



# American Society for Circumpolar Health

October 2024 Newsletter

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## Current Board Members

Neil Murphy, President  
Patricia Cochran, Vice President  
Ruby Fried, Secretary  
Thomas Hennessy, Treasurer  
Anita Moore-Nall, Board Member  
Jennifer Meyer, Board member  
Ashley Hearn, Student Member



Left to right: Ashley Hearn, Patricia Cochran, Tom Hennessy, Ruby Fried, Neil Murphy

## President's Message

Dear Colleagues:

It was a busy year for the American Society for Circumpolar Health (ASCH). After being held together through the pandemic years largely by the efforts of Abbie Willeto and Connie Jensen, the ASCH has a new lease on life.

The incoming ASCH Board rejuvenated the basic mechanisms of a circumpolar health society culminating in a well-attended Annual Clinical Meeting and Scientific Seminar in March 2024. The ASCH and the Arctic Health Foundation honored two student recipients of the Arctic Health Emerging Health Profession Award.

The ASCH is ramping up for ICCH18 in Halifax, Canada to share scientific data and ideas to improve health in the circumpolar North.

The ASCH plans to recognize the efforts of a Jens Peder Hart Hansen Fellow for an ASCH student member, plus a Jack Hildes Medal for the long-term contributions of an ASCH member.

See you in Halifax in November!

Neil Murphy, President ASCH

## ICCH 18 Update

The 18th International Congress for Circumpolar Health (ICCH18) will now be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada November 3-5, 2024.



The Congress is the world's premier circumpolar health event co-hosted every three years by a national society and the International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH). Its main purpose is to facilitate vital knowledge exchange among community and health sector leaders, decision-makers, researchers, service providers, and communities dedicated to improving health in Circumpolar regions.

Canada Society for Circumpolar Health  
[csch.ca/icch18/](https://csch.ca/icch18/)

## Join Our Team

ASCH Membership for 2024 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 on the ASCH website at [americancircumpolar.org/membership/](http://americancircumpolar.org/membership/)

If you have any questions, please email us at [asch.circumpolar.usa@gmail.com](mailto:asch.circumpolar.usa@gmail.com).

## Find Us Online and Social Media

The ASCH website has been refreshed and updated!

ASCH maintains a Facebook page for community members to exchange news and information about circumpolar health projects, events, and publications.

ASCH is also working on creating an Instagram page. Look for the link from ASCH FB.



[americancircumpolar.org](http://americancircumpolar.org)



American Society for  
Circumpolar Health

## Annual Meeting

The ASCH Annual Meeting and Scientific Symposium was a great success. It was held on Friday, March 29, 2024 from noon to 4:30. There were 30+ in person attendees and nearly 25 Zoom attendees. The live event was on the UAA Campus, Professional Studies Building. There was an ASCH business meeting at noon followed by the Scientific Symposium. There was an exciting program of invited plenary speakers and presentations submitted from our members. There were two health emerging researchers who won an Arctic Health Emerging Professional Award.

The full list of speakers and abstracts can be found at [americancircumpolar.org/annual-meeting/](http://americancircumpolar.org/annual-meeting/)

## 2024 Arctic Health Emerging Professional Award Winners



**Emily Maxwell**

Emily Maxwell was born and raised in Palmer, Alaska.

In August 2024, Emily received her PhD in Epidemiology from the Interdisciplinary Program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Her presentation was titled, "Exploring COVID-19 Misinformation on Alaska-Based Social Media."



**Ashley Hearn**

Ashley Hearn is a current graduate student in the Master of Public Health program at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) and alumnus of the first cohort of McNair Scholars at UAA. Her presentation was titled, "Resident Building Evaluation of a Senior Housing Building."

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