



The Arctic Institute of North America presents the 2016-17

Arctic Speaker Series

Arctic Journeys in a Changing Climate, 1590-1650

Who: Dagomar Degroot	Date: Nov. 9, 2016	Time: 4:00 – 5:00 pm	Location: University of Calgary; Science A 106
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The climate of the Northern Hemisphere cooled in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, as solar activity declined and volcanic eruptions released sulfur into the atmosphere. Yet at the same time, European adventurers started exploring and exploiting the Arctic as they never had before. Voyages that began as attempts to find a quicker route to Asia ended up discovering resources in the ice that encouraged the growth of new industries. In this lecture, Professor Dagomar Degroot of Georgetown University reveals what the journals written by Arctic explorers can tell us about the history of climate change in the far north. He then explains how the occasionally peculiar, local

consequences of global climate changes helped shape European journeys through the Arctic. These histories offer new perspectives on the challenges of a warmer future at the poles and beyond.

Biography: Dagomar Degroot is a Professor at Georgetown University. He bridges the humanities and the sciences to investigate how people confront changes in the natural world. He is an expert on the history of climate change; the environmental causes and consequences of war; and interdisciplinary methodology. He is passionate about using public and digital histories to break the barriers that too often separate academics from the public.

In his articles and conference papers, Professor Degroot finds examples of human resilience in the face of climate changes caused by human and natural forces, from the sixteenth century to the present. His ongoing projects trace the human consequences of seventeenth-century cooling in the Arctic; investigate connections between climate change and conflict; and identify social responses to environmental changes in outer space.

He is the founder and director of HistoricalClimatology.com, a website that receives more than 200,000 hits annually. He is the co-founder and co-director of the Climate History Network. He hosts the Climate History Podcast, is the secretary of the International Consortium of Environmental History Organizations, and is on the steering committee of the War and Environment Network.

This event is **free and open to the public**

There will be a reception in the AINA offices (ES-1040) immediately following the presentation

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