



## Arctic summer school onboard an icebreaker

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The International Arctic Research Center (IARC) of the University of Alaska Fairbanks conducted a summer school for PhD students, post-docs and early career scientists in August-September 2013, jointly with an arctic expedition as a part of NABOS project (Nansen and Amundsen Basin Observational System) onboard the Russian research vessel "Akademik Fedorov". Both the summer school and NABOS expedition were funded by the National Science Foundation.

The one-month long summer school brought together graduate students and young scientists with specialists in arctic oceanography and climate to convey to a new generation of scientists the opportunities and challenges of arctic climate observations and modeling. Young scientists gained hands-on experience during the field campaign and learned about key issues in arctic climate from observational, diagnostic, and modeling perspectives. The summer school consisted of background lectures, participation in fieldwork and mini-projects. The mini-projects were performed in collaboration with summer school instructors and members of the expedition.

Key topics covered in the lectures included:

- arctic climate: key characteristics and processes;
- physical processes in the Arctic Ocean;
- sea ice and the Arctic Ocean;
- trace gases, aerosols, and chemistry: importance for climate changes;
- feedbacks in the arctic system (e.g., surface albedo, clouds, water vapor, circulation);
- arctic climate variations: past, ongoing, and projected;
- global climate models: an overview.

An outreach specialist from the Miami Science Museum was writing a blog from the icebreaker with some very impressive statistics (results as of January 1, 2014):

Total number of blog posts: 176

Blog posts written/contributed by scientists: 42

Blog views: 22,684

Comments: 1,215

Number of countries who viewed the blog: 89 (on 6 continents)

The 33-day long NABOS expedition started on August 22, 2013 from Kirkenes, Norway. The vessel ("Akademik Fedorov") returned to Kirkenes on September 23, 2013. In our presentation we will try to convey the spirit of learning and excitement of the students during the expedition and the summer school.