

**Call for working group proposals – deadline June 12, 2015**

## **Nordic Ruralities: Crisis and Resilience**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Nordic Conference for Rural Research**

**University of Akureyri, Iceland**

**May 23 – 24, 2016**

#### **Conference**

The *Nordic ruralities conference* is an interdisciplinary forum for rural research with a particular emphasis on the Nordic countries. Rural communities frequently experience rapid changes in e.g. population density, employment opportunities and provision of services on a scale that would be considered catastrophic if they would occur in larger cities or at the national level. Crisis is therefore a regular feature of many rural communities and profoundly influences rural development. Short-term economic fluctuations that constitute a major crisis on the national level may thus appear to be relatively minor, compared to the long-term economic instability of many rural communities. While rural areas are vulnerable to processes of globalization, urbanization and technological change, many have demonstrated remarkable resilience and ability to adapt to rapid change. The 4<sup>th</sup> Nordic Ruralities conference in Akureyri in Northern Iceland emphasizes the role of vulnerability and perpetual crisis in building rural resilience in the Nordic countries but scholars from other regions and contributions on other issues facing rural communities are warmly welcomed.

#### **Working groups**

Researchers are invited to submit suggestions for working groups within these themes:

1. Crisis and resilience
2. Cultures and people, places and identities
3. Natural resources governance and landscape management
4. Rural economy and entrepreneurship
5. Policies and politics of the rural

Suggestions should include a preliminary title, an abstract of approximately 200 words and contact information for the proposed session organizer(s).

Suggestions should be submitted to [info@ruralities.org](mailto:info@ruralities.org) as soon as possible and no later than before midnight on Friday June 12, 2015.

#### **Keynote speakers**

Mark Shucksmith, University of Newcastle

Hanne Wittorff Tanvig, University of Copenhagen

Thomas Hylland Eriksen, University of Oslo

Stefan Olafsson, University of Iceland

Laura Assmuth, University of Eastern Finland

## **Important dates**

June 12, 2015	Deadline for proposals for working groups
October 2, 2015	First call for abstracts
December 1, 2015	Deadline for abstracts
January 15, 2016	Registration and hotel booking opens
February 10, 2016	Program published
March 15, 2016	Early bird registration ends
May 22, 2016	Arrival, opening of conference and reception
May 23, 2016	Full day of conference and conference dinner
May 24, 2016	Full day of conference and closing
May 25, 2016	Departure from Iceland

## **Scientific committee**

Thoroddur Bjarnason, University of Akureyri, Iceland

Camilla Eriksson, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden

Jeppe Engset Høst, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Tuija Mononen, University of Eastern Finland, Finland

Mariann Villa, Centre for Rural Research, Norway

## **Previous conferences**

2010 Tammsvik, Sweden (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences)

2012 Joensuu, Finland (University of Eastern Finland)

2014 Trondheim, Norway (Centre for Rural Research)

## **Further information**

Conference website: [www.ruralities.org](http://www.ruralities.org)

Contact organizers: [info@ruralities.org](mailto:info@ruralities.org)

Local information: [www.visitakureyri.is/en](http://www.visitakureyri.is/en)

## **Conference newsletter**

Sign up for the conference newsletter at [www.ruralities.org](http://www.ruralities.org)