Spring 2008:

The semester was off to a terrific start in January with the Arctic Frontiers conference and series of meetings at the end of the month for the 'Oil-in-Ice: Transport, Fate, and Potential Exposure' JIP project. In the beginning of February there was a turn of events. Returning from a weekend cabin trip outside of Trondheim, I was in a cross country skiing accident and tore two ligaments in my knee. This was unfortunate timing changing a few plans for the spring…

I returned to UNH in March for 'Opening the Arctic Seas: Envisioning Disaster & Framing Solutions' workshop hosted by the CRRC at the New England Center with participants from nearly every Arctic state. One of the common recommendations from the workshop was to increase investment in Research and Development in Arctic spill response which helps validate the importance and need for oil-ice model where my research interests lie.

Following the conference I had surgery on my knee and I stayed in New England for a month. This time was devoted to recovery and to writing. I completed my project paper, ''Biodegradation Potential of Oil in Arctic First-Year Sea Ice'' fulfilling the requirement for my master's degree in civil engineering UNH. This paper included a synthesis of information from the Sea Ice Summer School (Longyearbyen, Svalbard, July 2007), the coursework from NTNU, several recent reports on oil in the Arctic, and past literature. Odd Gunar Brakstad and Liv-Guri Faksness from SINTEF; and, Kevin Gardner, Nancy Kinner and Jim Malley from UNH were very helpful providing me with the resources and suggestions in order to complete the paper.

At the end of April I returned to Trondheim to continue with the 'Oil-in-Ice: Transport, Fate, and Potential Exposure' JIP project. Currently, I am working on a literature review for the project starting with two dimensional single phase flow including a description of the processes (i.e., dissolution, evaporation, advection-diffusion, etc.). I am also learning the C programming language.