

Cheryl Rosa Appointed Deputy Director of U.S. Arctic Research Commission

ANCHORAGE, AK, December 2, 2009 - The United States Arctic Research Commission (USARC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Cheryl Rosa as Deputy Director and Anchorage-based Alaska Director. In that position, she will help the seven-member, presidentially appointed Commission in its efforts to strengthen Arctic research, ties to the State of Alaska and international partners.

Dr. Rosa received a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Tufts University and a Doctorate in Biology from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She is a Research Biologist and Wildlife Veterinarian for the North Slope Borough (NSB) Department of Wildlife Management in Barrow, Alaska. Her term appointment to the USARC, from the NSB, is through the Intergovernmental Personnel Act Mobility Program.

The Commission, which sets goals for the approximately \$400 million annual U.S. Arctic Research Program, has urged a new federal emphasis on integrated Arctic Ocean research, renewed programs related to the prevention of and response to oil spills in ice-covered waters, and to strengthen Arctic health and indigenous language research.

"We believe Cheryl Rosa's experience on the North Slope of Alaska and in bilateral work with Russia will help us accomplish these goals," said Mead Treadwell, Chair of the Commission. "Reopening the Anchorage office will help tie Arctic research goals - and results - to Alaskans."

Dr. Rosa has been active on the North Slope in a wide range of studies, including wildlife health and zoonotic disease, marine mammal stranding response, subsistence food safety and oil spill/offshore discharge research. Her fieldwork includes marine and terrestrial mammal research in both the United States and Russia. Prior to working on the North Slope, she was a graduate student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) enrolled in a combined doctoral/wildlife medicine residency program. During this time, she

conducted doctoral research involving health assessment of Inupiat harvested bowhead whales and assisted UAF's attending veterinarian with the care of the wildlife and research animals on campus.

Dr. Rosa has been active on many different local, state and federal committees. She has served as an advisor to the North Slope Borough Fish and Game Management Committee, the Joint Commissions of the Inuvialuit Game Commission and the North Slope Borough and the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission. She is also a member of the International Whaling Commission's Scientific Committee, the Science Advisory Panel of the North Pacific Research Board and the Polar Bear Technical Committee (past). Dr. Rosa has worked and lived in the Arctic for almost a decade. Her background and experience will provide a strong connection between the people of the North and arctic researchers.

The U.S. Congress established the USARC under the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984 (as amended). The Commission's duties include recommending arctic research policies and priorities to the President and Congress and promoting cooperation and data sharing. The USARC has offices in Arlington, Virginia, and Anchorage, Alaska. Additional information is available at www.arctic.gov.

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