

DATE: May 5, 2010
TO: IAMSLIC 2012 Conference Site Selection Committee
FROM: Daria O. Carle, Science Librarian, University of Alaska Anchorage
RE: Proposal for 2012 IAMSLIC Conference in Anchorage, AK

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a proposal to host the 2012 IAMSLIC Conference in Anchorage, Alaska. A PowerPoint presentation of this proposal is also available; many thanks to Paula Johnson, NOAA-NMFS, Auke Bay, AK for compiling the information in a visual format. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or need any additional information. My fellow Alaska librarians and I look forward to hosting you in Anchorage in 2012!

Local hosts:

Daria O. Carle, UAA Science Librarian afdloc@uaa.alaska.edu
Celia Rozen, Alaska Resources Library & Information Services (ARLIS) celia@arlis.org
Paula Johnson, NOAA-NMFS, Auke Bay, AK paula.johnson@noaa.gov
Other librarians from ARLIS (a special library co-located in the Consortium Library building), along with other librarians from UAA and the Anchorage area are willing to help with local arrangements.

Proposed dates:

August 26 – 30, 2012
September 9 – 13, 2012

Late August or early September dates are proposed to take advantage of events, activities, and venues that end by September 15th. Also, UAA's Fall Semester starts August 27, and demand for space on the campus will only increase as the semester progresses.

Meeting venue:

University of Alaska Anchorage, UAA / APU Consortium Library, Room 307
(There would no charge for IAMSLIC to use this facility.)

The room has a podium, ten tables, and chairs for 100 people. (Additional tables could be rented, if necessary.) There is a large projection screen and an LCD projector, with data and phone connections and a meeting convener available. Any additional equipment needed can be provided by the Consortium Library or UAA's Audio / Visual Services.

The Dean's Conference Room is available for Executive Council or smaller group meetings. The room has a large conference table and chairs for 30 people. There is a projection screen, data and phone connections, and a meeting convener available.

Two library instruction rooms with 16 and 30 computers, respectively, are available for smaller group meetings or for attendees to check email, etc. (Note: The fall semester will be underway (classes start August 27), so scheduled library instruction sessions have priority for these two rooms.)

There is also a gathering space on the third floor just outside of Room 307 for morning / afternoon breaks and lunches; poster sessions could be held in this area as well. A secure location to hold the Guin Silent Auction in another room in the library would be reserved.

Travel to the venue:

Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport is a major hub, providing flights to Anchorage from all over the world. Alaska Airlines provides frequent service to/from Anchorage with direct or connecting flights from most cities (2010 prices: Seattle \$500; San Francisco \$600; New York or Miami \$700). Most other major airlines offer flights to/from Anchorage through mid-September. Condor Airlines offers direct flights to/from Europe through the month of September (Frankfurt, Amsterdam \$1000 – \$1600). A group or conference discount with certain carriers could possibly be arranged for attendees.

Driving to Anchorage: The Alaska Highway traverses a vast wilderness in a remote expanse of North America on a mostly two-lane highway (i.e., no freeways). It's beautiful, but one must allow enough time to enjoy the scenery and be aware of where the next gas station is. Attendees planning to drive should consult The MILEPOST®, 'one of publishing's longest-running guides for one of North America's most famous roads.' www.milepost.com

A typical driving route would be:

Seattle, WA via Whitehorse, Yukon Territory to Anchorage 2500+ miles

Or, via Alaska Marine Highway:

Ferry from Seattle (Bellingham), WA to Haines, AK 3 days (1800 miles)

Drive from Haines, AK to Anchorage 720 miles

Accommodations:

SpringHill Suites Anchorage University Lake (Marriott) is a new hotel that opened in 2009 and is within a short walking distance (<10 minutes) of the Library and the UAA campus. There are 159 suites on three floors, and a group discount is available. Marriott can only book 350 days in advance, so a block of rooms for dates in 2012 cannot be reserved at this time. However, current rates for 2010 (non-discount) = \$199 / night (single or double room).

A free hot or cold continental breakfast is offered to hotel guests, along with a shuttle to/from the airport and to the UAA campus. See the attached fact sheet for more details about the hotel amenities:

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/fact-sheet/download/ancum-springhill-suites-anchorage-university-lake/>

Local transportation:

The SpringHill Suites Anchorage University Lake hotel has an airport shuttle. Shuttle service is also available between the hotel and the UAA campus. Taxicabs are readily available, and there is also a public transportation system (i.e., bus) in and around Anchorage.

Transportation for field trips:

UAA Transportation Services is available for \$60 – \$75 / hour (2 hour minimum) for vehicles that accommodate 20 – 30 people. Larger groups can be transported by vehicle operators contracted through UAA Fleet Services, or chartered separately for half- or all-day field trips.

Food:

SpringHill Suites offers a complimentary (hot or cold) breakfast buffet, and there are many local restaurants a short taxicab ride away for evening meals (\$15 – \$50+). See the Anchorage Restaurant Directory: <http://www.anchorage.net/671.cfm>

UAA Catering would provide food for morning / afternoon breaks and lunches.

Prices (as of April 2010):

Morning / Afternoon Breaks	
coffee / tea / punch	\$ 15 – \$ 25 / gallon
pastry / cookies / fresh fruit / etc	\$ 10 – \$ 25 / dozen
Lunches	
box lunches	\$ 10 – \$ 15 / person
luncheon salads	\$ 10 – \$ 20 / person
hot lunches	\$ 15 – \$ 25 / person

Welcome reception venue:

Space could be rented for the evening event at the newly refurbished and expanded Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center (\$200 – \$2000, depending on specific space needed). A new highlight at the Museum is 'Habitat,' a stainless steel structure (fabricated in Anchorage) by world-renowned British artist Antony Gormley, just recently installed as a public art sculpture on the Museum grounds. The availability of selected galleries to be open or evening entertainment featuring traditional music / dance could be arranged. <http://www.anchoragemuseum.org/>

Alternatively, the lobby of the Carr Gottstein Building on the Alaska Pacific University (APU) campus (also within <10 min walking distance of the hotel) is available for a reception type of event (\$150 / evening). The space includes a small art gallery as well. APU catering is available for the event, and a special permit is required to serve alcohol (alcohol is not supplied and must be purchased separately).

Banquet venue:

The Alaska SeaLife Center could be the site for the IAMSLIC banquet at the end of the all-day field trip to Seward (2.5 h south of Anchorage). The Center is Alaska's only public aquarium and ocean wildlife rescue center and this year (2010) is celebrating its ten year anniversary. The day would start with a half-day, sight-seeing cruise in Resurrection Bay, followed by a behind-the-scenes tour of the SeaLife Center (discount group package is available). IAMSLIC attendees could also tour the facilities

themselves and check out the gift shop before the banquet. Space is available for a sit-down banquet event in the 'Underwater Viewing' area for \$300 / hour (2 hour minimum). <http://www.alaskasealife.org/>

Registration / Tickets:

Online registration, printing of tickets for events, etc., would be provided by the RegOnline Committee using IAMSLIC's RegOnline account. If needed, UAA Conference Services is available to provide assistance for any additional items not included in RegOnline.

Speakers:

Science faculty from UAA and APU, as well as scientists from Anchorage-based state and/or federal natural resource agencies affiliated with ARLIS, would be guest speakers or provide the daily keynote address.

A sample of potential speakers and their respective areas of specialization:

UAA Faculty: Jennifer Burns (marine mammals); Douglas Causey (seabirds); Sarah Gerken (oceanography); Dave Pfeiffer (marine mammal physiology); Frank von Hippel (sticklebacks)

APU Faculty: Leslie Cornick (marine biology); David Scheel (Pacific octopus); Ana Širović (bioacoustics in marine mammals)

State and Federal Agencies: Scientists from the Alaska Dept of Fish & Game; NOAA/NMFS; U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; U.S. Geological Survey, all of whom specialize in wildlife populations in Alaska

Field trip options (more choices always possible):

Day trip to Seward (2.5 h south of Anchorage) including a visit to the Alaska SeaLife Center (if not chosen as the banquet venue) and a half-day, sight-seeing cruise in Resurrection Bay. Discount group package is available. <http://www.alaskasealife.org/>

Day trip with Alaska River Rafting on the Matanuska River north of Anchorage or class V whitewater trips on Six Mile Creek south of Anchorage. Both trips are 1.5 h from Anchorage; group discounts are available. <http://www.alaskanrafting.com/>

Half day trip to the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center (if not chosen as the welcome reception location). Group discounts are available. <http://www.anchoragemuseum.org/>

Half day trip to the Alaska Native Heritage Center. Group discounts are available. <http://www.alaskanative.net/en/home>

Other activities:

- Visiting Anchorage's many art galleries
 - featuring local arts and crafts of all sorts
- Tasting local brews
 - according to beerfestivals.org, Alaska lays claim to more breweries per capita than any other state
- Hiking in Chugach State Park
 - 3rd largest state park in the entire U.S. at 0.5 million acres

- Golfing
 - more than five golf courses available in the Anchorage area
- Enjoying local music
 - Anchorage has lots of funky pubs, themed bars, and dance halls
- Birding
 - over 150 species of birds have been spotted in the Anchorage area
- Fishing
 - access to world-class sport fishing with salmon, rainbow trout and more right in the city, and halibut and all five species of salmon within a day's drive or short flight away
- And much more: <http://www.anchorage.net/> The list is endless!