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UArctic Thematic Network Programme Team Meeting

Bodø University College, (Room 2407)

June 13, 2006 at 13.00-16.00

Minutes

Invitees: Programme chair **Kari Laine**, UArctic Thematic Network Office
Programme coordinator **Kirsi Latola**, UArctic Thematic Network Office
~~**Olavi Junttila**, Univ Tromsø, TN on Arctic Agriculture and Nature Use~~
Liv Østmo, Sámi University College, UArctic Indigenous Thematic
Network on community based natural resource co-management
~~**Bård Berg**, Univ Tromsø~~
Arja Rautio, Univ Oulu, TN on Arctic Medicine
Kristine Nystad, Sámi University College, TN the Verdde

Minutes

1. Update on Thematic Networks:

Thematic Network on Arctic Agriculture and Nature Use

Is still under development and Programme Team discussed that the possibility of getting new lead from University of Saskatchewan, Canada should be discussed with Olavi Junttila and Canadian partners.

UArctic Indigenous Thematic Network on community based natural resource co-management

UArctic Indigenous Thematic Network on Community-based Natural Resource Co-management starts with a kick-off seminar in January 2007, where the network will be named. Liv has suggested to Raipon to find an indigenous name, which will be presented in that kick-off seminar.

A new study: IMPACT ASSESSMENT, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND CAPACITY BUILDING starts up at Sámi University College in September 2006:

- IA Indigenous
- 30 ECTS in Impact Assessment with Indigenous Perspectives, first 15 credits

Main theme of the kick-off seminar will be:

- indigenous issues and impact assessment
- a comparison how Russia, Norway and Canada include indigenous peoples in IA-study process and decision making



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Thematic Network on Arctic Medicine

Building the Master's program CirNet is well under way. This year they have had one meeting in May, where new universities from Greenland, Arkangelisk, Manitoba, Canada, Luleå, Sweden, Norrut, Norway, and University of Lapland, Finland were present. Next meeting will be in August in Oulu.

CirNet is a two year program. They are currently planning the curriculum. There will be 40 credits online courses, some parts are already ready, e.g. courses at University of Manitoba, Canada.

There has been some discussion on language test/proof since the language is an issue with Russian partners. This could be something useful for the UArctic as a whole.

International Master's Program is also connected to graduate school and PhD program and Cross-border university program is supporting this project. Graduate school Health and wellbeing produces approximately 10 PhD theses per year. Most of the students come from the University of Oulu, currently there is one PhD student from Luleå.

Book project in Saami is almost ready – it will published in November during the celebration of 125 years of Duodecim.

Thematic Network the Verdde Program

Kristine has just shown a film in North to North -program meeting. This year Verdde had Students exchange with Nunavut (in Nunavut and from Nunavut). The feedback has been very good and shows the importance of exchange. This year students and staff from Kautokeino will also visit Yakuts.

Whole program is about capacity building and it is important to get indigenous voices heard

There are lot of possibilities to co operate between the networks, e.g. co-operation between Arctic Medicine and ITN and practically almost to everyone. Main thing is to understand that working together makes networks stronger and enhances the knowledge sharing and capacity building.

2. New UArctic website and what it offers to TNs

Kirsi told about the new Uarctic website, which will be launched during this council meeting. In the new Thematic Network pages, there will be own page for each TN.

It was suggested that there should also be a page, which gives information on the events, meeting etc. The perfect solution would be if the page has also a calendar (like in Outlook), which shows the dates with events bold and by clicking that date



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one could find details on the event. Kirsi will talk about that with Riitta Aikio from UArctic secretariat.

A page containing information on the funding resources was also thought to be a good idea.

3. Northern Light feature of Thematic Networks Program to UArctic website in August

Kirsi has promised to write on a Northern Light feature to UArctic Shared Voices – newsletter and web site. Topic is Thematic Networks and story will be a general presentation on the TN.

Liv asked that would it be possible to have this story in September when they are having kick-off seminar. Everyone agreed that this is good idea and Kirsi will take it to UArctic Secretariat (Note: UArctic secretariat said yes, so the feature comes out in September issue).

4. Discussion on funding needs and possibilities

From the networks present the TN Arctic medicine is currently ok with funding. They have NorPlus funding for CirNet, also some other funding such as Cross-Border University funding, which is Finnish –Russian money.

Verde has difficulties in finding funding for staff exchange. For instance there one teacher comes from Nunavut to teach english for three months but program does not have the funding. Kristine's dream is to have staff exchange money for month or longer stay in Nunavut or Yakuts and also for doing some research.

The problem with financiers is that they function very narrow-minded where as indigenous peoples function and think very circumpolar. For example, ITN cooperates with Raipon, which office is in Moscow and function in Northern Russia. However, the finance people only see that office is in Moscow and deny N2N funding.

What we need money for:

- Basic costs, which is institutional money
- Extra costs



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Possibilities for extra costs:

Extra cost	Institutional	National	Nordic	EU	USA, NSF, Canada	Barents	AC	private
Exchange								
staff								
students								
Teaching								
-on-line courses	x	x	x	(X)	?			
Meetings								
Travel = co operation money				Cost networks				
On-line courses								
Contact person could be added for each column								

It's more powerful to apply money together than separately. So this issue is really important and needs to be talked more in next Program team meeting.

5. Short summary on proposed Thematic Networks

There are four new Thematic Networks that will be proposed to council.

- Global Change in the Arctic, host University of Oulu, Finland
- Social Work within the University of the Arctic, host Bodø University College, Norway
- Local and Regional Development in the North, Finnmark University College, Norway
- World Image of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Sakha State University, Russia

6. Other topics

UArctic Forums

It gives us an possibility to communicate with very easy and simple way. Kirsi showed how it works and it was agreed to try it. The forum will be called "Thematic Networks Program Team"

Liv brought up an question about the Ethical guidelines? Do we have UArctic ethical guidelines? It was agreed that we should have, since it's important to get same status to indigenous knowledge as scientific knowledge. Kari will bring that up in Ofelas meeting. Further it should be proposed in next council meeting



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7. Next meeting and closing

Next meeting will be in Kilpisjärvi Biological Station at December 13 (arrivals), meeting on Thursday 14 and Friday 15 meeting at morning and departure after lunch.

Closing at 14.55.

Kirsi Latola, programme coordinator