

Welcome words of the new PYRN president

By Niek Jesse Speetjens

Dear fellow Permafrost Young Researchers,

I am sitting in my scorching apartment in - heat wave struck Amsterdam -. I am thinking how, as the new 'PYRN president', I am suddenly positioned to say something to an audience of no less than 1200 members worldwide. I try to always be easy going and I want things to be fun, but in this moment, I realize I could or maybe should use this opportunity to say something more than a simple introduction of the new executive committee.

2020, the year that PYRN celebrates its 15th anniversary, is an anomalous year. 2020 has brought challenges that we could barely imagine a year earlier. COVID-19 raging over the continents, disrupting our daily lives, bringing disease, and grief to some, has challenged our resilience. A shockwave of disbelief and anger swept over the globe after witnessing the injustice faced by BIPOC communities, forcing us to rethink inter-human relations and how we decide to stand up when we see injustice around us. Further, we've seen a state of emergency declared in Australia due to immense forest fires in January, temperatures near 40°C in parts of Siberia, and record low sea ice extent in the month of July 2020. All of this indicates that we're on track to have yet another record-breaking hot year.

The speed and extent with which waves of information, emotion and infection spread across our planet are a reminder of our increasingly globalized humanity. A humanity that is increasingly forced to look in the mirror. A humanity that is looking more and more frantically for solutions. A humanity that is looking towards science and to us as researchers, for answers.

We are permafrost researchers and should not feel less important, nor less apt than other scientists to also think about the big questions and challenges of our time; be it environmental, economic or cultural. It would be ignorant for me in this position not to make an extra effort to state what we, as a young researchers network, stand for.

I have met with the new members of the executive committee in the past weeks and I am very proud to introduce to you a group of tremendously passionate scientists, who not only care about the future of our planet, but also about the future of every individual on it.

We will make an effort to promote and facilitate inclusive, beautiful meetings and collaborations all across the world, while emphasizing a sense of equality and unity.

We are here to connect not only those in search of scientific comradery, but even more so those looking for like-mindedness to bring positive change. To empower those who want to do something. Herein, we believe that only through finding ourselves in others, while acknowledging and embracing our differences we can bring this to the world.

Hence, I would like to invite YOU, and anyone looking for support, a stage, a second opinion or simply friendship to drop any doubts and reach out to us, the Permafrost Young Researchers Network. Together we are the future.

Love and peace,

Niek Jesse Speetjens, your PYRN-president.

Introduction of the new PYRN ExCom

By Juditha Schmidt

Dear Permafrost Young Researchers,

PYRN renewed its Executive Committee (ExCom) for the upcoming years 2020 - 2022. We are happy to introduce the following members:



President

Niek Jesse Speetjens

Contact: n.j.speetjens@vu.nl



Vice-President, Coordinator for APECS

Adam Kirkwood

Contact: akirkwood@laurentian.ca



Coordinator for PYRN Council, PYRN NR and IPA

Filip Hrbáček

Contact: filiphrbacek@mail.muni.cz



Social Media

Vasily Tolmanov

Contact: vasiliytolmanov@gmail.com



Secretary, coordinator of USPA

Charlotte Haugk

Contact: charlotte.haugk@gmx.net



Newsletter

Juditha Schmidt

Contact: juditha.schmidt@geo.uio.no



Treasurer

Zhenming Wu

Contact: zhenming.wu@pgr.reading.ac.uk



Event organizer

Costanza Morino

Contact: costanza.morino@gmail.com



Event Organizer

Lara Hughes-Allen

Contact: lara.hughes.allen@gmail.com



Value to Young Researchers

Kshama Roy

Contact: kshama.roy@northerncrescent.ca



Web-Master

Denis Frolov

Contact: denisfrolov@mail.ru

Introduction of the new PYRN Council

By Juditha Schmidt

Dear Permafrost Young Researchers,

Besides the ExCom, PYRN renewed its Council for the upcoming years 2020 - 2022. We are happy to introduce the following members:



Florence Magnin



Xiangbing Kong



Evan Wilcox



Carla Tapia Baldis



Nicholas Hasson



Ekaterina Uryupova



Jannik Martens

Support for national representatives of PYRN

By Filip Hrbacek

Dear PYRN National representatives,

PYRN excom will continue with the funding support of your activities. We should be able to offer you up to 200 EUR/year for activities like workshops or meetings organised in your country or in the frame of multiple countries. The funding application form and process remains the same as in the previous years, and you can find it here: <https://pyrn.arcticportal.org/national-representatives/funding-application-form>.

We are looking for new people who can serve as National representatives for the following period 2020-2022. Unlike previous years we miss NRs of Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Norway, Italy, China, Bulgaria, Brazil and India. We strongly support the NRs establishment in new countries as well.

Feel free to contact me by mail: filiphrbacek@mail.muni.cz for any questions. Deadline for NRs application is 30th September 2020.

PYRN Seminar Series

By Kshama Roy

Dear Permafrost Young Researchers,

As a part of the new initiatives, the new PYRN Excom is planning to organize a series of webinars on both technical and non-technical topics which we believe will add values to the young researchers like you. We have started working behind the scenes on this program's next steps. Our plan is to invite professors, senior PhD students, technical industry experts, senior executives from across the world to share their knowledge with you. Our leadership team will be e-meeting with many key stakeholders – including yourselves - over the coming weeks as we plan to make this initiative really helpful for our members. If you have any idea/suggestion regarding the webinar series, want to present in this series by yourself or know someone who will be interested to present, please reach out to me at kshama.roy@northerncrest.ca. Your works are the foundation for the future of our permafrost industry and we look forward to staying connected and showcasing your amazing work.

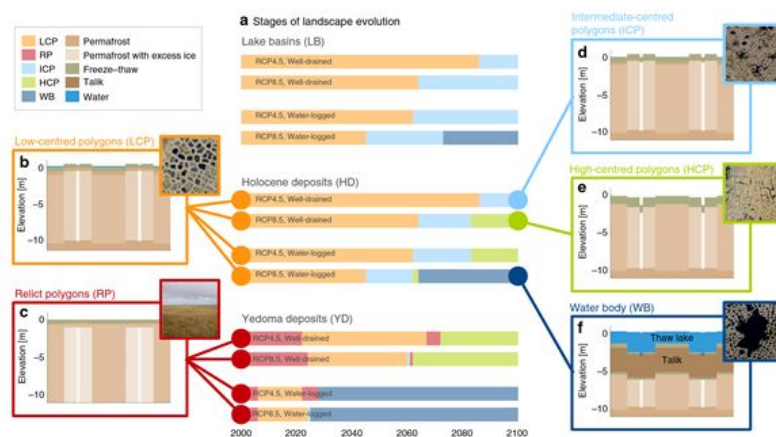
Most viewed paper of summer 2020

By Vasily Tolmanov

The most viewed #APermafrostPaperADay, which are posted daily on our twitter and facebook pages, was Article “[Fast response of cold ice-rich permafrost in northeast Siberia to a warming climate](#)”. This paper has been done by the great international team from the AWI, Humboldt-University of Berlin and University of Oslo. The aim of the article is to assess the response in different types of ice-rich permafrost in Northern Eurasia to the climate change under the different climatic scenarios (RCP 4.5-8.5).

Authors consider thermokarst-inducing processes in a numerical model (The Cryo Grid 3) to investigate how the present-day ground ice distribution in the NESAL (northeast Siberian Arctic lowlands), which is inherited from the landscape history, affects pathways of landscape evolution, the magnitude and pace of permafrost degradation, and the amount of currently freeze-locked permafrost carbon that becomes subject to thawed conditions, in the course of the twenty-first century.

Authors conclude that thermokarst-inducing processes merit representation in ESM’s (Earth System Models) as they could significantly contribute to the global permafrost carbon–climate feedback.



Nitzbon et. al, 2020

PYRN members in #APermafrostPaperAMonth

By Juditha Schmidt

Dear Permafrost Young Researchers,

If you want your paper to be promoted at our social media channels under #APermafrostPaperAMonth, you can contact our social media coordinator Vasily Tolmanov and we would be happy to support your work (vasiliytolmanov@gmail.com). We also decided to change up this PYRN element and feature a permafrost paper every month rather than every day. Watch out for the next featured paper!

PYRN on LinkedIn

By Juditha Schmidt

Dear Permafrost Young Researchers,

Besides our social media channels on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, PYRN will be active on LinkedIn from now on as well. You can find our LinkedIn channel here:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/permafrost-young-researchers-network-pyrn/?viewAsMember=true>

PhD positions

The International Environmental Doctoral School, associated with the **Centre for Polar Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice (IEDS)**, invites applications for PhD positions in mathematics, Earth and related environmental sciences, and materials engineering.

Application Deadline: **27th of August 2020**.

A permafrost related position reads: “Permafrost and underground glaciation in and around the Chopok massif, Low Tatras, Slovakia”

https://www.mssd.us.edu.pl/en/application2020_2021/

15 PhD positions in Hamburg in the Department of Biology in Biota-mediated effects on carbon cycling in estuaries with the project RTG2530. Application deadlines are **August 1st 2020**. The positions are expected to start on 1st January 2021 and will run for three years.

<https://www.biologie.uni-hamburg.de/en/forschung/grk2530-bicest/4-stellen.html>

Check out web-sites of the **NSERC PermafrostNet** and **Canadian Permafrost Association** - <https://www.permafrostnet.ca/opportunities/>
<https://canadianpermafrostassociation.ca/Jobs.htm> There are more than 10 graduate opportunities in such universities as Carleton University, Laurentian University, University of Calgary etc. related with the different topics.

Postdoctoral Research Fellowship/Senior Researcher position

“Permafrost thaw and consequences in Earth system modeling” at NORCE Norwegian Research Centre AS in Bergen, Norway.

The focus will be to improve our understanding on climate change interaction between permafrost and land surface using the coupled framework of the state-of-the-art Norwegian Earth System Model (NorESM).

Application deadline: **August 30th, 2020** and must be made through jobbno.no, **application via email will not be considered**

<https://www.jobbnorge.no/en/available-jobs/job/190755/3-year-postdoctoral-research-fellowship-or-senior-researcher-position-to-study-permafrost-thaw-and-consequences-to-nature-and-society-using-earth-system-modeling>

Upcoming Dates



By Juditha Schmidt & Filip Hrbacek

Students in Polar and Alpine Research Conference 2020

September 21-22, 2020. Brno, Czech Republic.

Already for the sixth time, the SPARC will be held at the Department of Geography, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic. If you are an undergraduate/PhD student or early-career researcher (less than 5 years after the PhD defence) working in polar and alpine environments, you are welcome to attend our conference. We are aware of the complicated situation with travelling under current COVID-19 conditions, therefore we count with organising parallel online streaming for those who can not attend in person. We encourage you thus to register and prepare your contribution! Please visit our website to find more about upcoming event: <https://sparc-brno.webnode.cz/>

AGU Fall Meeting 2020 (*under discussion, how it will take place, please follow the updates on the homepage*)

December 7-11, 2020. San Francisco, California, USA. <https://www.agu.org/fall-meeting>

EGU General Assembly 2021

April 25 - 30, 2021. Vienna, Austria. <https://egu2021.eu/>

19th International Conference on Cold Regions Engineering 2021 Regional Conference on Permafrost

July 11 - 16, 2021. Boulder, Colorado, USA. <https://www.uspermafrost.org/21rcop/index.shtml>

12th International Conference on Permafrost (planned for June 2020) *is postponed to*

June 20-24, 2022. Lanzhou, China. <http://icop2020.csp.escience.cn>

Stay up to date with PYRN social media

By Vasily Tolmanov

Just a reminder that **PYRN** is active in a variety of social media channels! Follow us now!

We use platforms like Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn to communicate news about PYRN, articles, information on events and photos.



*Be part of the PYRN social media community and reach out to hundreds of permafrost enthusiasts! Use the tag **@pyrn_official** and hashtag **#pyrn** on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram to share your updates or pictures via the '**PYRN**' account.*

This Newsletter was prepared by PYRN ExCom 2020-2021 team

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