

Year 2 Progress Report – Interdisciplinary Understanding for a Changing Arctic (1 October 2019 – 30 September 2020)

During its second year, the Interdisciplinary Understanding for a Changing Arctic Doctoral Scholarship Programme brought in six new students in addition to continuing support for the four students who were recruited during the programme's first year. An additional five students have been recruited to commence studies during the programme's third year (beginning October 2020), bringing the total number of supported students to 15.

Group Educational Activities during 2019/20

A key component of the doctoral training programme is a series of educational experiences and seminars that cut across enrolled students' disciplines. These are designed to foster a holistic understanding of Arctic issues as well as build a cross-disciplinary Arctic studies community. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, several planned events had to be cancelled, including:

- A four-day Summer School, planned for September 2020 in Norway's Lofoten Islands;
- A day-trip to the British Museum's Arctic Culture and Climate Exhibit, planned for June 2020 and scheduled to culminate in a joint seminar with scholars from Cambridge University and Royal Holloway University of London;
- Attendance at the triennial International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences meeting in Archangelsk, Russia.

Plans are being made to resume each of these activities in 2020/21 if pandemic conditions permit.

The main co-curricular activity that was maintained throughout 2019/20 was the student-run seminar series (<https://www.dur.ac.uk/arctic/experience/seminarseries/>). Over the course of the year, 11 seminars were held. Speakers included current students as well as external speakers from Russia, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. With the advent of COVID-19 social distancing restrictions, these seminars moved to an online format.

Leverhulme-Funded Students

The remainder of this report provides details on the Leverhulme-funded students enrolled in the programme (including the five who will be starting in October 2020) and highlights some notable achievements during the 2019/20 academic year.

Cohort 1 (entering Autumn 2018)

Giuseppe Amatulli

Provisional thesis title: *The Multiple Aspects of the Cumulative Effects of Industrial Development on Canadian First Nations: The Case of Doig River First Nation of North-eastern British Columbia*

Primary supervisor: Professor Simone Abram (Anthropology)

Secondary supervisor: Dr Henry Jones (Law)

From July 2019 to August 2020, Giuseppe conducted fieldwork in northern British Columbia, Canada. While there, he presented seminars to research groups at both Durham and the University of Northern British Columbia, as well as taking part in general academic life at UNBC, guest lecturing to classes, assessing poster presentations, etc. Concurrent with his fieldwork, from January through August 2020, Giuseppe carried out a placement with the Land Department of the Doig River First Nation (DRFN), assisting with community consultations that will contribute to the development of a Land Code that implements UNDRIP within the British Columbia legal framework. Additionally, during this year Giuseppe began serving as the PhD representative on the board of the University of the Arctic (UARCTIC). He also attended the Science Ministerial Research Community Workshop organised by the UK Arctic Office and published:

- Amatulli, G (2020) [A Short Overview of the UARCTIC Network and the Opportunities it Offers for Arctic Researchers](#), *Durham University Student Blog*, 6 August.

Ilona Kater

Provisional thesis title: *Communicating the Ecology of a Multiple-Use Landscape: Reindeer Herding and Industry in Northern Sweden*

Primary supervisor: Dr Robert Baxter (Biosciences)

Secondary supervisor: Professor Simone Abram (Anthropology)

From January through March 2020, Ilona undertook a placement at Umeå University in Sweden, where she gave guest lectures, received guidance from local academics, and expanded on her fieldwork in northern Sweden. In addition to presentations at Umeå and Durham, Ilona presented a poster at the UK Arctic Science Conference in Loughborough and attended the Arctic Week 2019 Conference in Paris. She also has been active in public outreach, presenting to the Natural History Society of Northumbria and maintaining the Notebook from the North blog/podcast to which she has made numerous contributions:

- Kater, I (ed.) (2019 et seq.) [Notebook from the North](#).

Jan Mikael Lundmark

Provisional thesis title: *Legal Principles and Sámi Property Protection in the Context of the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms*

Primary supervisor: Professor Tom Allen (Law)

Secondary supervisors: Dr Benedict Douglas (Law); Dr Lauren Martin (Geography)

In 2019/20, in addition to presenting at the Arctic Week 2019 Conference in Paris and a DurhamARCTIC seminar, Mikael published:

- Lundmark, J M (2020) It's a Matter of Principle that the Indigenous Sámi Lack Legal Protection, *European Human Rights Law Review* 1.

Laura Seddon

Provisional thesis title: *Measurement, Knowledge, and Representation of Arctic Sea Ice*

Primary supervisor: Professor Philip Steinberg (Geography)

Secondary supervisor: Professor Chris Stokes (Geography)

Laura had planned on undertaking an eight-week fieldwork/placement with the Norwegian Meteorological Institute in Oslo (in February/March 2020), followed by an eight-week fieldwork/placement with the National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) in Boulder, Colorado (USA) (in July/August 2020). Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, she was forced to end her work in Oslo two weeks early and complete final tasks remotely. She is hoping to conduct the planned placement in Colorado in Spring 2021. The pandemic also interfered with planned presentations at the American Association of Geographers Meeting and at the NSIDC, although Laura did present to a DurhamARCTIC seminar and is scheduled to present at the NSIDC Cryosphere Seminar in Autumn.

Cohort 2 (entering Autumn 2019)

Eric Boyd

Provisional thesis title: *Deforming Ontologies: The Immanence of Extractive Resources During the Relocation and Redevelopment of Kiruna, Sweden*

Primary supervisor: Professor Simone Abram (Anthropology)

Secondary supervisor: Professor Gavin Bridge (Geography)

From January through April 2020, Eric undertook a placement at Gothenburg University (Sweden), where he participated in reading groups and seminars and engaged in a number of collaborative research and writing projects. A teaching component associated with the placement had to be curtailed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the year, Eric presented to three seminars in Durham and two in Gothenburg. In September 2020, Eric commenced field work in Kiruna, Sweden.

Romain Chuffart

Provisional thesis title: *Harmonizing Impact Assessments: Implementing Indigenous Rights through Environmental Law Processes and Mechanisms in the Arctic*

Primary supervisor: Dr Anashri Pillay (Law)

Secondary supervisors: Dr Henry Jones (Law); Professor Philip Steinberg (Geography)

In addition to presenting at the DurhamARCTIC seminar series, during 2019/20, Romain presented papers at the 12th Polar Law Symposium at the University of Tasmania (Australia) and the Polar Cooperation Research Centre International Law Symposium at Kobe University (Japan). Publications during the academic year:

- Chuffart, R and Raspotnik, A (2019) The EU and its Arctic Spirit: Solving Arctic Climate Change from Home? *European Views* 18(2), 156-162.
- Chuffart, R and Shibata, A (eds.) (2020) Special Collection: International Law for Sustainability in Arctic Resource Development, *Polar Record* 56.
- Chuffart, R and Shibata, A (2020) Editorial: International Law for Sustainability in Arctic Resource Development, *Polar Record* 56.
- Chuffart, R et al. (2020) Assessing Japan's Arctic Engagement during the ArcS Project (2015-2020), *Yearbook of Polar Law*, 12.
- Chuffart, R (2020) Book Review: *Arctic Triumph: Northern Innovation and Persistence* (N Sellheim, Y Zaika, & I Kelman, eds.), *Polar Journal*.

- Chuffart, R (2020) Book Review: *Emerging Legal Orders in the Arctic: The Role of Non-Arctic Actors* (A Shibata et al., eds.), *Nordicum-Mediterraneum* 15(1).
- Chuffart, R (2020) Book Review: *Arctic Governance: Power in Cross-Border Cooperation* (E Wilson Rowe), *Nordicum-Mediterraneum* 15(1).
- Chuffart, R (2020) Book Review: *Protecting the Third Pole: Transplanting International Law* (S Marsden), *Nordicum-Mediterraneum* 15(1).
- Chuffart, R (2020) Book Review: *The Politics of Sustainability in the Arctic: Reconfiguring Identity, Space and Time* (U P Gad & J Strandsbjerg, eds.), *Nordicum-Mediterraneum* 15(1).
- Chuffart, R (2019) Is the Arctic Council a Paper Polar Bear? *High North News*, 28 November.

Christian Drury

Provisional thesis title: *British Narratives of Arctic Travel and Exploration, 1875-1940*

Primary supervisor: Dr Eleanor Barraclough (History)

Secondary supervisors: Dr Abbie Garrington (English); Dr James Koranyi (History)

In addition to presenting at the DurhamARCTIC seminar series, Christian attended workshops sponsored by Cambridge University and Royal Holloway University of London in the UK. He also participated in the ARCTOS PhD training programme organised by the UiT: The Arctic University of Norway and, in association with that programme, presented a poster at the Arctic Frontiers conference in Tromsø, Norway. He published:

- Drury, C (2020) [Revisiting Arctic History](#), *Arctic Relations: Scholarship and Stories*, 21 September.

Greta Ferloni

Provisional thesis title: *Moving Matters: Understanding Mobilities in, of, and around Sea Ice in the Bering Strait*

Primary supervisor: Professor Philip Steinberg (Geography)

Secondary supervisors: Dr Jeremy Schmidt (Geography); Professor Chris Stokes (Geography)

In addition to presenting at the DurhamARCTIC seminar series, Greta participated in the Science Ministerial Research Community Workshop organised by the UK Arctic Office. She published:

- Ferloni, G (2020) [Sea Ice in the Arctic is Melting...Except in the Bering Sea](#), *Notebook from the North*, 28 June.

Katy Ivison

Provisional thesis title: *How Climate Change and Biotic Interactions Affect Invasive Plant Success in Norway*

Primary supervisor: Dr Wayne Dawson (Biosciences)

Secondary supervisors: Dr Lisa Baldini (Environmental Science, Teesside University); Dr James Speed (Natural History, NTNU (Norwegian University of Science and Technology))

In addition to presenting at the DurhamARCTIC seminar series, Katy participated in the ARCTIS Arctic Interdisciplinary Studies field course in the Russian Arctic, organised by the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) and the UK Polar Network.

David Jarrett

Provisional thesis title: *Effects of Climate-Driven Range Expansion of Red Fox on Ground Nesting Birds in Sub-Arctic Tundra*

Primary supervisor: Professor Stephen Willis (Biosciences)

Secondary supervisors: Dr Sally Street (Anthropology); Dr Aleksi Lehikoinen (Ornithology, LUOMUS (Finnish Museum of Natural History))

David presented his research to the DurhamARCTIC seminar series. Fieldwork planned for northern Norway in Summer 2020 was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but will be resumed in Summer 2021.

Additionally, all six students in this cohort have successfully passed through the first-year progression reviews managed by their respective primary departments. The precise process varies from department to department, but typically this involves production of a review paper, an oral defence of it with staff external to the student's supervisory committee, and a public presentation.

All six students also have successfully proceeded through the separate progression review process managed by the Durham Arctic Research Centre for Training and Interdisciplinary Collaboration (DurhamARCTIC, the doctoral training centre established to administer the doctoral training programme established by the Leverhulme award). This review process included initial individual meetings with DurhamARCTIC Progressions Director Prof Gavin Bridge and DurhamARCTIC Director Prof Philip Steinberg, as well as a second individual meeting with Prof Bridge focussed on alignment between students' progress in their individual doctoral programmes and the interdisciplinary Arctic community enhancements organised by DurhamARCTIC.

Cohort 3 (entering Autumn 2020)

Paul Burgum

Provisional thesis title: *Investigating Resilience in Extreme Environments Using Broad Theories in Psychological Science*

Primary supervisor: Dr Thuy-vy Nguyen (Psychology)

Secondary supervisors: Dr Daniel Smith (Psychology); Dr Sally Street (Anthropology)

Elizabeth Gillie

Provisional thesis title: *Biodiversity Colonisation of the Arctic under Climate Change: Impacts on Land, Sea and People*

Primary supervisor: Professor Stephen Willis (Biosciences)

Secondary supervisor: Dr Sally Street (Anthropology); Dr Aleksi Lehikoinen (Ornithology, LUOMUS (Finnish Museum of Natural History))

Sal Kellett

Provisional thesis title: *The Impact of Human Agriculture on Pristine Arctic Landscapes: A Multi-Isotope Investigation into the Environmental Impact of Norse Landnam in Iceland Using Archaeobotany and Zooarchaeology*

Primary supervisor: Professor Mike Church (Archaeology)

Secondary supervisor: Dr Darren Gröcke (Earth Sciences)

Danae-Maria Kontou

Provisional thesis title: *Spatiotemporal Analysis and Mapping of Environmental Change in the Arctic*

Primary supervisor: Professor Chris Stokes (Geography)

Secondary supervisors: Dr Robert Baxter (Biosciences); Dr Monica Stephens (Geography)

Ellie Ward

Provisional thesis title: *Predicting Risk and Planning Mitigation against Regional Impact from Climate Change on Populations of Arctic Char (*Salvelinus Alpinus*)*

Primary supervisor: Prof Rus Hoelzel (Biosciences)

Secondary supervisor: Dr Martyn Lucas (Biosciences); Prof Erin McClymont (Geography)