

## **4<sup>th</sup> Arctic Shipping BestPractice Information Forum**

### **Speakers and bios**

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#### **SESSION 1**

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#### **Peter H. Oppenheimer Chief, International Section Office of the General Counsel, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Department of Commerce**

Peter Oppenheimer, Chief of the International Section of NOAA's Office of General Counsel since 2006, oversees an office that provides legal counsel to NOAA and other federal agencies — including the Department of State, the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative — on international environmental and oceans law, particularly the Law of the Sea Convention. Mr. Oppenheimer has participated in the negotiation, amendment or implementation of numerous international agreements that address vessel pollution, shipwrecks, ocean dumping, seabirds, and marine scientific research, among others. He is the principal legal advisor on the U.S. delegation to the Arctic Council's Working Group on the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME), serves as the co-chair of PAME's Shipping Expert Group, and was previously the U.S. head of delegation to the Arctic Council's Task Force on Arctic Marine Cooperation (2015-2019).

Mr. Oppenheimer graduated in 1992 with joint degrees from the Yale Law School (J.D.) and Tuft University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (M.A. in law and diplomacy). He received his B.A. *summa cum laude* from Yale University in 1986. Following college, he was awarded a fellowship from the Federal Republic of Germany to study at the Ludwig-Maximilian University in Munich (1986-1987).

#### **Drummond Fraser, Senior Policy Advisor, Transport Canada, Marine Safety and Security**

Mr. Fraser is currently a Senior Policy Advisor in the Legislative, Regulatory and International Affairs branch of Transport Canada, Marine Safety and Security.

He joined Transport Canada in 2009 where he remains responsible for a variety of domestic and international Arctic shipping efforts, including Canada's implementation of the Polar Code, and co-chairing PAME's Shipping Expert Group.

Mr. Fraser holds an undergraduate degree in International Relations and a Graduate degree in Marine Management. Mr. Fraser is also a graduate of the International Foundation for the Law of the Sea's Summer Academy in Hamburg, Germany.

## **Sverrir Konráðsson**

Sverrir Konradsson works at the International and Passenger Affairs Department, International Division of the Icelandic Transport Authority. Sverrir is part of the team that represents Iceland at the International Maritime Organisation attending Assembly, MSC meetings, the III sub-committee, as well as EMSA meetings in Lisbon. He has been employed at the Icelandic Maritime Administration since 1998. Sverrir has ten years' seagoing service time on board Icelandic merchant ships as deck hand, boatswain and second, first and chief mate on international voyages and second mate on Danish cargo ships on worldwide voyages. Sverrir graduated from the Navigation College in Reykjavík. He holds a Master's degree in English Literature and Grammar from the University of Iceland. Sverrir has been involved in Arctic Circle and PAME work since 2018.

## **Michael Kingston**

Originally from County Cork, Ireland, Mr. Kingston, is Managing Director of Michael Kingston Associates. He has been working with the Arctic Council's Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME) in the establishment of the Arctic Shipping Best Practices Information Forum, originally presenting the concept in Malmo Sweden in August 2015 at the World Maritime University's Arctic Conference jointly organised by the IMO and PAME. He is a London-based lawyer who represented the International Union of Marine Insurance at the IMO on the finalisation of the Polar Code. Michael also works as an IMO Consultant on Polar issues and fishing vessel safety / IUU fishing. Further information - [www.michaelkingston.org](http://www.michaelkingston.org)

## **Hjalti Þór Hreinsson, PAME Secretariat**

Hjalti is a project manager for the PAME Secretariat. He has a B.A. degree in media studies and an M.A. degree from the University of Akureyri in Polar Law. His background includes extensive work in journalism and media-related work. He has worked for PAME since 2014. Hjalti is 36 years old and is based in Akureyri, Iceland.

## **Dr. Heike Deggim**

Dr. Heike Deggim, a German national, joined the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the UN specialized agency responsible for the safety and security of shipping and the prevention of marine and atmospheric pollution by ships, in 1993. She is now the Director of the Maritime Safety Division (MSD) and in that position is also acting as the Secretary of the Maritime Safety Committee, IMO's senior technical body for ship safety and security related matters. She is also the IMO representative at the Arctic Council.

Prior to her career at IMO, Heike worked as R&D engineer in the German naval shipbuilding industry, followed by several years as Senior Researcher at the Shipbuilding Faculty of Rostock University, resulting in a PhD in fishing technology; and later in various positions in the German Maritime Administration dealing among other things with tonnage measurement of ships and issuing of Tonnage Certificates.

Heike graduated in 1983 in Germany with a Master's degree in marine engineering from Rostock University. She is a member of the Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA).

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## SESSION 2

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### **Piotr Graczyk**

Piotr Graczyk is a research scientist at NORCE Norwegian Research Centre, based in Tromsø, Norway. He has represented Poland at PAME and other Arctic Council's subsidiary bodies since 2009. Piotr's research focuses on the roles of the Arctic Council in Arctic governance, and especially in governance of Arctic shipping, international institutions, and regimes, as well as ocean governance and marine environment protection.

### **Chris Oliver, Nautical Director, International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)**

Chris Oliver is the Nautical Director at the International Chamber of Shipping, the principal international trade association for merchant shipowners and operators, representing all sectors and trades and over 80% of the world merchant fleet.

He has 40 years of experience in the shipping industry, is a qualified Master Mariner with 15 years sea experience with an oil major, followed by 23 years operational and ship management experience ashore with a dry cargo company, before joining ICS in 2017.

He is currently responsible for the development and implementation of ICS policy on technical, operational and environmental regulatory risks affecting international shipping. As head of the Nautical stream he provides management oversight relating to navigation, communications, search and rescue, cargo and other operational matters. This work includes participation in International Maritime Organization (IMO) Committees and Sub-Committees to represent the interests of ICS Members, shipowners and operators and working with IMO member States and other relevant stakeholders to develop and maintain statutory regulations.

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## SESSION 3

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### **Shep Smith**

Rear Admiral Shepard M. Smith became Coast Survey director on August 26, 2016. He is the 30th leader of the agency since the first superintendent, Ferdinand R. Hassler, was appointed in 1816. As director, Smith is dedicated to advancing the Coast Survey initiatives of modernizing digital charting, increasing use of autonomous systems for hydrography, and improved integrated navigation services for seaports.

Rear Adm. Smith serves as a presidentially-appointed member of the Mississippi River Commission that oversees navigation and flood control projects on the largest river system in the United States. Smith also serves as the chair of the International Hydrographic Organization's (IHO) Council that comprises 30 leading IHO member nations and oversees performance management and the business side of the IHO.

Hallmarks of Smith's career have been his leadership in the modernization of NOAA's charting systems and transformation of NOAA's hydrographic technologies. That leadership

and experience expands Coast Survey's data capabilities and supports a data-enabled maritime economy, among other challenges. Smith was commanding officer of NOAA Ship *Thomas Jefferson*, on which he served three tours during his NOAA career. During his latest tour, Smith became NOAA's first commanding officer to operationalize autonomous surface vehicles for mapping shallow areas previously inaccessible and uncharted. While chief of Coast Survey's Marine Chart Division, he changed the nation's charting tradition, established in the 19th century, by restructuring chart production and distribution. This modernization makes U.S. navigational data more accessible to the public through a wider range of electronic formats.

Smith holds a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from Cornell University and earned a master of science degree in ocean engineering from the University of New Hampshire. He received a direct commission to the rank of ensign in the NOAA Corps in 1993.

### **Marianne Thyrring**

Director General at Danish Meteorological Institute since 2013. Formerly Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Environment. Counsellor to the Minister for Economic Affairs and the Interior with regard to democracy issues.

Graduated; Master of Political Science in 1984. Born in 1959. Married and have three children.

Presently Co-Chair of the International Ice Charting Working Group, IICWG

### **Dr. Sarah Grimes: Head, Marine Services; WMO Ocean Coordinator, WMO.**

Sarah Grimes has more than 20 years professional experience in environmental sustainable development, of which 12 years has been in UN ocean activities. This has spanned work in UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), helping to establish and maintain the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), and more recently, at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) supporting marine meteorological activities. Notably, Sarah's role works in partnership with the UNESCO-IOC, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), through which she facilitates activities to advance metocean services that enhance the safety of life and protection of property at sea and on the coast, whilst supporting global sustainable development. This includes for polar regions. She is also the Coordinator of Ocean Activities at WMO, where she facilitates the connection of ocean activities across the science to services spectrum, to support Members. Sarah holds a Doctor of Philosophy in coastal science and palaeoenvironmental change with a focus on variations in sea level, biodiversity and human impact in the Pacific Islands.

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## SESSION 4

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### James Bond

James Bond is the ABS Director of Polar Research & Ice Class Ships. Now based in Ottawa, James is the lead subject matter expert at ABS for Polar Shipping. He oversees the research performed at the ABS Harsh Environment Technology Centre, in St John's, where ABS works collaboratively with Memorial University of Newfoundland. James first's Arctic and "ship in ice" experience occurred in 1983 and from then on his passion for the Arctic and safe shipping in ice was ignited. He was part of the team that created the IACS Unified Requirements for Polar Class Ships in the 1990's. He and Rob Hindley represented IACS at the IMO during the crafting of the Polar Code. Having helped with bringing POLARIS to fruition, James is the ABS champion for its use and sees it as an invaluable tool for voyage planning and situational risk assessment. James was the Chair of the IACS Expert Group on Polar Code for the full duration of the group's mandate and is delivering a presentation today on behalf of IACS.

### Rob Hindley

Rob is currently Head of Machinery & Structures at Aker Arctic. His role involves coordinating machinery systems, structural, and deck outfitting disciplines as well as consultancy work supporting the practical application of Arctic technology to new, and often novel, ice-going ships.

Previously Rob was Global Principal Specialist for Arctic technology at Lloyd's Register, where he held overall technical authority for ice class, winterization and implementation of the Polar Code. This included an assignment representing IACS at the IMO during the development of the Polar Code. Rob has worked in Canada, the UK, the Middle East, and in South Korea in roles involving ship surveying, classification rule development and consultancy. He is a Chartered Engineer and holds a master's degree in Naval Architecture from Newcastle University. He is currently undertaking postgraduate study on Arctic marine safety at Aalto University.

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## SESSION 5

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### Capt. Hilmar Snorrason

Born in 1957 and started at sea in the merchant fleet in 1972 becoming deckofficer in 1977 and Master in 1984. Promoted to principal of the Maritime Safety and Survival Training Centre and Master of the training vessel Sæbjörg in 1991. Member of the Icelandic Maritime Accident Investigation Board since 1995. Chairman of International Association for Safety and Survival Training 2004-2015. Awarded by the President of Iceland the Knights Cross in 2013.

The name of his presentation is: "Safety of Arctic Seafarers and Fishermen – Survival in Cold Waters"

## **Knut Espen Solberg**

Knut Espen Solberg graduated from NTNU as a naval architect and has a PhD in risk associated with cold climate marine operations. Throughout his career he has been working within the marine industry. This involves tasks ranging from technical vessel management to regulatory development. He is currently employed by the Norwegian Coastal Administration.

Requirements for Polar Class Ships in the 1990's. He and Rob Hindley represented IACS at the IMO during the crafting of the Polar Code. Having helped with bringing POLARIS to fruition, James is the ABS champion for its use and sees it as an invaluable tool for voyage planning and situational risk assessment. James was the Chair of the IACS Expert Group on Polar Code for the full duration of the group's mandate and is delivering a presentation today on behalf of IACS.

## **Vladimir Kuzmin, FSC/PSC Directorate, Russia**

Mr. Kuzmin earned his BSc in Navigation at the Admiral Makarov State Maritime Academy in 1996. He has experience of working aboard merchant ships up to Chief Mate License.

After post graduate courses he worked for Makarov Academy at Navigation department teaching navigation, including terrestrial, satellite navigation and passage planning. Since 2003 he is specializing in simulator-assisted training for ship handling, bridge team management and VTS at Makarov Training Centre. His special interest is ice navigation training. He is one of the organizers of the ice navigation training course at Makarov Training Centre, taking part in IMO model course development. More recently, he joined the development project for off-shore simulation training including dynamic positioning. He gained accreditation of the Makarov DP training courses by the Nautical Institute (UK) in 2007 and successfully reaccredited in 2013, 2015 and 2019. He took part as leading team member in several EU-funded projects connected to ice navigation issues in the Baltic region. Since 2014 joined St Petersburg port authorities as PSC officer. Since 2019 joined PSC/FSC Directorate of the Russian Federation.

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## **SESSION 6**

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## **Sergey Tolmachev**

Sergey Tolmachev obtained the bachelor and master's degrees with distinction in international relations at the Saint Petersburg State University and later the bachelor's degree in international and maritime law at the International Institute of Economics and Law in Moscow.

He began his career in early 2002 at the Port Authority of Saint Petersburg, moving to Russian Maritime Register of Shipping in late 2003 where he started as expert of the survey department and by 2013 reached the position of the Head of the International Affairs Department. As from mid 2017 he has been holding the post of the counsellor in the Mission of the Russian Federation to the IMO.

## **Dr. Sam Davin**

Dr. Davin works for World Wildlife Fund Canada's Wildlife & Industry Team as a Marine Shipping and Conservation Specialist. His background is oceanography, and over the past decade he has worked across the global Arctic to understand and address the impacts of

climate change and modernization on northern marine environments and ecosystems. In his current role, Dr. Davin's focus is on mitigating the impacts of marine shipping on wildlife and ocean-connected communities through improved voyage planning and reduction of vessel pollution.

### **Mellisa “Maktuayaq” Johnson**

Maktuayaq (her Inupiaq name) “Mellisa Johnson”, originally from the community of Nome, Alaska, is the Executive Director of Bering Sea Elders Group (BSEG). Mellisa has a strong passion for protecting, respecting, and maintaining traditional ways of life beginning in Nome, Alaska with her grandparents. Her upbringing with her grandparents and many other Elders, along with inspiration from her three children, drives Mellisa to work to revitalize and promote different cultural aspects of life, from arts and crafts to traditional food preparation and from land and sea preservation to language revitalization. Mellisa is passionate and motivated to advocate, educate, and share with others the importance of preserving and maintaining Indigenous ways of life for the Bering Sea region of Alaska.