



Interdisciplinary Polar Studies in Svalbard (IPSiS) Meeting **Svalbard, Arctic**

Scientific Conference in Longyearbyen, 20-21 September 2015
&
Field Workshops in Longyearbyen area, 18-19 September 2015
and in Hornsund, 22-24 September 2015

First circular

The University Centre in Svalbard, Norway (UNIS) and the Centre for Polar Studies, Poland (CPS) together with University of Oslo and University of Sheffield invite to conference and field workshops under the common title ***Interdisciplinary Polar Studies in Svalbard (IPSiS)***.

The conference will take place in **Longyearbyen** and will be accompanied by field workshops for young researchers organized in **the Longyearbyen area and in Hornsund**.

The IPSiS main goal is to facilitate international and interdisciplinary cooperation in studies on the interactive effects of climate change on Arctic nature and societies. It has a **special focus on young scientists and PhD students in particular**, and is meant to enable them to share ideas and acquire new skills and experiences in Arctic research, mainly by participating in the field workshops.

The conference part of IPSiS will provide **a venue where scientists, authorities, entrepreneurs and local inhabitants will have an opportunity to meet, exchange experience and discuss** monitoring the current climate change and its effects in the Arctic. Sharing of the knowledge from different scientific disciplines and the experience of the local community can be combined to assess scale of influence of climate warming on the Arctic environment and to prepare adequate adaptation techniques to mitigate its negative effects. New forms of activating international and interdisciplinary cooperation in Svalbard and in the Arctic will be considered.

IPSiS will cover wide range of disciplines and study areas: *climatology and atmosphere physics, glaciology, geomorphology, periglacial processes, freshwater hydrology, terrestrial ecology, physical oceanography, marine ecology, environmental chemistry, human activity in the Arctic.*

The plenary sessions of the conference will be open to general audience including Longyearbyen citizens, authorities and entrepreneurs.

The IPSiS programme

The IPSiS conference at UNIS, Longyearbyen is a core of the meeting, accompanied by pre- and post-conference field workshops for young scientists. Local excursion will be also offered for conference participants.

Field Workshop #1	IPSiS Conference	Field Workshop #2
Longyearbyen area	UNIS, Longyearbyen	Hornsund area
18-19 Sept. 2015	20-21 Sept. 2015	22-23 Sept. 2015

All participants of the workshops are expected to participate in the conference with oral presentations.

Field Workshop #1: *Periglacial processes, Terrestrial ecology, Freshwater system, Human activity in the Arctic* (2 groups).

Field Workshop #2: *Physical oceanography, Marine ecology, Glaciology, Geomorphology, Atmosphere physics and climatology* (2 groups).

Each participant can take part only in one workshop.

Call for abstracts

Abstracts of oral presentations and posters are welcomed for submission. Oral parallel sessions are planned with focus on certain aspects of changing natural and human systems.

One formal poster session and exposition of posters during the entire conference is planned.

Booklet of abstracts will be prepared and available as a PDF file.

Conference registration

All interested are welcomed to take part in the IPSiS conference, however the number of participants will be limited due to logistic limitations. Priority will be given to PhD students. Detailed information, including application procedure, will be provided shortly at the IPSiS webpage: <http://www.polarknow.us.edu.pl/ipsis-meeting/>.

Conference registration fee 1000 NOK covers coffee breaks, lunches and the Conference dinner. Reduced participation fee (500 NOK) for PhD students and young researchers (up to 5 years after PhD) may be applied when abstract is accepted.

No fee for guest participants from Longyearbyen local community is expected but earlier registration will be required.

Conference excursion in the Longyearbyen area is planned on 19 September 2015 – Saturday (extra fee 400 NOK - guidance, bus transport and packed lunch included).

Field workshop admission (for PhD students only)

Interested PhD students shall submit an oral presentation proposal for the conference (the application procedure will be open shortly). Participation in the workshop will be granted only for those students whose presentations will be accepted. Each student can take part only in one workshop (before or after the conference) and applicants are asked to indicate, in which workshops she/he would like to participate.

Organizers will provide financial support for travel and stay in Svalbard for young scientists. Applications have to be submitted on a template available on-line shortly. Recommendation by supervisor or mentor will be requested in addition, to the grant application.

Deadlines

Abstracts submission: 15 May 2015

Application for participation in one of the workshops: 15 May 2015

Notification on acceptance of abstracts: 8 June 2015

Notification on acceptance of participation in workshops and grants : 8 June 2015

Registration with regular fee rate by 30 June 2015

Late registration for conference only by 31 July 2015 (1500 NOK)

Organizers: The University Centre in Svalbard - UNIS, Centre for Polar Studies, Poland, University of Oslo and University of Sheffield

Scientific Committee: Prof. Jon Ove Hagen (University of Oslo), Prof. Andy Hodson (University of Sheffield), Prof. Jacek Jania (CPS/University of Silesia), Prof. Paweł Rowiński and Prof. Piotr Głowacki (CPS/Institute of Geophysics PAS), Prof. Tymon Zieliński and Dr. Sławomir Kwaśniewski (CPS/Institute of Oceanology PAS).

Project management:

Manager: Prof. Ole Jørgen Lønne (UNIS), Co-manager: Dr. Maja Lisowska (CPS).

Conference Secretariat: Dr. Dariusz Ignatiuk, Marta Bystrowska (CPS/University of Silesia), Dr. Bartłomiej Luks (CPS/Institute of Geophysics PAS).

Sponsors: Svalbard Science Forum / The Research Council of Norway (within the frame of the Svalbard Strategic Grants 2015) and Centre for Polar Studies – the Leading National Research Centre, Poland.

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