

Report on ICARP II
November 10 – 12, 2005
Copenhagen , Denmark

Event:

International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP II)

GCI Board Member:

Bobbie Jo Greenland (Youth Representative)

Funding Source:

My registration fees and daily expenses related to the conference days were paid by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) through an ICARP II scholarship that was granted for me by the Danish Polar Center.

There was no travel costs for me to attend ICARP II as I am presently based as an intern at Indigenous Peoples Secretariat (IPS) office in Copenhagen through the Circumpolar Young Leaders Program (CYLP).

GCI did not have to cover any expenses for my participation in this event.

Purpose of Attendance:

I attended the ICARP II conference for various reasons. I attended as a representative for GCI, IPS and CYLP. Attending for GCI made sense, as it would save time and money for the organization of having to send a board member from Canada or Alaska. Attending for IPS and CYLP was part of my requirements as an intern working at this office through this program. I attended the ICARP II to meet people and build network in the North. I attended ICARP to enhance my knowledge of what was happening in terms of research in the Arctic. I attended to increase my awareness of Circumpolar Issues and to report back to GCI, IPS and CYLP.

Highlights:

- ICARP is something that only takes place every 10 years. The First ICARP was in 1995 and was held in Hanover, NH, USA. There were over 400 people and ICARP II.
- The ICARP II started on November 10th and was held at the Radisson Hotel and Falconer Center in Copenhagen. There was an Icebreaker reception held the previous evening at the University of Copenhagen.
- There was also the annual “Polar Researchers Day” and plenary session on the 11th.
- There was also Poster Sessions throughout the Conference with representation from a wide variety of people and organizations in the North.
- His Royal Highness the Crown Prince Fredrik was in attendance for the conference opening. I was happy to introduce myself to the Prince and have a photo with him before he left the conference.

Discussions and Notes:

The goal of ICARP is to prepare research plans in the Arctic and strengthen International cooperation over the next 10 Years. ICARP brings together people young and old and from different backgrounds. Indigenous Peoples, Scientists, Policy Experts and Students are among the people who attend ICARP.

There were a lot of keynote addresses over the 3-day conference. These included the following topics,

1. Arctic Change and the Policy Implications
2. Northern Communities
3. IPY Update
4. What are the emerging policy questions?
5. Human Faces of the Arctic
6. What are the Grand Scale questions?

There were a number of Plenary and Break Out Sessions on November 10th and 11th. Participants could only register for one each day and I had chosen to attend the Sessions on Sustainable Development and Indigenous Peoples and Change in the Arctic. Bob Corell of the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment was the chairman for the Sustainable Development Session and Carl (Puju) Olsen of ICC Greenland was the Chairman for the session on Indigenous Peoples and Change in the Arctic.

These sessions are part of the ICARP Themes that are as follows;

- 1 Sustainable development and Arctic economies
- 2 Indigenous peoples and change in the Arctic
- 3 Arctic coastal processes
- 4 Deep central basin of the Arctic Ocean
- 5 Arctic Ocean margins and gateways
- 6 Arctic shelf seas
- 7 Terrestrial cryospheric and hydrologic systems
- 8 Terrestrial biosphere and biodiversity
- 9 Modeling and predicting Arctic climate and ecosystems
- 10 Resilience, vulnerability and rapid change
- 11 Science in the public interest

Further Information:

For further information on ICARP II, please visit the following web pages;

www.icarp.dk

www.uarctic.org

www.aosb.org