EXPEDITION TO GREENLAND AND THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

August 2 – 12, 2016
With Dartmouth Professor Ross Virginia

Co-Distinguished Lead Scholar, Fulbright Arctic Initiative
Director, Institute of Arctic Studies, John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding
Myers Family Professor of Environmental Science

RESERVE BY NOVEMBER 12, 2015 AND SAVE $1000 PER COUPLE

“AFTER SEEING THE ARCTIC WE SHALL WANT TO PAUSE THERE, FOR MANY REASONS.”
– Vilhjalmur Stefansson, Arctic Explorer and honorary professor emeritus at Dartmouth
A true science ship, a real expedition

Dear Alumni, family, and friends,

Dartmouth is known throughout the world for the excellence of its Arctic Studies program and its many contributions to the scholarship of the region. Join Dartmouth Alumni Travel on a very special trip to the Arctic with world-renowned Dartmouth Professor Ross Virginia and see Dartmouth research in action.

On this expedition we will sail above the Arctic Circle and on to Greenland, an unsullied wilderness that also happens to be the largest island in the world. From Iqaluit on the east coast of Baffin Island to the west coast of Greenland, this 11-day adventure sails through a spectacular wilderness of glaciers, mountains, fjords and breathtaking icebergs. Venture into remote areas to observe a vast array of wildlife, including whales, seals, walruses, sea birds and polar bears. And meet the exceptional people who live in Arctic communities and learn about the native Inuit cultures that have survived in this harsh landscape.

We have secured a limited number of spaces on this true expedition vessel, one which regularly conducts active science in the Polar Regions. This purpose built vessel is the ideal platform for polar exploration, affording us unique opportunities to chart a course through remote waters. The feel on board is casual; the entertainment is the magnificent Arctic landscape all around us. With a maximum of just 92 passengers, we have unrestricted access to all landing sites and using 10 Zodiacs, we enjoy explorations in very small groups. Scandinavian built for the Russian Academy of Science, this ship was designed to travel quietly during hydro-acoustic research. She is exceptionally stable, yet maneuverable. This is your opportunity to live like a scientist as you experience the real High Arctic.

During our expedition, we will visit several sites where Dartmouth’s Institute of Arctic Studies is conducting research, including a full day excursion on the Greenland ice sheet. Few experiences can match this incredible High Arctic Expedition.

Robin K. Albing, T’81
Director, Lifelong Learning and Travel
www.alumni.dartmouth.edu/travel

Mary Ann R. Hunt, A’14
Asst. Director, Lifelong Learning and Travel

Call Worldwide Quest to book 416-633-5666 | 1-800-387-1483 | travel@worldwidequest.com
View all our tours at www.alumni.dartmouth.edu/travel
HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR EXPEDITION

**Magnificent pods.** Sail through areas of high marine biodiversity keeping a lookout for beluga, narwhal and bowhead whales.

**Herds and rafts.** Scan the horizon and watch the water move as a herd of Atlantic walrus or a raft of ringed, harp, or bearded seals approach the bow.

**Spot, stop drop.** Spot the wildlife - stop the ship - drop the Zodiacs. That’s our motto for when we see a magnificent pod of whales or a polar bear.

**Fragile habitats.** See the polar bears in their natural polar environment.

**Be surprised at the wealth of birdlife in the Canadian Arctic.** This region is home to numerous species including ivory gull, king eider, red-throated loon, parasitic jaeger, gyrfalcon, snowy owl, snow bunting, and more.

**Be overawed by massive tabular icebergs.** Disko Bay is choked with icebergs calved from the picturesque Jacobshavn ice fjord – a photographer’s heaven.

**Castellated icebergs.** See the fascinating ice that makes Greenland famous.

**Visit remote communities.** Be introduced to both the modern and ancient aspects of the Inuit culture at Pangnirtung and Iqaluit.

**Wander through the town of Sisimiut.** Meet traditional Greenlandic kayakers and see the champions demonstrate a genuine “Eskimo roll”.

**Explore archaeological sites.** Where stories of more than a thousand years of habitation by the Inuit and their predecessors come alive.

**Escape.** No mobile phone reception, no internet, no TV.

**Relax.** In our wellness centre with massage therapist, yoga instructions, sauna, plunge pool, and top deck hot tub.

*Rekindle a sense of adventure!*
DARTMOUTH ACADEMIC LEADER: Professor Ross Virginia

Accompanying us on this Arctic Circle voyage is Dartmouth College’s Myers Family Professor of Environmental Science, professor of environmental science and the director of the Institute of Arctic Studies within the John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding. He will provide valuable insight into the past and present forces shaping Greenland and this fragile region.

Growing up in snowy Syracuse, New York, Dr. Virginia read fervently about the race to the South Pole. Today, he studies human influences on biogeochemical cycles in terrestrial systems and has participated in analysis of critical issues facing the Arctic and its inhabitants as a result of climate change. His current research focuses on carbon and nutrient cycling in the tundra ecosystems of western Greenland and the polar deserts of Antarctica.

In his role as co-director of the University of the Arctic Institute of Arctic Policy, and in conjunction with Dartmouth College, Dr. Virginia has established an exchange program for Greenlandic students and secured grants to design a program of collaboration between scientists and engineers around polar environmental change while incorporating fieldwork and policy studies in Greenland. In Antarctica, a portion of the McMurdo Dry Valleys has been renamed “Virginia Valley,” honoring his lifelong efforts in conducting long-term ecological research. In October 2014, Professor Virginia was selected by the U.S. State Department as one of two distinguished lead scholars of the newly established Fulbright Arctic Initiative.

Your Expedition Team

The Expedition team onboard the Akademik Sergey Vavilov are seasoned polar experts and naturalists committed to ensuring the safety of their guests and sharing their eco-conscious outlook. Their expertise spans wildlife biology, ornithology, polar history, botany, marine ecology, geology, glaciology, kayaking, and photography. Adventure Concierges attend to your life on board with customized informal hospitality. Together the team’s enthusiasm, knowledge, passion and competence ensure a true voyage of discovery.
ITINERARY IN DETAIL

Getting there
Worldwide Quest will book your mandatory flights from Ottawa to Iqaluit and from Kangerlussuaq to Ottawa at the special expedition cruise rate.

Tuesday, August 2: Ottawa, Ontario to Iqaluit, Nunavut
We meet at the Ottawa Airport for our flight to Iqaluit, the capital and largest community of the Canadian territory of Nunavut, located at the head of Frobisher Bay on Baffin Island. Upon arrival into Iqaluit we enjoy a walking tour of the town and board our expedition ship, the Akademik Sergey Vavilov in the afternoon. As we become familiar with our new home, we raise the anchor and set off on our Expedition. Spend some time on the outer decks enjoying your new Arctic surroundings as we set sail into the remote Canadian Arctic.

Wednesday, August 3: Monumental Island
Our first excursion is to visit Monumental Island. Located in Davis Strait, it is a known location for spotting walrus. We explore by Zodiac and search the shoreline for these fascinating creatures. Polar bears are often found here and have been known to chase the walrus off their haul out and into the water.

Thursday, August 4: Pangnirtung
Nestled in the heart of Cumberland Sound, the ‘Place of the Bull Caribou’ is situated on a beautiful fjord in scenic mountainous terrain. This remote town is known for its traditional Inuit arts and crafts and a visit to the local arts centre is a highlight. Indigenous people have inhabited the land here for over 4,000 years and Thule remains can be found in the area.

Friday, August 5, 2015: Cape Mercy
Marking the northern headland of Cumberland Sound are the dramatic cliffs of Cape Mercy. As the Baffin Bay middle ice recedes throughout the summer, the stretch of Baffin coast from Cape Mercy to Cape Dyer is a great place to find polar bears coming ashore. We will explore this region with the goal of hiking the shoreline ridges, paddling the bays, and Zodiac cruising the ice in search of Arctic wildlife.
Saturday, August 6: Sunshine Fjord
Sunshine Fjord straddles the Arctic Circle. Depending on the weather, we might cruise across the Circle on the ship, or perhaps cruise across it in the Zodiac boats, or the more active may choose to hike across this landmark on shore. Whichever way, it’s a thrill to be above the Arctic Circle!

Sunday, August 7: Davis Strait
We set sail for the ice in Davis Strait in order to experience this dramatic transition zone. The waters here are highly productive, resulting in a concentration of interesting Arctic wildlife; we will keep our eyes peeled for bearded, hooded and ringed seals as well as polar bears and walrus. Who knows, perhaps a bowhead whale will be cruising the ice edge. Spotting scopes and binoculars will be in use as we all scan the ice looking for wildlife. If conditions permit, we will even launch the Zodias so that we can get into the ice and explore. At some point we will leave the sea ice behind us and direct the binoculars and scopes towards the never-ending stream of icebergs sailing up the west coast of Greenland. During our day at sea, join discussions about the region with Dr. Virginia and the expedition team.

Close-up cruising in Zodias

Monday, August 8: Qeqertarsuaq (Disko Island)
A large island in the mouth of Disko Bay, Qeqertarsuaq is a site of both geologic and historic interest. A possible summer fishing camp for the Viking colonists in Greenland, mineral deposits containing native iron and hot springs are all features of this island. We will visit the southern coast, cruising the spectacular rock arches before visiting the town of Qeqertarsuaq.

Tuesday, August 9: Ilulissat and Jacobshavn Icefjord
One of the wonders of the world, the Jacobshavn Icefjord spews massive tabular icebergs out into Disko Bay. We’ll navigate these towering icebergs by Zodiac as we make our approach. In the town of Ilulissat, we’ll enjoy a guided walking tour, watch a demonstration of ancient fishing methods, and visit the local history museum which houses exhibits on polar explorer Knud Rasmussen. Dartmouth researchers are studying glacial advance and melt dynamics near Ilulissat.

Wednesday, August 10: Sisimiut
We will explore the fjord behind the town of Sisimiut before visiting the town. We will hope to meet a few of the traditional Greenlandic kayakers and perhaps see a demonstration of “Eskimo rolling” by one of the former champions of the Greenland Kayaking Championships.

Thursday, August 11: Sondre Stromfjord
One of the world’s longest fjords, Sondre Stromfjord towers above the ship on either side as we sail up it. We plant to visit the site of Ross Virginia’s research on the Greenland ice sheet. Powerful 4WD-vehicles will take us through an incredibly beautiful landscape, through mountains, plains and semi-desert valleys. Near the ice sheet, we will drive through the fantastic moraine landscape.

At the end of the road, we will walk to the Greenland ice sheet and onto the vast ice sheet. We spend some time exploring this world of ice.
before returning to our vehicle. There are good chances of spotting reindeer, muskoxen and many species of birds and flowers.

**Friday, August 12: Kangerlussuaq (Sondre Stromfjord)**
Kangerlussuaq is home to one of the world’s longest runways. We will disembark in the morning and transfer to the airport for our charter flight back to Ottawa, Canada.

**Please note:**
We put safety first and that means weather, ice, wildlife, or other conditions may require us to modify the itinerary as we go. We consider this half the intrigue of polar exploring. Specific sites visited will depend on ice and weather conditions experienced and the itinerary will be updated throughout the voyage in order to take advantage of favorable conditions. Arctic exploring is not predictable which is one of the many reasons we think it is so special.

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**OPTIONAL 3-DAY PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION**

**Discover Iqaluit: ‘Place of many fish’**
$995 per person

- Two nights’ accommodation at the Frobisher Inn, Iqaluit, based on double occupancy
- Guided tour of the city with visits to the Nunatta Sunakkutaangit Museum, the Legislative Assembly, the Iqaluit Fine Art Gallery and craft shops
- Full day excursion to Sylvia Grinnell Park to discover Thule archeological sites plus a presentation on dog sledding in the Arctic
## EXPEDITION COST (PER PERSON)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cabin type</th>
<th>Early Booking Price through Nov. 12, 2015</th>
<th>Regular Price after Nov. 12, 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twin Semi-Private</td>
<td>US$8,295</td>
<td>US$8,795</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deck 4, 2 lower berths, one compact bathroom shared between 2 cabins, window, writing desk with chair, approx. 106 ft²</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twin Private</td>
<td>US$9,895</td>
<td>US$10,395</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deck 4 &amp; 5, 2 lower berths, private compact bathroom, window, writing desk with chair, approx. 130 ft²</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twin Superior</td>
<td>US$10,695</td>
<td>US$11,195</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deck 3, 2 lower berths, private compact bathroom, porthole, writing desk with chair, approx. 172 ft²</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shackleton Suite</td>
<td>US$11,495</td>
<td>US$11,995</td>
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<td>Decks 4 and 5, living area with sofa convertible to bed, bedroom with double berth, private compact bathroom, windows, writing desk with chair, approx. 190 ft²</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Ocean Suite</td>
<td>US$12,395</td>
<td>US$12,895</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deck 5, living area with sofa convertible to bed and large windows overlooking the bow, bedroom with double berth with port side window, private bathroom, writing desk with chair, approx. 293 ft²</td>
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**Mandatory Roundtrip Airfare:**
Ottawa to Iqaluit and Kangerlussuaq to Ottawa: US$1200 per person

*Singles are available in Semi-Private/Private/Superior at 1.5x and in Suites at 2x.*

### Expedition Cost Includes:
- Accommodation in selected cabin, based on double occupancy
- All meals on board
- Coffee, tea, water, and snacks available all day in the lounge
- All excursions by Zodiac, led by expert Expedition team members
- All shore excursions to explore historic and nature sites led by expert Expedition team members
- All on board activities
- Full program of on board presentations by Expedition team members including naturalists, historians, scientists, and polar experts
- Community visit in Pangnirtung
- Private full day excursion to ice sheet in Kangerlussuaq including packed lunch
- Exclusive Welcome Reception for Dartmouth travelers
- Port dues and taxes
- Transfers: Airport to Ship in Iqaluit and Ship to Airport in Kangerlussuaq
- Luggage handling for embarkation and disembarkation
- Complimentary use of “all weather gear”: gumboots, waterproof jacket and pants
MORE DETAILS

Not Included:
• Airfare from your home to Ottawa, Canada and from Ottawa, Canada to your home
• Items of a personal nature
• Shipboard expenses
• Alcoholic beverages
• Gratuities on board (suggested: US$10 – 12 per person per day)
• Travel insurance
• Any item not mentioned in “included features”

Group size:
Maximum 92 passengers on board.

Payment Details:
A deposit of US$2000 per person is required to reserve a space on this tour. This deposit, less a $200 administration fee, becomes non-refundable on December 1, 2015. A second deposit of US$2000 plus airfare is required by January 21, 2016. Final payment is due April 28, 2016.

Travel Documents:
You will require a valid passport for this expedition.

Ship Features:
• Dining room for all passengers in a single seating
• 63 members of staff and crew on board
• Library stocked with polar reference material
• Theatre style presentation room
• Bar/lounge with 24 hour beverage and snacks
• Viewing decks on each passenger level
• Open bridge
• Fitness room (free weights, exercise bike, rowing machine)
• Multimedia room
• Mud room for storing expedition gear
• Sauna and polar plunge pool
• Top deck and observatory
• Boutique Polaire
• Elevator servicing Deck 1 through 5
• Satellite telephone and email communications
• Infirmary with licensed doctor
• Cabins with a writing desk, plenty of electrical outlets, tea, and coffee makers
• Bathrobes and hair dryers
• Beds with memory foam mattress toppers and high loft duvets
WHAT TO EXPECT

Level of Activity: Moderate
Moderate. Suitable for those in reasonable health with capability of getting in and out of Zodiacs with close assistance. Walks and hikes are organized into groups, each with different levels of activity. Walking on rocky shores can be challenging at times; however, such walks and hikes are organized into groups, each with different levels of ability.

Weather
Daytime temperatures during our expedition will range from 40 – 50°F with an average of 16 hours of sunlight daily.

Sea Kayaking
If you have had some previous experience, you can sign up for a kayaking experience through some of the world’s most beautiful polar scenery. The price of US$800 per person for this great optional activity includes your guide, kayaks, paddles, life jackets, dry suits and an accompanying safety kayak and Zodiac. This sea kayaking option is subject to availability and should be booked early. You cannot book this activity once onboard. Please ask us for further information.

Hiking
Walking the land is the best way to appreciate the immense landscapes of the High Arctic. In August, the tundra is alive with colorful wildflowers, mosses and lichen. At each of our landing sites there are options for hiking: an invigorating charge across the tundra; an exploration with our naturalists or photographer; or a contemplative wander with our historian.

Zodiac Cruising
During our expedition, we will visit remote sites only accessible by Zodiac. We will also use our 14 person Zodiacs to cruise narrow fjords and to explore the floe edge on the lookout for wildlife.

On Board
You are on board a functionally active scientific vessel designed for polar research.

One of the most enjoyable features of the Akademik Sergey Vavilov is the Captain’s open bridge policy. You are welcome to spend time on the bridge – an excellent vantage point from which to enjoy the spectacular views and observe the officers navigate the ship. Morning briefings by our Expedition leader keep us informed about upcoming landings and any changes to our sail plan. Evening recap sessions review wildlife sightings and let you ask questions of our on board experts.

Daily presentations by our Expedition team will cover a range of topics including history, the environment, geology, marine biology, ornithology, flora and fauna and contemporary issues in the Arctic. Our program includes participation from the communities of Pond Inlet, Illulissat, and Sisimiut.

Phone and Email Access
You will be able to send and receive emails on the ship by way of a pre-purchased data card which can be set up in advance of your arrival. This system works via satellite and the set-up fee is $30 for the duration of your voyage, with reasonable use included. This satellite service offers basic text-only email through a temporary account; however, it does not provide access to external websites, your own email account, or social media sites. There is wireless service available that can connect with our ship-based email in some areas of the ship, if you have your own laptop with wireless access, or you can use a private workstation in the radio room. A satellite phone is also available as required. Some travelers may choose to bring a satellite phone.
OUR VESSEL: THE AKADEMIK SERGEY VAVILOV

Designed and built as a scientific research vessel in Finland, the Akademik Sergey Vavilov is very stable, quiet and comfortable. Refitting and refurbishment over the last five years oriented towards her role as an expedition cruise vessel has enhanced the comfort and calibre of the facilities aboard the ship. There is little if any ambient noise from engines or machinery and with most of the public spaces on a separate deck from the majority of the cabins there is little issue with passenger-generated noise. Vessel stabilization is gained through a combination of external stabilizers on her hull and a built-in ballast trimming system.

The Akademik Sergey Vavilov is a Russian-flagged vessel and carries all current certifications required by international maritime law to ensure passenger safety and wellbeing. An extremely experienced captain and crew and an ice strengthened hull (Canadian Type B, Lloyds Register 1A) provides an exceptionally safe combination for polar expedition cruising.

The Akademik Sergey Vavilov has two main engines and twin propellers to propel the vessel through the polar waters at up to 14.5 knots. Coupled with a bow-thruster and a stern multi-directional propulsion unit, she is extremely manoeuvrable and has a built-in propulsion back up.

SHIP SPECIFICATIONS

**Built:** 1988, Rauma, Finland  
**Length:** 117m  
**Breadth:** 18.2m  
**Draft:** 6m  
**Power:** twin engine, 5,000Kw diesel, twin propeller  
**Max speed:** 14.5 kts  
**Crew and staff:** 63  
**Passengers:** 92
TERMS & CONDITIONS

Cancellation Policy
Your deposit payment less a $200 administration fee, becomes non-refundable on December 1, 2015. All other payments are non-refundable. The price of your Expedition is quoted as a package. No partial refunds or credits will be given for services not used. In the event of a cancellation, you must notify Worldwide Quest immediately and in writing.

Travel Insurance
Because our cancellation policies are strictly enforced, we strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. Medical coverage with emergency evacuation insurance is mandatory on this expedition. We will send you an application upon receipt of your reservation.

Payment
We accept payments by VISA and MasterCard.

Pre-Departure Information
Prior to departure we will send you detailed Pre-departure information including information on health and travel documents, a suggested packing list and a suggested reading list.

Terms and Conditions
For additional information about our terms and conditions, please refer to your booking form, or the website www.worldwidequest.com/northwestpassage. All participants booking with Worldwide Quest are covered by the terms of the Ontario Travel Industry Act (Worldwide Quest International, Ontario - License # 2667946).
HOW TO BOOK

Please contact Kerry or Laurielle at Worldwide Quest for more information and to book this Expedition.

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travel@worldwidequest.com
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RESERVE BY NOVEMBER 12, 2015 AND SAVE $1000 PER COUPLE

Expedition presented by:

Worldwide Quest
Alumni Expeditions

Pack an Open Mind.