



As/of 9 March 2021

PANEL INSTRUCTIONS

ASLS21 is supported by moderators from the following organizations:



In support of U.S. Northern Command's Arctic Security and Defense Mission

Alaskan Command hosts

Arctic Senior Leader Summit 2021 (ASLS21)

A Virtual Summit on Arctic Security and Defense

University of Alaska
10-11 March 2021



Introduction.



In support of United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), Alaskan Command (ALCOM) (a subordinate unified command reporting to USNORTHCOM) is hosting **Arctic Senior Leader Summit 2021** (ASLS21) via a virtual event on 10 March 2021.

ASLS21 will be a half-day of keynote presentations by current Department of Defense (DoD) leaders and a focused set of panels addressing current and emerging challenges, risks, and opportunities affecting Arctic region Security and Defense interests. The purpose of ASLS21 Plenary is to gain insights of new and existing Arctic leaders on the current and emerging defense and security policies & priorities of the Arctic region. Note, there will be a subsequent military crisis response tabletop exercise on 11 March 2021.

The following is the planning guidance for ASLS21 panel moderators and panelists.

Overall guidance:

Generally, following brief introductions by panel moderators, (who are asked to refrain from reading biographies/biography summaries...as these are published for symposium participants) all panels are arranged for opening views and discussions planned and prepared by the panelists. Accordingly, **ASLS21 planners respectfully request moderators and speakers to consider the following:**

- **Very minimum slides/viewgraphs.** For Plenary panels, we prefer *little to no slides*. For Keynote speakers and plenary panels, ASLS21 Planners will provide a chart of the Arctic presented as a backdrop for presenters who wish to not use slides. For multiple member plenary panels, if slides are used, planners request 1-3 viewgraphs be the target range, and request no more than 5 slides per panel presenter.
- **Style of presentation...Informative and conversational.** Planners wish to encourage discussion and dialogue...and provide the opportunity for questions from participants.
- **Desired content of presentation...fact laden and practically focused:** ASLS planners wish for presenters to relay what they know and what they think. Each presenter at ASLS21 has exceptionally knowledgeable...and each presenter has unique and valuable insights. Planners wish participants listen and learn from what each presenter knows and thinks about the panel topic.
 - ASLS21 planners do not wish the panel title be too much a constraint...but serve as a guide of what we wish for panelists to consider in reflecting their understandings and insights.
 - Planners are requested to focus less on aspirations...of what we wish the Arctic to become and focus more on the contours of the Arctic which is presenting itself in the near and mid-term time horizon.
 - Please consider the overall changing geostrategic trends of the Arctic. While noting these changes, we also challenge presenters to think about fine scale



aspects and avoid too much generalization, which can possibly lead to mischaracterization.

- Presenters should focus less on what would be considered partisan or political...the symposium is about practical measures which protect citizens, identifying and recognizing gaps and shortfalls in responding day to day and in crisis...and learning more.
 - Presenters are requested to relay real experiences and provide practical assessments.
 - Presenters are requested to focus more as well in securing respective national interests, while considering the changes now underway in and across the Arctic.
 - Finally, for plenary presenters are requested to speak more about what they know and think...and less about what their organization does.
- **Panelists are asked to consider using a “Ted (style) Talk” approach.** Here’s a site to consider in preparing for the panels: <https://whatis.techtarget.com/definition/TED-talk>
 - **Supporting Power point Presentations:** Please email any powerpoint presentations to uaa.adac@alaska.edu with cc copy to rakee@alaska.edu and ematthews@alaska.edu no later than close of business, 5 March 2021.

Specific guidance considerations for respective presentations (to follow):

ASLS21 Panel #1: U.S. Federal and military policy and analysis leaders. “Reducing risk and increasing safety and security of the North American Arctic...addressing national, allied and partner needs.” A panel of distinguished U.S. Government leaders who shape policy, strategy and/or direct activities that influence U.S. national interests emanating within or through the Arctic region. Panelists are asked to describe from their current position and/or recent experience, their near- and medium-term view of challenges, concerns, needs, and opportunities as relates to U.S. and associated allied and partner security risks, to include environmental security concerns. Panelists will consider comparing and contrasting views of policy/policy priorities to address U.S. national interests in the Arctic in light of demands, concerns, and corresponding interests from other regions.

Moderator: Dr. Mike Sfraga, Director, Polar Institute, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington D.C. (Confirmed)

Desired panel discussion: Key policy leaders address their concerns and ideas that may help to address what is perceived by many of an Arctic region now vulnerable to great power competition and a changing Arctic region as a result of increasing warming temperatures that are exceeding predictive models and indicate greatly reduced summer ice extents years ahead of prior estimates.



Desired panel outcomes: Compared and contrasted views of policy/policy priorities addressing the changing physical and human terrain of the Arctic region as relates to addressing and improving U.S. National and allied/partner security and defense interests in the Arctic.

ASLS21 Panel #2: Arctic Indigenous leaders. *“Reflections on Arctic Security Challenges from a Millennia of Arctic Insights:”* A panel of Arctic Indigenous leaders, who relate their informed perspectives of changing Arctic security...from changes in the Arctic environment to economic and geostrategic security.

Moderator: Dr. Liza Mack, Executive Director, Aleut International Association, Anchorage, AK. (Confirmed)

Desired panel discussion: Alaska Native and other Arctic Indigenous leaders address their perspectives of **near and emerging concerns from a “citizen security” vantage.**

Desired panel outcomes: Arctic Indigenous leader’s views of policy/policy priorities as relates to addressing and improving U.S. National plus allies and partners security and defense interests in the Arctic.

ASLS21 Panel #3. U.S. Arctic military allies and partner leaders. *“America’s Arctic Allies and partners: assessing changes on the horizon of the High North.”* As environmental changes continue across the pan-Arctic region and the rise of non-Arctic national activities and associated sovereign presence continues to develop, what is driving defense and security strategy, plans, and policies in/across the Arctic?

Moderator: Dr. Whitney Lackenbauer, Network Lead, North American and Arctic Defense and Security Network (NAADSN), Trent University, Ontario. (Confirmed)

Desired panel discussion: Defense and security members of the Canadian and European region Arctic-oriented NATO allies and partners describe their current position on what is driving the defense and security strategy, planning, and policies of their respective capitals. Included in the discussion are reflections on the environmental impacts of a warming Arctic.

Desired panel outcomes: A brief discussion of the strategic defense and security insights by U.S. allies and partners oriented on the Arctic.

Conclusion

The above guidance is respectfully suggested and recommended to support the speakers and panelists for ASLS21 ADAC remains at the ready to assist any and all speakers in preparing and conducting their presentations.

