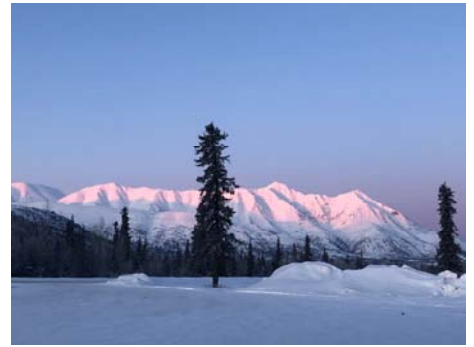


American Society for Circumpolar Health

February 2021



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President's message

Greetings to members and friends of the American Society for Circumpolar Health (ASCH). Renewing and fostering existing partnerships and networking in the circumpolar north has never been more important. Remembering those we have lost this past year and reaching out to our colleagues in consolation is imperative as we face the challenges yet to come. I would like to acknowledge those who have worked on the front lines to keep us safe, as well as those who inspire us with their dedication to health research, taking us closer to ending the pandemic. Thank you to our Board and Members who devoted time to keep the work of the ASCH and the International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH) moving, it has been a challenge. Your dedication to the promotion of circumpolar health is important to those we serve and I encourage you all to join ASCH as we move forward together.

Respectfully,

Abbie Willetto

Come and Join our Team!

ASCH Membership for 2021 is underway. Founded in 1980, ASCH is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting research, exchanging knowledge and fostering greater awareness and responsiveness to the health of circumpolar people. Networking and collaborative research opportunities have enabled many members to form lasting research partnerships. Membership renewal can be completed by mail, ASCH, PO Box 242822, Anchorage, AK 99524. Request PDF application by contacting asch.circumpolar.usa@gmail.com.



"Team ASCH" at the International Congress on Circumpolar Health (ICCH17), Copenhagen, Denmark, August 2018



Dedicated ASCH member Dr. Neil Murphy recruits new member, while participating in ICCH17 conference tour. (Photo, D. Frandsen)

Website Refresh

The ASCH website is undergoing a refresh! It's taking longer than expected, however the designer has been working to upgrade security and accessibility first, followed by updated content and links. The new address is americancircumpolar.org

ASCH maintains a presence on FaceBook, thanks to dedicated member Dr. Rhonda Johnson! Look for the link from ASCH FB.

Board Elections

Board elections will take place in 2021. All ASCH members are encouraged to consider nominating yourself or a colleague to become part of the ASCH Board. Positions are for three years. **Nominations are due April 23, 2021.**

Board Positions

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Board Member (2 positions)
Student Member

Members in good standing will receive a link to vote or can request a paper ballot.

ICCH 18 Postponed

It has been announced that due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the 18th International Congress on Circumpolar Health (ICCH18), originally scheduled to be held August 2021 in Saint Petersburg, Russia, will be postponed to 2022.



The local organizing group and the board of the International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH) plan to hold the ICCH 18 Congress in Saint Petersburg, Russia, between May and October, 2022. The exact dates have not yet been chosen, but will be announced during summer 2021.

International Union for Circumpolar Health
www.iuch.net

Annual Meeting and Arctic Health Science Seminar

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021
Time: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

9:00-9:30 AM Networking
9:30-10:00 AM Annual Meeting
10:00-11:00 AM Robert Fortune Memorial Lecture

This year ASCH will hold the annual meeting and networking event just prior to the Robert Fortune Memorial Lecture. All are welcome to attend. Unfortunately we will not be holding the seminar presentations this year. We look forward to spring 2022 to resume the seminar component of the Arctic Health Sciences Seminar. Watch for zoom link information.

Selected Scholarship Highlights

The ASCH provides scholarships to members that assist with research projects and events that further ASCH goals.

Society Scholarships in 2018 and 2019 were awarded to these members:

- Nathaniel Hansen, medical student, ASCH 2019 Annual Meeting and Arctic Health Science Seminar. Presentation entitled, "Mental healthcare performance measurement in circumpolar regions."
- Kennedy Jensen, medical student, ASCH 2019 Annual Meeting and Arctic Health Science Seminar to present: "Fulbright Arctic Initiative exploring multidisciplinary collaborations for community wellness within circumpolar regions."
- Dr. Elena Roik, Anchorage, 2019 Am Public Health Assc Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, to present: "The level of knowledge about cervical cancer prevention in the context of sociodemographic and behavioral characteristics."
- Dr Nancy Nix, UAA, participated in the Mongolian Field School among the Dukha, or Reindeer People. This was preparatory work for a research study and for inclusion in her Circumpolar Health Issues class in the UAA MPH program.

Special thanks to Dr. Tom Hennessy for assisting with this newsletter

Unless otherwise indicated, photos by A. Willetto

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