



Pier Paul Overduin

As a Canadian, Paul Overduin began looking northward at birth. His education (Honours Bachelor of Science in Chemistry at Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Canada; Master of Science in Geography at York University, Toronto, Canada; Doctor of Philosophy in Geophysics, University of Alaska Fairbanks) has taken him to the Canadian High Arctic, Alaska, Siberia, Chukotka, Spitsbergen and eastern Antarctica. He is currently the co-leader of the Arctic Coastal Dynamics (ACD) project, a vibrant international community of researchers working in many disciplines in the circumpolar Arctic coastal zone. ACD is a project of the International Permafrost Association (IPA), an International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) network and a Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone (LOICZ) affiliate. ACD has created a database of the Arctic coastal zone which begins to answer the questions: How is the Arctic coastline changing? How does this affect both the land and ocean side of the coastal zone? Paul's research interests have migrated from the physics and chemistry of soils and the subsurface realm on land to coastal and offshore permafrost and its evolution over time. He is currently working in Alaska and Siberia, seeking to increase our understanding of the state and distribution of subsea permafrost in the Arctic shelf seas. Paul continues to be shocked at how much we don't know about the Earth, and supports the establishment of Earth Observatories, especially in the Arctic coastal zone, through one of ACD's IPY projects, the Arctic Circumpolar Coastal Observatory Network (ACCCOnet).