

Muskox: between Wild and Domesticated
Research Seminar
20th and 21st January 2021
Organised by the *Muskox Pathways* Research Project

The seminar will convene on Zoom.

For access links, please contact: Mia Korsbæk: korsbaek@cas.au.dk before 18th January 2021

This seminar gathers scientists and specialists from a broad range of disciplines and countries to explore the long term, impulsive, and many scaled relations between humans and muskox.

Ongoing research and previous initiatives within the natural and health sciences have highlighted the need for continuous research engagement and collaboration across disciplines and regional boundaries, to advance in knowledge as well as tools for management.

This seminar builds on such efforts and aims to open up a space for interdisciplinary conversation about the pathways along which humans and muskox move, encounter, and transform – and from which, the muskox emerges sometimes as “Wild”, other times as “Domesticated”, and often, not wholly one or the other.

Wednesday, 20th January 2021, 13:00 – 17:20 (CET)

13:00 – 13:20 Welcome and practicalities

Janne Flora, Dept. of Anthropology, Aarhus University

Astrid O. Andersen, Dept. of Culture and Learning, Aalborg University

Session 1: Muskox Population and Genetic Histories

13:20 – 13:45 Biology and ecology of the muskox

Niels Martin Schmidt. Senior researcher, Dept. of Bioscience - Arctic Ecosystem Ecology, Aarhus University

13:45 – 14:10 Genomic insights into the muskox' history of surviving against all odds

Patrícia Chrzanová Pecnerová. Postdoc, Computational and RNA Biology, University of Copenhagen

14:10 – 14:35 One landscape, three episodes of settlement – The archaeological imprints of Independence I, Greenlandic Dorset and Thule settlements in Peary Land, a quantitative and qualitative summary

Jens Fog Jensen, University of Copenhagen and National Museum of Denmark

14:35 – 15:00 Questions and Discussion

15:00 - 15:15 Break

Session 2: Human - Muskox relations in the making

15:15 – 15:40 The Quest for Qiviut and Difficult Domestication

Dolly Jørgensen, Professor of History, University of Stavanger

15:40 – 16:10 Immobilisation of free ranging musk ox for satellite collar deployment in Zackenberg Valley

Carsten Grøndahl, Copenhagen ZO

16:10 – 16:30 Muskox 2030: a pre study to put light on the “unknown” Swedish Muskox herd

Mats Ericson. Biologist, Taiga Nature & Photo. Project manager of “Myskoxe 2030”, by Järvzoo, Lycksele Zoo, Muskox Centre in Tännäs and Naturskyddsföreningen i Västra Härjedalen, Sweden

16:30 – 16:55 Taming Tempers: the difficult wildness of muskox in Ittoqqortoormiit

Janne Flora, Dept. of Anthropology, Aarhus University

16:55 – 17:20 Questions and Discussion

Thursday 21st January 2021, 13:30 – 16:45 (CET)

13:30 - 13:40 Reconvening: today’s Programme

Astrid O. Andersen, Dept. of Culture and Learning, Aalborg University

Janne Flora, Dept. of Anthropology, Aarhus University

Session 3: Conserving Muskox-Human Futures

13:40 – 14:05 The European ex-situ conservation programmes for muskox

Mikkel Stelvig, Copenhagen Zoo

14:05 – 14:30 Status and distribution of muskoxen in West Greenland

Katrine Raundrup, Greenland Institute of Natural Resources

14:30 – 14:55 One-Health in the Arctic: a community-based approach to muskox monitoring

Fabien Mavrot. Senior post-doc, Dept. of Ecosystem and Public Health, University of Calgary

14:55 – 15:20 Muskoxen in Kangerlussuaq, West Greenland: towards an ex-situ ethno-ethology?

Astrid O. Andersen, Dept. of Culture and Learning, Aalborg University

15:20 – 15:45 Questions and Discussion

15:45 – 16:00 Break

16:00 – 16:30 General discussion, looking ahead (future seminars, publication plans?)

16:30 – 16:45 Closing remarks

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Project Website: <https://projects.au.dk/MuskoxPathways/>

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