



## **Permafrost Young Researchers Network**

### **Newsletter, fall 2016**

Dear PYRN members,

In this newsletter you will find some updates on recent PYRN activities as well as information on events to come later this or next year.

Hoping you are well after field seasons,  
PYRN ExCom

**PYRN at 11th International Conference on Permafrost**



*All permafrost young researchers who participated ICOP-2016*

Thank you for a successful [11th International Conference on Permafrost](#), June 20-14 2016 in Potsdam! Besides highly interesting scientific and engineering presentations, PYRN members were active as session co-chairs and playing or watching the All-Star-Football-Tournament! Further, PYRN organized a Junior-meets-Senior-Lounge and Awards for the best oral and poster presentations as well as an award for the best Frostbyte. A 2-day Young Permafrost Researchers Workshop prior the conference on June 18-19 provided valuable workshop sessions on different topics to more than 150 participants. A [new PYRN Executive Committee](#) was elected too! Additionally, PYRN organized a Junior-meets-Senior-Lounge and Awards for the best oral and poster presentations as well as an award for the best Frostbyte

## **PYRN-IPA Awards 2016**

During the 11th International Conference on Permafrost in Potsdam/Germany, 20-24 June 2016, PYRN honored the best oral and poster presentations of Early Career Scientists with a PYRN-IPA Award in the category “science” and “engineering”.

275 oral and poster presentations were registered to compete for an award and more than 80 judges were involved in the evaluation process! Further, more than 90 FrostBytes (very short online videos promoting permafrost research and projects) were submitted and evaluated by a judging committee. Frostbytes can be seen [here](#).

The awards were gratefully sponsored by the [International Permafrost Association \(IPA\)](#), the German Polar Society (DGP) and the Journal “[Permafrost and Periglacial Processes](#)” published by John and Wiley. The 2016 PYRN-IPA awardees received a framed certificate and a cash prize of 400 €.

Herewith, it is our great pleasure to announce the recipients of the PYRN-IPA Awards 2016 for the best presentations at the 11th International Conference on Permafrost:

**Melissa K. Ward** (McGill University) received the Troy L. Péwé Award for her oral science presentation entitled “Using a mix-methods approach to monitor thermokarst activity in the Eureka Sound Lowlands, Ellesmere Island, Nunavut”.



*Josefine Lenz announcing the Troy L. Péwé Award winner Melissa Ward. Antoni Lewkowicz (IPA President 2012-2016) and Hanne H. Christiansen (IPA President 2016-2020) handed over the precious prize.*

**Heather M. Brooks** (Université Laval) received the Pavel I. Melnikov Award for her oral engineering presentation entitled “Quantifying Probability of Thaw Settlement Occurrence and Vulnerability to Climate Warming – Iqaluit Airport, Nunavut”.

*Heather Brooks receiving the Pavel I. Melnikov Award for the best oral presentation in the category “engineering” from Josefine Lenz, Hanne H. Christiansen and Antoni Lewkowicz for her presentation at ICOP2016.*



**Boris K. Biskaborn** (AWI Potsdam) received the PYRN-IPA Award for his science poster presentation entitled “Modern spatial variability of limnecology and sedimentary processes in a mountain lake at the permafrost margin of southern Yakutia (Russia)”.



*Boris Biskaborn receiving the PYRN-IPA Award for the best poster in the category "science" from Julian Murton (Editor of the Journal "Permafrost and Periglacial Processes") and Josefina Lenz*

**Anna Tolstogan** (Lomonosov Moscow State University) received the PYRN-IPA Award for her engineering poster presentation entitled "Changes of the engineering geocryological conditions in the Yamburg settlement (Taz Peninsula)". Please note that changes were necessary after the conference due to a judging mistake in the evaluation process.

**Svetlana Bricheva** (Lomonosov Moscow State University) received the PYRN-IPA Award for the best FrostByte of her presentation entitled "Ground penetrating radar detection of visible and "hidden" ice wedges in the Chara Depression (Eastern Siberia, Russia)". Her FrostByte can be watched [here](#).



*Svetlana Bricheva receiving the PYRN-IPA Award for the best FrostByte from Josefina Lenz who led the overall evaluation process at ICOP2016.*

PYRN would like to thank all candidates, sponsors, judges and volunteers who made the evaluation process possible. Thanks to Niels Weiss for documenting the ceremony with this photographs.

Once again, congratulation to all PYRN-IPA Award recipients 2016!

*Josefine Lenz (PYRN ExCom 2014-2016, Local Organizing Committee ICOP2016) and Caroline Coch (PYRN ExCom 2016-2018)*

## Connect with PYRN on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

Facebook: [click here](#)

Twitter: @PYRN\_official

Instagram: @PYRN\_official

PYRN wants to promote photographs of its members in action! Follow us on [Instagram @PYRN\\_official](#) and share photographs of you and your fellow PYRN members conducting permafrost-related research (#PYRN). We would love to see PYRN members engaging in all forms of research and outreach; photographs of field work, lab work, desk work, conferences, networking, and outreach are welcome!

When sharing your photographs, in addition to following the Instagram Community Guidelines and Terms of Use, please remember:

- \* Make sure everyone in the photograph has given their permission for the photograph to be shared on Instagram!
- \* Make sure everyone is following proper field and lab safety protocols!
- \* Please add a caption and location to your photograph before sharing so we know what it shows and where it was taken!
- \* Tag your photograph with the hashtag #PYRN



## The Fifth conference of Russian Geocryologists “Geotechnics in cryolithozone”

The conference was held at Lomonosov Moscow State University on June 14-17, 2016. It was organized by the staff and students from the Geocryology Department of the Geological Faculty. Over 100 participants from Moscow, Saint-Petersburg, Tyumen, Yakutsk, etc. took part in this event. Twelve sessions were held, with oral and poster presentations focusing on engineering, regional, dynamic geocryology, linear facilities on permafrost, seasonal cooling systems, etc.



*Permafrost young researchers from different Russian institutions who participated the conference*

PYRN Russia, financially supported by Total E&P Russia, organized the youth program for students and young researchers attending the conference. The youth program included travel grants, awards for the best presentations, buffet, quiz and memorial prizes.

Before the conference, the most talented participants from the remote regions of Russia were awarded a travel grant: Artyom Khomutov (Institute of Earth's Cryosphere, Tyumen), Yana Tikhonravova (Institute of Earth's Cryosphere, Tyumen), Valery Vlasov (Institute of Earth's Cryosphere, Tyumen), Galina Dyakova (Altai State University, Barnaul), Alyona Shestakova (Melnikov Permafrost Institute, Yakutsk), Alexander Zhirkov (Melnikov Permafrost Institute, Yakutsk), Ekaterina Kononova (Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University, Yakutsk).



*PYRs who were awarded by travel grants*



*Presentations of young participants during the icebreaker*



*Member of LOC P. Kotov and PYRN NR for Russia A. Maslakov at registration desk for young participants.*

The awards for the best presentation were given to:

Poster presentations:

- \* **Alexey Gunar** (Geological Faculty of MSU) “Heat influence of production wells on frozen foundation of drilling platforms”;
- \* **Alisa Baranskaya** (Geographical Faculty of MSU) “Quaternary deposits of Northern Yamal and Gydan and its cryolithological features”;
- \* **Anna Maleeva** (Geological Faculty of MSU) “Complex studies of heat deformations, grain size composition, physical properties and shear strength of frozen rocks”.

Oral presentations:

- \* **Galina Dyakova** (Altai State University) “Approaches to GIS “Stone glaciers of Altai” development”;
- \* **Sergey Grebenkin** (Geological faculty of MSU) “Changes of gas permittivity of frozen hydrate-containing sands at dissociation of pore gas hydrate”;
- \* **Gleb Oblogov** (Institute of Earth’s Cryosphere, Tyumen) “Kara Sea submarine permafrost dynamics in changing climate conditions”.

A special award of Permafrost engineering Ltd. was awarded to Alexey Gunar.

In the framework of the roundtable “History, methodology and education in permafrost science”, the report “Permafrost Young Researchers Network – new generation of XXI century scientists” was presented by PYRN Russia National Representative, Alexey Maslakov, and attracted much attention of the senior audience.

Besides the scientific program, several cultural events were organized. In the evening of June 16th, young geocryologists were invited for an icebreaker, combined with buffet. During the first Permafrost Quiz, more than 50 permafrost-related questions were asked to the audience. After the quiz, a master-class on how to present your study was conducted. Finally, participants played a team game “One hundred to one” (Russian analogue of American “Family Feud”) with permafrost-related topics. Memorial prizes were awarded to all the participants of the game.

We hope that organized youth program was essential for permafrost young researchers and inspired them to further scientific and engineering activity! We also would like to gratitude Executive secretary Motenko R.G. and all judges who evaluated presentations and made this conference exciting.

Organizers of youth program from PYRN Russia were Pavel Kotov, Alexey Maslakov, and Anna Maleeva.

The other photos from the conference are available [here](#).

## Calendar of upcoming events:

### ArcticNet, Winnipeg, Manitoba, December 5-9, 2016

The ASM2016 will welcome researchers, students, Inuit, Northerners, policy makers and stakeholders to address the numerous environmental, social, economical and political challenges and opportunities that are emerging from climate change and modernization in the Arctic.

As the largest annual Arctic research gathering held in Canada, ArcticNet's ASM is the ideal venue to showcase results from all fields of Arctic research, stimulate discussion and foster collaborations among those with a vested interest in the Arctic and its peoples.

Visit the [website](#) of the conference for more information.



### Quebec Forum of Arctic Circle, Québec, Canada, 11-13 December 2016

<http://www.arcticcircle.org/forums/quebec>

The event will apply a comparative and interactive approach, and will give speakers and participants an opportunity to help disseminate knowledge and good practices while promoting the sustainable development of the Arctic and northern regions in general. Session topics will include regional planning and governance, investment and socio-economic development. Also, a special session dealing with the impacts of climate change in the Nordic and Arctic regions will be held. Among the speakers and participants will be ministers and lawmakers, indigenous leaders, and representatives from economic development organizations, investment funds and scientific institutes.

### PYRN DACH Meeting, Einsiedeln, Switzerland, 9-11 February 2017

<http://www.geo.uzh.ch/microsite/akpermafrost2017>

The PYRN members of Germany (D), Austria (A) and Switzerland (CH) will have a chance to get together and present their research during the Meeting of the Permafrost Working Group organized by the German Society for Polar Research in Einsiedeln, Switzerland between 9th and 11th of February 2017.

### 14th Conference on Polar Meteorology and Oceanography, Seattle, USA, 22-26 January 2017

<https://annual.ametsoc.org/2017>

The AMS Annual Meeting is the world's largest yearly gathering for the weather, water, and climate community. It brings together great minds from a diverse set of scientific disciplines – helping attendees make career-long professional contact and life-long friends while learning from the very top people in the atmospheric sciences.

Deadline for registration: 1 December 2016



## **International Symposium on Cryospheric in a Changing Climate, Wellington, New Zealand, 12-17 February 2017**

<https://www.igsoc.org/symposia/others.html>

## **Practice Meets Science: International Advanced Training Course on Snow and Avalanches, Davos, Switzerland, 20-24 February 2017**

[http://www.slf.ch/dienstleistungen/events/practice\\_meets\\_science/index\\_EN](http://www.slf.ch/dienstleistungen/events/practice_meets_science/index_EN)

## **4th Polar Prediction Workshop, Bremerhaven, Germany, 27-29 March 2017**

<https://www.arcus.org/events/arctic-calendar/25660>



## **The Arctic Science Summit Week 2017, Prague (Czech Republic), March 31-April 7th 2017**

Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW) is an annual gathering of international organizations involved in Arctic research. It is designed to strengthen collaborations across academia, government agencies, local communities, industry, non-governmental organizations and other Arctic stakeholders.

### **Key dates:**

- \* Abstract submission deadline 16 December 2016
- \* Abstract acceptance notification 3 February 2017
- \* Early registration deadline 17 February 2017

Visit the [website of the conference](#) for more information.

## **Students in Polar and Alpine Research Conference (SPARC), Brno, Czech Republic, 20-22 April 2017**

More updates on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GeoPolar-Brno-667809679997442/> or contact at [geopolarbrno@gmail.com](mailto:geopolarbrno@gmail.com)

## EGU 2017, Vienna, Austria, 23-28 April 2017

<http://www.egu2017.eu>

At least two sessions will be organized with the focus on permafrost-affected soils:

**“Permafrost-affected soils” session (SSS9.13/BG9.45/CL4.06/CR4.7):** The importance of permafrost-affected soils, both at high latitudes and high elevations, in the global carbon cycle and related potential soil transformations due to climate change have been identified. The participants of this session are welcome to present their results on various aspects of permafrost-affected soils including soil genesis, classification, the relationships between permafrost-affected soil properties and changing environmental factors (e.g. productivity and plant species compositions) as well as mapping of soil properties by taking into account soil spatial distribution and variability.

**“Soils in Space and Time:Paleocryosols” session (SSS3.7).** Soils in polar and boreal regions play a decisive role on the environmental dynamics of the terrestrial ecosystem. Some of these areas have experienced very significant warming trends during the last decades, resulting in change of the dynamics of these soils with implications on the environment system. The aim of the session is to bring to light the state of progress in knowledge of soils in these regions, considering human and natural dynamics.

### **Key dates:**

- \* 20 Oct 2016 Start of call-for-abstracts and support application
- \* 01 Dec 2016 Deadline for support applications
- \* 11 Jan 2017, 13:00 CET Deadline for receipt of abstracts

## International Conference on Arctic Science, Virginia, USA, 4-7 April 2017

<http://www.amap.no/documents/doc/2017-conference-first-announcement-and-call-for-abstracts/1436>

## 31st Wakefield Symposium: Impacts of the Environment on the Dynamics of High-Latitude Fish and Shellfish, Anchorage, Alaska, USA, 9-12 May 2017

<https://seagrant.uaf.edu/conferences/2017/wakefield-fish-dynamics>

## International Conference on High Latitude Dust 2017, Reykjavík, Iceland, 22-25 May 2017

<http://www.geomorphology.org.uk/meetings/international-conference-high-latitude-dust-2017>

## 6th Iberian Conference of IPA. Workshop of Spanish members of PYRN, Oviedo, Spain, SPRING 2017

More information in January 2017 on PYRN website (<http://pyrn.arcticportal.org/en>) and PYRN Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/PYRNofficial>)

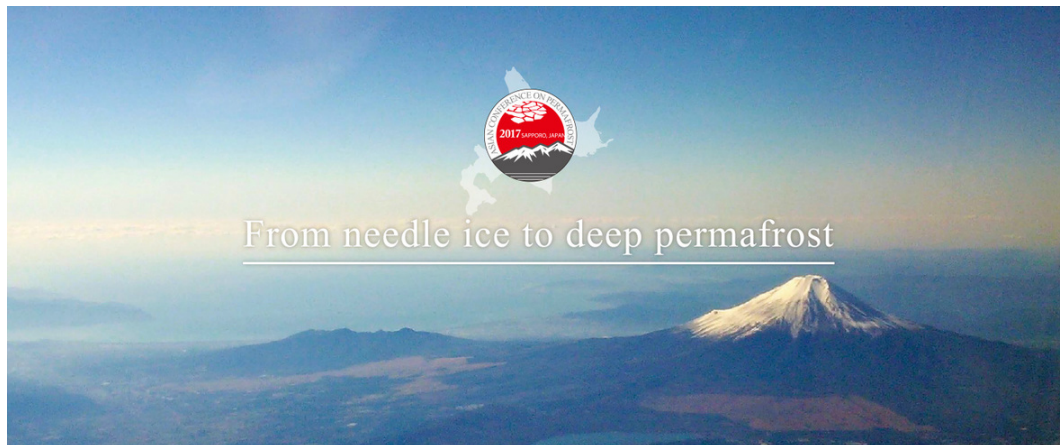
## The 2nd Asian Conference on Permafrost (ACOP2017), Sapporo, Japan, 2-6 July 2017

<http://acop2017.arc.hokudai.ac.jp>

Make sure you DO NOT miss this conference, which will be held on Hokkaido, the northernmost island of Japan. Delegates will participate in state-of-the-art oral and poster presentations in the modern city of Sapporo (host of the 1972 Winter Olympics). Field trips will visit marginal and extrazonal mountain permafrost sites that support unique geo-eco-hydrological features. All aspects of frozen ground research will be covered, from needle ice to deep permafrost, from frozen ground engineering in cities to permafrost on volcanoes, and from links between frozen ground and ancient cultures to present-day outreach. Plan now to enjoy science and engineering, excellent food, and unique field trips in Sapporo in summer 2017!

### Key dates:

- \* Late September 2016 - Second Circular
- \* Late September 2016 - Registration and abstract submission start
- \* February 2017 - Acceptance of abstract and support for young researchers
- \* March 2017 - Deadline of Early Bird registration
- \* June 2017 - Final deadline of registration



## Cryosphere Special Session at the XX Argentine Geological Congress, Tucumán, Argentina, 7-11 August 2017

<http://congresogeologico.org.ar/> & <http://congresogeologico.org.ar/news/2016/09/circular-01/>

La Asociación Geológica Argentina y el Comité Organizador tienen el agrado de invitarlos a participar del XX Congreso Geológico Argentino (XX CGA), a realizarse entre el 7 y el 11 de agosto de 2017 en la ciudad de San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina.

#### "GEOLOGÍA: PRESENTE Y FUTURO"

El lema del XX CGA pretende que a partir del Congreso (Presente) se fijen objetivos y tareas que se desarrollen como agendas de trabajo (Futuro) con la finalidad de reposicionar a los Geólogos como referentes necesarios en la discusión nacional de los temas que se desarrollarán como ejes temáticos:

1. Investigación, básica y aplicada.
2. Enseñanza de la Geología, desde el pregrado hasta el posgrado.
3. Matriz Energética, estado actual y futuro.
4. Recursos Naturales, responsabilidad y ética profesional-ciudadana en la obtención y uso de los recursos.

Los Ejes Temáticos serán desarrollados mediante Conferencias, Sesiones técnicas, Simposios y Mesas Redondas. Además, cada día el Congreso tendrá como actividad principal uno de los Ejes Temáticos.



## 7th International Conference on Polar and Alpine Microbiology, Nuuk, Greenland, 8-12 September 2017

<http://pam2017.org/>

Increasing focus on the Arctic region due to climate change and natural resources such as oil and minerals has made Greenland a hot topic recently and it is of course an excellent place to meet and discuss polar and alpine microbiology.

The theme of PAM 2017 will be **Coming in from the cold: Microbial roles in the warming cryosphere**

This theme should reflect that PAM 2017 will place emphasis on novel research showcasing the roles of microbes in the rapidly changing polar and alpine environments. Greenland-related research will of course be prominent throughout the conference.

## GeoOttawa 2017, 1-4 October 2017

The Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS) in collaboration with the Canadian National Chapter of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH-CNC) invite you to GeoOttawa 2017, the 70th Canadian Geotechnical Conference and the 12th Joint CGS/IAH-CNC Groundwater Conference. .

Abstract submission deadline January 15, 2017.

Visit the [website of the conference](#) for more information.



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