



University
of Victoria

Retirees
Association

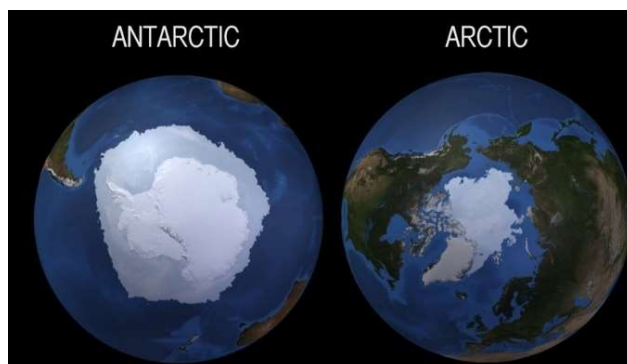
POLAR OPPOSITES:

Why are our polar regions so
different?

AN ELDER ACADEMY EVENT

This series explores why and how Earth's Polar Regions are so different from one another. The differences will

become clear in three lectures that are planned. Despite the differences, both regions play an integral part in the way they influence global climate. This series will be of interest to travelers and to those with a curiosity for political, historical, socio-economic and technical issues.



WHEN, WHERE, HOW MUCH?

DATES: Saturdays, March 6, 13, 20, 2021

TIME: 10:00am to Noon. Zoom entry available starting at 9:45 am for all 3 events

WHERE: Online via Zoom

LINK TO JOIN THE SESSIONS: Emailed to registrants via Eventbrite two days before first session

COST: \$15.00 for the three sessions.

Mar 6: "Feeling Hot, Hot, Hot: Politics and Transformation in the Global Arctic."

Presenter: Dr. Wilfrid Greaves, Assistant Professor, UVic Dept. of Political Science. **Zoom**

Mar 13: "Exploration, Explanation and Exploitation: Their Historical Relations in the Antarctic Peninsula Region."

Presenter: Dr. Jim Gardner, Adjunct Professor, UVic Dept of Geography. **Zoom**

Mar 20: "The Rapidly Changing Arctic Marine Environment and Potential Impacts."

Presenter: Dr. Randy Scharien, Associate Professor, UVic Dept of Geography. **Zoom**



REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

Registration & payment done through EventBrite.

Please click on: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/polar-opposites-tickets-128090814073>

Students attend free but need to register by emailing UVRAElderAcademyevents@uvic.ca to secure the Zoom link.

Need to know more? Email UVRAElderAcademyevents@uvic.ca

POLAR OPPOSITES: AN ELDER ACADEMY EVENT

Saturday, March 6th, 10am – noon, Zoom

“Feeling Hot, Hot, Hot: Politics and Transformation in the Global Arctic”

Presenter: Dr. Wilfrid Greaves
(UVic Dept of Political Science)

Dr. Will Greaves is Assistant Professor of International Relations at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. His research examines global politics, security studies, and environmental politics with focuses on climate change, energy extraction, Indigenous peoples, Canadian foreign policy, and the circumpolar Arctic. He is author of more than twenty peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, had co-edited two books on Arctic politics and governance, and his monograph, *Arctic In/Security: Polar Politics, Indigenous Peoples, and Environmental Change in Canada, Norway, and Greenland* is forthcoming from University of Toronto Press. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Toronto, and was previously Lecturer at the Trudeau Centre for Peace, Conflict and Justice and Visiting Scholar at the Centre for Sámi Studies at UiT The Arctic University of Norway.



“The Arctic is undergoing unprecedented ecological, political, and social transformation, compounding already dramatic changes over the course of the 20th century. There are three principal drivers of regional change: human-caused climate change, post-Cold War Arctic geopolitics, and substantial indigenization of Arctic politics to reflect the interests of the region’s Indigenous peoples. This presentation outlines these three types of change with respect to the North American and European Arctics, and argues that how these changes are managed has profound implications for states, peoples, and individuals across the Arctic and far beyond, making understanding change in the Arctic a hot topic with high stakes.”

POLAR OPPOSITES: AN ELDER ACADEMY EVENT

Saturday, March 13th, 10am – noon, Zoom

“Exploration, Explanation and Exploitation: Their Historical Relations in the Antarctic Peninsula Region.”

Presenter: Dr. James Gardner

(Adjunct Professor, UVic Dept of Geography)

James Gardner is a “retired” professor living in Victoria. As such, he maintains continuing academic appointment in the Natural Resources Institute at the University of Manitoba where he was Provost and Vice President (Academic) from 1991 to 2001. Earlier, he was Professor of Geography and Dean of Graduate Studies at the University of Waterloo. Locally, he has enjoyed an Adjunct appointment in Geography at the University of Victoria since 2001, teaching on a sessional basis and serving on graduate student committees. Throughout, Jim’s research and scholarly focus has been, and continues, in the earth systems science areas of geomorphology, glaciology and hydrology and their hazard and disaster management implications, primarily in the Canadian Rockies and the Himalaya from Pakistan, through India and Nepal, to Sichuan in China. In the past 6 years, he has undertaken many voyages as a naturalist and guide on small ship expeditionary cruises in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic Peninsula region. His UVRA presentation derives from the latter experience.



“For over 200 years, the Antarctic Peninsula and the surrounding Southern Ocean and Sub-Antarctic Islands have been a focus of exploration, explanation and exploitation. This region has been the most visited part of what is now the Antarctic Treaty System area. This presentation describes the inextricable relationships between exploration, development of knowledge, and use of the region and its resources through time. From the time of Captain Cook until the 1961 implementation of the Antarctic Treaty, national, commercial and personal interests drove these

activities. These interests still pertain but are more closely regulated within the Antarctic Treaty System. Throughout, a multitude of fantastic stories of adventure, discovery, perseverance, questionable judgement, pure luck, commercial success and failure, and ecological collapse and recovery has emerged. A sampling of the stories forms this presentation. As in many remote regions, events have been shaped by interests and decisions geographically far removed. Coincidentally through the exploration, explanation and exploitation, especially in the past 100 years, we have come to know that conditions and processes in Antarctica and the surrounding Southern Ocean have global bearing and consequences. This, together with the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, gives us pause to consider the future of visitation in the region.”

POLAR OPPOSITES: AN ELDER ACADEMY EVENT

Saturday, March 20th, 10am – noon, Zoom

“The Rapidly Changing Arctic Marine Environment and Potential Impacts”.

Presenter: Dr. Randy Scharien

(Associate Professor, UVic Dept of Geography)

Dr. Randall Scharien is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography, University of Victoria, with expertise in sea ice geophysics and remote sensing. He received the Ph.D. in microwave remote sensing of sea ice from University of Calgary in 2010, and completed a post-doctoral fellowship with the European Space Agency's Changing Earth Science Network programme in 2013. He has over 15 years of experience conducting research in the Canadian and European Arctic, as well as Antarctica. He has also partnered with organizations in the western Canadian Arctic to integrate traditional knowledge on sea ice usage with modern remote sensing techniques, producing sea ice maps to support travel over sea ice and traditional activities like hunting and fishing. He is currently delegate junior of the International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS) for Canada, and sits on the Science Advisory Team for the development of *Snow Mass*, a satellite development project by Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Canadian Space Agency designed to significantly enhance Canada's capacity to manage its water resources.



“Satellite-based observations of the Arctic region, made since 1979, have revealed a significant decline in the area of Arctic ocean covered by sea ice. Since sea ice is a thin, frozen, veneer atop the warmer Arctic Ocean, its decline is the ‘canary in the coalmine’ indicator of widespread, regional, warming. This presentation outlines the changes taking place in the Arctic marine environment, including and beyond changes in sea ice, and discusses the potential impacts of these changes on climate, marine biology, hazards, and the safe use of sea ice as a platform for travel and subsistence activities by Canada’s northern Indigenous peoples. Special attention is paid to the contribution of satellite remote sensing to our knowledge of changing sea ice and marine conditions, from local to regional scales. A comparison is also made to observed changes in Antarctic sea ice conditions, including the recent emergence of cascading effects such as ice shelf loss along the Antarctic Peninsula.”