



# Nieuwsbrief 41

## januari 2016

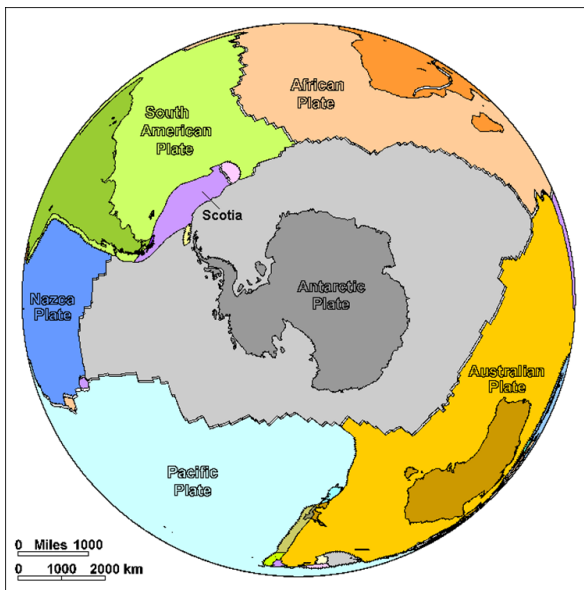
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### Plaattektoniek rondom Antarctica

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*Tom J.A. Reijers*

Het op twee na kleinste en enige onbewoonde continent Antarctica is staatkundig niet verdeeld. Over de ligging ervan werd al vroeg gespeculeerd. Het is in de 16e eeuw vermoedelijk voor het eerst waargenomen (door een Nederlander) en pas vanaf eind 19e eeuw verkend. De geografie ervan is geleidelijk aan beter bekend geworden. De laatste decennia is het gebied beperkt open voor toerisme. Wereldwijd is afgesproken dat er geen exploitatie van grondstoffen zal plaatsvinden, minstens tot 2048. Verdere verkenning van Antarctica werd een van de doelstellingen van het Internationale Geofysische jaar 1957- 58. Een andere doelstelling was het verkennen van de zeebodem die toen nog grotendeels onbekend was. Uit dat laatste kwam het fenomeen “plaattektoniek” voort, nu wereldwijd bevestigd. Door de geïsoleerde ligging van Antarctica en de beperkte toegankelijkheid ervan duurde het lang voor de plaattektoniek van dit continent enigszins bekend werd. Het onderzoek gaat nog steeds door.



De stand van zaken van de huidige kennis wordt in deze lezing gepresenteerd.

Tom Reijers heeft als geoloog en als reis- en expeditiebegeleider alle werelddelen bezocht en in veel landen gewoond. Tijdens zijn loopbaan bij Shell International was hij werkzaam als exploratie- en research geoloog; hij was ook docent aardwetenschappen. Hij was actief betrokken bij onderzoek naar en oliewinning in de noordelijke Noordzee, Noord-Canada.

- Wanneer** 25 januari 2016
- Hoe laat** 19:30 uur
- Waar** Arctisch Centrum, A-weg 30 (ingang Herman Colleniusstraat)
- Toegang** € 2,00; studenten € 1,00

## Komende Imaka-activiteiten

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### 29 februari 2016

Scriptiepresentatie: drie studenten van de minor Arctische en Antarctische Studies presenteren hun scriptie.

### 21 maart 2016

Jeroen Reneerkens over zijn onderzoek naar drieteenstrandlopers.

### 25 april 2016

Fokje Schaafsma over *Leven onder het ijs* (werktitel)

### 30 mei 2016

Tekke Terpstra over *Inuit buiten de Arctis*, door Tekke Terpstra (onder voorbehoud).

### juni 2016

Mogelijk een bezoek aan het depot van de Universiteitsmuseum

## Literatuur

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### Terug uit de witte hel



#### *Hoe poolreiziger Sjef van Dongen een nationale held werd*

Spitsbergen, 1928. De jonge Nederlander Sjef van Dongen begeeft zich met een hondenslee op het smeltende poolijs. Zijn doel: het redden van de Italiaanse generaal Umberto Nobile en zijn bemanning die op het ijs vastzitten. Meer dan honderd journalisten volgen vanaf Spitsbergen deze grootste reddingsoperatie uit de poolgeschiedenis.

Als hij terugkeert in Nederland, staat een enorme menigte de poolreiziger op te wachten.

Adwin de Kluuyver verweeft op knappe wijze de persoonlijke geschiedenis van Sjef van Dongen met de cultuur-geschiedenis van het heldendom en het grotere verhaal van Nederland tijdens het interbellum – een tijd waarin ons land wel een nationale held kon gebruiken. Het boek levert een kritische benadering van dat heldendom.

Adwin de Kluuyver (1968) is historicus en journalist. Hij was chef van de cultuurredactie van de Leeuwarder Courant en schreef voor het Algemeen Dagblad talloze buitenlandreportages. Aan de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen specialiseerde hij zich in de cultuurgeschiedenis van poolreizen. Voor de VPRO maakte hij een tweedelige radiodocumentaire over de ramp met het luchtschip Italia.

Adwin de Kluuyver *Terug uit de witte hel. Hoe poolreiziger Sjef van Dongen een nationale held werd*. Uitgeverij Balans, Amsterdam. ISBN 978-94-600-3074-1. € 18,95.

### Sami languages disappear

by *Thomas Nilsen*

The world's smallest language, Ter Sami is only spoken by two persons. Also, Ume Sami and Pite Sami will not last long.

According to Pravda, there are only two people left speaking Ter Sami, a Sami dialect spoken in villages in the eastern part of the Kola Peninsula. In the end of the 19th century, there were six Ter Sami villages, with a several hundred inhabitants. Now, there are some 100 ethnic Ter Sami in the area, of whom only two elderly persons speak the original languages. The rest have shifted to Russian. The Sami languages are also challenged in the southern part of the Barents Region. In Sweden there are only some 10 people who can still speak the Ume Sami, traditionally a Sami language spoken on the course of the Ume River.

Also Pite Sami, traditionally spoken on both the Norwegian and Swedish side of the border in the Arjeplog area, is a dying language. According to Wikipedia, there are only some twenty native speakers left and only on the Swedish side of the border. In Finland, a severe lack of teachers could threaten the future of Sami people in the north, YLE News reports this week.

A study carried out at the University of Oulu says that an investment is needed in training Sami language teachers and other educators who speak the language. It suggests that teacher training be organized at one of the universities in the north of the country and in Sami-speaking areas. It calls for special attention to be given to the future of the languages spoken by the Inari Sami and the Skolt Sami, YLE News reports.

Bron: <http://barentsobserver.com/en/sections/society/sami-languages-disappears> (19-02-2010)

### Vikings' mysterious abandonment of Greenland was not due to climate change - study suggest

*Chris Mooney*

*The Washington Post, 07-12-2015*

It has often been cited as one of the classic examples of how changes in climate have shaped human history.

Circa the year 985, Erik the Red led 25 ships from Iceland to Greenland, launching a Norse settlement there and giving the vast ice continent the name "Greenland." Within just a few decades, the Norse – sometimes also dubbed Vikings – would make it to Newfoundland as well. They maintained settlements of up to a few thousand people in southwest Greenland for several centuries, keeping livestock and hunting seals, building churches whose ruins still stand today, and sending back valuable walrus tusks and other prizes for trade – until, that is, these settlements were abandoned by the mid-1400s.

Climate change has often been cited as key element to this story – the basic notion being that the Vikings colonized Greenland in an era dubbed the "Medieval Warm Period," which ran roughly from 950 to 1250, but then were forced to abandon their Greenland settlements as temperatures became harsher in the "Little Ice Age," from about 1300 to 1850. Yet in a new study published Friday in *Science Advances*, researchers raise doubts about whether the so-called Medieval Warm Period was really so warm in southern Greenland or nearby Baffin Island – suggesting that the tale of the Vikings colonizing but then abandoning Greenland due to climatic changes may be too simplistic. Their evidence? New geological data on the extent of glaciers in the region at the time, finding that during the era when the Norse occupied the area, glaciers were almost as far advanced as they were during the subsequent Little Ice Age.



*This 2011 aerial file photo shows the edge of the Greenland ice sheet, right, adjacent to a series of lakes in central Greenland. A newly published study on the climate of medieval Greenland upends a simple narrative that climate forced Viking settlers to abandon settlements there during the "Little Ice Age." Brennan Linsley / AP 2011.*

"This study suggests that while the Vikings may have left Iceland when it was relatively warm, they arrived in the Baffin Bay region, and it was relatively cool," said Nicolás Young, a professor at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University and lead author of the study, which was conducted with three colleagues from Columbia and the University at Buffalo. "So for their initial settlement, and the first few centuries when they were there, they persisted and thrived somewhat during a relatively cool climate. And so it's sort of a stretch to say that a cool climate is what drove them out of the region, when they demonstrated that they could be somewhat successful during a cool climate."

Recent research has promoted a more multi-causal understanding of these events, one in which the Vikings of Greenland showed considerable ability to adapt to changing climates and conditions -- including by greatly increasing their dependence on hunting seal -- but also faced a variety of 14th- and 15th-century challenges. Some may have been partly climatic, but at the same time, there were also signs of growing conflict with the Inuit in the region, and also decreasing returns from the trade in walrus tusks and polar bears, thanks to economic shifts back in Europe.

Voor het complete artikel: <http://www.adn.com/article/20151207/vikings-mysterious-abandonment-greenland-was-not-due-climate-change-study-suggests>

Voor het achterliggende onderzoek: <http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/1/11/e1500806.full>

## Arctic University in Murmansk

*by Arina Ulyanova*

**With the Arctic becoming an object of steadily growing attention, Murmansk Oblast establishes the *Arctic University* to prepare Barents students for jobs in Arctic oil and gas projects.**

The first news about the establishment of the Arctic University appeared in the local media last autumn, when the government had created a special working group. Today, the topic is being actively discussed both on the regional, national and international level.

The Arctic University will reportedly offer unique resources: more than six hundred professors and teachers, and more than twenty groups of higher education majors. A base for the Arctic University will be the present Murmansk State Humanities University. "This will help to create a "super university" with more than twelve thousand students, covering virtually the entire spectrum of professional training needed for realization of Arctic projects", writes the government of Murmansk Oblast in a press release. In September 2015, the head of the Russian Ministry of Education and Science, Dmitriy Livanov, supported the initiative; and a few weeks ago, the issue was discussed at a meeting between the governor of Murmansk Oblast, Marina Kovtun, and Vladimir Putin.

"Getting support from the President will be the starting point in the establishment of the Arctic University with twelve thousand students. The aim of our new personnel policy is to ensure that young Northerners are employed in Arctic oil and gas projects. I am sure that with the establishment of the Arctic University we will reach this goal," Kovtun recently stated in the regional government's daily briefing.

From October 26, the Murmansk State Humanities University is officially called the "Murmansk Arctic State University". From now on, the university expects great changes, said the SeverPost incumbent principal of the Murmansk Arctic State University, Irina Shadrina. In addition, she said that the Kola branch of the Petrozavodsk State University, and the Hibiny Technical College, will join the university. It has also been reported about a possible joining of the Murmansk State Technical University to the Arctic University.

bron: <http://barentsobserver.com/en/society/2015/11/murmansk-opens-arctic-super-university-06-11>

## Websites

### ***Deelnemen aan poolonderzoek***

Wilt u zelf deelnemen aan poolonderzoek, maar dan vanuit huis? Dat kan via de website <http://www.penguinwatch.org/>

### ***Onderzoek naar bultruggen***

Heeft u op uw reis in de poolgebieden of ergens anders bultruggen gezien en daar foto's van? Dan kunt u uw steentje bijdragen aan onderzoek door de foto's te uploaden via de website <http://www.happywhale.com>