Arctic Sciences Office Hour
Advancing Arctic science through research, education, and collaboration

Thank you for joining us!
This meeting will be recorded

April 21, 2023
Welcome!

Please remain muted until the Q&A portion of this presentation.

You can submit questions through the chat at any time. Questions will be answered after the presentations.

All links will be posted in the chat function.
Welcome to the Office of Polar Programs!

Jennifer Mercer, Section Head

William Ambrose
Program Director
Antarctic Organisms & Ecosystems

Joseph Miller
Program Manager
Antarctic Infrastructure & Logistics

Dave Porter
Program Director
Antarctic Oceans & Atmospheres

James Ulvestad
Office Director
Office of Polar Programs

Colleen Strawhacker
Program Director
Arctic System Sciences

Gina Selig
KNAUSS Sea Grant Fellow
OPP Front Office
Arctic Sciences Section Programs and Staff

Arctic Sciences Section Head: Jennifer Mercer
AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow: Xoco Shinbrot
Science Assistant: Kayla Hubbard
Program Specialists: Erika Haymes

Polar Education: education research to promote an informed citizenry and the next generation of scientists. Lisa Rom

Arctic Research Support and Logistics (RSL)

The RSL Program supports the fieldwork of research projects funded through ARC, as well as on a cost reimbursable basis for other projects. Created to make Arctic fieldwork safer, more efficient, and cost-effective.

Renee Crain, Frank Rack, Kate Ruck, Katy Smith (c)
Linda Izzard (dt)

Arctic Policy Program (ARPS)

"...supports short- and long-term efforts to enhance communication, coordination, and collaboration across the research enterprise."

Colleen Strawhacker

Crosscutting Programs

Polar Cyberinfrastructure: collaboration between Polar and cyberinfrastructure researchers. Allen Pope
Arctic Sciences Section Programs and Staff

**Arctic Natural Sciences (ANS)**

“...supports projects focused on hypotheses-driven and process-based science that informs an understanding of the larger Arctic region.”

*Rainer Amon, Colene Haffke, Marc Stieglitz*

**Arctic Observing Network (AON)**

“...supports proposals to make field observations to detect and understand Arctic system change occurring on time scales longer than the duration of a typical NSF research grant.”

*Roberto Delgado (dt)*

**Arctic System Science (ARCSS)**

“...proposals that advance our understanding of the Arctic as a coupled system, and how the Arctic system interacts with the Earth System...often interdisciplinary...with emphasis on the interactions among system components.”

*Greg Anderson (dt), Kelly Brunt, Colleen Strawhacker*

**Arctic Social Sciences (ASSP)**

“...supports research on Arctic social and cultural systems, present and past, and research relevant to understanding these systems.”

*Liam Frink, Erica Hill*
IPA Opportunities and Open Positions

NSF Rotator Program & DCL: OPP 18-001

We are always looking for interested applicants for future opportunities!

RSL Facilities Manager
Look out for USA Jobs Announcement

Program Director, Antarctic Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences
Look out for USA Jobs Announcement

Photo: Lars Demant-Poort

Jennifer Mercer, Section Head
Arctic Funding Opportunities

Photo: Dave Malpas
Arctic Research Opportunities

NSF 23-572 – New Solicitation!

- Target Dates Added for Arctic Natural Sciences and Arctic Social Sciences Programs (Mid-January and Mid-July of each year). All other programs remain no deadline.

- New Supplementary Documents:
  - Plan for Safe and Inclusive Working Environments (2 pages) *(See FAQs)*
  - Results of Prior NSF Support information is now required in a supplementary document and not the project description (3 pages)
  - Ethical considerations and approaches to the proposed work (1 page)
  - Updated OPP Data Management Policy (2 pages)
  - Flexibilities for letters of collaborations from community-based organizations.

- Intended program submission is now indicated in the last line of the project summary.

*Sign up for updates at Get GEO Email Updates (https://www.nsf.gov/dir/index.jsp?org=GEO)
New Dear Colleague Letters (DCLs)

- Supporting Open Polar Research Software NSF 23-053
- Advancing Research in the Geosciences Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) NSF 23-046
- GEO Empowering Broader Academic Capacity and Education (GEO-EMBRACE) NSF 23-058
- Novel Approaches to Critical Minerals Research in the Geosciences (GEO-CM) NSF 23-057
- Research Collaboration Opportunity in Europe for NSF Awardees NSF 23-085
- Supporting Workshops to Develop a Strategy for the NSF Arctic Observing Network (AON) Program NSF 23-052
NNA is in its last year and will retire at the end of FY 2023

• What does this mean?
  o Proposals submitted to the NNA solicitation (NSF 22-520) in FY23 will be reviewed and a final set of awards will be made
  o Active NNA projects will continue to be managed by a team of NSF program officers
  o NNA Community Office will continue to serve as an important resource for all NNA projects and community members for several more years

• Next Steps:
  o Navigating the New Arctic within the Directorate for Geosciences will be superseded by a new effort which builds on the core success of engaging with local communities and broadens the scope to look at resilient futures for these communities.
    o Investigators and community members interested in conducting work in these areas may submit proposals to relevant core programs at NSF and are encouraged to contact cognizant Program Officers to discuss the scope of proposed research activities.
2023 Field Logistics Planning
COVID Considerations for the 2023 Field Season

- Removed quarantines, focus on prevention (vaccination, distancing, masking, & testing) and disease management (isolation)

- Vaccination against COVID-19 is required in some locations (i.e. Toolik, Greenland)

- Research teams are responsible for responding to an outbreak in the field including costs incurred – encourage all travelers to mask and distance

- Researchers should have a written protective plan describing mitigation measures to document informed consent of the responsible institution and team members

- Travelers should always follow national, state, local and tribal travel restrictions
Other considerations for 2023

Timeline for Fieldwork from the Proposal Stage
- 1 year from time of award as outlined in the revised ARO (18 months-2 years for ships)

Requests for Additional Logistics Support in 2023
- RSL budget is highly constrained
- Unlikely to support any additional scope beyond original estimate – strong scientific justification
- Not providing support to mitigate impacts or make up work lost to COVID-19 outbreak

Deployment Readiness for Existing Awards
- Start working with Battelle ARO early to ensure that everything is in place for your upcoming field season
- Battelle ARO has outlined the minimal required timelines to ensure that operational staff have the time to respond in the event of inventory shortages

Minimum Planning Time
- Greenland & International – 6 weeks
- Alaska – 4 weeks
- Air Charters – 8 weeks
For projects working on the ice sheet, NSF is supporting remote sensing analysis reviews for risk management.

- Imagery collection should start at the proposal stage to get imagery at the location during summer for more than one year for the best analysis.

- CRREL will produce a report looking at locations where projects will be working or traveling.

- Projects should recognize their institution is responsible for the activities under their award.

- NSF has the final say about whether the location is too risky for contractor-supported work.
Safe and Inclusive Field Environments
NSF is committed to implementing many different strategies to prevent harassment and to improve the response capability in the event of harassment, bullying, or sexual harassment during fieldwork. Everyone supported by NSF is expected to comply with the Polar Code of Conduct and the Principles for Conducting Research in the Arctic. Fieldwork should be an enriching experience for everyone involved.

Battelle ARO is moving out on harassment prevention and response in four lines of effort:

1) Treat harassment as a safety emergency that requires immediate response
2) Provide pathways for anyone observing or experiencing harassment to report the issues, this can be anonymous but details help inform actions in response
3) Have 3rd party contractors who are experts intake information about incidents and to investigate allegations
4) Provide training aimed at creating safe and inclusive field environments
Field Safety Planning

- **Training** is available for research teams.
- Researchers can use grant funds to acquire appropriate gear for students/researchers.
- **Crevasse Webinar Series**
- Toolik Field Station **Town Hall**
  May 16, 10 AK time
- Alpine Air is the new provider for helicopter services at Toolik Field Station

Photo: Kayla Hubbard
Greenland’s Research Strategy
Greenland launched its first national research strategy defining how research in Greenland should develop over the next eight years.

Four main goals:
1. Research must be anchored in Greenland
2. Research must support sustainable societal development
3. Research results must be easily accessible to all
4. Research efforts must be at an international level

Circumpolar Inuit Protocols for Equitable and Ethical Engagement
ICC Guidelines

• Protocol 1: ‘Nothing about us without us’ – Always engage with Inuit
• Protocol 2: Recognize indigenous knowledge in its own right
• Protocol 3: Practice good governance
• Protocol 4: Communicate with intent
• Protocol 5: Exercise accountability – building trust
• Protocol 6: Build meaningful partnerships
• Protocol 7: Information and data sharing, ownership, and permissions
• Protocol 8: Equitably fund Inuit representation and knowledge
Resources and Media

Photo: Pat Smith
Notify the OPP Communications Team and your PO about any media efforts. Send us your stories, media, science publications, and press releases for further amplification!

Reminder: Office of Polar Programs now has a quarterly newsletter!

Topics include:
• Polar research highlights
• Funding opportunities and program updates
• Information about the latest happenings from around OPP and the National Science Foundation

Sign up! https://bit.ly/3gHqVhk

OPP Communications Email: oppcomms@nsf.gov
Arctic Community Resources

- ARCUS – Arctic Research Consortium of the United States
  - https://www.arcus.org/
- IARPC Collaborations Website & Teams
  - https://www.iarpccollaborations.org/index.html
- US Arctic Research Plan 2022–2026 and Implementation Plan
  - https://www.iarpccollaborations.org/plan/index.html
- Battelle Arctic Gateway
  - https://battellearcticgateway.org/
- NNA Community Office
  - https://nna-co.org/
- Polar Science Early Career Community Office
  - https://psecco.org/
- OPP Repository & Resource webpage
  - https://www.nsf.gov/geo/opp/repository.jsp
- GEO Cyberinfrastructure Website
  - https://www.nsf.gov/geo/geo-ci/index.jsp

Photo: Kayla Hubbard
Thank You!

Please don’t hesitate to reach out to us with questions; we want to work with you!
Q&A Breakout Rooms

• 10 minutes with entire section
• 20 minutes in breakout rooms

  o Arctic Natural Sciences (Marc Stieglitz, Colene Haffke, Rainer Amon)

  o Research Support and Logistics (Renee Crain, Frank Rack, Kate Ruck, Linda Izzard, Katy Smith)

  o Arctic System Sciences, Arctic Social Sciences, Arctic Observing Network (Colleen Strawhacker, Erica Hill, Liam Frink)

  o Polar Cyberinfrastructure and Polar Education (Allen Pope, Lisa Rom)

To ask a question:
• Raise hand to ask question live
• Type question in the chat
• Send a private message to Kayla/Kate to ask a question anonymously