

## NNA Community Newsletter

September 2021 Issue

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### NNA Annual Community Meeting Platform

The NNA Annual Community Meeting 2021 will be held virtually this year using the conference app [Whova](#). This will enable participants to attend virtual panels, workshops, and plenary sessions, as well as connect with other participants through virtual networking or discussion boards, and plan personalized agendas for each day. All sessions will be available via Zoom as well for those who do not wish to download the free Whova app. More information, including instructions on how to log-in and access meeting materials, will be sent to registrants in early October. [Please continue to register for the meeting here.](#)

The annual meeting will be held on November 8-10, 2021, from 8:00am-1:30pm Alaska / 12:00pm-5:30pm Eastern each day. Held in cooperation between the NNA-CO and the National Science Foundation's (NSF) NNA Working Group, this meeting will provide an important opportunity for NNA project teams, Arctic community members, Indigenous and Traditional knowledge holders, decision makers and other experts to gather to discuss and highlight progress, opportunities, and challenges across the NNA initiative.

NNA Annual Community Meeting  
November 8-10, 2021

## NSF Announces Newly-Funded NNA Projects



“As Arctic temperatures warm faster than nearly everywhere else on Earth, and with some models projecting an ice-free Arctic Ocean in a few decades, the U.S. National Science Foundation is making new investments in its Navigating the New Arctic initiative to meet these unprecedented challenges head-on.

NSF recently funded 17 projects as part of its Fiscal Year 2021 awards for the NNA program. The awards, totaling \$32 million, will directly support 96 investigators across 38 institutions, as well as students, and postdoctoral scholars. The NNA program, with its focus on convergence research across the social, natural, and built environment, supports projects with the potential for meaningful engagement with Arctic

communities.

The awards include traditional NSF research and planning grants that provide support for convergent research teams from disparate disciplines and communities. This year, the NNA program also made its first collaboratory award which will study urban resilience across the Arctic. Collaboratory awards are designed to support collaborative teams undertaking research and training initiatives on critical themes of a broad scope related to the changing Arctic.”

[Read more.](#)

[Complete NNA FY21 public award search.](#)

## Broadening NNA Community Impacts with Catalyst of Success Workshop

On September 23, the NNA Community Office welcomed NNA PIs and education, outreach, and communication team members for the third virtual NNA Broader Impacts Network (BIN) meeting. The goals of the NNA BIN include fostering collaboration and learning across projects, increasing capacity for culturally appropriate education and outreach across the network, and sharing practices across network members. This September event focused on *Catalyst of Success* for education, outreach and community engagement in Arctic communities built on the work in our previous meetings. Network members engaged in group discussions around best successful strategies for respectfully

and thoughtfully conducting research in and with Indigenous communities. These discussions were supported by examples from Kaare Sikuaq Erickson of Ikaagun Engagement and built on his extensive experience advising Arctic research projects and outreach initiatives in communities in the Arctic. The four key catalysts that Kaare discussed were 1) Flexibility, 2) Sharing of Resources, 3) Local Relevance and 4) Building Relationships.

The next meeting of the NNA BIN will be at the [NNA Annual Community Meeting](#) in November. Join the BIN on November 10 for a training around culturally sensitive education and outreach and community work as part of the day 3 meeting agenda. [Please register for the annual meeting here.](#)

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## September NNA Project Events

### Foundations for Improving Resilience in the Energy Sector to Wildfires on Alaskan Lands (FIREWALL) Workshop

As part of an NSF-supported NNA planning grant, a workshop focused on "Wildfire Resilience of the Energy Sector in Alaska" was virtually held on September 15, 2021. The "Foundations for Improving Resilience in the Energy Sector to Wildfires on Alaskan Lands (FIREWALL)" workshop attempted to enhance the wildfire-response awareness in Alaska by facilitating a two-way dialogue among researchers, local communities, and stakeholders to provide solutions for emergency preparedness, operational endurance, and enhanced resilience of the unique Alaska electricity grid to wildfires. The visions, insights, and developments shared at the 1-day workshop aimed at identifying research gaps and prioritizing future research directions and roadmaps to deploy advanced energy technologies for resilience against wildfires. The workshop brought together around 100 participants and consisted of 7 consecutive panels as detailed on the [FIREWALL workshop website](#). Invited speakers at the FIREWALL workshop 2021 included representatives from Alaska community and state organizations, federal agencies (NSF, DOE, USDA-FS), national laboratories, electric utility industry, and research and academic institutions. The project envisions a second FIREWALL workshop to be held at the University of Alaska Anchorage in summer 2022.

### 1st International Workshop on Seismic Resilience of Arctic Infrastructure and Social Systems

The [1st International Workshop on Seismic Resilience of Arctic Infrastructure and Social Systems](#) was held in-person and virtually on September 20-22, 2021 in Anchorage, AK. The workshop brought together roughly 50 researchers and stakeholders from different parts of the world with convergent expertise including earthquake engineering, seismology, permafrost, hydrogeology, climate science, social science, urban planning, risk and uncertainty assessment, and disaster management and policy to exchange state-of-the-art and practice in seismic resiliency of arctic infrastructure and social systems at the intersection of natural environment, built environment, and social systems. The workshop provided a unique opportunity for exchange of ideas with regards to Arctic seismicity and impacts during the two and a half day event. Through over 30 technical presentations and multiple group activities, several priority research needs were identified to address the impacts of changing climate on seismic resilience of Arctic built infrastructure and social systems.

*We welcome submissions of NNA events and workshop summaries to be shared with the NNA community through future newsletters. Please submit items [here](#).*

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## Career and Conference Opportunities

## Postdoctoral Fellow in Environmental Dynamics

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

The Postdoctoral Fellow in Environmental Dynamics will participate in the NNA project, “Interactions of Natural and Social Systems with Climate Change, Globalization, and Infrastructure Development in the Arctic.” The Postdoctoral Fellow will spend most of their time in Arkansas, but will also conduct fieldwork working on ecosystem ecology in the Yamal Peninsula of the Russian Arctic each year. This is a 4.5 year appointment, with a start date in January 2022.

Application Deadline: Open until filled.

With questions, contact:

Peter Ungar

[pungar@uark.edu](mailto:pungar@uark.edu)

## AGU Registration Discount for Indigenous Community Members, Tribal & Territorial Colleges & Universities

### Indigenous Communities

Membership in an Indigenous community should be understood as a sovereign right established both through self-determination and community acceptance.

AGU will offer no-cost registration to 100 AGU members who are members of Indigenous Communities anywhere in the world who would not otherwise be able to attend the AGU Meeting. The last day to submit your application is 13 October 2021. Each application will be reviewed and notifications will be sent by 28 October 2021. To begin your application, click [here](#).

### Tribal and Territorial Colleges & Universities

In addition, AGU will also offer no-cost Fall 2021 Meeting registration for AGU members for those attending or teaching at Tribal and Territorial Colleges and Universities. If you teach or attend a tribal college or university in North America, please use the main AGU registration portal to take advantage of the no-cost registration. Each person will be required to submit credentials verifying their enrollment or employment in the registration portal.

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## NNA Project Highlight

### ARC-NAV: Arctic Robust Communities-Navigating Adaptation to Variability



Photo by Sergey Furman

The Arctic is warming on average twice as rapidly as the rest of the planet, which is leading to significant changes in sea ice to which local communities must respond. Beringia, a region of the Arctic encompassing US and Russian territory, is expected to experience some of the highest variability in sea ice conditions in the coming century. This project focuses on the question: how do we design better and more flexible governance and infrastructure to adapt to changing Arctic conditions? To answer this question, the ARC-NAV team is taking a convergence approach to forecast potential changes in the Arctic sea ice environment and the impacts on social and ecological systems resulting

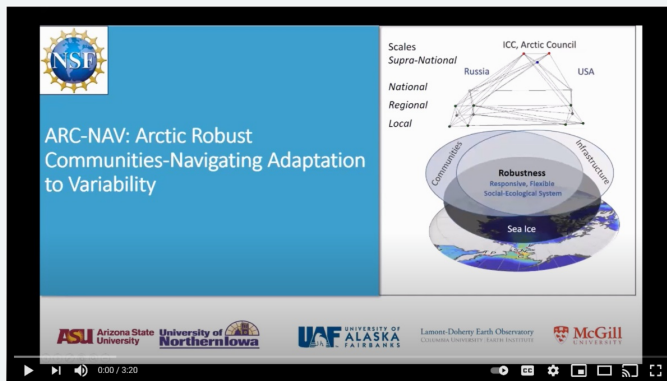
from changes, as well as identify adaptive strategies to enhance resilience to those impacts.

Photo by Abigail York

The project team includes members from Arizona State University (PI: Abigail York; Co-PI: Shauna BurnSilver; Co-PI: Stephanie Pfirmann; Co-PI: Marty Anderies), University of Northern Iowa (PI: Tatiana Degai; PI: Andrey Petrov), University of Alaska Fairbanks (PI: Andy Mahoney), Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University (PI: Bruno Tremblay; Bob Newton), and McGill University, along with several Russian academic collaborators, student researchers, and partner and community team members. Through conversations with Indigenous partners in Russia and Alaska, the team works most closely with the focal communities of Sivuaq (Gambell) and Tikigaq (Point Hope) in Alaska, and Tilichiki, Kamchatka, and Sireniki, Chukotka in Russia. They also partner with the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission, Kamchatka Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Inuit Circumpolar Council - Chukotka, and Pacific Institute of Geography - Kamchatka Branch.



The NNA community can support this project through collaboration to develop and support an NNA community liaison network. This proposed network would facilitate greater community driven research in the future, create new opportunities for comparative work, and expand shared research infrastructure, as well as provide opportunities for shared networking and training opportunities for liaisons and community members interested in taking on these roles in the future.



NNA Project Highlight: ARC-NAV (Arctic Robust Communities-Navigating Adaptation to Variability)

Questions and comments can be directed to [abigail.york@asu.edu](mailto:abigail.york@asu.edu).

For more about their project, visit their [website](#), and check out this [video](#).

*We will feature different NNA projects in each newsletter.*

## Upcoming Events

Join the **NNA Annual Community Meeting** on November 8-10, 2021. The [meeting website](#) will soon share more information as planning progresses. [Register for the meeting here](#).

NNA-CO events at **AGU 2021 Fall Meeting** (exact dates announced in October)

- Coordination for Use-Inspired Convergence Research and Equitable Collaboration in the Arctic: A Navigating the New Arctic (NNA) Community Town Hall
- Arctic Education & Outreach - Effective ways of engaging diverse learners in Arctic science (ED004)

We welcome [submissions](#) for items to be considered for upcoming NNA Community Newsletters or the [NNA News page](#).



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<https://www.nna-co.org>

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