

Inclusive Planning for Arctic Futures: Demonstrating a Scenario-based Tabletop Exercise

- *Moderator: Sherri Goodman and James Townsend, Wilson Center*
- *Panel: Lawson Brigham, University of Alaska Fairbanks (invited)*
- *Phil Brown, NORAD & USNORTHCOM J74*
- *Mike Farrar, Air Force Weather Operations*
- *Jennifer Francis, Woods Hole Research Center*
- *Randy Gauntt, Sandia National Laboratories (retired)*
- *Shannon Jenkins, U.S. Coast Guard*
- *David Kennedy, NOAA*
- *Randy “Church” Kee, Arctic Domain Awareness Center*
- *Rebecca Pincus, US Naval War College*
- *Mark Rosen, CAN (Gen. Counsel) / Retired Navy Intel*
- *Gail Schubert, Bering Straits Native Corporation*
- *Jonathan W. White, Consortium for Ocean Leadership*

The goal of this session is to demonstrate how a table-top exercise can be used to bring science, Indigenous, and policy communities together to develop information, ideas, and proposed actions to drive future research directions, policy initiatives, and planning for emergency response in the Arctic of 2050. This exercise will use as a triggering event an Arctic maritime incident that takes place in the year 2050 in which a Chinese-owned LNG tanker collides with its Russian nuclear powered icebreaker escort in a winter storm. This scenario is intended to frame two subsequent discussions: 1) what network of institutions and communities will need to engage in response to the incident, and what information will be needed to inform that response; 2) what planning, research and policy actions, had they been taken twenty five years earlier, would significantly strengthen situational awareness, effective communications and operational response to this 2050 Arctic nuclear incident? The tabletop panel will include participants with backgrounds in science, indigenous community leadership, policy development, Arctic marine shipping, emergency response, and multiple federal agencies. This 90-minute session is not intended to serve as a full-blown tabletop exercise, which typically would take multiple days to complete. Rather, it is intended to demonstrate how the scenario-based mechanism can serve to bring multiple communities together to develop focused ideas and actions to inform future research, policy, and planning.