montana Rose Murphy** (2022-2024) for their contributions and time as Student Representatives on the Board of UARctic.*

References: [UARctic Constitution](#) / Articles 5 – Governance and Administration; 10 – Annual Assembly
[UARctic Bylaws](#) / Sections 4 – UARctic Board; 4.2 – Election of the Board
[News story – Linda Lyberth Kristiansen as intern at UARctic International Secretariat](#)
[Nomination letter – Linda Lyberth Kristiansen](#)

Background:

The student representation on the Board consists of three individuals, each appointed for a 3-year non-renewable term. Over a 3-year cycle, each student in their 1st year of appointment will serve as **representative elect**; in the 2nd year will serve as the **representative**; and in the final year, serve as the **outgoing student representative**.

In June 2024, Board student representative **Juho Kähkönen** will end his fixed three-year term on the Board of UARctic. **Montana Rose Murphy** has resigned from the Board membership during spring 2024.

In January 2023, the UARctic's Nominations Committee decided to approach UARctic member institution Ilisimatusarfik / University of Greenland to ask for a nomination to the role of UARctic Board Student representative. When making the decision, the Nominations Committee noted, that in the history of UARctic, there has never been a Board Student Representative from Greenland. The University of Greenland nominated their student Linda Lyberth Kristiansen, who has worked as an intern at the UARctic International Secretariat during winter 2023-24.

The Nominations Committee proposes the election of the following candidate as the Board Student Representative.

Nominated Candidate:

Linda Lyberth Kristiansen Master's student, focusing on Culture and Social History, at Ilisimatusarfik / University of Greenland.

Current Student Representatives on the Board of UARctic:

Juho Kähkönen (Outgoing Representative)

[University of Lapland](#), Finland



Fixed term 2021-2024

Viljo Vuorimäki (Representative Elect)

[University of Lapland](#), Finland

Fixed term 2023-2026

Rationale:

UArctic Constitution, Article 5 – Governance and administration:

The annual Assembly of the association shall elect the Board.

The Board consists of a Chair and the number of other members confirmed by the annual Assembly, with at least eight and at most fourteen members. In addition, the Assembly elects one student and two alternates to the Board from among the association's members.

UArctic Bylaws, section 4 – UArctic Board

The student representation within the Board shall consist of three individuals, each appointed for a three-year / non-renewable term.

Over a 3-year cycle each student would, in the 1st year of appointment serve as representative elect, in the 2nd year serve as the representative, and in the 3rd year serve as the outgoing representative.

Each representative has the opportunity to attend a meeting of the Board, with the voting member receiving financial support from UArctic. With only one vote allowed at meetings of the Board, a recorded vote shall be made by the student representative or either the representative elect or outgoing representative when the student representative is unable to be present.

UArctic Bylaws, section 4.2 – Election of the Board

The election of Board Chair, members and student representative by the Assembly requires support by more than half the votes cast. If votes are equal, election is resolved by the casting of lots.