How Time Flies!

With this issue, I end my term as editor of the Arctic Institute of North America’s journal Arctic. I shudder to think that it’s coming dangerously close to 30 years since I took over the editorship of the journal!

When I reflect back on my many years as editor of Arctic, a key point that stands out for me is the immense time and effort that the majority of reviewers willingly and freely expend in assisting with the manuscript review process. More often than not, I have been overwhelmingly impressed with the thoroughness and care that reviewers have shown in providing helpful suggestions to authors for improvement of their submissions, especially when reviewers are facing their own heavy teaching and research workloads. Without this assistance, we could not produce a quality scholarly journal. I’ve had the great fortune to work with some excellent editorial advisors, many of whom have reviewed or provided advice on multiple papers in one year. I’ve also been very fortunate to work with the same highly skilled copy editor and production editor (Luisa Alexander Izzo and Jeremy Drought, respectively) throughout my tenure as editor. Our authors have greatly benefited from Luisa’s skillful editing and focus on clarity and Jeremy’s ability to work wonders with complicated tables and digital figures that sometimes arrived in weird and wacky formats. We have appreciated the talents of our French translators, Nésida Loyer and Nicole Giguère, who were always willing to fast-track the French abstracts to us when we were running behind schedule. Our long-time printer representative, Ray Hignell, has worked wonders in finding us high-quality print shops, especially our current print shop, Imprimerie Gauvin in Gatineau, Quebec. I’ve also had the pleasure of working under several executive directors, all of whom have steadfastly supported the journal through the years. A huge thank you is owed to our administrative coordinator, Melanie Paulson, who does so much for the journal and is truly AINA’s indispensable factotum! I extend my deepest gratitude to all of my colleagues who have worked on making the journal Arctic the premier journal of northern scholarship in North America.

Finally, it is my great pleasure to introduce our readers to the incoming editor, Dr. Patricia (Patty) Wells. Patty joined the Arctic Institute of North America (AINA) through the University of Calgary’s Eyes High Postdoctoral Program in October 2015. Patty’s academic background is in archaeology, particularly zooarchaeology of Arctic Small Tool Tradition sites in Newfoundland and Labrador. At AINA, Patty was involved with a research project, funded by a grant from Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada to Executive Director Dr. Maribeth Murray, with the goal of understanding past changes in Arctic marine systems over the past 1000 years and the human responses to those changes. Patty’s role involved gathering climate information from historical documents, such as ship logs, journals of fur traders and explorers, as well as commercial whaling and sealing records. It’s been a great bonus to have Patty here at AINA to work with me over the past few months and learn the seemingly endless minutiae of journal work. I have every confidence that Arctic will thrive and continue to publish the results of northern scholarship for many more years under her capable editorship.

Karen McCullough
Editor, Arctic