



WORLD INDIGENOUS NATIONS HIGHER EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

WINHEC Newsletter

Issue 2017:3

Greetings from the WINHEC Co-Chairs Dr. Hohaia Collier and Dr. Laura Horton

In August 2018 we gather as guests of the Sāmi University of Applied Sciences and the Sāmi High School and Reindeer Husbandry School for our Annual General Meeting. This is an opportunity to reinforce the wonderful relationship that we have with each other and to advance the educational aspirations of Indigenous peoples.

Last year our hosts at the Six Nations Polytechnic extended wonderful hospitality to us and it is proper that we acknowledge their efforts. WIPCE in Toronto also allowed us to connect with many other Indigenous peoples, some of whom have expressed interest in joining us this year.

Our Sāmi hosts have begun the planning process for next year and we acknowledge the efforts that have been made to give us early warning of dates and activities to allow us all to plan travel. We encourage you to read the following information to ease the organisational burden on our hosts.

We look forward to catching up in August 2018.

Laura and Hohaia

Welcome to Guovdageaidnu, Norway and the WINHEC annual meeting and WIRA research conference.

Bures boahhtin Guovdageidnui WINHEC jahkečoahkkimii ja WIRA dutkankonferánsii.

WHEN AND WHERE?

The WINHEC 2018 annual meeting (AGM 2018) is planned to take place in Guovdageaidnu (Kautokeino), Norway, from the morning of August 20th to noon August 22nd. The WIRA 2018 research conference is scheduled at the same location, from lunch August 22nd to the afternoon of August 24th. The WINHEC 2018 AGM will be arranged by Sami Allaskuvla (Sāmi University of Applied Sciences) in collaboration with Sāmi joatkká- ja boazodoalloskuvla (the Sami High School and Reindeer Husbandry School), Guovdageaidnu. The WIRA research conference will be arranged by Sāmi allaskuvla at Diehtosiida, Guovdageaidnu.

**Igniting Knowledge Sharing:
World Indigenous Research and Education Conference 2018
#WIREC2018**

The name of the conference is “Igniting Knowledge Sharing: World Indigenous Research and Education 2018”, and the planned conference fee is NOK 2 200 (approximately USD 280) including lunch, coffee, dinner and cultural arrangements but not accommodation.

THE AIM OF THE CONFERENCE

The aim of the conference is to bring together researchers to share experiences, discuss issues, tackle challenges and explore opportunities within the indigenous research field. The scope of the conference embraces disciplines such as: Traditional Craft and Contemporary Design, Indigenous Language, Indigenous Education, Media and Journalism, and Protection and Management of Environmental and Traditional Resources.

Themes of the conference are:

- i) Indigenous Artistic Expressions in a Contemporary Context
- ii) Indigenous Knowledge Embedded in Language
- iii) Internal Tensions in Indigenous Research and Social Mission
- iv) Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being in Education
- v) Protection and Monitoring of Environmental and Traditional Resources

Deadlines for WIRA

Deadline for submitting abstracts: 28 February 2018

Registration: From 1 November, 2017 to 31 May, 2018

Fees and information for WIRA

Early bird special: from 1 November to 31 May 2018: 250 USD/2000 NOK

Ordinary registration: 1 Jun 2018: 280 USD/2200 NOK

What is included: 3 lunches, 2 dinners, cultural events

What is not included: Accommodation and travel.

**Deadlines, fees and more information about WINHEC will follow in
Newsletter 1/2018**

WINHEC Circle of Honours – who has been honored?

Since the beginning, many people have been honored with the Circle of Honors-Award. Unfortunately, there is no complete list over who has received the award. We would like to make such a list, so the names and years will be saved for the future. If you have knowledge of who has received the Circle of Honors award, and when, we are grateful if you can provide us the information.

- A THE WINHEC ORDER OF THE CIRCLE OF CHIEFS OF INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP
- B THE WINHEC ORDER OF THE CIRCLE OF ELDERS OF INDIGENOUS WISDOM
- C THE WINHEC ORDER OF THE CIRCLE OF SCHOLARS OF INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE
- D THE WINHEC ORDER OF THE CIRCLE OF SERVICE TO INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

Inger Marie Nilut and Sara Ellen Anne Eira are in the Circle of Honors secretariat. Please send the information to inger.nilut@samisk.vgs.no and sara.eira@samisk.vgs.no

About Sápmi

We are one people divided among four nations. We call ourselves *sámit* and our land *Sápmi*. The majority of us live in Norway, 40 000 – 50 000, in Sweden 20 000 - 35 000, in Finland 5 000 - 6 500 and in Russia about 2000. These are estimated numbers since a census of the Sami people has not been made after World War II.

Our area stretches from northern Scandinavia all the way to the Kola Peninsula. We are an indigenous people who have developed cultures and ways of life that are directly connected to those areas of land and water that we have lived on and used since time immemorial.

Norway, Finland and Sweden all have Sámi Parliaments that to varying degrees are involved in governing the region. In Russia, there is no Sami Parliament, but there are two Sámi organizations. They are members of the national umbrella organisation of indigenous peoples, the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON) and also represent the Russian Sámi in the Sámi Council.

In addition to the parliaments and their common council, there is a Sámi Council based on Sámi organizations. This council also organizes inter-state cooperation between the Sámi, and often represents the Sámi in international fora such as the Barents Region and Arctic Council.

There are several distinct Sámi languages, related to other languages of the Finno-Ugric language family (such as Finnish). Sámi is divided into four main languages – North-, Eastern-, Central- and Southern Sámi. The language regions stretch from east to west, so we speak the same “language” across national borders, but have difficulty understanding each other south to north.

Far from all speak Sami today, but an increasing number try to recapture their language while others have always spoken Sami with family, relatives and friends.

Traditionally, the Sami have pursued a variety of livelihoods, including reindeer herding, coastal fishing, and fur trapping. To the world, we are best-known as reindeer herders. Currently about 10% of the Sami are connected to reindeer herding. For traditional, environmental, cultural, and political reasons, reindeer herding is legally reserved for only Sami people in some regions of the Nordic countries. Today, most Sámi have a variety of ordinary occupations, similar to other people who have settled in our traditional homelands. We are, teachers, researchers, plumbers, doctors and so on.

Guovdageaidnu, the host location

Guovdageaidnu is the county town in the municipality. The population in Guovdageaidnu municipality is approximately 2.900 inhabitants and 80-90 % of the population speak northern Sámi. Guovdageaidnu is located in Finnmark in the north of Norway and is the largest municipality in Norway in terms of area. The natural environment is rich with natural resources such as wildlife, fish, and berries. In the municipality, there are around 10.000 fishing waters, and reindeer herding is one of the most important livelihoods of this region.

People from different areas of Sápmi and other countries visit Guovdageaidnu, and there are a lot of events that take place here. In the Easter, we have a Sámi Easter-Festival with the Sami Grand Prix, a joik and singing contest for Sami people. Also World cup finals in reindeer-racing, ice-fishing contests, snowmobile race, theaters are among the events scheduled each year in Guovdageaidnu. Duodji has a strong position in Guovdageaidnu and there are several different stores with local crafts.

Guovdageaidnu is a place where the Sámi language can be heard on a daily basis, and there are several Sámi institutions located here. The conference will be held on Diehtosiida, the location of the Sámi University College. The university college has an emphasis on Sámi and Indigenous higher education and research. Sámi Parliament is another of the Sámi institutions that are located on Diehtosiida.

About Sámi allaskuvla / Sámi University of Applied Sciences

Sámi allaskuvla / Sámi University of Applied Sciences was established in 1989. Nordic Sámi Institute - a Sámi research institution established in 1973 in Guovdageaidnu - was co-organized with the University of Applied Sciences in 2005. Since 2009 Sámi allaskuvla is located in Diehtosiida (which literally means "House of Knowledge"). More information about the institution and the building can be found through the following links:

- [About Sámi University of Applied Sciences](#)
- [Diehtosiida Building Facts](#)

Sámi allaskuvla is a leading higher education and research institution in the Sámi homelands as well as the international indigenous world. Sámi allaskuvla conducts research in many scientific fields. The research includes linguistics, culture, reindeer husbandry and other traditional industries, traditional knowledge, journalism, place names, modern society and history; policy research at local, national and international levels and other fields. Sámi allaskuvla actively promotes Sámi research as an integral part of indigenous research.

Some aspects of the Sámi allaskuvla's research activity is funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers. This is the legacy of the former Nordic Sámi Institute. Sámi research has an important role in securing and promoting the future of the Sámi societies. Each Indigenous society needs to build its own scientific capacity, educate its experts and advance to the same educational level as the majority society.

As a member institution of WINHEC (World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium) the Sámi University College research activity follows the WINHEC Research Standards

Sámi allaskuvla has scientific publication serials such as Dieđut and Raporttat. In collaboration with UiT, The Arctic University of Norway - Centre for Sámi studies, Sámi allaskuvla has been publishing

Sámi dieđalaš áigečála, the Sámi scientific journal. It is the only scientific journal in the world published in the Sámi language and which also has referees.

<http://samas.no/en>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/S%C3%A1mi-University-College/107819275905452>

About Sámi High School and Reindeer Husbandry School



The School Vision:

“The Sami high school and reindeer husbandry school shall prepare Sami youth to function in a Sami, Norwegian and international society. The school shall contribute to Sami youth’s strengthening and developing Sami identity, language and culture.”

WINHEC member since October 2016

The Sami High School and Reindeer Husbandry School is a state run school that is open to pupils from the whole country, likewise from the Sami region of Northern K. Graduating from this school, pupils shall have a solid body of knowledge rooted in Sami culture. The school strives to develop and consolidate a Sami ethos and culture in the curriculum: Fine Arts and handicrafts, reindeer husbandry, restaurant and catering studies, building studies and academic studies.

In Guovdageaidnu, students have the opportunity to attend a school in a vibrant Sami-speaking environment, a school that follows a curriculum tailored to and rooted in the local needs and values of Sami language and culture.

All students are required to study at least one of the Sami languages: Northern Sami, Lule Sami or Southern Sami, with an emphasis on students limited in Sami benefiting from special intensive "language bath" courses, either just before or just after the beginning of the school year. The Sami parliament gives a grant to pupils studying Sami language and Handicrafts.

Post-secondary school level

The school has made plans on extending the curriculum to include a post-secondary school level. Its goals are:

- Meeting the needs for increased competence within reindeer husbandry and traditional art and handicrafts

- Providing practical skills aiming at improved profitability and robustness within tradition-based businesses
- Improving business management and entrepreneurship, legal knowledge, design and communication skills, etc.

The projected education will be an extension of the school's current curriculum and may be an important step towards an academic degree at the Sami University College.

<https://www.facebook.com/samiskvgs/>

<http://www.samisk.vgs.no>

