



UArctic Assembly Meeting / Bodø, Norway / June 2024

## Agenda item: 10

### Proposal – Election of Assembly Officers

**Proposal:** The Nominations Committee proposes that the Assembly makes the following decision:

- a) Assembly elects **Liisa Holmberg** as Chair of the Assembly of UArctic for a three-year term (2024-27), effective following the conclusion of this meeting.
- b) Assembly elects **Jason Young** as Vice-Chair of the Assembly of UArctic for a three-year term (2024-27), effective following the conclusion of this meeting.

**References:** [UArctic Constitution](#) / Article 8 – Association Assemblies

[UArctic Bylaws](#) / Sections: 3.1.2 – Officers of the Assembly; 3.1.6 – Nominations Committee

[Nomination letter – Jason Young](#)

[CV - Jason Young](#)

### **Current terms of Assembly Officers:**

**Lindsay Whaley**

**Assembly Chair**

[Dartmouth College](#), USA

1<sup>st</sup> term (as Chair) 2022-24

**Liisa Holmberg**

**Assembly Vice-Chair**

[International Sámi Film Institute](#), Norway

1<sup>st</sup> term 2022-24

**Lena Maria Nilsson**

**Assembly Secretary**

[Umeå University](#), Sweden

2<sup>nd</sup> term 2022-25

### **Background:**

The terms of Assembly Chair *Lindsay Whaley* and Assembly Vice-Chair *Liisa Holmberg* will end in this Assembly meeting. The Nominations Committee discussed different strategies in filling these positions. In their discussions, the Committee considered the balance of maintaining the continuity and also bringing in new people in the Assembly Officer positions. The Committee also noted the importance of staggering the Officer terms in a way, that the entire leadership would never change at the same time.

The Nominations Committee decided to nominate **Liisa Holmberg** as the Assembly Chair for a three-year term, and organize an open call to find a new person in the position of Assembly Vice-Chair. The Committee got one nomination – Dr. **Jason Young** of the University of Washington. The Committee nominated him in the position of Assembly Vice-Chair for a three-year term.



Note: The nomination letter states the nomination of Jason Young for the position of the Secretary of the Assembly. This was due to miscommunication, and the University of Washington has confirmed their support to the vacant Vice-Chair position (instead of Secretary) by email.

**Rationale:**

UARctic Constitution, 8 Article – Association Assemblies:

*The Assembly shall have three officers (Officers of the Assembly), a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. The Assembly elects the officers for a three-year term, renewable once, and each term continues until the third annual Assembly after the election.*

UARctic Bylaws, section 3.1.2 – Officers of the Assembly:

*The officers of the Assembly are the Chair, the Vice-Chair, and the Secretary.*

*The officers are elected by the Assembly from slates of nominees prepared by the Nominations Committee. Nominations may also be made by any member of the Assembly at any meeting in which an election takes place. Candidates must come from the ranks of member representatives and alternate representatives. Officers are elected for a three-year term, renewable once. The officers of the Assembly are responsible for preparing action items for the Assembly and overseeing that decisions made by the Assembly are implemented.*

*The Assembly Chair*

*The Assembly Chair shall preside over meetings of the Assembly. The Chair works with the Executive Director of UARctic (henceforth President) to ensure that the UARctic International Secretariat circulates the agenda and the texts of proposals at least one month prior to regular Assembly meetings.*

*The Assembly Vice-Chair*

*The Assembly Vice-Chair is authorized to act on behalf of the Assembly Chair whenever the Chair is unable to represent UARctic.*

*The Assembly Secretary*

*The Assembly Secretary participates in the preparations of Assembly proposals. Should both the Assembly Chair and the Assembly Vice-Chair be unable to assume a duty, the Secretary is authorized to act on behalf of the Chair.*

UARctic Bylaws, section 3.1.6 – Nominations Committee:

*The main responsibility of the Committee is to oversee UARctic's key nominations processes, including: - -*

*Nominating member representatives or alternates for Assembly officer positions, and for committee chairs and members, for election by the Assembly; - -*

*The Nominations Committee operates independently from other core bodies of UARctic, namely, the Officers of the Assembly, the President, and the Board.*