



UARctic Rectors' Forum 2017 Declaration

Drafting Committee:

- a. John Paterson (Chair)
- b. Lars Kullerud
- c. Sergey Aplonov
- d. Anna Mauranen
- e. Dieter K. Müller
- f. Taina Pihlajaniemi
- g. Outi Snellman (Secretariat)
- h. Scott Forrest (Secretariat)

Theme: *The Inhabited Arctic: Lands, Peoples and Scholarship in the Circumpolar North.*

Preamble:

The University of the Arctic (UARctic) is one of the largest university networks in the world with over 170 member institutions. It facilitates collaboration, resource sharing and capacity building among higher education institutions and most university institutions interested in the Arctic. UARctic members are committed to the production and sharing of new knowledge. The circumpolar network is the only one of its kind, fostering sustainable development and knowledge exchange in the Arctic region for the benefit of the North, as well as the whole world.

[Notes on meeting date, location, participants, etc]

We, the assembled leads of UARctic member institutions declare:

1. We see higher education, science, scholarship and shared knowledge as keys to building human capacity among northerners and strengthening their ability to determine their own futures, and to creating a generation of future northern leaders; *[Meeting theme]*
2. *[Role of non-Arctic states in supporting circumpolar science and higher education]*
3. We are committed to reducing barriers to international collaboration in science and higher education and ensuring academic independence both within the Circumpolar North and beyond it, including student and staff mobility; *[reference from opening keynote? open borders, free exchange of scholarship and ideas, etc]*
4. *[Panel 1 conclusions: Value of multidisciplinary, working on thematic issue-based research projects, Thematic Networks, etc]*
5. *[Panel 2 conclusions: role of science in mitigating effects of climate change, promoting awareness, finding solutions that will help northerners adapt to rapid change, healthy and sustainable communities]*
6. We aim to promote best practices in incorporating indigenous knowledge and multiple systems of knowledge in both research and higher education the inclusion, consent and consultation of local communities as active participants in scientific work; *[Panel 3 conclusions]*
7. We support the use of research and data analytics can be an excellent tool to capture scientific results and outputs, and find synergies across the Arctic scientific community. *[Research Analytics Institute]*

8. *[President's Report: Work with the Arctic Council, plans for UArctic Congress 2018, education priority]*
9. *[President's Report: collaboration with other scientific organizations in the Arctic (IASC, IASSA), as well as globally]*
10. *[Welcome report/declaration from Student Forum]*