



Outreach in the International Research Training Group "ArcTrain - Processes and impacts of climate change in the North Atlantic Ocean and the Canadian Arctic"

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Rising temperatures, loss of sea ice, and melting of continental ice in the Arctic and subarctic regions are connected by an intricate network of feedbacks whose sensitivity is difficult to simulate in climate models and whose impacts on the regional and global environment are not completely understood. This challenge is the scientific basis of the International Research Training Group "ArcTrain - Processes and impacts of climate change in the North Atlantic Ocean and the Canadian Arctic". Since 2013, ArcTrain educates PhD students in an interdisciplinary environment at the Center of Marine Environmental Sciences of the University of Bremen, the Alfred Wegener Institute in Bremerhaven and a consortium of eight Canadian universities. The qualification program for the PhD students includes joint German-Canadian supervision, research residences at partner institutions, Arctic field courses, Floating University, annual meetings, training workshops and a structured training in expert skills and transferrable skills aiming to prepare our graduates for an international job market across academic and applied sectors.

Climate change in the Arctic is also a topic of growing public interest, and outreach activities within ArcTrain are an integral part of our program. ArcTrain follows an approach whereby structured training results in new outreach topics and activities initiated and developed by the students themselves. Ideas born during outreach workshops have resulted in a lively blog and a twitter feed, a short film produced by the students together with a professional film-maker that documents the Arctic field courses (The Labrador Experience - PhD Education Within ArcTrain), and a board game that was developed jointly by the Canadian and German students. Here, we want to share our experience in this student-driven outreach and get feedback from the the community.

ArcTrain is a collaborative project from MARUM – Center for Marine Environmental Sciences, the Faculty of Geosciences and the Faculty of Physics/Electrical Engineering at the University of Bremen, the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research in Bremerhaven on the German side, and a consortium of eight universities in Canada, the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), Dalhousie University, McGill University, Memorial University of Newfoundland, University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, University of Calgary and Université du Québec à Rimouski, led by the Geotop research network coordinated from UQAM.

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