



SCIENCE & POLICY EXCHANGE
DIALOGUE SCIENCES & POLITIQUES

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Students & Science Diplomacy

Diplomacy and international collaborations are key components of public policy. Grand challenges such as global health, climate change, and changing geography in the Arctic, outline a need for science and evidence in diplomatic discussions. Many organizations in Canada are engaged in various forms of science diplomacy. For example, Québec has been proactive in its discussions of science diplomacy, including discussions sparked by the Chief Scientist of Québec Remi Quirion during the 85th Acfas Congress and the 30th Entretiens Jacques-Cartier in 2017. These discussions notably outlined the importance of engaging students in the diplomatic process. (see reports published by SPE in [English](#) and [French](#)).

As an entirely student-run organization, the central aim of Science & Policy Exchange is to bring a student voice to science policy matters at the territorial, provincial, federal, and international levels. To shed light on the role of students in science diplomacy, we have organized a two-day event in collaboration with the Fonds de Recherche du Québec (FRQ) and the Center for Science Diplomacy at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

What's in it for me?

Selected students (between 18-35 years) will participate in a simulated negotiation on May 16th as "delegates" representing different countries that are part of the Arctic Council. The students will also be invited to attend expert panel discussions on May 17th, and participate in an exclusive networking session.

This is a unique opportunity to learn about science diplomacy, gain practical experience, network with leaders in the field, and find out what different countries are doing to foster the role of students in science diplomacy.



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sciencediplomacy@sp-exchange.ca | www.sp-exchange.ca



Event details

When: May 16th-17th, 2018

Location: McGill University / Hotel OMNI, Montreal, QC

Format: May 16th, 2018* - from 9am to 6pm

Public forum “[Negotiating the Arctic: a Science Diplomacy Perspective](#)”, followed by a student workshop “[When the Science is Not Enough: an Arctic Council Negotiation Simulation](#)”, in collaboration with Dr. Melody Burkins from Dartmouth College

*Student participants are required to attend a mandatory information session on May 2nd (9am-noon)

May 17th, 2018** - from 1pm to 5pm (cocktail reception 5pm-7pm)

Panel discussions: “Students as Stakeholders in Science Diplomacy: Outlook for Today and Tomorrow”. Students will be invited to attend, ask informed questions, and will have the opportunity to network with the panelists, diplomats, and other policy experts during coffee break and reception

**Student participants are expected to actively participate in the panel discussions, and are highly encouraged to ask informed questions based on their experiences from the simulation

Cost: \$30 (including coffee and lunch on May 16th, plus cocktail reception on May 17th)

Confirmed Speakers

Dr. Paul Berkman (Professor of Practice in Science Diplomacy, Tufts University)

Dr. Melody Brown Burkins (Associate Director for Programs and Research, The John Sloan Dickey Centre, Dartmouth College)

Dr. Masha Cemna (Policy Advisor at the Office of Canada’s Chief Science Advisor)

Dr. Martha Crago (Vice Principal of Research & Innovation, McGill University)

Dr. Louis Fortier (Professor, Université Laval)

Dr. Rees Kassen (Research Chair in Experimental Evolution, University of Ottawa)

Dr. Jan Marco Muller (Science to Policy and Diplomacy Coordinator, IIASA)

Dr. Angela Nuliyok-Rudolph (Policy Advisor, Polar Knowledge Canada)

Dr. Rémi Quirion (Chief Scientist of Quebec)

Dr. Tom Wang (Director, Centre for Science Diplomacy, AAAS)



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Application Instructions

Application Deadline: Friday April 6th, 2018 at 17:00 EDT

Answer the following questions within the indicated word limit: Save completed changes as a Microsoft Word document with the file name: **firstname_lastname_application** and submit it along with a **curriculum vitae** (maximum 2 pages) saved as **firstname_lastname_CV** to sciencediplomacy@sp-exchange.ca

1. Provide examples of your engagement in society at large (e.g., involvement in science policy, science communication, public/school events, engagement with industry/ NGOs). How will these experiences help you bring a unique perspective to the table? (300 words Max)
2. Explain your short- and long-term career goals. How will your participation in the workshop help you to achieve them? (300 words Max)
3. Do you believe students could play an important role in science diplomacy? Please explain your answer. (300 words Max)
4. Should Canada develop a science diplomacy strategy? If so, how and why should it be linked to the country's overall G7 Summit priorities in 2018 ([listed here](#))? (300 words Max)



Applicant Survey

Please copy the below section into your application document and indicate your answers.

Gender: Male | Female | Other (specify) | Prefer not to answer

Nationality: Canadian | Permanent Resident | Other (specify)

Date of Birth*: _____ *note that only students aged 18-35 will be considered

Are you interested in volunteering* on May 17th? Yes | No *e.g. registration desk, clean-up

The following questions will ask if you self-identify as a member of various groups. Answering these questions is optional and you can choose all items that apply to you. The information will not be used as part of the selection process. We collect self-identification information for an accurate understanding of equity representation of under-representing groups (under-represented groups include those identified in the federal Employment Equity Act – women, visible minorities, Indigenous peoples, and persons with disabilities).

The information provided here will be kept confidential and stored in a secure location. The collected self-identification data is only reported or shared in aggregate (individual data combined to create one collective number. This protects privacy). Additional information on the following topics is provided: privacy, benefits of self-identification, definitions of gender, Indigenous ancestry, persons with disabilities, and visible minority groups. You are given option to opt-out, if you wish to not disclose this information.

Confidentiality: The collected self-identification data will be reported in aggregate. No individualized data will be reported.

Information on Privacy: The responses that you provide in the questionnaire will be kept confidential and stored in a secure location.

Self-identification information will be used only for purposes related to government reporting and to help guide program planning and support for an accurate understanding of equity representation of under-representing groups. Any information reported to the government or other parties will be shared in aggregate. No individualized data will be provided.

Benefits of Self-Identification: This will improve and enhance specific programming and services, connect you with additional opportunities through SPE activities, and improve connections with the SPE network. Any questions or concerns that you have may regarding self-identification can be directed to sciencediplomacy@sp-exchange.ca.

Do you identify as an indigenous person*? Yes | No | I prefer not to answer

* An Indigenous person in Canada, as recognized in the Constitution Act, 1982, is a person who identifies with First Nations (Status/Non-Status), Métis or Inuit cultural, and/or ancestry background.

If yes, are you interested in being considered for travel funding from Polar Knowledge Canada*? Yes | No

*Polar Knowledge Canada has agreed to help fund the travel for indigenous participants to take part in our Arctic simulation. Top candidates from the pool of individuals answering “Yes” will be selected based on the four application questions on the previous page, and will be contacted if selected.

Do you identify as a visible minority*? Yes | No | I prefer not to answer

* A visible minority refers to whether a person belongs to a visible minority group as defined by the Canadian Employment Equity Act. The Employment Equity Act defines visible minorities as "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour". The visible minority population consists mainly of the following groups: South Asian, Chinese, Black, Filipino, Latin American, Arab, Southeast Asian, West Asian, Korean and Japanese.

Do you identify as a person with a disability*? Yes | No | I prefer not to answer

A person with disability generally refers to those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which, in interaction with various attitudinal and environmental barriers, hinders their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.