

Institute for  
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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

# Polar Peoples: Migration and Population Change in the Arctic

Part of IERES's Arctic Working Group Series  
Co-Sponsored by the GW Department of Geography

*with*

**Timothy Heleniak**  
GW Department of Geography

There are just over four million people residing in the Arctic according to the definition of the Arctic used by the *Arctic Human Development Report*. These four million people live in a variety of different settlements ranging from small coastal villages where the local economy is based on subsistence hunting to large cities based on resource extraction. The different Arctic regions are composed of a combination of indigenous people who have lived in the region for millennia and outsiders who have migrated to the regions more recently. This talk examines historical patterns of migration in the Arctic, recent patterns of fertility and mortality and the ethnic, age, and gender composition of the Arctic regions. Special attention is given to the impact of migration because of its outsized influence on the small populations and settlements in the Arctic. The influence of economic factors, climate change, and the role of the state on migration and settlement patterns is examined in detail.

**Timothy Heleniak** is a Research Professor in the Department of Geography at GW. He is also the editor of the journal *Polar Geography*.

**Friday, March 28, 2014**  
**4:00 – 5:30 pm**  
**Conference Room 219**  
**Old Main Building, 1922 F Street, NW**  
**Please RSVP at <http://go.gwu.edu/arcticpeople>**  
*This event is on the record.*

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