



### **Border Studies in Finland**

I visited the Karelian Institute at University of Joensuu and the Arctic Centre at the University of Lapland in Finland between June 14 to 19 and delivered a presentation on the current trends in territorial and marine border studies in Eurasia as well as introduced the various activities of the Global COE programme. It was my first time visiting Finland, but with the great help and support from Prof. Ilkka Liikanen, who participated in the 2009 GCOE winter symposium last December, I was able to learn about the east-west joint effort of border studies on Russia (which is not very familiar in Japan and the current situation of studies and research on the arctic sphere. At present, while the University of Joensuu is undergoing reorganization the Karelian Institute is actively pursuing a project on migration research in Ukraine, Belarus and Tajikistan with the support of the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs to make an impact for its survival. Moreover, the institute has successfully promoted joint efforts with associations in the U.S. such as by inviting the former president of the Association of Borderlands Studies (ABS), James Scott, on board their staff. It goes with no doubt that the Karelian Institute is one of our significant alliance partners for the GCOE programme that covers the wider Eurasian region.

(Written by: Akihiro Iwashita)

The Karelian Institute at the University of Joensuu

[http://www.joensuu.fi/ktl/english/valikko/index\\_1.html](http://www.joensuu.fi/ktl/english/valikko/index_1.html)

The Arctic Centre at the University of Lapland

<http://www.arcticcentre.org/InEnglish.iw3>



The Arctic Circle



Kodak moment with a patrol officer