



Happy Holiday Season!

News

PYRN Flyer

We are happy to share the new PYRN flyer that we created this fall. Below is an example of the flyer that is available at meetings and conferences, describing who PYRN is and what we do.

What is PYRN?

The Permafrost Young Researchers Network (PYRN) is an international network seeking to recruit, involve, and promote activities with and for future generations of permafrost researchers in a multidisciplinary context. All PYRN activities are sponsored by its host, the International Permafrost Association (IPA), with technical support provided by Arctic Portal.

A Global Network

In 2015, PYRN celebrates its 10th anniversary and numbers more than 1,200 registered members from 71 nations. According to its constitution, the network is managed by an executive committee and a council that is elected every 2 years at a regional or international conference on permafrost.



Engagement and Outreach

- Organizes workshops and social events
- Shapes future research by developing permafrost research priorities
- Posts a regular newsletter about its activities and upcoming events
- Provides information about jobs and funding opportunities

National Representation

Through the effort of its members, PYRN is represented by several branches nationally, e.g. PYRN Russia, PYRN DACH (Germany-Austria-Switzerland). Interested in becoming a national representative? Visit our website and Facebook page, or contact us to find out more!

Join the PYRN Community

Register for a free membership on our homepage!
Let us know if you are interested to represent your nation actively!
<http://pym.arcticportal.org>



Contact Us

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The new PYRN flyer

ICOP2016

The next PYRN general assembly and leadership election will take place at the 11th International Conference on Permafrost (ICOP 2016) in Potsdam, Germany (20-24 June 2016). In cooperation with APECS (Association of Polar Early Career Scientists), the young researcher representatives of the USPA (United States Permafrost Association), and ADAPT (Arctic Development and Adaptation to Permafrost in Transition), PYRN is organizing a two-day Young Researcher Workshop with professional training on publishing in scientific journals, practical geoscientific methods, and essential soft skills.

A Junior meets Senior Lounge, and an All-Star Football Tournament will facilitate networking with early career and senior researchers. Please visit <http://icop2016.org/> for further details.

PYRN Russia, EUCOP 2014

PYRN Executive Committee, 2014-2016

Partners and Sponsors

Permafrost Young Researchers Network

The Permafrost Young Researchers Network (PYRN) is an international organization hosted by the International Permafrost Association (IPA), with technical support by Arctic Portal.

PYRN Census

In total, 202 people participated at the PYRN census. 60.7% of the participants were men, 39.3% women. Ages ranged between 19 and 79 years (mean=31). The participants come from 24 countries. Permafrost young researchers mainly work in the academic sector (86.6%), followed by private/industry (7%), and public/government (3.5%) sector. Half of the participants have a master's degree (50.2%). 36.6% have a PhD and 13.4% are undergraduates. Most of the people are PhD students (44.8%), are in a position still within 6 years after completing their PhD, or are Postdocs (14.4%). Most people work in the following study fields, land (80.6%), coast (12.9%), infrastructure (10.9%), and atmosphere (10.4%). Only a few people work on following topics: ocean and sub-sea (5.5%), social issues (2.5%), people (3%) and politics (0.5%). The research interests are widespread-- ranging from morphology, remote sensing, modelling, and cryolithology being the most popular topics to economy and politics, social, microbiology, and hydrochemistry the lowest rated research interests.

PYRN membership

Most participants are PYRN members since 1 to 3 years (31.1%), followed by membership for 5-10 years (21.9%), 3-5 and first years (20.9%). Only a small number of people are PYRN members for more than 10 years (5%). One quarter belongs to the PYRN branches PYRN Russia (26.7%, n=50) and PYRN DACH (25.7%, n=48). After that follows PYRN USA (19.3%, n=36), PYRN Canada (10.2%, n=19), PYRN Spain (5.3%, n=10), and PYRN Norway (5.3%, n=5).

ICOP 2016

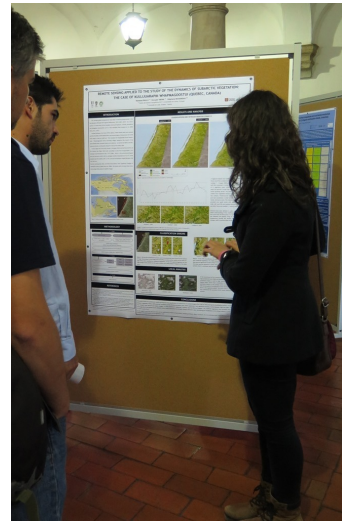
Nearly one third would like to attend ICOP (63.7%) and 50.2% (n=101) the Young Researchers Workshop. Only 10% are not planning to attend ICOP.

Signing of MoU between ASA and PYRN

At ArcticNet this year, PYRN strengthened its collaboration with the ASA by establishing a PYRN representative within the coming ASA Executive Committee and beginning negotiations about a Memorandum of Understanding.

Recent Meetings

The 7th Portuguese Polar Conference was held between the 28th and 29th of October and hosted by the University of Évora - Portugal, gathering 38 Portuguese researchers (experts, mentors and young researchers), from different scientific areas. Permafrost and Climate Change continues to be one of the high topics on the Portuguese polar research focus.



Poster session at the 7th Portuguese Polar Conference

About 26% of the presented communications were related to periglacial environments, mostly presented by young polar scientists.



The Portuguese polar community has expanded rapidly in the last ten years-- the community has grown 5 times and research has focused largely in the Arctic and Antarctic environments.



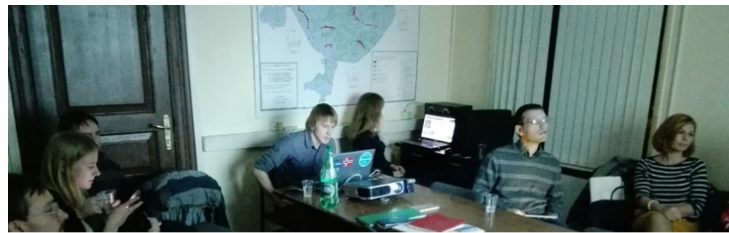
PYRN Russia activities

Three consecutive PYRN Russia meetings were organized this fall.

The first meeting was held on November 12th, 2015 at the Sergeev Institute of

Environmental Geoscience RAS (IEG RAS) and called “How have I spent this

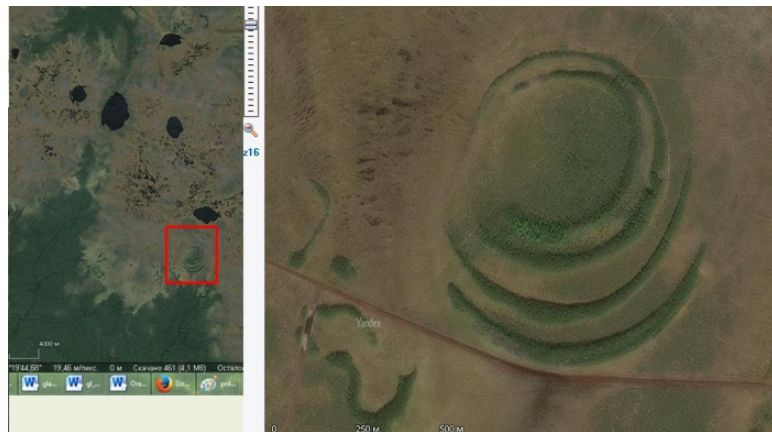
summer”. During the meeting 6 PYRs had the opportunity to talk about their fieldwork in various regions (Yamal, Yakutia, Western Siberia, Chukotka, etc.) and to share their experiences and impressions from these trips.



PYRN Russia meeting “How have I spent this summer”. Ph.D. Gleb Oblogov talks about methane emission from marine coast of Western Yamal.

The second meeting was held in Lomonosov Moscow State University. At this meeting was a lecture of Vasily Chikharev and Alexander Smirnov with further discussion, dedicated to geophysical studies

of mysterious circles in Western Siberia (see fig.). There is a hypothesis that these circles are result of deep fluid dynamics and they may cause pingos.



Mysterious circles in the cryolithozone of Western Siberia.

The last PYRN Russia meeting in 2015 was dedicated to the features, properties and functions of cryospheric soils. Dr. George Matyshak conducted a fascinating 2-hours lecture with many unique photos and videos and even brought some soil samples to demonstrate the phenomenon of thixotropy.

PYRN Russia quiz

A kind of quiz was organized on the PYRN Russia web-page in the most popular local social network “Vkontakte” (https://vk.com/pyrn_russia). There is the Russian term given (sometimes with the photo) and several variants of its translation into English. Every participant can see this task and choose what they think the right item is. The right answer is published the next day. The frequency of the quiz is weekly. The purpose of quiz is to improve knowledge of Russian permafrost term equivalents in English among permafrost young researchers from Russia. All terms, the descriptions, illustrations and translations into 13 languages are available on Frozen Ground Data Center website: <http://nsidc.org/fgdc/glossary/> .



PYRN Russia quiz

Great example of permafrost career

An interview with Vladimir Romanovsky, an outstanding permafrost researcher at the University of Alaska Fairbanks shows an example of brilliant career in science even after migration into the other country, invalidation all scientific degrees and starting from scratch in 36 years old. Interview available [here](#).

ArcticNet

During the conference ArcticNet 2015 held in Vancouver (Canada) in December, PYRN was supporting the ArcticNet Student Association (ASA) and APECS in carrying out the icebreaker events for the student day. A bingo quiz with prizes sponsored by PYRN was organized at the beginning as well as a trivia game during the young researcher



From the ArcticNet social evening

icebreaker at the bar Mahony & Sons (see attached picture: Representatives of ASA, APECS and PYRN). It was a great Get-Together of these three networks. Furthermore PYRN was strengthen its collaboration with the ASA by establishing a PYRN representative within the coming ASA Executive Committee and beginning negotiations about a Memorandum of Understanding.

Joint USPA-USPA Social event at AGU

The USPA-PYRN social event was a great success! It was held on December 15th evening at AGU in San Francisco. Eight PYRN members were awarded travel grants at the social, and we had a nice turn out of early career scientists. About 13 PYRN members attended the social event, including of course the joint USPA members.

Upcoming Events

Stay tuned for the next newsletter for more information on Arctic Frontiers, ASSW, EGU, PYRN DACH at AK Permafrost, ICOP2016 and other exciting meetings in the new year.

The PYRN executive committee wishes you, your friends and families a wonderful holiday and happy new year!



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