



# International Master's Degree Programme in Health and Wellbeing in the Circumpolar Area (MCH)

## Status of the MCH program

- First eleven students started in Jan 2009 - two graduated
- The second set (11 students) started in Jan 2011
- Coordinator: Centre for Arctic Medicine at Thule Institute, & Institute of Health Sciences, University of Oulu, Finland
- New agreement 2012 - partners? - problems of fees (Luleå Univ Technology)
- Curriculum development of PhD program (Univ Arctic)
- Partner universities and institutions:
  - Univ of Lapland, Finland (possible take own students)
  - **Luleå Univ of Technology, Sweden**
  - Northern State Medical Univ, Russia
  - Northern (Arctic) Federal Univ, Russia
  - Univ of Manitoba, Canada
  - **Univ of Southern Denmark, Denmark**
  - Center for Health Education, Greenland

## Curriculum outline - 2012

- Basic studies (40 ECTS/20 NA, on-line courses)
  - Health, Security and Wellbeing in the North (6 ECTS), U Oulu & U Luleå, NSMU, ULapland, Greenland
  - Conflict, Politics and Ethnicity (7.5 ECTS) Univ Luleå
  - Health Impacts of Climate Change (4 ECTS) Oulu, Tromso, Kuopio,
  - Comparative Approach to Health and Wellbeing among Northern Populations (6 ECTS) Univ Manitoba & Univ Lapland
  - Health Promotion (7.5 ECTS) Univ Southern Denmark - Univ Luleå?
  - Basics in eHealth (5 ECTS) Univ Oulu
- In-depth studies (50 ECTS/25 NA)
  - Research methodology and ethics (15-20 ECTS)
  - Profession-specific applied studies (20-35 ECTS)
  - Field placement (10-15 ECTS, optional)
- Master's thesis (30 ECTS/15 NA)



## Feedback - 2009-2011

- After every single course, feedback seminars
- Important to keep: flexibility, start-up seminars, Optima, keep the message clear (Circumpolar health and well-being, good coordinator)
- What to change: e.g. from general to specific; balance with physical, mental, spiritual and cultural health & well-being, number of students to 20-30; balance between indigenous - non-indigenous; more guidance for Master's thesis + scientific writing + research ethics...
- New ideas: list of supervisors and themes; new modules (global/comparative aspects, health determinants, life-cycle, gender issues, ethno-culture); better marketing (road-show); start PhD program; student handbook + best practices; scientific meetings...



## Activities and plans for 2012-2012

- 2 PhD students in Univ Oulu, 17 Master's students
- Next call November 2012 - new set starts at September 2013 (25?)
- Feedback questionnaires - quality issues - important for the future progress - program curriculum development
- Great impact of Kolartic-ENPI - good practices
- In the future more working within the umbrella of the University of the Arctic - PhD program in the field of Arctic Health and Well-being
- New agreement - partners & activities
- Joint activities with Social work and other Master's level programs in CBU context - Summer/Winter Schools



## Collaboration with other networks/programs

- **Summer schools** for PhD and Masters arranged together with International Network for Circumpolar Health Research (INCHR) and Public Health Master Program in Univ Alaska (Anchorage) and Master and PhD Program of Toxicology, May 2010 Copenhagen, June 2011 Oulu (13.-17.6.2011), August 2012 Fairbanks
- **Winter schools:** People in a changing world (Nordforsk), Oulu November 2010, Kautakeino 2011 and Abisko 2012 for PhD and Master students
- **Joint courses:** Scientific writing, Oulu September 2011, Nordic Public Health School (Gothenberg)





Thank you