

"Unveiling the Arctic: Then and Now" Public Lecture Series

Co-organised with Hong Kong Space Museum

Date(s) 23 and 30 August 2025 (two Saturdays, respectively)

Time 14:00 to 17:30

Venue Lecture Hall, Hong Kong Space Museum

Mode In-person Language Cantonese

All are welcome and no registration is required. Free admission on a first-come, first-served basis. Please click <u>here</u> for details in Chinese. For enquiries, please contact Stephen Ng at ng.stephen@connect.hku.hk.

About the Series:

This public lecture series takes you on a journey through the Arctic's past and present, from ancient tectonics and early life to the science behind building Arctic shelters. We will also explore how climate change affects the global food system and the Arctic's role in resource extraction, to complement the Space Theatre Show <u>Arctic 3D: Our Frozen Planet</u>.

"Tectonics and Traces of Early Life" by Eunice Leung 23 August 2025 (Saturday), 14:00 – 15:30

This lecture decodes the Earth's "rock records" left in 3.8 billion years ago. These ancient rocks in Greenland and Canada reveal the mysteries of plate tectonics, chemical cycles and the origins of life during the early formation of the Earth.

"Food System and Climate Change" by Hermione Mok 23 August 2025 (Saturday), 16:00 – 17:30

This lecture explores the global food system and the challenges it faces in a changing climate. Using the Svalbard Global Seed Vault as a case study, we will explore the impacts to food security and discuss pathways towards a sustainable and resilient future for food and agriculture.

"The Molecular Foundations of Igloos" by Wallace Hui 30 August 2025 (Saturday), 14:00 – 15:30

This lecture delves into the science behind igloos, focusing on the intriguing interactions among water molecules, ice crystal structures, and thermal properties of snow. These unique properties of water supported the Inuit's ingenuity in building shelters suited for extreme Arctic conditions.

"Climate Change and the Future of Arctic Mineral Resources" by Stephen Ng 30 August 2025 (Saturday), 16:00 – 17:30

This lecture examines how climate change is reshaping access to Arctic mineral resources while raising environmental and geopolitical challenges. It highlights potential resource gains, ecosystem risks, and global impacts of mining in these regions.