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SCIENCE PLAN 11 AND INCLUDING ARCTIC COMMUNITIES IN RESEARCH: WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SINCE ICARP II?

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Science Plan 11 was to be one of the main documents of ICARP II. Its main objective was to describe how to ensure Arctic science was seen as being in the public interest. The University of the Arctic took the lead in organizing a network of researchers and community partners who took on the responsibility of producing the original draft of this report. Initially the report was seen by some as having as its main objective to determine what were the best ways to sell Arctic science to the general public. Very quickly the researchers and regional representatives re-formulated the objectives into finding out how Arctic science could best respond to the needs of Arctic peoples. The key hypothesis became that Arctic science needed to find new and innovative ways of including northern communities in the various stages of research. This included a variety of suggestions on how researchers and communities could co-design and co-produce research. The report was strongly endorsed by leaders of the Arctic science community but as was the case with many of the products of ICARP II, its work became overshadowed by research linked to the International Polar Year. This presentation discusses the initial circumstances surrounding the writing of Science Plan 11, looks at its impact over the past 10 years, and considers future prospects for its main ideas.