

Thanks for all the fish? Resource management and regional development in post-crash Iceland

Internet presentation and discussion with

Anna Karlsdóttir and Karl Benediktsson
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Tuesday, June 21, 2011 from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm NL time

William F. Summers Room (SN 2000), Science Building, MUN campus or via the Internet.

Those joining the presentation and discussion via the Internet will require a computer connected to the Internet; high-speed connectivity is preferred but not necessary.

Register early for the webinar, as you will need to download software ahead of the session in order to view the presentation and post questions/comments.

Deadline for registration is June 17th. Janet Oliver (joliver@mun.ca) or 864-7551.

The fishery resource is once again at the centre of Icelandic politics. The country is searching for a more equitable and sustainable model of resource development to replace the model that culminated in the spectacular bank crash in late 2008.

The presenters will first outline the neoliberal economic transformation that took place in Iceland in the 1990s and 2000s. They will pay special attention to the contribution of Iceland's ITQ fisheries management system to the financial bubble economy that came to dominate Iceland in the new millennium. The regional implications of the ITQ system will also be discussed.

The second part of the presentation will focus on political and regional developments since late 2008 including ongoing attempts by the current government to reform the fisheries management system. Among other things, these attempts have included the re-establishment of open-access coastal fishing and the gradual recall of ITQs by the state. At the heart of the often heated debates about fisheries management are questions related to resource rent and social justice.

The presentation will conclude with a discussion of future issues. Among the Icelandic public, there is a shared conviction that many aspects of Iceland's economic and political life need to be greatly altered. Some changes are already underway including the rewriting of the country's constitution but, in some respects, radical change seems unlikely.

Anna Karlsdóttir is Assistant Professor and Program Coordinator in Geography and Tourism Studies, University of Iceland. Her research interests include the effects of globalization on fishery community transitions in the North Atlantic region, particularly in Iceland. She also studies the gendered division of labour in rural areas and small coastal communities.



Karl Benediktsson is Professor of Human Geography. His research interests include rural and regional development, mobility issues, conservation and politics of nature, and landscape phenomenology. Publications include the books *Harvesting Development* (2002) and *Conversations with Landscape* (co-editor, 2010), as well as papers in several scholarly journals.