



CENTER FOR ARCTIC STUDY & POLICY

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD ACADEMY



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Our mission is to increase the DHS/USCG effectiveness of governance and security in the Arctic by promoting research and academic thought, broadening collaborative partnerships, and educating future Coast Guard leaders about the complexities of this unique region.

Captain's Log

A Message from CAPT Brigid Pavilonis, Ph.D., USCGA Humanities Department Chair.

Greetings from the Center for Arctic Study and Policy! In this issue, we reflect on our busy spring semester and summer season. Dr. Becca Pincus, our Class of '65 Chair of Arctic Studies, offered a course on "Politics and Policy in the Arctic," which provided cadets a specialized understanding of the key issues confronting the United States in the Arctic region. Supported by our CASP Fellows, Dr. Lawson Brigham, Mr. Craig Allen and Mr. Jim Ellis, these future Coast Guard officers studied U.S. and international policy responses to environmental change, economic development, and emerging policy related to resource extraction, vessel traffic, national security, and maritime domain awareness. Students participated in the Academy's annual Senior Symposium—which was well-attended by not only our faculty and staff, but also by representatives from CG-5PW, the Research and Development Center, and Connecticut College.

This spring, CASP hosted a number of distinguished congressional visitors, including Chairman Hal Rogers (R-KY), SEN Chris Murphy (D-CT), and staff from the offices of SEN Harry Reid (D-NV), and SEN Richard Blumenthal (D-CT). In these briefings, CASP Director Rachel Perron showcased our CASP research agenda and the larger relevance of the Arctic in determining national priorities. We also enjoyed a visit by Mr. Alan Bersin, Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Chief Diplomatic Officer for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Policy.

Finally, as we edge ever-closer to the return of the cadets and the excitement of the next academic year, I'm very pleased to welcome CAPT Andrew Norris, USCG (Ret.) back to the Academy for a two-year teaching appointment, focused on maritime studies. CAPT Norris, a former judge on the Coast Guard Court of Criminal Appeals, has previously served as Law Section Chief in the CGA Department of Humanities. He has numerous publications to his credit, and most recently held the Robert J. Papp, Jr., Professor of Maritime Security chair at the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. Welcome Andy—so glad to have you onboard!

CASP Spotlight

CASP Lunchtime Seminar Series: USCG Arctic Policy Advisor Mike Emerson (CG-5PW) and LCDR Rebecca Albert visited the Academy on 25 April, 2016. Mr. Emerson was the featured speaker at CASP's first Arctic Brown Bag lunch, a seminar series organized by CASP at CGA. Mr. Emerson spoke at the Officers Club on USCG Arctic strategy and the current implementation status of Arctic policy. Director Perron presented on CASP, its mission, and accomplishments. The lunch was well-attended, with former CGA Superintendent RADM (ret) Doug Teeson among the guests.



CASP Accomplishments

Arctic Coast Guard Forum: In June 2016, CASP participated in the Arctic Coast Guard Forum (ACGF) Principals Meeting. Representatives from Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, the Russian Federation, and the United States gathered for a second Principals Meeting at Coast Guard Base Boston, Massachusetts, to sign a Joint Statement establishing a multi-year strategic plan.



Joint Statement Signing Ceremony, Faneuil Hall, Boston.

The ACGF principals participated in the academic session moderated by Dr. Pincus, Dr. Steve Miller of Harvard University, and Prof. Lawson Brigham of UAF. A poster session and Class of '65 sponsored reception followed. The principals engaged with Academy cadets and graduate students from the Boston-area, who presented research addressing Arctic topics. Through organizing and participating in the ACGF Summit, CASP hopes to further “the effectiveness of governance in the Arctic by promoting research and academic thought.” ACGF remains committed to broadening partnerships and seeking solutions through research.

Partnership with Brown University’s Watson Institute: Dr. Pincus advised four Brown University Masters students on their Capstone project “[The Bering Strait: Reducing Risk Through International Cooperation and Capability Improvements.](#)” Among the four was Jeremy McKenzie, a Coast Guard officer who just joined the Humanities Department. The team presented its final project in May via Brown University’s Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University’s Joukowsky Forum. The team earned the Watson Institute’s Director’s Award for the

best capstone project, and received high accolades from the State Department's Special Representative for the Arctic. Special thanks to CAPT Dave Barata, (Acting) Director, Marine Transportation Systems, Coast Guard Headquarters, for attending, and ADM Robert Papp (Ret.), the Special Representative for the Arctic, for engaging via phone.

Class of '65 Chair of Arctic Studies: Dr. Pincus served as guest editor for a June special edition of the journal [Polar Geography](#). This issue explored how media coverage of the Arctic shapes public thought and affects policymaking. She co-authored “[Have you been to ‘The Arctic’? Frame theory and the role of media coverage in shaping Arctic discourse](#)” as well as “[The unique dual-nature aspect of search and rescue enables competing frames: Russia, the USA, and the cruise industry.](#)”

CASP in Norway: Dr. Pincus and Director Perron attended the Arctic Safety and Security Thematic Network Proposal (ARCSAR) meeting at the Joint Rescue and Coordination Center in Bodø, Norway, in June. This meeting further developed the ARCSAR proposal to the EU Horizon 2020 Secure Societies project consortium. ARCSAR seeks to unify efforts among governmental, commercial, and local constituencies with Arctic interests. In Norway, CASP staff also attended the Maritime Preparedness Partnership in the High North (MARPART) seminar at NORD University, to discuss a possible role in MARPART. This initiative focuses on assessing and responding to risks presented by increased maritime traffic in the High North.

CASP with ARCSAR/MARPART team members in Norway. Ms. Perron and Dr. Pincus are second and fourth from left.



Focus on the Fellows

CASP Fellows Mr. James Ellis, Professor Craig Allen, and Professor Lawson Brigham attended the Second Quarter CASP Fellows Meeting, facilitated by Director Perron on June 9, 2016. The meeting was conducted at CG Base Boston in conjunction with the ACGF. All three Fellows participated in both events.

CASP Staff (left to right): Prof. Allen, Prof. Brigham, Dr. Pincus, Ms. Perron, and Mr. Ellis II.



CASP Fellow Professor Lawson Brigham published a NOAA issue paper titled "[Charting the U.S. Maritime Arctic](#)." Professor Brigham is a member of NOAA's Hydrographic Services Review Panel. In April Professor Brigham visited the Academy and delivered a lecture in the Arctic Politics & Policy course. CASP hosted Captain Brigham for a lunch with cadets heading to icebreakers for their first tour. Captain Brigham's years of experience on the polar icebreakers made him uniquely well-positioned to speak to cadets on a range of topics, from high-level USCG strategy in the Arctic, to the details of everyday life onboard a ship in the polar latitudes.

CASP Fellow Professor Craig Allen authored a response in *Opinio Juris* to a recent op-ed on the Northwest Passage, "[An Obama-Trudeau Agreement Conceding Canada's Claim to the Waters of the Northwest Passage?](#)" Professor Craig Allen also published "[A Busy March for Arctic Affairs Watchers](#)" in *Pacific Maritime Magazine*, April 2016.

Future Leaders

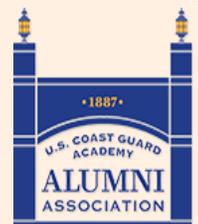
The Spring 2016 Arctic Politics & Policy course introduced eleven cadets to the importance of USCG Arctic missions. Students completed semester-long research topics on subjects of their choosing, which created a diverse and Coast Guard-focused group of final research projects. Four students presented their research projects to Arctic Policy Advisor Mike Emerson (CG-5PW) and CASP Director Rachel Perron. Throughout the semester, students consulted with CASP Fellows, who shared their experience and networks to enhance cadet research on issues ranging from icebreaker procurement to Law of the Sea claims in the Arctic Ocean.

Cadet 1/c Nate Belanger presented his class project at the annual CGA cadet research symposium in April. 1/c Belanger explored the impact of climate-change on the island village of Kivalina, Alaska.

Cadet 1/c Lucy Dagher, a technical assistant for CASP, authored a Connecticut profile, which appeared on the State Department's Arctic blog [Our Arctic Nation](#)". The State Department is featuring Arctic-related activity in each of the 50 states during the U.S. Chair of the Arctic Council (2015-17).

Thank You, Class of '65!

The Class of '65 generously sponsored the ACGF academic event's refreshments during the academic poster session & reception.



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