Appendix 1.

Detailed project description

New University of Arctic PhD program on Arctic Health and Well-being

The purpose of this project is to develop the first joint PhD program under the auspices of the University of Arctic (www.uarctic.org). The program will focus on Arctic Health and Well-being and through its partners it will use the research networks and knowledge gained in Arctic co-operation in Arctic council working groups in AMAP and SDWG, Arctic Change Assessment project during the Sweden’s Chairmanship, International Arctic Social Sciences Association, International Network for Circumpolar Health Research, The International Union for Circumpolar Health and several recent and current projects such Arctic Social Indicators I and II, Arctic Human Development Report II, ArcRisk EU 7th FP research project, Vulnerability Assessment of Ecosystem Services for Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation with several other research projects related to health and well-being both in Sámi and non-Sámi population in the Nordic countries and Russia, as well as the health and wellbeing in Inuit and First Nations in Greenland, North America and other indigenous groups in Russia.

Background

Climate change and health and well-being

Indigenous groups (such as the Sámi, Inuit, First Nations etc.) constitute a substantial proportion of the population in Arctic countries (Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark/Greenland, Iceland, Russia, Canada and USA), and in many cases, communities cross international boundaries. Disparities in health and social conditions persist between indigenous and non-indigenous populations across the region prompting recent cross-border collaboration amongst indigenous peoples (Arctic Council Indigenous People’s Secretariat, 2002, AMAP, 2009). A similar transboundary collaboration between academic research and academic educational programs is also warranted and getting underway, through organizations such as the International Network for Circumpolar Health Research (INCHR, http://www/inchr.com) and International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA, http://www.iassa.org). Strengthening northern research infrastructure is essential for building both research based education and research and for effective health policy and practice to address health disparities.

Why is human health and well-being an essential and timely focus area in the Northern and Circumpolar regions? Rapid change in livelihoods, economics, climate and environment is on-going in Northern areas. Human health and well-being is the result of the complex interaction of cultural genetic, behavioral and environmental factors, and climate is a major, constantly changing component of that interaction. In many areas in the Arctic there are great changes already happening, e.g. relocation of whole villages due to floods or permafrost melting in Alaska or change from traditional reindeer herding towards tourism in many areas in Fennoscandia or Russia. The effects of climate on human health are: 1) direct impacts (e.g. temperature, ultraviolet light), and 2) indirect mechanisms (e.g. climate induced changes in wildlife and the diseases they share with humans, zoonotic diseases, as
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well as impact on changes in life style and the traditional diets of indigenous residents). Embedded important issues include environmental contaminants, traditional food security, community adaptation to stress and community-based monitoring (AMAP, 2009, Megatrends 2011).

The changing climate together with rapid economic changes, modernization and alterations in the food supply are already affecting Arctic communities. Negative health consequences of intense societal change and modernization are many, including a number of social and mental health problems as well as increased prevalence of chronic diseases, such as cardiovascular diseases, cancers (Bonefeld-Jørgensen 2011) and diabetes, and alcohol abuse (Young and Bjerregaard, 2008). The psychosocial stress is reflected in increased substance and alcohol abuse, interpersonal discrimination, violence and suicide. Ethnic discrimination is progressively receiving empirical attention as a class of stressors that may have consequences for health and for understanding disparities in health between indigenous and majority groups (Hansen, 2011). The increased international attention on the circumpolar areas regards oil exploration, extraction of metals and tourism leads to increased tension between traditional use of nature by the indigenous people and majority’s interests in new type of industry. Bjerregard et al. indicate that discrimination and being disrespected could possibly be causally related to high suicide reated and alcohol and drug abuse in many circumpolar communities (Young and Bjerregaard, 2008). These factors have been shown in studies on migration and transitions in health to be connected to the changes in lifestyle and living conditions. At the moment many Arctic indigenous communities experience high mortality rates in injury and suicide as well as higher hospitalization rates for infants with pneumonia, meningitis, and respiratory infections.

Partnership and links to Arctic Council

The partners in this project are the key persons working in Arctic issues such as in Arctic councils working groups in AMAP Human Health Assessment Group (AMAP-HHAG) (Rautio, Bonefeld-Jørgensen) and SDWG (Evengård, Mulvad, Rautio), Arctic Change Assessment project during the Sweden’s Chairmanship (Rautio, Odland, Evengård, ACA) International Arctic Social Sciences Association (Stammler, Nymand Larsen, IASSA), International Network for Circumpolar Health Research (Johnson, INCHR), The International Union for Circumpolar Health (Johnson, IUCH) and several recent and current projects such Arctic Social Indicators I and II (Nymand Larsen, ASI I and II), Arctic Human Development Report II (Nymand Larsen, Rautio, AHDR II), ArcRisk EU 7th FP research project (Rautio, Odland, WP4), Vulnerability Assessment of Ecosystem Services for Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation (Rautio, VACCIA leading health partner) and several other research projects related to health and well-being in Sámi population (Magga, Hansen, Evengård) but also in Greenland (Mulvad, Bonefeld-Jørgensen) and in Russia (Stammler, Russian partner will be named in the onset of the project).

Since the climate change is currently one of the key factors affecting to human well-being (e.g. nitrogen oxides and black carbon, POPs and mercury, increased wildfires) it is vital to include the climate scientists and research based knowledge on climate to this project: Abisko Scientific Research Station has conducted climate change studies and monitored climatic factors for decades, in Finland Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI) and in Norway the Norwegian Institute for Air Research (NILU) are the key organization on climate monitoring and climate change research.

Above all this is the University of Arctic and its Thematic Networks strategic area which is coordinated by Thule Institute giving a strong working field and network of 136 members (in 2011) with potential doctoral students who can benefit from the
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new PhD program. This proposal is a joint effort by UArctic Thematic Networks Arctic Medicine (led by Rautio) and Global Change in the Arctic (led by Latola). In a recent meeting (Dec 4-5 2011) University of Arctic Board of Governors stated that one area currently missing from UArctic and needed to be implemented is the PhD training and programs. The people's health and well-being was highlighted in this context as well so this proposal responds directly to the demand coming from the UArctic's governance. PhD studies are not a new area in UArctic graduate studies since during the earlier years successful PhD Networks have operated. Now it is good time to move further and continue the work that was started in these networks.

The need for PhD program comes also from existing Master's programs: University of Oulu (Rautio, Finland) Master’s program on Health and Well-being in Circumpolar Area (MCH) and University of Alaska Anchorage (Johnson, UAA, USA). The curriculum of these academic programs will serve as good background information when developing the content of a new collaborative PhD program.

Human health and well-being has been highlighted in many recent working programs and this proposal responds directly to that need. The Conference of Arctic Parliamentarians states that they "Encourage the University of the Arctic to build practical capacity in the north to address the challenges of adaptation to climate change, and to solve the Arctic's needs for energy, from technical, cultural, economic as well as environmental perspectives, and to provide further education of health care personnel with special focus on Arctic conditions" (Fairbanks, August 2008). Under the successive Norwegian, Danish and Swedish chairmanships, The Arctic Council is strongly focusing on IPY outreach and legacy activities, climate change, and indigenous peoples' living conditions (Norwegian, Danish, Swedish common objectives for their Arctic Council chairmanships 2006-2012). Recently the Sweden’s Chairmanship Programme for 2011-2013 gives the high priority to people and views of indigenous people, food safety and access to good quality water.

University of Arctic

The University of the Arctic (UArctic, [www.uarctic.org](http://www.uarctic.org)) is a cooperative network of 136 universities, colleges, and other organizations committed to higher education and research in the North. Our members share resources, facilities, and expertise to build post-secondary education programs that are relevant and accessible to northern students. Our overall goal is to create a strong, sustainable circumpolar region by empowering northerners and northern communities through education and shared knowledge. The University of the Arctic recognizes the integral role of indigenous peoples in northern education, and seeks to engage their perspectives in all of its activities.

The University of the Arctic has taken up the responsibility to educate northerners about a broad range of issues affecting their lives, particularly the effects of climate change and its impacts on the livelihoods of indigenous peoples living in the Arctic. This commitment was spelled out in UArctic's IPY endorsed proposal for the Higher Education and Research cluster: "UArctic has a comprehensive suite of programs that will provide the means for delivering IPY higher education and outreach to Arctic peoples and to the rest of the World. For IPY, UArctic programs will give specific priority to the following thematic areas: global change; regional development, including sustainable tourism; governance and policy; natural resource management; and health and well-being." (IPY Application [http://classic.ipy.org/development/eoi/proposal-details.php?id=189](http://classic.ipy.org/development/eoi/proposal-details.php?id=189)).

Thematic Networks

UArctic’s Thematic Networks strategic area
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(http://www.uarctic.org/singleArticle.aspx?m=56&amid=68) fosters issues-based cooperation that enables networking among UArctic members on specific areas of expertise. These Thematic Networks create a natural framework for development of UArctic training and education programs, tools for knowledge generation and application, as well as an optimal structure for facilitating successful student and faculty mobility. UArctic Thematic Networks are recognized globally as creators, holders, and communicators of knowledge about northern issues and regions. The collaboration leads to increases in relevant training and capacity for knowledge generation and application across the North.

Arctic Monitoring and Assessment program (AMAP) and Arctic Human Health Expert Group (AHHEG) under Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG)

Current research projects such as ArcRisk (http://www.arcrisk.eu/) coordinated by AMAP Secretariat focus directly on these issues and will be one basis for the proposed PhD program which will use the research based knowledge and will also communicate the work and results gained in Arctic council working groups and projects mentioned above. Education on Arctic health and well-being has been named as an important focus area in both working groups.

The International Network for Circumpolar Health Research (INCHR)

The International Network for Circumpolar Health Research (INCHR, http://inchr.com/index.html) is a voluntary network of individual researchers, research trainees, and supporters of research based in academic research centers, Indigenous people's organizations, regional health authorities, scientific/professional associations, and government agencies, who share the goal of improving the health of the residents of the circumpolar regions through international cooperation in scientific research. The summer schools in Copenhagen 2010 and in Oulu 2011 have been organized in co-operation with INCHR and Thematic Network on Arctic Medicine.

The International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH)

The International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH, http://iuch.net/about.php) is an international non-governmental organization, with members, adhering bodies and affiliates throughout the circumpolar regions. IUCH has been established for exchanging medical knowledge, the results of recent research and demonstrate solutions to problems for the benefit of humankind. The International Union for Circumpolar Health focuses to the health problems and needs of northern peoples and in order to support its members and affiliates, and the scientific and indigenous communities at large, the IUCH has established working groups that concentrate on specific health problems of importance to circumpolar populations.

SámiSoster

SámiSoster (http://www.samisoster.fi/) is a national Sámi Social and Health Association in Finland, which has been the leading actor in developing culturally based services in Sámi language. The focus of the services is wide ranging from children to elders, from facilitating the transition and reinforcement of Sámi identity and belonging between the generations to home support of Sámi elders, culturally sensitive substance abuse work and health education. The association has also been an active collaborator in developing Sámi vocabulary in health branch and promoting Sámi social and health research needs as well as contributing to research projects with local knowledge and contacts.
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Abisko Scientific Research Station

The Abisko Scientific Research Station (www.ans.kiruna.se/) is a unique, modern and comprehensive infrastructure situated in a wilderness area (68°21′N, 18°49′E) about 200 km north of the Arctic Circle. It has facilities of an international standard that support a range of research from observation and monitoring (such as climate, hydrology, water chemistry, flora and fauna and atmospheric carbon isotope composition) to high tech experimentation within a range of terrestrial and freshwater environments. Since December 2010, the Station is a part of the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat.

Problem-oriented research focuses increasingly on climate change impacts that are greatest in the north and the Abisko Station is playing a leading role in these studies. The Station hosts a unique set of long-term environmental manipulation experiments that attract scientists from all over the world.

Nordic School of Public Health

The Nordic School of Public Health (www.nhv.se, NHV) is a Nordic institution, a subsidiary of the Nordic Council of Ministers. NHV offers Masters and PhD studies in public health science and has students from all Nordic countries. In addition, NHV offers research-level courses and involves itself in epidemiological research and public health projects with a Nordic focus or relevance, as well as research and projects within global health or that involve the Baltic Rim countries or Northwestern Russia. NHV makes use of a high number of highly regarded external lecturers from different countries, in addition to its own academic and scientific staff.

Master’s programs related to this project

Master’s Degree program on Health and Well-being in Circumpolar Area (MCH) at University of Oulu

Master’s Degree Programme in Health and Well-being in the Circumpolar Area (http://arctichealth.oulu.fi/suomi/maisterikoulu.html MCH) is an international two-year Master’s Degree program of 120 ECTS (60 North American credit hours) concentrating on the special features, questions and challenges related to the health and well-being in the circumpolar area. MCH graduates will be granted a Master’s Degree in Health Sciences from the University of Oulu. MCH is established and managed in collaboration by the partner universities. MCH has been developed under the auspices of University of Arctic’s Thematic Networks and Barents Cross Border University.

MCH consists of compulsory and elective courses organised either by the home university or by a partner or exchange university. Elective courses enable students to focus their studies according their personal interests and career plans. The curriculum outline enables the MCH students to complete a substantial amount of studies by distance learning.

UAA Graduate Program in Public Health at University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA)

The mission of the MPH in Public Health Practice program at the University of Alaska Anchorage (http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/healthsciences/mph/index.cfm) is to enhance health in diverse communities across Alaska, the circumpolar north, the nation, and the world. This is accomplished through excellence in the education of public health practice leaders, scientific investigation of public health issues, and engaging communities in an organized effort to identify, assess, prevent, and
mitigate community health challenges.

The UAA MPH program is accredited by the Council on Education on Public Health (CEPH), a specialized accrediting body for public health programs and schools; it is one of just three such accredited programs that are entirely distance-delivered. The distance delivery format makes this graduate program a good partner for circumpolar collaboration. To date, faculty and students from the UAA MPH Program have participated in two summer institutes in circumpolar health research (Copenhagen, 2010, and Oulu, 2011).

Links to other projects

The partners in this project have previously worked together in Nordic Council of Minister’s Arctic Co-operation projects:

- Master’s course development project (2006-2009, Thematic Network on Global Change in the Arctic) which resulted in five interdisciplinary courses. On-line course “Health, Security and Well-being in the North” by Prof. Arja Rautio as academic leader is currently one of the compulsory courses in Master’s Degree program on Health and Well-being in Circumpolar Area accredited and enrolled by University of Oulu.

- Arctic Virtual Learning Tools project (2009 – 2011 led by Thule Institute, Dr. Kirsi Latola) which developed a new distance educational tool and electronic library for the use of UArctic members in their education.

And in Nordic Top Level Research Initiative Network under sub program Climate change adaptation:


All these previous Nordic funded projects have produced information on what is needed in PhD training, the online learning tool for the use of the PhD program and of course the good working relations and co-operation network of the partners. All above mentioned projects have been/are led by Thule Institute at the University of Oulu who will be the lead partner and host for this project as well. In addition a partnership has been formed with the Nordic School of Public Health (NHV) which will be used for developing and running jointly developed courses and seminars, supervision of the students and lecturing.

It is notable that the project partnership includes in addition to traditional higher education also research institutes: Abisko Scientific Research Station (Jonasson), Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI), Norwegian Institute for Air Research (NILU) and a NGOs SåmiSoster and IUCH and INCHR focusing on indigenous health and well-being.

Related research projects

Arctic Health Risks: Impacts on health in the Arctic and Europe owing to climate-induced changes in contaminant cycling (ArcRisk) and its Work package 4: Human Health effects of contaminants and the influence of climate change. The WP will create a database of published data concerning health effects of contaminants (persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and heavy metals) in the Arctic; investigate the association between exposures to contaminants and health outcomes in the Arctic; prepares estimates of future dietary exposure for the populations groups
being studied in this project (based on the outcome of the process studies in other work packages), and explores and predict effects of climate change on exposure to POPs and heavy metals and the resultant impact on human health and life styles of selected populations in the Arctic (Finland, Norway, Greenland, Russia, and Canada) and in Europe, specifically in areas of Spain and other parts of the Mediterranean and the Czech Republic.

**Adaptation to Climate Change, Environmental Pollution, and Dietary Transition, (ACCEPT): Establishment of a new Greenlandic Cohort Study.** The aim and perspectives of the currently ongoing ACCEPT project are to establish a Greenlandic mother-child cohort compatible with international and especially other circumpolar child cohorts to detect and explore possible health outcomes of the rapid global change in general and, more specifically, climate change introducing new dimensions and rationale and thereby increase the possibilities for a healthy environment for the next generation. Accept compare contaminant related health effects between populations on a global scale with regard to differences in exposure patterns, genetics, and life style factors being feasible because the project is a part of an international network of cohort studies, carried out with identical protocols. By ACCEPT a formalised and continued information service is established on environmental health issues to the local communities in Greenland (health professionals as well as the general population). Furthermore, FETOTOX project (www.Fetotox.dk) compares data on Arctic birth cohorts (Greenland and North Norway) with global cohorts in South China and Denmark and among others are research projects such as cancer risk in Greenlandic Inuit women (BOC-Risk).

**BOREAS MOVE-INNOCOM, community viability and locality in Russian Arctic industrial cities:** This project at the Arctic Centre Rovaniemi funded by the Finnish Academy in 2006-10 investigated determinants of community viability (or collective well-being) among inhabitants of Russian monoindustrial cities in the Arctic. The majority of the Russian Arctic population resides in such towns, while their quality of life and state of well-being is understudied in such industrial city environments. Research in this project identified several key determinants of viable communities that contribute to people’s collective social well-being: attachment to place, the presence of reliable social networks, identification with the goals of one’s work, and harmony of interests between community leaders and community members. With these determinants positively present, in many cases northern residents are less likely to out migrate and more ready to contribute to a viable social life in their industrial cities.

**SAMINOR study Population based study of health and living conditions in areas with both Sami and Norwegian populations** was an extensive and representative health survey which was determined to be a precondition for research into health and living conditions in the Sami areas. Such a survey was conducted in 2003-2004 by Centre for Sami Health Research (CSHR) at the University of Tromsø (UIT) in partnership with the Norwegian Institute of Public Health (NIPH). The health survey in areas containing mixed Sami and Ethnic Norwegian settlements is known as SAMINOR; the study has been the Centre for Sami Health Research’s main priority. In total, nearly 17,000 people participated in the survey. Geographically, the survey comprised 24 municipalities in Norway. In addition to information gained from questionnaires some physical measurements and blood samples were obtained; this material is currently stored in a purpose-built biobank (Lund et al 2007). Based on these results it appeared that the Sami population have some specific health challenges that required further research both in relation to understanding underlying causes, but also to assess time trend in exposure to risk factors and disease outcomes. Therefore a SAMINOR 2 has been initiated. The SAMINOR 2 study is based on epidemiological research approach with a cross sectional design, but SAMINOR 2 study provide repeated measures with a nearly 10 years interval from the first SAMINOR study, and therefore the study design will be longitudinal cohort.
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Arctic Social Indicators I and II and Arctic Human Development Report II

The Arctic Social Indicators (ASI) project is a project following up on the activities of the Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR), and is initiated and hosted by the Stefansson Arctic Institute, Akureyri, Iceland. ASI has been endorsed by the Arctic Council, and has also received the endorsement of the IPY. ASI indicators have been developed within six domains:

1. Fate control and or the ability to guide one’s own destiny;
2. Cultural Well-being and Cultural Integrity or belonging to a viable local culture;
3. Contact with nature or interacting closely with the natural world;
4. Material Well-being;
5. Education;

ASI is the essential framework for ASI Implementation (ASI-II) which main goal is to implement the ASI indicators, with the objectives being to identify data gaps and challenges, measure and test ASI indicators, conduct analyses of the ability of the selected set of indicators to track changes in human development and quality of life in the Arctic, and to formulate recommendations for long-term monitoring.

The purpose of the AHDR-II project – Arctic Human Development Report II: Regional Processes and Global Linkages – is to move the study of human development in the Arctic beyond the AHDR (2004) baseline, to provide the second assessment and synthesis report on the state of human development in the Arctic, and to contribute to our increased knowledge and understanding of the consequences and interplay of physical and social global change processes for human living conditions and adaptability in the Arctic, and to strengthen the competence and international leadership role in human dimension scientific assessments and research.

Project objectives and goals

The clear objective of this project is to develop the first joint PhD program on Arctic Health and Well-being under the auspices of the University of Arctic. The program will focus on one of the most topical issue in North at the moment: climate change effects on people’s health and well-being and will draw its knowledge from the current co-operation and expertise found at the various international Arctic research projects and programs including the assessments and work conducted at the Arctic council working groups AMAP and SDWG and the projects within.

The PhD program on Arctic Health and Well-being will consist of both online studies (using Virtual Learning Tools developed in previous project) and on site studies, training courses, seminars and thesis. All these will enable students to complete PhD degrees. The first objective is thus to plan and develop the program content for theoretical studies that it is sufficient and acceptable for PhD degree in all Nordic countries. For this a workshop with all project partners is needed where first the administrative issues regarding the international PhD program will be assessed and secondly the scientific content of the program will be planned.

The second objective is to assess the information that is available on Arctic health and well-being and plan, use and develop the courses based on most relevant research and information. This will be done in small teams, which will be decided in the first joint workshop. The linkages to Master’s program and Nordic School of Public Health are important since the Master students graduating these programs can continue to PhD degree in this proposed new program.
The third and final objective is to gradually start to implement the program and intake the PhD students to the program. Ultimately the program plans to open PhD research positions for students and secondly initiate the student and teacher mobility between the partner organizations. Existing agreements such as the one on research co-operation and mobility between Canadian Circumpolar Institute, University of Alberta and Thule Institute, University of Oulu will help the process.

Project Outputs

1. New PhD program on Arctic Health and Well-being
   - Jointly developed on-line courses will be delivered with Virtual Learning Tools (VLT) and can be taken at any of the UArctic member organizations. The program accreditation process will begin at the onset of the project in partner universities and the completion of the program will be awarded with the PhD degree at the University of Oulu, Finland. The goal is to eventually develop a joint degree at partner Universities. Students can also take only some of the courses and get acceptance of those to their PhD degrees at their home universities.
   - Summer and winter schools will held annually and will use the network and experience gained in developing and arranging the PhD training courses in Nordforsk TRI network (2010-12). PhD courses will be also arranged in the conjunction of Nordic Conferences such as NUNAMED conference in September 2013 in Nuuk, Greenland.
   - PhD students are given a possibility to participate in the international conferences focusing on health and well-being.
   - PhD research and dissertations will be conducted on the topical Arctic issues on health and well-being, welfare, social sciences supervised by two Northern Experts (partners themselves or others coming from partner organization).
   - PhD students will be able to get the full PhD degree by taking part to this program and by completing the compulsory studies in their home universities including the PhD dissertation.

2. Strengthen the PhD studies and graduate education at the University of Arctic
   - Program will be to all graduate students enrolled at University of Arctic.
   - UArctic will come to an important factor also in research with PhD dissertations focusing on Northern relevant issues keeping the indigenous issues in the main focus.

3. Taking the knowledge gained in AC working groups, research and other initiatives into the practice and to communicate the results in joint program.

Project implementation plan

The project will be carried out during the three years (2012-2014). The main development of the project will be done in 2012 when the project partners meet in a workshop (early spring) and the PhD program course contents will be discussed and tasks divided. In 2013 the course developments continue, institutional accreditations will be sought and 2014 the student recruitments and enrolling the first online courses. The planned schedule can be found in Figure 1 in Appendix 3.
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List of detailed tasks:

2012

- Joint workshop with all partners in spring 2012, additional meeting of the group can be held the IPY conference in Montreal, however most beneficial is to have joint two days workshop with no other engagements. Place and exact time will be decided with the project partners.
- Tasks divided between the partners for developing the PhD course curriculum
- Enrollment of summer and winter schools together with other projects such as TRI “People and ecosystems in changing environment: Snowtalks in Abisko (3/2012); SICH in Fairbanks (8/2012); Summer School in Rovaniemi (8/2012) and Kastelli symposium in Oulu (11/2012). Summer and winter schools will be an important part of the new PhD program thus these courses will be used as learning experience (sharing the best and also worst practices) for the project and as well gaining the valuable information on what is needed in the education in the future.
- Preliminary information on the planned PhD program at the University of Arctic council meeting in Tromsø, June
- Putting together the materials for the courses, meetings in smaller groups

2013

- Development and planning the course materials continue
- UArctic’s Indigenous Issues Committee and Vice President of Indigenous Affairs Jan Henry Keskitalo reviews of the course materials on indigenous views
- Summer and winter schools continue
- NUNAMED conference will be held in September in Nuuk, PhD seminar and course will be planned in the conjunction
- Website updates; e.g. listing of the supervisors, PhD research topic ideas, available courses
- first on-line courses enrolled with Virtual Learning Tools

2014

- Website launched for the PhD program and student requirements
- all jointly developed on-line courses ready for enrolment according to the curriculum schedule (to be planned during the project)
- Institutional accreditations when the program is complete
- PhD program on Arctic Health and Well-being in operation
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