

Kuskokwim
Campus



Established 1972

University of Alaska Fairbanks



College of Rural
and Community
Development

**Forty-Sixth 2020
Forty-Seventh 2021
Commencement
April 30, 2021**



Order of Virtual Events

Acting Director's Welcome and Introductions	Linda Curda, Acting Director Kuskokwim Campus, College of Rural and Community Development University of Alaska Fairbanks
Remarks	Charlene Stern, Interim Vice Chancellor for Rural, Community and Native Education, College of Rural and Community Development, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Keynote Address	Gloria June Simeon Certificate of Ethnobotany
Student Address	Katheryn Nina <i>Kiktugiaq</i> Nenneman Bachelor's Degree
Conferring of Degrees/Awards 2020 and 2021	Acting Director Curda
Conferring of Degrees	Sheri Buretta, Chair University of Alaska Board of Regents
Meritorious Service Award	Esther <i>Nuqaq'aq</i> Green <i>Bethel</i>
Honorary Doctor of Education	Willie Kasayulie <i>Akiachak</i>
Remarks	Dan White, Chancellor University of Alaska Fairbanks
Congratulations	Kuskokwim Campus Faculty and Staff

Academic Degree and Certificate Abbreviations

A.A.	Associate of Arts
A.A.S.	Associate of Applied Science
B.A.	Bachelor of Arts
B.B.A.	Bachelor of Business Administration
B.A.E.	Bachelor of Arts Elementary Education
B.Ed.	Bachelor of Education
B.S.	Bachelor of Science
B.S.N.	Bachelor of Science in Nursing
B.S.W.	Bachelor of Social Work
C.DEV.	Child Development & Family Studies
C.H.	Community Health
C.W.A.	Community Wellness Advocate
EBOT	Ethnobotany
E.C.E.	Early Childhood Education
Ed.D.	Doctor of Education
HUMS	Human Services
I.T.S.	Information Technology Specialist
J. D.	Juris Doctor
L.C.S.W.	Licensed Clinical Social Worker
M.A.	Master of Arts
M.A.T.	Master of Arts in Teaching
M.F.A.	Master of Fine Arts
M.S.	Master of Science
M.B.A.	Master of Business Administration
M.Div.	Master of Divinity
M.Ed.	Master of Education
M.Ed.Ad.	Master of Education School Administration
M.Ed.Tech.	Master of Education Educational Technology
M.P.A.	Master of Public Administration
M.P.H.	Master of Public Health
M.S.N.	Master of Science in Nursing
M.S.W.	Master of Social Work
N.L.Ed.	Native Language Education
Ph.D.	Doctor of Philosophy
Rad.Tech.	Radiologic Technology Program
R.D.	Rural Development
R.H.S.	Rural Human Services
R.N.	Registered Nurse
T.M.	Tribal Management
Y.L.C.	Yup'ik Language and Culture
Y.L.P.	Yup'ik Language Proficiency

University of Alaska Board of Regents

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ua-bor@alaska.edu

The University of Alaska Board of Regents is an 11-member board, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Alaska Legislature. Members serve an 8-year term, with the exception of the student regent who is nominated from his/her campus and serves a 2-year term. Eight-year terms end on the first Tuesday in February; student regent term begins on June 1. Regents serve until their successor is appointed. The Board was established through the Alaska Constitution and is responsible for University of Alaska policy and management through the University President.

Certificates 2020

Grace Anaruk

Rural Human Services
Anchorage

Carey Atchak

Rural Human Services
Bethel

Tyrah Renae Carl

Pre-Nursing Qualifications
Tuntutuliak

Jimmy Charles, Jr.

Rural Human Services
Newtok

Kara A. Domnick

Rural Human Services
Bethel

Sherry Hassell

Ethnobotany
Soldotna

Sarah Henry

Rural Human Services
Akiachak

Joseph Benedict Hunter, Jr.

Rural Human Services
Bethel

Elizabeth Ivan

Rural Human Services
Akiak

Laura Kashatok

Rural Human Services
Tuluksak

Johnathan Kawagley

Rural Human Services
Bethel

Cora Moore

Rural Human Services
Emmonak

Matthew O'Brien

Ethnobotany
Anchorage

Cheyenne Paukan

Rural Human Services
Saint Mary's

Filma Peter

Rural Human Services
Akiachak

Sarah S. Peterson

Rural Human Services
Mountain Village

Christy Dawn Shaw

Ethnobotany
Revelstoke, BC

Kimberly Smith

Rural Human Services
Akiak

Julia Cakiculi Street

Rural Human Services
Bethel

Janice Uisok

Rural Human Services
Emmonak

Connie Ulroan

Rural Human Services
Chevak

Roberta Waska

Rural Human Services
Emmonak

Associate Degrees 2020

Cesa Agnes

A.A.S., Human Services

Huslia

Alana Anderson

A.A.S., Human Services

Chignik

Caroline A. Asicksik

A.A.S., Human Services

Shaktoolik

Josephine A. Augustine-Edmund

A.A.S., Human Services

Alakanuk

Valerie Bergman

A.A.S., Human Services

Allakaket

Sassa Brink

A.A.S., Human Services

Kasigluk

Michael Chung

A.A.S., Human Services

Anchorage

Margaret D. Haube

A.A.S., Human Services

Juneau

Anna Jackson-Kasayulie

A.A.S., Human Services

Bethel

Valerie Sueann Jensen

A.A.S., Human Services

Yakutat

Genny R. Miller

A.A.S., Community Health

Homer

Anna Mae Moses

A.A.S., Early Childhood Education

Akiachak

Ann Neglaska

A.A.S., Human Services

Kaltag

Alaina E. Patrick

A.A.S., Early Childhood Education

Chevak

Monika Patrick

A.A.S., Human Services

Houston

Doreen Phillips

A.A.S., Human Services

Anchorage

Minnie Simon

A.A.S., Human Services

Hooper Bay

Yuka Ungwiluk

A.A.S., Human Services

Gamble

Kayla R. Anaver

A.A., General Program

Kipnuk

Esther Geneva Bean

A.A., General Program

Bethel

Molly L. Billy

A.A., General Program

Bethel

Tyrah Renae Carl

A.A., General Program

Tuntutuliak

Clarence Lewis Daniel

A.A., General Program

Bethel

Shannon R. Lewis

A.A., General Program

Anchorage

Kuskokwim Campus 2020-2021 Partnerships

Alaska Health Education Center

Association of Village Council Presidents, Inc.

Ayaprun Elitnaurvik

Bering Strait School District

Bethel Chamber of Commerce

Bethel Community Services Foundation

Bethel Council on the Arts

Bethel Native Corporation

Bethel Regional High School

Calista Corporation

City of Bethel

Coastal Villages Region Fund

Dillingham School District

Donlin Gold

GCI

Gladys Jung Elementary

Kuskokwim Art Guild

Kuskokwim Learning Academy

Kuskokwim River Intertribal Fish Commission

KYUK Broadcasting

Lower Kuskokwim School District

Lower Yukon School District

Mt. Edgecumbe High School

Northwest School District

Orutsarmuit Native Council

PC CARES, University of Michigan

Qungasvik Project, Center for Alaska Native Health Research, UAF

Rasmuson Foundation

RurAL CAP

Statewide Community Health Aide Training Program

Tundra Women's Coalition

University of Alaska Fairbanks, Center for Innovation, Commercialization, and

Entrepreneurship

University of Alaska Anchorage, School of Nursing

University of Alaska Fairbanks, Cooperative Extension

University of Alaska Fisheries Technology Program

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation

Yupit School District

Yuut Elitnaurviat

Kuskokwim Campus Staff

Paul Adams, Head Cook, Sackett Hall
Cynthia Andrecheck, Writing Center Coordinator
Ruby Anvil, Receptionist and Administrative Assistant
Julie Carpenter, Fiscal Manager
Sharon Chakuchin, Bethel 4-H Program Coordinator
Dorothy Chase, Financial Aid Coordinator
Gerald Domnick, Local Area Network Manager
Melinda Flemings, Fiscal Technician II
DeShan Foret, Counselor and Social Science Faculty
Jessica Glore, Student Services Manager/RRANN Student Success Facilitator
Martha Glore, Office Manager, Director's Office
Ryan Henderson, College Readiness Coordinator
Andrew James, Program Manager, Sackett Hall
John John, Resident Director, Sackett Hall
Kellie Johnson, Assistant Program Director, Bethel 4-H Center
Ron Kaiser, Crafts and Trades III
Kendra Krenz, Academic and Career Advisor
Agnes McIntyre, Emerging Scholars Program Coordinator/Academic Advisor
Mikayla Miller, Youth Services Assistant
Daniel Nelson, Student Services Technician
Eleanor Oser, Jesuit Volunteer
Alex Pena, Dorm Cook, Sackett Hall
Theresa Quiner, Librarian
Katie Rearden, Assistant Director
Teddi Worrock, Yupiit Piciryarait Manager

Baccalaureate Degrees 2020

Billie J. Chavez

B.A., Communication, Minors: Foreign
Languages and Computer Info Specialist
Bethel

Monica Friday

B.A., Child Development & Family Studies
Chevak

Marla Hedgspeth

B.A., Social Work
Anchorage

Leanna Kaligtok Isaac

B.A., Social Work
Bethel

Sarah Jasper

B.A., Social Work
Bethel

Kathleen Ina Naneng

B.A., Elementary Education
Bethel

Dora Smith

B.A., Social Work
Anchorage

Serena Rose Solesbee

B.A., Social Work
Bethel

Tamija Katrice Woods

B.S., Psychology
Anchorage

Certificates 2021

Eric Svenson Alstrom

Tribal Management

*Saint Mary's***Emily Beaulieu**

Ethnobotany

*Homer***Catherine M. Beebe**

Community Health

*Quinhagak***Melissa M. Berns-Svoboda**

Ethnobotany

*Old Harbor***Heather Michelle Bogardus**

Ethnobotany

*North Pole***Shelby Anne Braun**

Ethnobotany

*Fairbanks***Stefanie Burich**

Ethnobotany

*Anchorage***Marlene Chagluak**

Community Health

*Toksook Bay***Rebecca Ann Chandler**

Ethnobotany

*Lincoln, NE***Paula Ciniero**

Ethnobotany

*Two Rivers***Maria D'Agostino**

Ethnobotany

*Anchorage***Jean Renee Green**

Ethnobotany

*Hooper Bay***Bernadette Hanson**

Community Health

*Nunam Iqua***Gwendolyn R. Heckman**

Community Health

*Pilot Station***Lianna R. Kasayuli**

Community Health

*Bethel***Hope Kiunya-Brown**

Community Health

*Quinhagak***Rachel L. Liester**

Ethnobotany

*Stanton, NE***Mark Phillip Lipoma**

Ethnobotany

*Portland, OR***Barbara Elisabeth Long**

Ethnobotany

*Clovis, NM***Giulietta E. Minerva**

Ethnobotany

*Selawik***Molly Mitchell**

Ethnobotany

*Homer***Annette Nick**

Community Health

*Atmauthluak***Leslie Hsu Oh**

Ethnobotany

*Truckee, CA***Stefanie Schindler**

Ethnobotany

*Selawik***Mandi Kathleen Schmitt**

Ethnobotany

*Fairbanks***Gloria June Simeon**

Ethnobotany

*Mamtrelaq***Shelbylee Seein Simeon**

Community Health

*Aniak***Nadja Smith-Hanson**

Ethnobotany

*Halifax, NS***Kuskokwim Campus Acting Director**

Linda R. Curda, B.S.N., M.P.H., Associate Professor of Community Health

Kuskokwim Campus Faculty

Leif Albertson, M.S., Professor of Cooperative Extension

Kelechukwu Alu, M.S., B.Tech., Assistant Professor of Developmental Mathematics

Linda Curda, B.S.N., M.P.H., Associate Professor of Community Health

Twyla Elhardt, B.S.N., R.N., Nursing Clinical Faculty, University of Alaska Anchorage

Ben Kuntz, B.A., M.A., M.F.A., Associate Professor of English

Diane McEachern, B.S., M.S.W., L.C.S.W., Ph.D., Associate Professor of
Rural and Human Services

Rose Meier, B.S., M.S., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology

Shawn Russell, M.P.A., Assistant Professor of Allied Health

Sally Samson, B.A., M.A., Assistant Professor of Yup'ik Language & Culture

Lisa Strecker, M.A., Assistant Professor of Anthropology/Ethnobotany

Jacqueline Tagaban, B.A., M.A., Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education

Rachelle White, B.S.N., Associate Professor School of Nursing,
University of Alaska Anchorage**Emeritus Professor**

Joli Morgan, M.B.A., Political Science, Economics, Applied Business

Kuskokwim Campus Adjunct Faculty

BJ Aldrich

Jennifer Bacas

Ickey Charles

Mike Gehman

Karina Gonzales-Smith

Ryan Henderson

Kevin Jernigan

Rosalie Lincoln

Joli Morgan

Catherine Moses

Igor Paskernak

Theresa Quiner

Steve Street

Sheila Wallace

Martha Whitman-Kassock

Katrina Wilson

Sveta Yamin-Pasternak

Kuskokwim Campus Affiliate Faculty**Community Health Aide****Program/Education, Yukon Kuskokwim
Health Corporation**

Asela Calhoun, B.S., M.A., Ph.D., Director

Haskell Derryberry, NP-C

Katherine Evon, B.S.

Jesse Gunlik, CHP

Jessie Judy, D.N.P., NP-C

Rita Kalistook, FNP

Barrie Levin, FNP

Barb Mickelson, NP-C

Cameron Mortensen, PA-C

Brandon Nelson, NP-C

Marsha Smith, CHP

Jeffrey Thompson, PA-C

Kuskokwim Campus 2021 Student of the Year Awards

The University of Alaska Fairbanks Kuskokwim Campus (KuC) is pleased to announce its Student of the Year Awards. Full-time Student of the Year was presented to Amber *Acurunaq* Evan from Kongiganak, AK. Amber is completing her Associate of Arts degree in April 2021. After graduation, she plans to continue her higher education by working towards a Bachelor's degree in Rural Development, with a minor in Creative Writing. She feels that by earning a degree in Rural Development she will be better prepared to give back to her community of Kongiganak and help it to become a better place. Her advice to new students is that "even if you hit bumps and your instinct is to stop – just keep going."

KuC's Part-time Student of the Year Award was given to Deborah A. *Acitmuq* Michael, currently residing in Bethel but originally from Kwethluk, AK. Deborah is the epitome of persistence and perseverance. In 1986 she participated in KuC's Institute of Language and Thought while still in high school. After graduation she went on to college in Durango, CO, for a couple of years until life interrupted her studies. Since then she has earned a certificate as a Community Wellness Advocate from UAS (2008), an RHS Certificate (2014) and an AAS degree in HUMS (2016), both from KuC. Following the academic pathway provided by the RHS/HUMS/BSW program, Deborah will earn her B.A. in Social Work in April 2021. She credits her success to the holistic and culturally-relevant nature of the RHS program: "I can bring my whole self."

Red Sashes

Red sashes signify graduating Alaska Native and Native American students. Red sashes are provided for our graduates by CACNE, the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Native Education, and the College of Rural and Community Development through generous donations from Alaska Native corporations.

Graduation with Honors

Students who graduate with honors are wearing a gold honor cord. Graduation with honors is a tribute that recognizes academic achievement. Honors graduates have earned a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.5 or higher in all college work. If a student's overall cumulative GPA is 3.5 or higher, a student graduates with the distinction of *cum laude*; 3.75 or higher, *magna cum laude*; 3.9 or higher and no grade lower than A-, *summa cum laude*. Honors awards are preliminary and are finalized after grades are posted.

Graduates who are the first in their family to earn a baccalaureate degree wear teal cords. Graduates who identify as members of the LGBTQ+ community wear rainbow cords.

Commencement Guests

Charlene Stern, Interim Vice Chancellor for Rural, Community and Native Education,
College of Rural and Community Development, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Dan White, Chancellor, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Sheri Buretta, Chair, University of Alaska Board of Regents

Certificates 2021

Margaret Stern

Ethnobotany

Talkeetna

Shellie Anne Tabb

Ethnobotany

Ketchikan

Theresa Twitchell

Community Health

Kasigluk

Sundance Visser

Ethnobotany

Homer

Charlene F. Wuya

Tribal Management

Bethel

Derek Zeller

Ethnobotany

Omaha, NE

Associate Degrees 2021

Monica Ciquyaq Angaiak

Cum Laude

A.A.S., Early Childhood Education

Toksook Bay

Ethan Tutmalria Andrew

Cum Laude

A.A.S., Tribal Management

Tuntutuliak

Catherine M. Beebe

A.A.S., Community Health

Quinhagak

Amber M. Quliyuilnguq Bukowski

A.A.S., Community Health

Chevak/Bethel

Ariel R. Johnson

A.A.S., Early Childhood Education

Anchorage

Sharon M. Alqang'aaq Kanuk

A.A.S., Community Health

Napakiaq

Magen Marie Spencer

A.A.S., Human Services

Nenana

Janice K. Wiseman

A.A.S., Applied Accounting

Tuntutuliak

Elena Molly Anthony

A.A., General Program

Nightmute

Jawn Ac'urunaq Carl

A.A., General Program

Kipnuk

Brenda Dull

A.A., General Program

Nightmute

Danielle Iiqtaq Epchook

Cum Laude

A.A., General Program

Kwethluk

Amber N. Evan

A.A., General Program

Kongiganak

Carlotta Sophia Mass'aluq Evan

A.A., General Program

Tuntutuliak

Nicholai Michael Joekay

A.A., General Program

Bethel

Marlena A. John (Ac'urunaq)

A.A., General Program

Kwigillingok

Associate Degrees 2021

Joshua J. Klejka

A.A., General Program
Bethel

Julia Panruk Lewis

Cum Laude
A.A., General Program
Chefornak

Lisa Fitka Olick

A.A., General Program
Tuntutuliak

Monica H. Paukan

A.A., General Program
Saint Mary's

Veronica M. Simons

A.A., General Program
Toksook Bay

Vicki Wiseman

A.A., General Program
Bethel

Baccalaureate Degrees 2021

Agguggaq Jodi Friend

B.A., Secondary Post-Baccalaureate
Licensure
Kwigillingok

Miranda Ciquyaq Robb Johansson

B.A., Psychology, Minor: Art
Bethel

Stephanie Agnes Eliza Maxie

B.A., Elementary Education
Napaskiak

Deborah Ann Acitmuq Michael

B.A., Social Work, Minor: Human Services
Bethel

Katheryn Nina Kiktugiaq Nenneman

Magna Cum Laude
B.A., Social Work, Minor: Human Services
Bethel

Meritorious Service Award

Esther Nuqaq'aq Green

Kuskokwim Campus, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Bethel

Esther *Nuqaq'aq* Green is a Yup'ik Elder who lives in Bethel and has been an educator in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta for more than 40 years. Following her retirement from local schools, she provided cultural grounding to adult Indigenous students in the RHS, HUMS AAS, BSW programs. These programs, which offer social service training and education, are critical throughout our state. For the past 15 years, Ms. Green's contributions have included course content and student support, all through the lens of a Yup'ik Elder.

Honorary Doctor of Education

Willie Kasayulie

Kuskokwim Campus, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Akiachak

Willie Kasayulie grew up attending Bureau of Indian Affairs schools in Akiachak, Wrangell, and Chemawa, Oregon, before completing his high school education in Vermont. Since then, he has had a long and distinguished career promoting the health and welfare of indigenous people through service, activism, advocacy and reform. He is one of the founders of the Yupiit Nation and served as its chief. He has served with many other organizations and agencies at the community, state and national levels. A tireless advocate for Alaska's public school students, he has served on the board of the Yupiit School District and was a plaintiff in a lawsuit to correct injustices he saw in Alaska education funding. His many honors include a Citizen of the Year Award from the Alaska Federation of Natives and the Champion of Equal Rights Award from the Alaska Civil Liberties Union.

Usibelli Award

Diane McEachern

Associate Professor of Rural and Human Services
Kuskokwim Campus, University of Alaska Fairbanks

The 2020 Distinguished Teaching Award went to Diane McEachern, an associate professor at UAF's Kuskokwim Campus. Dr. McEachern, who has taught in Bethel since 2004, is applauded for her culturally-sensitive approach to teaching and learning. She has taught 32 different courses from the certificate to graduate level at the Kuskokwim Campus, covering disciplines that include sociology, psychology, social work and rural human services. Dr. McEachern is noted for her cross-cultural understanding and her application of that skill to her teaching.

"Dr. McEachern maintains a 'reflective practice' as a teacher in which she remains open to developing skill as a teacher and learner. ... She takes time with Elders, sharing the curriculum with them and soliciting their advice and stories," wrote Linda Curda, acting director of the Kuskokwim Campus, in her nomination letter.