

Caring for Life in the Arctic

Critical Arctic Studies Symposium

7-9 October 2025 University of Lapland, Rovaniemi

Mauri Hall (F1027)

Program

Tuesday 7 October

11.00-12.00 Keynote speech: *Caring as an ethico-political concept and practice*

Professor Anu Valtonen

12.00-13.00 Lunch

13.00-15.00 Presentations, Session 1: Care for snow and ice

Chair: Marjo Lindroth

Mapping response-able relationality with the Arctic Ice

Suvi Pihkala and Mervi Heikkinen

Caring for ice / caring for life

Sohvi Kangasluoma

Arctic coastal communities and the social ontologies of sea ice

Julia Olsen and Michael Bravo (online)

Building What melts: Tracing more-than-Human care in temporary snow-based MTB trails

Vesa Markuksela

15.00- 15.30 Coffee

15.30-17.00 Presentations, Session 2: Care for animals

Chair: Joonas Vola

Conservation of the Arctic fox – hope-driven care in the mountains of Fennoscandia

Nea Karila

Arctic char in Canadian blue economy - An ecological, commercial and cultural nexus

Suprita Suman (online)

Caring curiosity and more-than-human translation: Making decisions with Njauddâm salmon

Sunna Kokkonen

19.00 Dinner at Kauppayhtiö, Valtakatu 24 Wednesday 8 October

Wednesday 8 October

9.00-10.30 Presentations, Session 3: Care for human well-being

Chair: Hannah Strauss-Mazzullo

Vulnerable men in vulnerable worlds: Masculinities and the Arctic in the era of the Anthropocene

Ilmari Miettunen

Student perspectives on sexuality in Arctic universities

Zhanna Anshukova

Speculative caring in a time of transiency

Dina Brode-Roger

10.30-11.00 Coffee

11.00-12.30 Presentations, Session 4: Care for infrastructure

Chair: Sunna Kokkonen

"Water care" – vesihuolto – in small water cooperatives in Finnish Lapland

Hannah Strauss-Mazzullo

Caring for Arctic infrastructures through green investments: prospects and limits

Dorothee Bohn and Adrian Braun

Caring for the Arctic While Launching Rockets From It: Rethinking Environmental Responsibility Across the Earth-Space Continuum Tom Royer

12.30-14.00 Lunch and opportunity to visit the art exhibitions at the Faculty of Arts and Design

14.00-15.00 Presentations, Session 5: Care for places

Chair: Monica Tennberg

Held together differently: Everyday care and structural tensions in the Arctic

Rasa Zuzeviciute (online)

Governing sustainable urban development in the European Arctic

Dorothea Wehrmann, Michał Łuszczuk, Katarzyna Radzik-Maruszak, Jacqueline Wingens and Arne Riedel (online)

15.00-15.30 Coffee

15.30- 16.30 Presentations, Session 5: Care for places (continues)

Care for multispecies landscapes in wind power debates in Finland

Anna Varfolomeeva

Tinkering care practices in historic grasslands and grazing pastures

Janike Kampevold Larsen

Thursday 9 October

9.00-10.30 Presentations, Session 6: Care for livelihoods

Chair: Tom Royer

Challenges to care and intergenerational wellbeing in the "buffer zone" of the green transition: Inequalities faced by reindeer herders in Sodankylä

Maija Lassila, Iida Melamies and Viola Ukkola (online)

Aesthetic governance of Arctic tourism: Care, singularity and symbolic capital

Aapo Lundén (online)

Tourism degrowth and more-than-human care

Juulia Tikkanen

10.30-11.00 Coffee

11.00-12.30 Presentations, Session 7: Politics and law of care

Chair: Dorothee Bohn

Caring Colonially? Incompetence, guardianship, and the land that owns itself

Joonas Vola

More-than-human relations in the Arctic: Insights from Rights of Nature and Multispecies Justice

Marlene Payva (online)

Blue Biopolitics at the Bothnian Bay

Monica Tennberg

12.30-13.00 Final session (inc. special issue info)