



The role of the NERC Arctic Office in supporting UK-based researchers: connection, representation and delivery

Henry Burgess

CAO Science Meeting 2017, Glasgow Science Centre

28 September 2017

Content



- **The role of the NERC Arctic Office**
- **How we are supporting you**
- **Opportunities to work closely together in the future**




The role of the NERC Arctic Office



- **Support UK-based research and researchers in the High North**
- **Provide advice to policy makers**
- **Develop international scientific cooperation across all aspects of Arctic research**

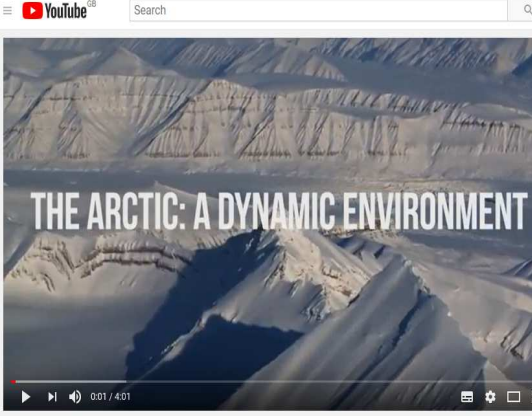
i) Connection





Arctic Office
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
RESEARCH COUNCIL

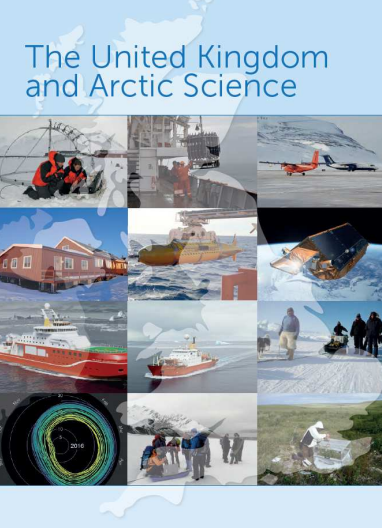
Promoting UK excellence and ambition



THE ARCTIC: A DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENT

The Arctic: A Dynamic Environment
GreenTV

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTmqK2kK-N4>



The United Kingdom and Arctic Science



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Arctic Office Bulletin and Twitter



Arctic Office Bulletin
July and August 2017

Welcome to the combined July and August edition of the Arctic Office Bulletin. There's plenty to share, despite the summer break, with news on the results of the MOSAIC solicitor workshop, the deadline for registration for the UK Arctic Conference, further details of a new event to boost research engagement with Basins in the Arctic and much more, including details of new funding opportunities.

Please visit www.arctic.ac.uk and follow us on Twitter @Arctic_Office for all the latest news and information. As always, your feedback and suggestions on the Bulletin and its contents, as well as the work of the NERC Arctic Office, is welcome.

UK Arctic Science Conference, Olan (19 - 21 September)

Although the deadline for abstract submission is now closed, final registration will be open until Friday 1 September. With over 70 abstracts already submitted and over 100 people confirmed, there will be a full and engaging science programme. Don't miss the chance to be part of this important event. Registration details here: [There are still good opportunities to not just great value travel and accommodation. There will be a strong social element to the conference programme, with evening events and public outreach events with interesting speakers. We look forward to seeing you in Olan in September.](#)

MOSAIC UK-Workshop and next steps

A workshop attended by 25 researchers from across the UK was held on 17 July at the Centre for Arctic Research in Cambridge to hear about the latest developments in the implementation and science planning for the [Multi-Basins Arctic Science Initiative](#), which is a flagship activity of the Year of Polar Prediction.

A note of the workshop and copies of the two presentations (Prof. Klaus Dethloff, AWI & Henry Burgess, NERC Arctic Office) are available [here](#). The workshop highlighted the strong level of interest from across the UK community, the good practices get involved in the programme, and the practical arrangements for access to the vessel. Up to £500,000 is available, thanks to direct support from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for berth fees for UK-based researchers. The workshop also explored options for science funding to match the berth fees, with a number of promising routes identified. Further information on this science funding will be shared as soon as possible. MOSAIC presents fantastic opportunities for UK-based researchers across a broad range of disciplines. The MOSAIC coordinators will be hosting the next science implementation meeting in St. Petersburg (15-16 November), and further details are now available on the [MOSAIC website](#).

New event: Research and Cooperation in the Russian Arctic: Identifying priorities, opportunities, and next steps for UK researchers (2 December)

As previewed in the last Bulletin, the NERC Arctic Office and the Science and Innovation Network team at the British Embassy in Moscow will host a one-day conference at the Aurora Innovation Centre, Cambridge on Tuesday 5 December. Some limited travel support will be available.

The event will look at prioritising the research areas on which UK researchers wish to focus, sharing good practice in working in Russia and in developing partnerships, identifying real and potential barriers to better engagement, and exploring practical solutions. We will be working hard to ensure this is more mutually successful engagement between UK-based and Russian researchers.

The event is aimed at BEIS-led early career researchers, and other UK-based researchers with experience of working in Russia or opportunities to do so, as well as policy makers. Although focusing on Arctic research, the event will be useful to those coming from non-Arctic backgrounds, but with an interest in research in the High North. Please register your interest in attending this event (no registration fee) and, if applicable, your interest in travel support via email to arctic@bas.ac.uk



NERC Arctic Office
@Arctic_Office

The Natural Environment Research Council's Arctic Office. We support the UK Arctic research community through engagement, advocacy and delivery.

Joined September 2013

Tweets: 509 | Following: 325 | Followers: 996 | Likes: 359 | Lists: 0 | Moments: 0

Tweets Tweets & replies Media

You Retweeted

NERC @NERCScience · Sep 15
The Rapidly Changing Arctic Environment report now available to download bit.ly/2hwzdlp

The rapidly changing Arctic environment

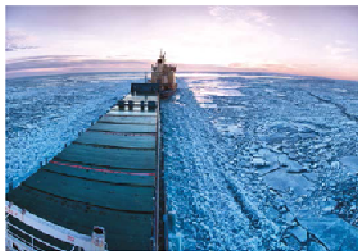
arctic@bas.ac.uk

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Science to policy



Adapting To Change UK policy towards the Arctic



POLICY REPORT

The rapidly changing Arctic environment



Implications for policy and decision makers from
the NERC Arctic Research Programme 2011-16
September, 2017



UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

ii) Representation





International Arctic Science Committee

Marine

Prof Andrew Brierley, St Andrews University asb4@st-andrews.ac.uk

Dr Jeremy Wilkinson, British Antarctic Survey jpw28@bas.ac.uk

Terrestrial

Prof Philip Wookey, Stirling University (**Chair**) Philip.Wookey1@stir.ac.uk

Prof Mary Edwards, Southampton University M.E.Edwards@soton.ac.uk

Atmosphere

Dr Jo Browse, Exeter University J.Browse@exeter.ac.uk

Dr Stephen Arnold, Leeds University S.Arnold@leeds.ac.uk

Social and Human

Dr Michael Bravo, Cambridge University mb124@cam.ac.uk

Cryosphere

Dr Richard Essery, Edinburgh University richard.essery@ed.ac.uk

Dr Poul Christoffersen, Cambridge University pc350@cam.ac.uk



Int. Agreement on Science Cooperation



- Only the third binding Arctic Council agreement in 21 years. Signed in May 2017.
- Holds out the promise of significant benefits – reductions in visa, customs restrictions. Implementation to be discussed now...
- UK is 4th in terms of the number of Arctic publications – higher than four of the Arctic States themselves. Two-thirds of UK papers have international co-authors – higher than US, Canada and Russia.

iii) Delivery



UK-Canada Bursaries Programme 2017



- Support from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).
- 18 projects and teams from across the UK joined Canadian-led projects, building excellent connections that will hopefully lead to longer-term collaborations.
- Strong representation from marine, terrestrial, cryosphere and atmosphere projects.
- Working across the Northwest Territories, the Canadian Arctic Ocean, Nunavut, Baffin Island and beyond.
- CCGS *Amundsen* features extensively in a number of the projects, as do UAVs, helicopters, field camps, corers and benthic landers, laboratories, small boats & Cambridge Bay High Arctic Research Station



Joining major international programmes



- Long term planning for a key part of the Year of Polar Prediction
- UK-Germany dialogue in 2016
- Financial support from BEIS to pay for berths/bench fees and travel to/from the vessel
- Announcement of Opportunity - £1.8m NERC funding for UK projects on the vessel
- Closing date 31 January
<http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/funded/programmes/mosaic/news/ao/>
- High quality science – new opportunities and partnerships – UK engagement in the biggest programmes

MOSAIC
The International Arctic Drift Expedition



AWI GRAPHIC
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Where next? New Opportunities



Arctic Circle Assembly, 13-15 October



United Kingdom & Arctic Research: a strong future

The United Kingdom is a leading nation in Arctic research, with over 70 universities and research centres which carry out work in biological, physical, geological and social sciences. We are committed to the highest quality research which addresses the most significant questions in the Arctic. Working with international partners, in the European Union, with the Arctic states, and across the globe will continue to be a vitally important part of our approach.

Investment in Strategic Research

NERC has invested £30m into Arctic science research over the last 5 years. Over 60 publications have resulted from the NERC Arctic Research Programme (2011-2016). 37 UK research institutions involved.

NERC Changing Arctic Ocean Programme

£16m in a 5-year programme (2017-22) to research changes in the ocean and sea ice environment which will generate alteration in Arctic ecosystems. First cruises began in July 2017. 11 countries are partners.

Arctic Council

The United Kingdom was amongst the first observers to the Arctic Council in 1996. UK-based researchers play a full and influential part in the Working Groups and Expert Groups.

Year of Polar Prediction

Our researchers are valued partners in international collaborations. With Government and NERC support UK-based scientists can apply for funding to join the MOSAIC international Arctic drift expeditions in 2019-20.



RRS Sir David Attenborough

A new polar research ship for Britain

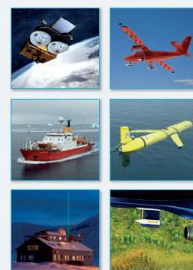
In 2019 RRS Sir David Attenborough will be ready for service. Commissioned by NERC, built by Cammell Laird and operated by the British Antarctic Survey, the new ship is a next-generation polar marine science platform for UK research in both Antarctica and the Arctic.

State-of-the-art onboard facilities and future-proof containerised laboratories on this world-leading science platform will offer new research opportunities for the UK's polar scientists who strive to make sense of our changing world for the benefit of society. The new ship will ensure Britain's continued position as a world leader in polar science.



Research Infrastructure

We have a wide range of safe and extremely capable assets to support ambitious and innovative research.



The UK Science and Innovation Network has 95 people in 30 countries to build partnerships in science and innovation, connecting the local research community to the UK, creating mutual benefits. The Arctic is a key thematic programme. The Network is an institution of the Government and led by FCO and BEIS.



The Arctic Office is funded by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) to:
 • support UK research in the high North
 • provide advice to policy-makers
 • develop international scientific co-operation across all aspects of Arctic research
 Email: arctic@nerc.ac.uk
 Twitter: @Arctic_Office
 Website: arctic.co.uk

Strong, High Impact and International Arctic Research

The UK is the 4th most productive country, measured by the number of papers in peer-reviewed journals (after US, Russia and Canada).

Papers from UK-based researchers are cited 90% more than the global average for these individual disciplines.

Nearly two-thirds of the UK Arctic papers have international co-authors - higher than any of the other three nations with a larger output.

The UK is the most productive non-Arctic state. UK researchers are very regular co-authors, most frequently with France, then Canada and Germany, then the US.

Source: Arctic research publication trends: A Pilot Study, August 2016

Russia

INVITATION

**Research and cooperation
in the Russian Arctic**

– identifying priorities,
opportunities, and next steps

**Tuesday
5 December
2017**

*Aurora Innovation Centre,
British Antarctic Survey,
Cambridge, CB3 0ET*

*Travel and accommodation
support is available*

CONTACT:
arctic@bas.ac.uk



Thank you

**We are here to support the whole of the UK
Arctic research community.**

We want to hear your thoughts and ideas.

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