

# Year In Review



## Thematic Network Digital North: Three-Dimensional Technologies and Arctic Education

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### Digital Resources Supporting Education and Community Engagement in the Arctic

The Thematic Network Digital North has expanded in the last year to provide new educational opportunities for undergraduates, while deepening its commitment to develop digital resources for source communities including Indigenous artisans and museum professionals.

At the University of Maine, students are learning how to create and navigate VR environments of Arctic environments and infrastructure. Simultaneously, digital assets continue to be produced for community outreach and engagement in Sápmi.

#### Key Educational and Research Activities in 2025

- Continued training of students in Sápmi related to the creation, processing, and dissemination of three-dimensional models and virtual environments.
- Created a virtual tour of The Hudson Museum at the University of Maine, which includes an Arctic section.
- Initiated training programs for students at the University of Maine to utilize three-dimensional modeling, printing, and the development of virtual environments.
- Published a chapter exploring the educational potential of digital technologies in Indigenous and anthropological contexts (2025). Magnani, M., Porsanger, J. The Three-Dimensional Revolution in Sápmi: Decolonizing Emergent Technological Domains for Sustainable Museum Futures. In Digital Indigenous Cultural Heritage. London: Palgrave MacMillan.)

#### Impacts Across Education, Media, and Community Contexts

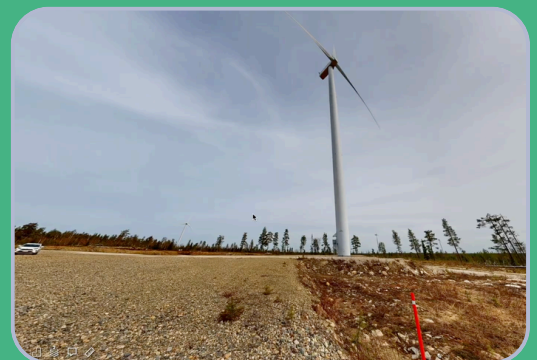
- Increased the number of students at participating institutions with working mastery of cutting-edge digital technologies.
- Improved visibility of contemporary Indigenous land-use and history through new media.
- Broadened stakeholder knowledge of digital education in community contexts spanning the United States and Fenno-Scandinavia.

#### Future Directions

Conducting additional workshops for students to learn digitization techniques, including 3D scanning, printing, and Lidar environmental scanning.

Seeking competitive sources of funding for expanded digitization work in museums in Europe and the US/Canada.

*Photo: Wind park in Finnish Sápmi. By Matthew Magnani and Natalia Magnani.*



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