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The Geological Society of London:

East Anglian Regional Group

Evening Lecture

Polar geohazards in a warming climate: marine evidence of large scale tsunamigenic rock avalanches in Vaigat, West Greenland

with

Dr Matt Owen, CGeol, FGS

(Global Maritime Consultancy Ltd)

High latitude regions are generally remote and often less well geomorphologically mapped than other regions. Coupled with the projection of climatic warming-related, increased landslide occurrence, this means that geohazard risk is uncertain. Following the 2017 rockslide and tsunami in Karrat Fjord, West Greenland, a landslide screening study was undertaken to better constrain the hazard. Within this, Vaigat, the strait located between the island of Disko and the Nuussuaq peninsula on the west coast of Greenland, was identified as a landslide hot spot. A marine data gathering exercise, from international legacy datasets to new surveys, has now identified a globally unprecedented series of rock avalanche complex deposits on the seabed that provides evidence to the timing and magnitude of past events and that provides indications of future risk in this and other high latitude regions.



Date: Thursday, 22 January 2026 Lecture starts at 7.00pm

Venue: Julian Study Centre, Lecture Theatre 0.01

University of East Anglia, Norwich, Norfolk, NR4 7TJ

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Refreshments from 6.30 pm in the Julian Study Centre Fover

Microsoft Teams link: Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 322 707 764 285 09

Passcode: U2UG2mf6