INTRODUCING THE LÆRA INSTITUTE FOR CIRCUMPOLAR EDUCATION

APECS Workshop
ICASS X

Northern (Arctic) Federal University
Arkhangelsk, Russia | 18 June 2021
UArctic founded in 2001 to promote circumpolar collaboration in education, research and outreach

Canada
35 members

Denmark/Greenland/Faroes
13 members

Finland
16 members

Iceland
10 members

Norway
15 members

Russia
52 members

Sweden
7 members

USA
30 members

Non–Arctic
34 members

‘Empower people of Circumpolar North by providing unique educational and research opportunities’

Source: UArctic
UArctic created Circumpolar Studies as undergraduate core curriculum available for use by all members

**UArctic CS Core Curriculum**

- Introduction to the Circumpolar World
- Land and Environment of the Circumpolar World I & II
- Peoples and Cultures of the Circumpolar World I & II
- Contemporary Issues of the Circumpolar World I & II

CS courses in use at number of UArctic member institutions in North America, Europe, Russia

Source: Shared Voices: The UArctic Magazine (2017); UArctic
UArctic partners have established new Læra Institute to renew and revitalise Circumpolar Studies

All UArctic member institutions welcome to engage with work of Læra Institute
In our work, Læra Institute will listen to Arctic voices and respect different perspectives on ‘circumpolarity’

- **Curriculum criteria**: Detailed topic specifications for Circumpolar Studies, to help UArctic members develop locally appropriate courses based on shared understanding.

- **Exemplar materials**: Example Circumpolar Studies courses and teaching resources, which UArctic members can use as models, adapt to local needs or teach ‘off-the-shelf’.

- **Faculty workshop**: Regular meeting of UArctic member faculty teaching Circumpolar Studies courses, to share pedagogical research, best-practice and local insights.

- **Student symposia**: Regular meeting of UArctic member undergraduate students, to share learning, present own research and collaborate on joint activities.

We held our first faculty workshop online in March, and we hosted discussions at 3rd UArctic Congress in May.

Source: Læra Institute
Læra Institute will also listen to student voices by hosting regular undergraduate symposia . . .

. . . at which students can also take part in innovative learning experiences—e.g. Model Arctic Council
As we can only gather online in current circumstances, please allow me to introduce myself briefly as well.

Anthony Speca

• Philosopher, geographer, educator and Arctic specialist
• Adjunct Professor, Trent University (Canada)
• Managing Director, Læra Institute for Circumpolar Education
• Former senior policy official with Government of Nunavut
• Runs Model Arctic Council events for universities and schools
• Research interests in Arctic education, governance, and ‘philosophy’

Please join me at the Læra Institute’s ICASS X panel session, ‘Innovation and Pedagogy in Circumpolar Studies’
Thank you / Спасибо

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