The Polaris Project: Undergraduate Research Catalyzing Advances in Arctic Science

John D. Schade¹, Robert M. Holmes¹, Susan M. Natali¹, Paul J. Mann², Andrew G. Bunn³, Karen E. Frey⁴ ¹Woods Hole Research Center, Falmouth, MA, USA. ²Northumbria Univ, Newcastle, UK. ³Western Wash. Univ. Bellingham, WA, USA. ⁴Clark Univ, Worcester, MA, USA.

Objectives of the Polaris Project

- Train the next generation of Arctic scientists by creating a network of faculty and a pipeline of students who will be at the forefront of the arctic research community.
- Make fundamental scientific advances in our understanding of arctic ecosystems and how they respond to a changing climate.
- Communicate the importance of the Arctic to a broad and diverse public audience.



- We can achieve the right mix of uncertainty and guidance by providing a framework for the students to identify important and interesting questions and new frontiers.
- Undergraduate researchers have the potential to advance science, and contribute ideas born of a fresh perspective and new way of looking at the world.







What the students say:

The quality of mentors, how you develop your research from scratch, the life-long friends that you make during the program and the beautiful landscape that you encounter are just a few aspects of why I love this program.

This program confirmed to me that I want to study carbon emissions in the Arctic, and attend graduate school in Alaska in order to inform Alaska Native communities about the changes they are currently/will experience....

The Polaris Project is the most formative professional experience I've had. In addition to the amazing scientific opportunity, the people you'll meet will build you up as a scientist and person. My confidence grew exponentially over the summer as a result of the support of the Polaris team throughout the experience.









What we've accomplished together:

78 undergraduate researchers since 2008. 47 former students in or have completed graduate programs in environmental science.

79 presentations at international meetings with students as lead authors, 12 this year in sessions **B41I**, **PP31C**, **H43F** 15 journal articles with students authors >40 public presentations by students

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