

Category

SH Social Sciences and Humanities

Session Number

SH-2

Session Title

Indigenous Governance and Knowledge: Intersection of people, policy & priorities

Session Description

Indigenous epistemologies, laws and governance structures have long underpinned the ways in which humans have related to the Arctic environment. While science and governance models are taking precedence, Indigenous Peoples (IPs) are reasserting their right to self-determination and using collaborative, participatory and co-production approaches that utilize Indigenous Knowledge (IK), traditional values and perspectives as well as scientific knowledge and practice. IK provides essential information to understand the changes occurring in the Arctic from a physical, biological and social perspective. The holistic approach that Indigenous communities take to understanding the environment, which they are part of, provides crucially needed information and governance models. Increasingly, researchers and policy-makers are exploring meaningful ways to engage and include IK and management schemes in the science and governance paradigm, while concurrently Indigenous communities are demanding more self-determination and information sovereignty while working to retain control of their knowledge and confronting issues of ethical management and sharing. This session connects IPs, researchers, students, policy makers and those working at the intersection of people, priorities and policy to discuss principle-based approaches for building and maintaining relationships with Arctic IPs, including Indigenous Governance Models and the ethics and sovereignty connected to managing and sharing IK.

Keywords: Indigenous Knowledge; governance; ethics; information sovereignty

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