

Visiting Scholars Series

Schedule of Visit to Tromsø, Week 8 of Professor Urban Wråkberg, SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW THE BARENTS INSTITUTE, Kirkenes

Lecture Wednesday 23.02.2011 1315-1500, E-0105

Assessing the Barents Region: Contemporary Contests and Alliances in Cross-Border Communities

The presentation will exemplify ways to study and to interpret current developments in the Barents Region. It will discuss the mix of politics and interests at work in the contemporary history and institutions in the region as well as provide a portrait of current attempts to build alliances between research communities and the self-appointed or otherwise identified stakeholders in this cross-border region.

Seminar Friday 25.02.2011 1300-1500, E-2004

History, Literature, and the Poetics of Science

“Geopolitical Production in North European Cross-border Discourses”

This seminar will discuss the difficulties of treating the cosmopolitan and on-site border knowledge processes evenly within particular research contexts. The micro-social perspective will be on the individual, especially but not exclusively on “visitors” to the Barents Region in their enactments of border-passages and other experiences in borderlands. Examples will be used from the Norwegian-Russian border and the road between Kirkenes and Murmansk.

Suggested readings: Ash Amin, “Regions Unbound: Towards a New Politics of Place,” *Geografiska Annaler* 86 B (2004) 1, pp. 33-44; Martin Müller, “Reconsidering the Concept of Discourse for the Field of Critical Geopolitics: Towards Discourse as Language and Practice,” *Political Geography* 27 (2008) 322-338; Helen Gilbert, “Belated Journeys: Ecotourism as a Style of Travel Performance”, in: *Transit: Travel, Text, Empire*, eds. Helen Gilbert and Anna Johnston (New York: Peter Lang, 2002), pp. 255-274; Wendy Everett, “Lost in Transition? The European Road Movie, or A Genre »adrift in the cosmos»,” *Literature/Film Quarterly* 37 (2009) 3, pp. 165-175.

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