

**Minutes from ASP leadership meeting**

Date: 4th September 2018

Present: MB, DB, TP, IA, TRC, JB, MS, UJ, PSM, SR

Absent: JN

Referee: SR

1. **Round table**

TRC: group working on lots for proposals (EU, Villum etc). Just back from field work in Zackenberg.

JB: Many proposals for ASP positions received. Now they will have to be evaluated and candidates selected. Also working on proposals for a long term data collection program CEOS.

MA: 200 MDKK received for a new ship to GINR. Been lots of planning to design it and get it built. Field and mooring work is still going on. Retrievement of earlier deployed ASP mooring succeeded. All back safe.

UJ: Preparation for ‘Greenland-day’ at AWI 27 September where all house meet and discuss how to collaborate internally and prepare something for that ASP science meeting in Sandbjerg. Field work still ongoing. Need for coordination on new EU calls. Uwe send the link: <https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/2018-information-day-calls-2019> for an upcoming call that may be of interest for ASP. Need to get discussions going on forming consortium.

DB: New CRC chair (Julienne Stroeve) started 1 Sept. New CERC chair is entering its final stage. Hudson Bay field campaign was a success. There is a lot of hiring of personnel at CEOS this year as a result of successful proposals. Buildup of CMO is continuing as planned. Initiatives for education proposals and other research proposals.

MB: Still plans for infrastructure proposal on the Qik and Pond Inlet research stations. ArcticNet proposal submitted. Meeting with committee in Ottawa. VIP visit on the Amundsen to explain the importance for Canada to continue its Arctic focus and research activities.

SR: Lots of large proposals submitted and planned to be submitted before 1 Nov. ARC has focused its research in 6 areas for the next 5 years. More info on (<http://arctic.au.dk>). Just finished a successful field campaign with the new coastguard vessel Lauge Koch to the Greenland Sea. SR and JB have taken initiative to a tight collaboration on a project between institutes in Norway and Denmark on the Greenland Sea and the Norwegian Sea (The polar dream).

1. **ASP Science meeting in Sandbjerg (Denmark)**

Søren will draft an agenda to be distributed for comments and to discuss at the next ASP meeting.

1. **ASP annual meeting**

Decided to include a discussion at the ASP science meeting (#2) on how to develop the ASP partnership further. We will use this for input to determine the participation list for institutes at the next annual meeting. MB suggested holding this meeting in connection with the Gordon Conference in Toscana, Italy 17-22 April 2019. There was general consensus on this idea.

1. **Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Central and Arctic Region**

Based on material from DFO (send to everyone prior the meeting, as agreed last time – and presented below) and a discussion we decided to go forward to include DFO as an associate member in ASP. They have a lot to offer with regard to research activities in Baffin Bay. DFO is no stranger to the ASP institutions having long lasting collaboration with several of the ASP institutions. In addition, there are initiatives for collaboration on education as well.

1. **Arctic Science Ministerial**

Several of the ASP leadership participates in this meeting. MB suggested to prepare material and lobbying for Baffin Bay Observing System – could fit well with the Greenland Integrated Observing System and the Polar dream activities.

1. **Next leadership team meeting**

2. October 2018.

PSM will distribute agenda 1 week before meeting.

**Supplementary:**

Fisheries and Oceans Canada in ASP

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Central and Arctic Region (CAR) located in Winnipeg have requested to join the Arctic Science Partnership. DFO is a key Arctic player in Canada, specifically in the biosciences and fisheries. The mandate of DFO is to manage Canada’s fisheries and safeguard its waters. It has four course responsibilities:

* **Fisheries.** We ensure Canada’s fisheries, including aquaculture, are protected, managed sustainably and support Indigenous participation, and that our national network of harbours is open and in good repair.
* **Aquatic ecosystems.** We protect our oceans, freshwater and aquatic ecosystems and species from the negative impact of humans and invasive species through sound science and in collaboration with Indigenous communities.
* **Marine navigation.** We maintain waterways year round so they are safely navigable by mariners and all Canadians.
* **Marine operations and response.** We respond to maritime incidents, such as search-and-rescue and environmental emergencies, through our Coast Guard fleet and in collaboration with Indigenous communities.

As part of this mandate, DFO Central and Arctic Region conducts research in three primary areas: stock assessments of various species of fish and marine mammals in the Arctic; (ii) marine ecosystem studies focusing on understanding and threats to ocean environments; and (iii) protection of Canada’s Oceans through collaborations with coastal communities and Indigenous groups.

As related to ASP, DFO Central and Arctic Region can provide expertise to further strengthen collaboration on Arctic research. An important departmental priority is to use scientific evidence and taking into account climate change when making decision affecting ecosystem management in Canadian waters, as well as examining the implications of climate change on Arctic marine ecosystems, which are directly related to the priorities of ASP. In addition, through its researchers and Oceans program, DFO has established relationships with Indigenous groups in the Baffin Bay region, as well as in other parts of the Canadian Arctic (most notably in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region). In examining the health of the marine ecosystems, their research incorporates the human aspect into the environmental wellbeing of the Arctic, again a priority of ASP.

Therefore, it is seen that the inclusion of DFO Central and Arctic Region into the ASP will strengthen the partnership by the following:

* encouraging the mobility of staff between institutions,
* shared use of infrastructure to facilitate research in addressing the priorities of ASP, and
* assisting in the development of training of Indigenous People with respect to capacity building in the North.

An additional benefit to ASP is that the partnership with DFO will provide a link to the Canadian government, and thus facilitating research and opening funding opportunities to understand the Arctic ecosystem. Researchers at CEOS already work with staff at DFO.