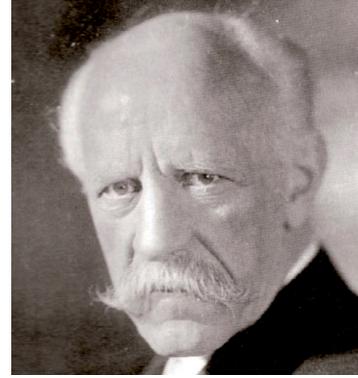


# Nansen Professorship in Arctic Studies



## A Visiting Professorship in Arctic studies at the University of Akureyri, Iceland

The University of Akureyri (Háskólinn á Akureyri) was founded in 1987 and is located in the capital of North Iceland, Akureyri. The University is presently divided into three Schools: School of Business and Science, School of Humanities and Social Sciences and School of Health Sciences. The number of students is around 1800 and permanent staff members are close to 180. The University has a well-established system for flexible studies via distance and on-line learning or through a network of learning centers located throughout Iceland. The University is especially prominent in research areas such as biotechnical-, marine- and social sciences and has for many years been active in research and education in the Arctic, including resource management in fisheries and research on global climate change.

Akureyri is the location of various Arctic institutions and initiatives such as the Stefansson Arctic Institute; the Polar Law Institute; Secretariats of the Arctic Council Working Groups PAME (Protection of Arctic Marine Environment) and CAFF (Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna); the Northern Research Forum; the University of Akureyri Research Centre; and the Arctic Cooperation Network.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs in Iceland and Norway signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in Akureyri, Iceland, which includes several aspects of cooperation in the field of Arctic scientific research, including the establishment of a Nansen Professorship in Arctic Studies at the University of Akureyri. In tribute to the famous Norwegian polar scientist and humanist - Fridtjof Nansen - the Professorship is referred to as the Nansen Professorship in Arctic Studies. The position is awarded each year for a twelve-month period to a leading scientist working with issues that bear on the legal, economic, social and natural circumstances in the Arctic.

The University seeks candidates interested in contributing a year to focus their research effort on issues in the Arctic. A successful candidate should currently hold an academic position (assistant, associate or full professor) and have a strong academic background in studies relevant to sustainable human development in the Arctic regions and/or climate change issues in the Arctic. The candidate should be experienced in working across disciplines with complex human-environmental-social issues and should have strong communicative and social/interpersonal skills. Research experience relating to the Arctic and a track of participation in international research networks will be necessary.

### Primary responsibilities will be the following:

(I) To contribute to research, teaching and further development of relevant programmes at the University of Akureyri, (II) to work closely with other researchers in furthering the northern research and teaching milieu at the University of Akureyri and contribute to the development of the University of the Arctic, (III) to give public lectures on Arctic issues in local, national and international fora and to participate in the contemporary debate on changes in the Arctic.

The level of compensation will be in line with prevailing salaries for professors at Icelandic state universities. A special travel fund will be available to facilitate the candidate's participation in relevant domestic and international networks and conferences. A housing and relocation grant will also be available for candidates with permanent residence outside Akureyri.

**The application deadline is July 1, 2015.** Formal period of employment starts on September 1, 2015; exact timing is subject to negotiations. Applicants can apply for a full academic year or one semester.

Applications should be sent in digital form to [nansen@unak.is](mailto:nansen@unak.is). There is no standard form used for the application but attached should be a detailed account of education and experience, research and teaching activities. The application should also include a detailed proposal for research activities during the period, a dissemination plan as well as other planned academic activities (field work, laboratory work or surveys, as an example). Applicants should also submit what they consider to be their foremost academic publications (up to ten publications). This can be achieved either by sending the publication documents attached to the application, or through a link to where they can be accessed in digital form. Applications and relevant documentation that are not submitted digitally should be sent to the office of the Rector of the University of Akureyri, Sólborg v/ Norðurslóð, 600 Akureyri, Iceland.

All applications will be answered when a decision concerning the successful candidate has been made. Insufficient applications will not be considered.

Enquiries concerning the post should be sent to [nansen@unak.is](mailto:nansen@unak.is).