



Forum of Arctic Research Operators

**Welcome to
Forum of Arctic Research Operators
(FARO)
Annual Meeting 2019**

-Jennifer Mercer, Chair

**-Marie Frost Arndal and Elmer Topp-Jorgensen, Secretariat
ASSW 2019, 11:00-18:00, 26 May, room 301 – Arkhangelsk, Russia**

****Please preview 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes at
<http://faro-arctic.org/annual-meetings/annual-meeting-2018/>**

-we will vote to approve the 2018 meeting minutes today



Forum of Arctic Research Operators

FARO Introduction

- Established in 1998 as a forum for Arctic logistics and research planning
- Now, a forum for information exchange, establishment of cooperation and development of new ideas among the national logistics operators in countries with Arctic research activities
- ~20 member countries, with national points of contact representing around 40 different operators, funding agencies and institutes.
- Aim to maintain strong working relationships with other international science organizations including IASC and its working groups, COMNAP, the European Polar Board, PAG, ARICE, and the Arctic Council and its working groups.



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FARO encourages international collaboration for the benefit of all those involved in Arctic research. This is achieved by:

- Networking of national operators
- Exchange of best practices in operations, including environmental and safety concerns
- Encouraging science-led international programmes by facilitating access to facilities
- Supporting coordination of logistics and sharing of operational resources
- Encouraging exchange and dissemination of scientific data and information on the marine, atmosphere, terrestrial and human environment of the Arctic
- Encouraging long-term Arctic observational programmes
- Promoting interaction between the Arctic science community and those concerned with Arctic policy
- Providing expert advice regarding operations and logistics in the Arctic



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Around the Room Introductions

NPOC's – Name, country, institution, first FARO meeting?, #1 operational challenge in the Arctic for your country

All others – Name, country, affiliation, interest in FARO



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Agenda 11:00-13:00

Opening and reporting Session (Jennifer Mercer, FARO Chair)

- Welcome and introductions
- Approval of meeting minutes (from Switzerland 2018)
- Adoption of the Agenda
- Report from the Chair including update on FARO initiatives

Arctic Science Cooperation agreement (Elmer Topp-Jørgensen) (10 min)

Status and future prospects

Upcoming multidisciplinary campaigns endorsed by IASC (10 min. each)

- MOSAiC (Uwe Nixdorf)
- T-MOSAiC (Diogo Folhas)

Arctic organisations, networks and projects of relevance to FARO (60 min)

- SecNet (Sergey Kirpotin)
- PAG (Jianfeng He)
- AFoPS (Hiroyuki Enomoto)
- IARPC (Jennifer Mercer)
- SIOS (Heikki Lihavainen)
- ISAAFFIK (Lise Lotte Sørensen)
- SAON (Jan René Larsen)



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14:00-15:30

5. Updates from countries (20 min.)

- Country presentations to include FARO related issues of hot news items, new efforts, updates on existing efforts.

6. FARO initiatives – updates and discussion of new and old (30 min) (Jennifer Mercer)

- Risk management and training
- Search and Rescue
- Discrimination and harassment
- Infrastructure
- Citizen science – benefits and challenges
- Suggestions for new/additional initiatives and discussion

7. Sharing of best practices (40 min) (5 min each)

Brief overview of work on best practices in different infrastructure communities - options for sharing best practices across domains

- European Polar Board – minimizing environmental impact of research (*tbd*)
- INTERACT – Station management planning and field work planning handbook (Elmer Topp-Jørgensen)
- COMNAP (Uwe Nixdorf)
- ARICE (Nicole Biebow)
- Open discussion



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Closed session 16:00-18:00

Internal business, closed session (Jennifer Mercer, FARO Chair)

1. The FARO Secretariat

- 2018 finance report
- proposed FARO activities until next annual meeting, open discussion
- 2019 budget

2. Policy concerning non-paying members

3. FARO Terms of Reference

- Update on 'FARO terms of Reference' from 2013
- Review and Evaluation of FARO: external review group to provide input and advice at least once every five years

4. Election of two new FARO ExCom members for the period 2019-2022

5. Next FARO Annual meeting (27 March - 2 April 2020, Akureyri, Iceland)

6. Any other business



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Approval of 2018 Meeting Minutes

<http://faro-arctic.org/annual-meetings/annual-meeting-2018/>



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Report from the Chair...

- Learning the role
- Held a number of ExCom meetings (almost monthly)
 - Updates from member countries
 - Managing FARO business
 - Respond to ad-hoc requests
 - Approval of documents for web posting
- Marie joined us in the Secretariat
- Website updates
 - History of FARO
 - Organizational Roles
 - Benefits of Membership
 - Risk Management resources organized by region
- Facebook and Twitter accounts
- FARO brochures and handouts for meetings



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2. Arctic Science Cooperation agreement (Elmer Topp-Jørgensen) (10 min)



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3. Upcoming multidisciplinary campaigns endorsed by IASC

- MOSAiC (Uwe Nixdorf)
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4. Arctic organisations, networks and projects of relevance to FARO (60 min)

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LUNCH

In room 202



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5. National presentations

Poland

Denmark/Greenland

France

Czech Republic

Germany

Japan

USA

Portugal

Korea

Finland

UK

Others?



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How can FARO be more helpful and effective?

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FARO initiatives - Risk management

Infrastructure management and operation

The links below provide information and resources, organized by region, for managing risk during fieldwork in the Arctic. We encourage all Arctic operators to inform the FARO secretariat about relevant resources to be included in the list.

Arctic Field Safety: Risk Management Resources

Alaska (USA)

Arctic Field Safety Risk Management Workshop and Report 2013

https://commssite.files.wordpress.com/2013/09/nsf_srm_report_2013_reducedsize.pdf

NSF Arctic Research Support Contractor <http://cpspolar.com/for-researchers/risk-management/>

Arctic Ocean

Shipboard Civility - Fostering a Respectful Work Environment (Video)

<https://www.unols.org/document/shipboard-civility-fostering-respectful-work-environment-video>

Canada

Polar Continental Shelf Project Arctic Operations Manual: <http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/the-north/polar-continental-shelf-program/arctic-logistics-requests/9991>,

https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/sites/www.nrcan.gc.ca/files/earthsciences/files/pdf/polar/pcsp_manual_eng.pdf

Greenland (Denmark)

Greenland institute of natural resources: [Safety Manual for Fieldwork, GINR](#), [Safety Manual of the Greenland institute of natural resources – Offices and laboratories](#)

ISAAFEIK: <http://www.isaoffit.org/logistic-links>

<http://faro-arctic.org/infrastructure-management-and-operation/>

Shipboard Civility - Fostering a Respectful Work Environment (Video): <https://www.unols.org/document/shipboard-civility-fostering-respectful-work-environment-video>



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FARO initiatives - Infrastructure

<http://faro-arctic.org/science-platforms-and-infrastructures/>

Science platforms and infrastructures

The intention of the list below is to provide an online gateway to Arctic research vessels and stations. We encourage our visitors to inform the [FARO Secretariat](#) about relevant web sites to be included in the list.

An overview of 83 terrestrial field bases, mainly Arctic, can be found at the EU funded infrastructure project [INTERACT](#).

An overview of research vessels can also be found at the EU funded [Arctic Research Icebreaker Consortium \(ARICE\)](#).

Stations



Vessels



Icebreaker Oden in Baffin Bay. Photo by Ida Kinner



Akademik Treshnikov. Photo by Morten Rasch



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New FARO Initiatives

- Citizen science – benefits and challenges
- Suggestions for new/additional initiatives and discussion



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FARO financial report 2018

Note: The Secretariat is located in Denmark and the annual fee is collected in Danish Crowns – 10.900 DKr per year.

The budget and accounts are presented to FARO members in US\$

Differences in exchange rates over time mean that it can be difficult to compare approved budgets with expenditures if the exchange rate changes during the year



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8. Internal business

FARO account and budget 2018	Budget 2018	Expenditure	Balance
	US\$	US\$	US\$*
FARO Secretary (180 hours)	12,727	18,665	- 5,938
Travels (4 flights)	8,000	5,626	2,374
Accommodation (4 travels)			
Other direct costs	1,500	1,130	370
20 years anniversary	3,000	2,256	744
Overhead (44% of wages)	5,600	8,212	- 2,612
Total	30,827	35,889	- 6.494

*Exchange rate affects amount in US\$ - orange numbers

Red number is the real balance

Participation in two full conferences
 Preparation for 20 years celebration event occurred in 2018 instead of 2017



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	2017	2018
FARO Income and Account Balance	US\$	US\$
Income (16 member fees in 2017, 18 in 2018)	27,595	29,395
Expenditure	18,931	35,889
Annual result	8,664	-6,494
FARO balance from previous year	21,375	29,220*
Balance end of year	29,572	22,726

* Exchange rates affect amount in US\$

Celebration preparations postponed to 2018 (from 2017)
Looking at 2017-2018 combined gives a small surplus
Previous discussions approved a buffer of ~20,000 US\$



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FARO Accounts 2018 and budget 2019	Budget 2018 US\$	Expenditure 2018 US\$	Budget 2019 US\$
FARO Secretary (2018:180 hrs, 2019:185 hrs)	12,727	18,665	10,813
Travels (4 flights)	8,000	5,626	10,000
Accommodation (4 travels)			
Other direct costs	1,500	1,130	1,500
20 years anniversary	3,000	2,256	0
Overhead (44% of wages)	5,600	8,212	4,758
Total	30,827	35,889	27,071

Expected income 2019 (18 member payments): 29,392 US\$
 Expected surplus 2019: 2,321 US\$ (or spend it on more activities?)



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3. FARO terms of Reference – update?

[http://faro-arctic.org/fileadmin/user_upload/FARO Terms of Reference 15.04.2013 .pdf](http://faro-arctic.org/fileadmin/user_upload/FARO_Terms_of_Reference_15.04.2013_.pdf)

-Establish a working committee?

Forum of Arctic Research Operators, FARO Terms of Reference

Background

Forum of Arctic Research Operators, FARO, was initiated by 24 operators from 11 countries in August 1998, as a forum for logistics and operational support for scientific research in the Arctic. Annual meetings are held during the Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW), in close collaboration with other organizations involved in Arctic research.

External Review – to occur every 5 years - we are due

Review and Evaluation

FARO will appoint an external review group to provide input and advice at least once every five years.



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4. Election of new FARO ExCom members for the period 2019-2022

Current members:

Jennifer Mercer, Chair, USA	(2018-2021)
Nalan Koc, Norway	(2018-2021)
Piotr Glowacki, Poland	(2017-2020)
Takuji Nakamura, Japan	(2018-2021)
<i>James Drummond, Canada</i>	<i>(former chair – overlap)</i>
<i>open seat – held by Russia</i>	<i>(2016-2019)</i>



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5. Next FARO Annual meeting

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6. Any other business



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End of FARO Annual Meeting 2019

ASSW 2019

*Remember to follow FARO at:
Twitter: https://twitter.com/FARO_Arctic
Facebook: <fb.me/FAROArcctic>*