**ArcTrain AAM2021, Advisory Board Meeting – Virtual Through Zoom**

October 15th 2021, 9:00 (ET time) 15:00 (CET time)

Zoom link: https://uni-bremen.zoom.us/j/91590912760?pwd=SlhMVmFKZHRLL1VIRlE0d0wzK2dzZz09

Meeting ID: 915 9091 2760

Passcode: 910228

**Agenda**

**9:00-10:00 (ET time) 15:00-16:00 (CET time) – Meeting with the ArcTrain steering group (speakers and student representatives)**

1. Welcome and tour de table

**2.** ArcTrain-Germany and ArcTrain-Canada joint activities

**3.** ArcTrain-Germany updates

**4.** ArcTrain-Canada updates

**5.** Covid-19: student situation and possible solutions

**6.** Activities planned for 2022

**7.** Future of the consortium beyond ArcTrain funding period

**8. Varia**

If they wish, the AB members can meet with the students online at 10:05 (ET time) or 16:05 (CET time) and report to all ArcTrain PIs and students at 11:00 (ET time) or 17:00 (CET time) following this zoom link:

https://uni-bremen.zoom.us/j/96392679321?pwd=WXdDVVptclhMbWRiVHNrVVp4ZzB0UT09

Meeting ID: 963 9267 9321

Passcode: 716839

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**Advisory board members:**

Martin Fortier, Executive Director of Sentinel North, Laval U.

Stephen Locke, Director General, Atlantic and Western Canada Branch, Geological Survey of Canada

Roberto Racca, Chef Communications Officer and Senior Scientist, JASCO Applied Sciences

Hans Petter Sejrup, Professor at the University of Bergen

**ArcTrain directors:**

Anne de Vernal, ArcTrain speaker for Canada

Michal Kucera, ArcTrain speaker for Germany

**Student representatives:**

Kelsey Koerner (UQAR), ArcTrain Canada

Antoine Savard (McGill), ArcTrain Canada

Linda Thielke (U. Bremen), ArcTrain Germany

Kevin Wiegand (U. Bremen), ArcTrain Germany

Jennifer Wesselbaum (U. Bremen), ArcTrain Germany

**Other invited participants:**

ArcTrain-Canada coordinator: Jade Falardeau (UQAM) 2

ArcTrain-Canada co-speakers: Shawn Marshall (University of Calgary), Paul Myers (U. of Alberta), Bruno Tremblay (McGill) and André Rochon (UQAR)

ArcTrain-Germany co-speakers: Maren Walter, (U. Bremen) and Christian Haas (AWI)

**Meeting Start: 9:06 AM**

Chair: Martin Fortier

1. **Welcome and tour de table (9:06 AM – 9:16)**
2. **ArcTrain-Germany and ArcTrain-Canada joint activities (9:16 –9:25)**

Online meetings were held throughout the year

Annual 7th Meeting – 71 people total

Students in charge of social media and slack with great success

ArcTrain Graduation celebrating those that graduated

Arctic changes – processes and feedbacks in climate, ocean, and cryosphere - EGU session

ArcTrain Splinter meeting + Table Ronde (42 participants)

Outreach: ArcTrain session at the Arctic Science Summit in March 2021, ArcTrain Game, ArcTrain merchandise, ArcTrain Booklet

Many joint activities of students (student meeting on stress, career plans/writing, weekly meetings on Wednesdays, workshops on promoting/marketing your skills, ArcTrain flip chart)

Research stays – none for Canada, and one German student here at Memorial – Brian Crow

1. **ArcTrain-Germany updates (9:25-9:29)**

8 students graduated

Admitted two new PhD students to the program – 17 active now

Two ArcTrain Fellowships – Damien (postdoc at McGill) and Valentin (postdoc at AWI)

Almost all activities were online and ended up being joint activities with the Canadian cohort

1. **ArcTrain-Canada updates (9:29-9:35)**

6 students defended their thesis, 2 under evaluation

Enrolled 3 Postdocs, 4 PhD, 2 Msc, and students

Two sessions at Arctic Change – co-chaired by ArcTrain students

Workshop by Skye Moret

ArcTrain executive committee meetings, and many meetings about the next steps and future of ArcTrain notably to prepare an NSERC-CREATE proposal on the topic of “ice”.

1. **Covid-19: student situation and possible solutions (discussed at various points through the meeting)**

In Germany, the possibility to transfer funds to another year for those students who have been severely affected by the COVID situation is explore, with hope to extend cost-neutrally on individual basis and fund some extensions for our students

1. **Activities planned for 2022 (9:35-9:43)**

EGU session – April 2022

**Joint program of skills courses online, winter 2021/2022**

* **Continue with the online skill courses and activities into 2022**

Research stays planned

Floating Universities – not possible with the COVID19 situation and postponing of all previously scheduled expeditions

**Arctic Field Course: proposal to go to the Yukon or northern Quebec based on costs will be explored; Shawn to enquire**

**9th annual meeting – will be held close to the location of the Arctic Field Course**

* **Begin to think about both of these options and the final year of ArcTrain in the format it is currently in.**

1. **Future of the consortium beyond ArcTrain funding period (9:43-9:44)**

Funding for networking and training activities is unclear

We have about 1 year left on Canadian side to continue with very limited ArcTrain funding, and we hope to make a smooth transition towards a next NSERC-CREATE grant led by Bruno Tremblay.

1. **Varia**

**Discussion-questions as follows :**

9:44 Hans Petter Sejrup – How do you see the continuity of the new proposal with the old ArcTrain?

9:45 Bruno Tremblay – This will not be a joint German-Canadian organization, it will be Canadian only but with strong ties and support with Germany (especially the research stays)

9:46 Michal Kucera – Agrees and says this is a huge step toward continuing the co-operation and organization with Canada into the future, only thing that will change is the balance between students coming and going

9:46 Stephen Locke – Very impressive report/presentation – graduated students, conference attendance, student organized activities. Impressive list of publications and continuation with alumni. Jade did an amazing job as a coordinator

9:49 Roberto Racca – Very impressive number of activities, this is invaluable and should be continued and keeps the strength of the internal organization and should be extended to the general public. One suggestion is that the PI’s publicize their activities a bit more, showing their research activities either as a small presentation at the annual meeting or on the website. This way the students have a better idea of what is going on with the PI’s within ArcTrain.

**Action Point: Find a suitable way for PI’s to present their overarching research and current projects. We need to explore how to better present and advertise this.**

9:53 – Martin Fortier – Very impressive work, a nice strength of community, and the connections between the alumni and students is quite strong and a good thing for into the future. Question about the NSERC-CREATE: is it mostly sea ice, how broad is it?

9:56 – Bruno Tremblay – Includes permafrost, glaciers, sea ice, ocean. All ice components included in this. Many collaborative groups involved including Parks Canada and strong ties to northern communities. With an emphasis on making sure that we learn and understand how to make meaningful collaborations and plan projects/research in the north.

9:58 – Martin Fortier – Well wishes for the NSERC-CREATE and it is all encompassing nature.

9:59 – Michal Kucera – full support for JUSTice, but that sea ice and the Arctic is in the centre, but everyone on the German side can connect and integrate smoothly into the new generation of ArcTrain. This current situation of COVID19 is quite hard for the students, 1.5 years of lockdown has made everything much more difficult.

10:02 – Martin Fortier – Agrees and knows that certain groups of funding did not extend for students which makes the situation very difficult. Question/comment about cruises, why is there no option or not pursuing this option?

10:03 – Michal Kucera – Cruises are overbooked or unavailable, and we thought it would not be possible so ship time was not applied for so that we formally get the ship.

10:04 – Stephen Locke left the meeting

10:04 – Martin Fortier – Field Schools: join forces with another group of researchers/field work so it could be good to mix with other schools to save funding and have more exposure for students. Ending with saying positive comments and how everyone is quite positive given this situation

10:06 – Hans Petter Sejrup – Very impressive, really made a different in high Arctic research which is evident by the publications, offers congratulations for 8 great years.

10:08 – Hans Petter Sejrup left the meeting

10:08 – Roberto Racca – The positivity of the group is really great, the in-person format shows a sense of normalcy, if anything this situation really helped strengthen the coordination and communication between the two groups.

**10:11 – End of the advisory board meeting**