

AINA NEWS

ASTIS News

Canada's northern database, the Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS), grew by a record amount during fiscal 2010–11. More than 3750 records describing publications and research projects about northern Canada were added to the database during the year. ASTIS now contains 73,800 records, and provides links to PDF files of 18,000 publications. The database is available for free from the AINA website at www.arctic.ucalgary.ca.

The Inuvialuit Settlement Region Database at www.aina.ucalgary.ca/isr now describes 11,400 publications and research projects about that region. The database is produced by ASTIS and the Joint Secretariat - Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees and is funded by Shell Canada, MGM Energy, Chevron Canada and ConocoPhillips Canada.

The Northern Granular Resources Bibliographic Database now lists 2060 reports and other publications about gravel, sand, and crushed rock (for use in construction) in Canada's three northern territories. The database contains links to more than 1000 of these publications, most of which are available on AINA's publications server. The database is sponsored by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's Land and Water Management Directorate and is available at www.aina.ucalgary.ca/ngr.

The Yukon Biodiversity Database at www.aina.ucalgary.ca/yb now describes 7270 publications and research projects about the biology of the Yukon and the Beaufort Sea. The database is produced by ASTIS and the Yukon Biodiversity Working Group and received funding from Foot-hills Pipe Lines and the Yukon River Panel.

Proceedings of the Sixth Canadian Permafrost Conference Now Online

The proceedings of the Sixth Canadian Permafrost Conference are now available for viewing and searching on the Canadian Permafrost Conferences website at www.aina.ucalgary.ca/cpc.

The Canadian Permafrost Conferences website contains the proceedings of all six Canadian Permafrost Conferences (1962, 1964, 1969, 1981, 1990, and 2010). PDF files of the papers from each year can be viewed sequentially, and a database describing the 256 papers can be searched for

words in titles and abstracts, broad or detailed subject and geographic categories, authors, and conference numbers. All of the records in this database are also available in the main Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS) database at www.aina.ucalgary.ca/astis and in relevant ASTIS subset databases.

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada funded the indexing of the Sixth Canadian Permafrost Conference proceedings. The Geological Survey of Canada (Natural Resources Canada) digitized the proceedings of the first five conferences and funded their indexing. AINA's ASTIS project indexed the proceedings and created the website. The support for this initiative provided by the Canadian National Committee for the International Permafrost Association is appreciated.

New AINA Administrative Assistant

In February 2011, the Arctic Institute welcomed Melanie Paulson as our new Administrative Assistant. She returns to the University of Calgary after a two-year hiatus spent in the retail sector at the perpetually busy Apple Store. Melanie graduated from the University of Wyoming in 1996 with a Master of Science degree in Organic Chemistry, but realized soon thereafter that she preferred the administrative aspects of the laboratory to synthesizing new compounds. She enjoys interacting with the AINA members via all methods of communication. When not at the front desk, she likes to pack in as much hiking and camping with her husband and three kids as our short Canadian summers allow.

AINA Board Member Receives Award

At a gala event hosted by the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta (APEGGA) in April at the Calgary Telus Convention Centre, long-time AINA board member Dr. Cooper Langford was honoured with a 2011 Summit Award. Along with colleague Dr. Gopal Achari, Dr. Langford received the Environment and Sustainability Award for developing an efficient, ultra-violet-based method for the removal of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from contaminated soils and sediments. Their innovative technology, which completely destroys the PCBs, will lower remediation costs and decrease the need to transport hazardous materials. Our congratulations to Drs. Achari and Langford on their achievement.