



*Symposium*

# Do we speak the same language of science?

**Date: 9.00 am -12.30 pm, Sunday 13 March 2016**

**Place: Davis Concert Hall, University of Fairbanks**

**Contact: Malgorzata (Gosia) Smieszek**

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Despite strong incentives for bringing together scholars from various branches of science, effective interdisciplinary research remains challenging. This symposium seeks to reopen and facilitate discussions about effective means of communication and collaboration between representatives of humanities, social sciences and natural sciences. Invited guests representing different branches of science will speak first on research methods, challenges and limitations of human, social and natural sciences. The second half of the symposium will focus on discussing best practices for interdisciplinary research in the Arctic, and ways for its further pursuit.

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**9.00-10.45 PART I**

Opening statement: **Susan Barr**, IASC President

Introduction to symposium: **Malgorzata (Gosia) Smieszek**  
IASC SHWG Fellow/Arctic Centre, UoL

**Keynote speaker: Louwrens Hacquebord**,  
founding chair of IASC Social & Human Sciences WG

Panel including representatives of different branches of science:

Moderator: **Josefine Lenz**, IASC Terrestrial WG Fellow / AWI

- Natural sciences: **Thomas Spengler**, University of Bergen
- Natural sciences: **Sandra Starkweather**, NOAA
- Social sciences: **Peter Schweitzer**, University of Vienna
- Humanities: **Susan Barr**, Directorate for Cultural Heritage Norway

In their short presentations each panelist will cover following questions from their discipline's perspective:

- What is the main object of research?
- What constitutes the valid sources?
- What is the research approach/method?
- What are the research limitations?
- What are the research challenges?
- What possible benefits the discipline can bring to interdisciplinary projects?

**10.15-10.45 Discussion. End of Part I**

**10.45-11.15 Coffee break**

**11.15-12.30 PART II**

Keynote speaker: **Thomas Armstrong**, Madison River Group, LLC

Presentation of interdisciplinary Arctic research initiatives:

Moderator: **Malgorzata (Gosia) Smieszek**,  
IASC SHWG Fellow/ Arctic Centre, UoL

- **Henry Huntington**, Huntington Consulting, Eagle River, Alaska
- **Joachim Otto Habeck**, University of Hamburg
- **Nicole Kanayurak**, ICC-Alaska Youth Representative

**12.00-12.30 Discussion**

**12.30 End of the session**