BLOGGING FOR SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

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Why blog?

- Blogging is science communication at work!
- Get the word out, practice writing, and make new friends and colleagues
- Offer a voice independent from mainstream media
- Share your experiences, which are often unique for polar scientists
- Academics: search committees are increasingly looking for evidence of outreach and impact beyond academia
Getting started
“The gap between information and impact can also be substantially reduced...simply if more scientists and scholars, and their institutions, think creatively about ways to expand their communication circles and pathways.” (Revkin, 2011)
Cutting through mainstream representations of Arctic development

The World Has Discovered a $1 Trillion Ocean

Now what to do with it. The Arctic is open for business, and everyone wants a piece. A council at Davos lays down some rules.
"It will lower the cost of goods. It'll make access much easier, it'll make construction much easier. It will also bring a transportation mode that will help with development in the North and...it will also help...when it comes to opportunities."

-Head of Labrador shipping company, 2016
What types of access and opportunities are new transportation projects in the Arctic producing?
Contextualizing the Arctic

• Deeper historical and broader spatial perspectives

• Interconnections between climate change, industrialization, and globalization

• The view from the ground and the view from space
Making the Arctic relevant and present in people’s daily lives
COP21: NO CHANCE OF TURNING DOWN THE HEAT ON THE ARCTIC

The Greenland Ice Sheet melts out partly through supraglacial rivers that slowly drain it. Photo: Mia Bennett, August 2014.

The world's leaders are meeting in Paris this week for the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference, generally known as COP21. In the eyes of many, this is the make-it-or-break-it moment for action on climate change. If we don't act now, it's believed, then the world will barrel full steam ahead to a planet that's at least 2°C warmer on average. United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon intoned, “A political moment like this may not come again... We have never faced such a test. But neither have we encountered such great opportunity.” But climate activist and journalist Bill McKibben offered a more cynical take on the meeting. Even if world leaders manage to reach an agreement, he
Syndication: Reaching new audiences

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Mia Bennett is a frequent contributor to The Maritime Executive magazine. Her research and writing focus on how commodities cycle, globalization, and climate change are affecting trade networks, transportation, and natural resource development. She holds an MPhil in Polar Studies and is currently a doctoral candidate in the School of Geography at the University of Cambridge.

Alaska Dispatch News
Monday, August 1, 2016
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Mia Bennett graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2010 with degrees in Political Science and European Studies and minors in Geospatial Information Systems & Technology, Scandinavian, and French. She focuses on the politics of Arctic resource management and Canadian infrastructure, and is interested in the application of GIS technology to Arctic dilemmas. She speaks French, Swedish, and is learning Russian. She freelances for the magazine ReNew Canada and currently lives in New York City.

What does Trudeau victory in Canadian election mean for the Arctic?
Ousted Conservative leader Stephen Harper put great emphasis on Canada's Arctic ambitions. Whether Justin Trudeau will pay as much attention to the Arctic remains unclear.
Mia Bennett October 26, 2015

A view of the Arctic’s future -- from Singapore
While other Asian nations seek to import Arctic oil and gas, Singapore is not as interested in importing the regions natural resources as it is in exporting its own technologies to help develop them. Meanwhile the strategically situated port city eyes the future prospect of Arctic shipping as a potential threat.
Mia Bennett October 6, 2015
Special themes

FIELD NOTES FROM RUSSIA
Grounding and humanizing Arctic change
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Questions? Suggestions?

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