

Title of Talk: Centering Arctic Knowledge: The Practice of Inclusive Science Diplomacy

Talk Summary: An inclusive approach to science diplomacy is one that centers human rights, community voice, justice, and diversity in global dialogs regarding decision-making in science, policy, and diplomacy. The Arctic Council - the leading, intergovernmental forum for Arctic policy dialogs and international science cooperation - strives to model this inclusive and innovative approach with a foundational structure representing both Indigenous and non-Indigenous knowledge and governance. The Arctic Council's academic arm, the University of the Arctic (UArctic), is similarly grounded in the knowledge of over 200 Indigenous and non-Indigenous circumpolar organizations working to ensure a diversity of ideas, including youth perspectives, inform future science and diplomacy decisions. As time runs out for global action on climate, with the Arctic warming at almost 3 times the rate of the rest of the planet, we must quickly recognize that the active, intentional centering of diverse knowledge systems and peoples in the practice of global science and diplomacy is critical to a truly sustainable, just, and equitable future.