



Office of the President

Williams Hall, 579 College Way, Urbana, Ohio 43078
(937) 484-1300; fax (937) 484-1322; sjones@urbana.edu

March 17, 2009

Dear Lars,

I offer you not an anecdote or embarrassing story, but instead my sincere appreciation for your friendship, and my best wishes for your fiftieth birthday. I recall with great fondness our initial sojourn (you, Outi, and I) to Anaktuvuk Pass for the mountain naming ceremony (Helge Ingstad). I enjoyed that interaction, as I have the many times since that have brought us together in service to the high latitudes.

I shall always remember the very successful and inspiring meetings in Rovaniemi and Oulu, especially our Board sessions at the estate along the frozen river in Oulu. Likewise, we could not have enjoyed better creativity, productivity, and inspiration than our wanderings at Banff and Lake Louise.

I value you as a colleague and friend. We share many interests, including your professional and my amateur love for geology and geomorphology. You have provided excellent counsel and significant wisdom as we have navigated important issues affecting UArctic and its evolution to its impressive stature as an international force for education, research, and betterment in the Arctic.

Entering your sixth decade is, in fact, a potentially sobering moment for a man of the world such as you. Please take some comfort in knowing that many of us naturally assumed from your "senior" grey locks that you had previously crossed that threshold! Seriously, I wish that you always maintain that eternal youthfulness that graces your presence and positively infects your outlook on life in the North.

I regret not being able to be there for the ceremony. Please accept my best wishes in celebration for the past half-century. May the next fifty be as rewarding and fulfilling!

In admiration and friendship,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve B Jones".

Steve