

NNA Community Newsletter

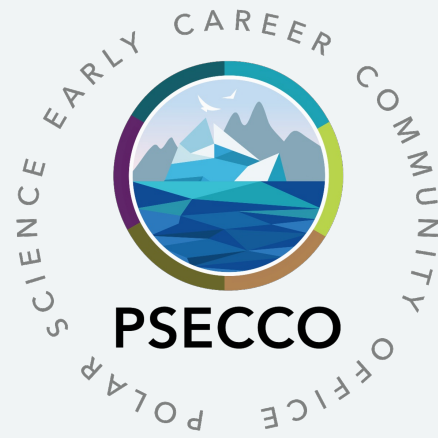
April 2022 Issue

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We are aware that the dynamic situation in Ukraine and Russia may be affecting several NNA projects. If you need further discussion about your project, please reach out to your managing Program Officer at the National Science Foundation.

**Polar Science Early Career Community Office
Launched**

The [Polar Science Early Career Community Office](#) (PSECCO) was officially launched on April 18. PSECCO is a community-building and community-support organization for polar early career scientists. Its mission is to empower and elevate early career scientists in the Polar Sciences, support a vibrant community, provide opportunities and resources, offer skill training and work together towards a more just, inclusive, diverse, equitable, and accessible Polar Science environment.



The office will be building partnerships and offering support to early career organizations already doing great work, working to build community, and offering unique professional development and funding opportunities of its own. Help PSECCO shape and evolve the office to best support polar early career scientists by attending a community meeting on [May 3rd at 11am AK/1pm MT/3pm ET](#) or [June 9th at 9am AK/11am MT/1pm ET](#). Learn more about the office and sign up for the mailing lists at <https://psecco.org>, or follow on Twitter [@polarsecco](#).

Learn more [here](#).

Upcoming NNA-CO Broader Impacts Network Meeting

April 27, 2022 - 2pm-3pm Eastern / 12pm-1pm Mountain / 10am-11am Alaska Virtual

The NNA-CO invites you to the next Broader Impacts Network (BIN) meeting, which will focus on effective ways to use **social media in broadening the reach of your research and connecting with Arctic communities**. We have a panel of communication experts lined up to discuss effective ways of using social media for sharing your research with Arctic communities, to learn about impactful and culturally-relevant messaging and actionable and tangible communication strategies from media experts. We will hear from **Meghan Sullivan** from *Alaska Native Media*, **Sara Eckert**, Communications from the *Office of Polar Programs National Science Foundation* and **Kristin Timm**, expert in science and environmental communication from the *University of Alaska Fairbanks*.

[Register for the BIN meeting](#)

NNA Named an Endorsed Action of the UN Ocean Decade

In 2017, the United Nations (UN) declared 2021-2030 the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (Ocean Decade), recognizing an opportunity to reverse the decline in ocean health while continuing to rely on the ocean for our



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

ever-increasing needs, particularly under a changing climate. The Ocean Decade was officially launched January 1, 2021.

The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) has been an active player in the Ocean Decade, and has submitted five actions for endorsement. All five were accepted, among them Navigating the New Arctic (NNA).

[This PDF](#) is a resource for NSF staff and researchers (including PIs, postdocs, students, etc.) funded through one of the five NSF Ocean Decade Actions. The document provides context and resources for engagement in the Ocean Decade and will evolve as opportunities within the Ocean Decade change in the coming years.

Open Science: Best Practices, Data Sovereignty and Co-production Training Materials

These materials reflect a collaboration between the [Arctic Data Center](#), the [Navigating the New Arctic Community Office](#), and [ELOKA](#) as part of our joint commitments to raising awareness and promoting best practices in data management, increasing data literacy, and engaging the community in conversations about data governance. These materials are associated with a workshop presented as part of the [Arctic Science Summit Week 2022](#).

Training Materials

Suggested Reading: A framework for co-production of knowledge in the context of Arctic research / Negeqlikacaarni kangingnaulriani ayuqenrilnguut piyaraitgun kangingnauryararkat

Ellam Yua, Julie Raymond-Yakoubian, Raychelle Aluaq Daniel, and Carolina Behe

“The Arctic has been home to Indigenous Peoples from time immemorial. Distinct Indigenous worldviews and complex knowledge systems have been passed on from generation to generation, evolving over time in a living process that continues to this day. Indigenous Peoples' knowledge systems hold methodologies and assessment processes that provide pathways for knowing and understanding the Arctic, which address all aspects of life, including the spiritual, cultural, and ecological, all in interlinked and supporting ways. For too long, Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic and their knowledges have not been equitably included in many research activities. We argue for systematic change in how research-related activities are conducted in the Arctic. Bringing together multiple knowledge systems, specifically Indigenous Peoples' knowledge systems and science, can lead to more equitable, inclusive, and

useful outcomes. The co-production of knowledge framework that we forward is designed to assist researchers, decision makers, and communities in moving toward those goals. Given increased interest in the Arctic by the research community, the complex, rapid, and ongoing change in Arctic systems, and amidst renewed and urgent calls for equity globally and across all spheres of life, adoption of a co-production of knowledge framework for the conduct of Arctic research is timely as well as a moral and intellectual imperative. Further, solutions to challenges facing the Arctic and global community are enhanced by the combined understanding of Indigenous Peoples' knowledges and science.”

Access the full article [here](#).

NNA Project Highlight

A Purpose-Driven Approach to Converge Explicit Scientific Knowledge and Tacit Traditional Knowledge of Water Quality in Alaska Native Communities

Changing Arctic conditions place intense pressure on the water supplies of Alaskan Native communities. However, adapting to an evolving climate is not a new challenge to Indigenous communities and to their foundations of Traditional Knowledge. This project aims to converge Traditional Knowledge and western science to address water contamination problems more holistically and thoroughly. Our team combines expertise in water quality, microbiology, and glaciology resources of the University of Texas at Austin (PI Navid Saleh, Co-PI Mary Jo Kirisits) and the University of Alaska Fairbanks (PI Srijan Aggarwal, Co-PI Yuri Shur, Co-PI Mikhail Kanevskiy) with the anthropological experience of Huntington Consulting (Co-PI Henry Huntington) and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (Co-PI Laura Eichelberger), while working alongside Knik Tribe (Co-PI Theo Garcia) to coproduce knowledge relating to water quality and other environmental issues in the Mat-Su valley and beyond.

March 2022 saw the team undertake a sampling effort in the Mat-Su Valley. While the team engaged with communities within and around Knik and Eklutna Tribal lands, it sampled water from Tribal buildings, community clinics, homes, glacial systems, and surface waters. The water quality information distilled from these samples should serve to elucidate how treatment practices can change to more precisely treat any naturally sourced water. This information may also contribute to the understanding of subsistence salmon harvests and how they are affected by regional river quality.

On the team's next trip in August, it plans to learn from the Indigenous partners in Selawik to better understand the history of the regional lakes. This historical data will facilitate crafting the best approach in sampling Arctic lakes and understanding the environmental stresses these encounter.

You can expect to hear more about the project in an upcoming publication regarding a framework to merge Indigenous and Scientific knowledge, as well as in a project blog to be launched in Summer 2022. In the meantime, see updates via the Twitter accounts of the PIs [@salehnavid](#) and [@srijan_ak](#). Questions and comments can be directed to Navid Saleh via navid.saleh@utexas.edu and Srijan Aggarwal via saggarwal@alaska.edu.

Photo Highlights from Spring 2022



Collecting tap water samples from Knik Tribe Office buildings in Palmer and Wasilla, AK.



Drilling ice cores on Knik Glacier.



Building meaningful relationships among partners and collaborators.

Photo highlights submitted by Navid Saleh

We will feature different NNA projects in each newsletter.

NSF & SACNAS Grant Writing and Peer Review Workshop

June 12-15, 2022; in-person in Los Angeles, CA
Airfare and lodging will be provided to all participants.

NSF and the Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) are hosting a workshop on Grant Writing and Peer Review for early career scientists. Participants of this workshop will learn to critique grant proposals as well as how to develop their own with the guidance of peers and advisors.

Who should apply? Applicants should be advanced graduate students, postdocs or early career professionals who are interested in submitting a grant proposal to either the Biological Sciences (BIO) or Education and Human resources (EHR) directorates at NSF. You can learn more about BIO directorates at NSF [here](#). You can learn more about EHR directorates at NSF [here](#). This inaugural program is open to all applicants but West Coast participants will be given priority.

Deadline to apply: **May 6, 2022**

Learn more [here](#).

Upcoming Events

NNA-CO Broader Impacts Meeting

- Wednesday, April 27, 2022 - 12pm-1pm MT

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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