



Master's program on Health and Wellbeing in the Circumpolar Area started its first enrollment

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The first international jointly developed Master's program under the auspices of the BCBU and UArctic Thematic Networks has started with the first set of students. The Introduction seminar of the Master's program was held in January 26 – 28, 2009 in Oulu, Finland. In the seminar the students worked on circumpolar knowledge map and gave a presentations related to the health and wellbeing in their own area or the area of interest. The seminar was led by Arja Rautio from the Centre of Arctic

Medicine at Thule Institute, University of Oulu (the lead of TN on Arctic Medicine) and Kristina Hunter from the Department of Environment and Geography, Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources at the University of Manitoba, Canada. In addition to the presentations, the seminar gave important practical information e.g. on individual learning agreements and on-line courses that will be the first ones to be taken.

All together 11 students from Canada, United Kingdom, Finland, Russia and Australia have started the program. Students share an interest on working for the circumpolar North and many have either working or personal relations to Northern indigenous peoples or Australian aboriginal people. Seven students were able to come to the seminar in Oulu, three students participated online most of the time regardless of the time difference.

Master's Program on Health and Wellbeing in the Circumpolar Area is an international two-year program (120 ECTS/60 North American Credit Hours including theses), established and managed in collaboration by the partner universities: University of Oulu, Finland, Luleå University of Technology, Sweden, Northern State Medical University, Russia, Pomor State University, Russia, University of Lapland, Finland, University of Manitoba, Canada, Center for Health Education, Greenland and University of Southern Denmark, Denmark.

More information on the program: <http://arctichealth.oulu.fi/suomi/maisterikoulu.html>