



Alaska Anthropological Association Newsletter

Volume 47, Number 1

www.alaskaanthropology.org

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Virtual Events

#AkAA virtual 2021:
March 1-5

Society for American
Archaeology Annual Meeting:
April 15-17

Festival of Native Arts:
March 25-27

Society for Applied
Anthropology Annual Conference:
March 18-19 & 22-27

Recent publication? Have a
field school to advertise? Email
dskinnner2@alaska.edu to be
featured in the spring 2021
newsletter.



Like the AkAA Facebook
page to stay current on
news and events in
Alaskan anthropology.



President's Message



Dear Members,

Here we are on the eve of another annual meeting but so much has shifted since our gathering last February in Fairbanks. We have experienced a year of unprecedented change in how we engage with one another, underwent challenges, and suffered losses, yet we have persevered and are coming together once again in this new virtual world. Our 48th Annual Meeting offers us an opportunity to reconnect and share both our professional endeavors and personal reflections of the year 2020. Over 200 participants have registered for #AkAA virtual 2021 and its five days of presentations, keynotes, and special events. The virtual format of this year's conference has allowed us to extend the Association's outreach and engagement through free registration, online accessibility to communities, and invitation to international participants. While we embark on this new mode of conversation, we ask that you approach the conference with patience and understanding for your fellow colleagues as we navigate this virtual space together.

Sincere congratulations to the 2021 recipients of the student scholarship and professional achievement awards who are featured in this newsletter. I hope you will join us to celebrate their accomplishments during the Welcome and Awards ceremony at the start of the conference. The conference committee has generously contributed their time and expertise over the past six months to ensure that another annual meeting did indeed happen and it would help to meet the needs of our members. Thank you to this great team and their invaluable efforts. We also appreciate all of you have organized sessions and events, prepared presentations, and will be making space to join us online next week.

President

Amy Phillips-Chan

Board Members

Morgan Blanchard

Joshua Lynch

Scott Shirar

Sam Coffman

Britteny M. Howell

Other Association Officials

Ann Biddle, treasurer

John Hemmeter, student intern

Dougless Skinner, newsletter
editor

The purpose of the Alaska Anthropological Association is to serve as a vehicle for maintaining communication among people interested in all branches of anthropology; to promote public awareness and support for anthropological activities and goals; to foster knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of Alaska Native and circumpolar cultural heritage; to work in collaboration with Indigenous communities on all aspects of research and education; and to facilitate the dissemination of anthropological works in both technical and non-technical formats.

The call for nominees for the 2021 Board of Directors received an enthusiastic response and a terrific group of candidates ran in this year's election. Congratulations to newly elected officers, including Sam Coffman (President), Shina duVall (Board), Britteny Howell (Board), Joshua Lynch (Board), and Marine Vanlandeghem Gillespie (Student Representative). Board members will begin their two-year terms at the close of this year's annual meeting. Please reach out to congratulate them or join the annual business meeting at the end of the conference to meet the Board in-person!

In appreciation for all the good work that you do,
Amy Phillips-Chan

Announcements

UAF 2021 CHENA TOWNSITE ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL

Founded in 1902 on the north bank of the Tanana River, The Chena Townsite was a bustling goldrush town home to thousands of miners and settlers that flocked to the region in search of prosperity. Chena rivaled its close neighbor Fairbanks as the commercial center of mining operations in the Alaska Interior. The rivalry lasted only a few short decades, however, before Fairbanks emerged victorious. Chena became a ghost town by 1920 and was all but forgotten. Little remains of the once thriving town. In the past two decades however, archaeologists have mapped, surveyed, and begun to excavate parts of Chena in hopes of better understanding its birth and abandonment. This year we will continue this research by conducting archaeological survey and excavations at the site where Chena once stood.

The Chena Townsite is located just outside of Fairbanks, Alaska. Students will live in their own accommodations and report to the site daily. Students will provide their own lunches, but all tools and equipment will be provided. Participants will learn the fundamental skills of archaeological fieldwork while excavating and documenting historic structures and artifacts. They will examine artifacts, botanicals, sediments, and faunal materials to learn analytical techniques while providing insight into the lives of the traders, miners, and other members of this short-lived historic community.



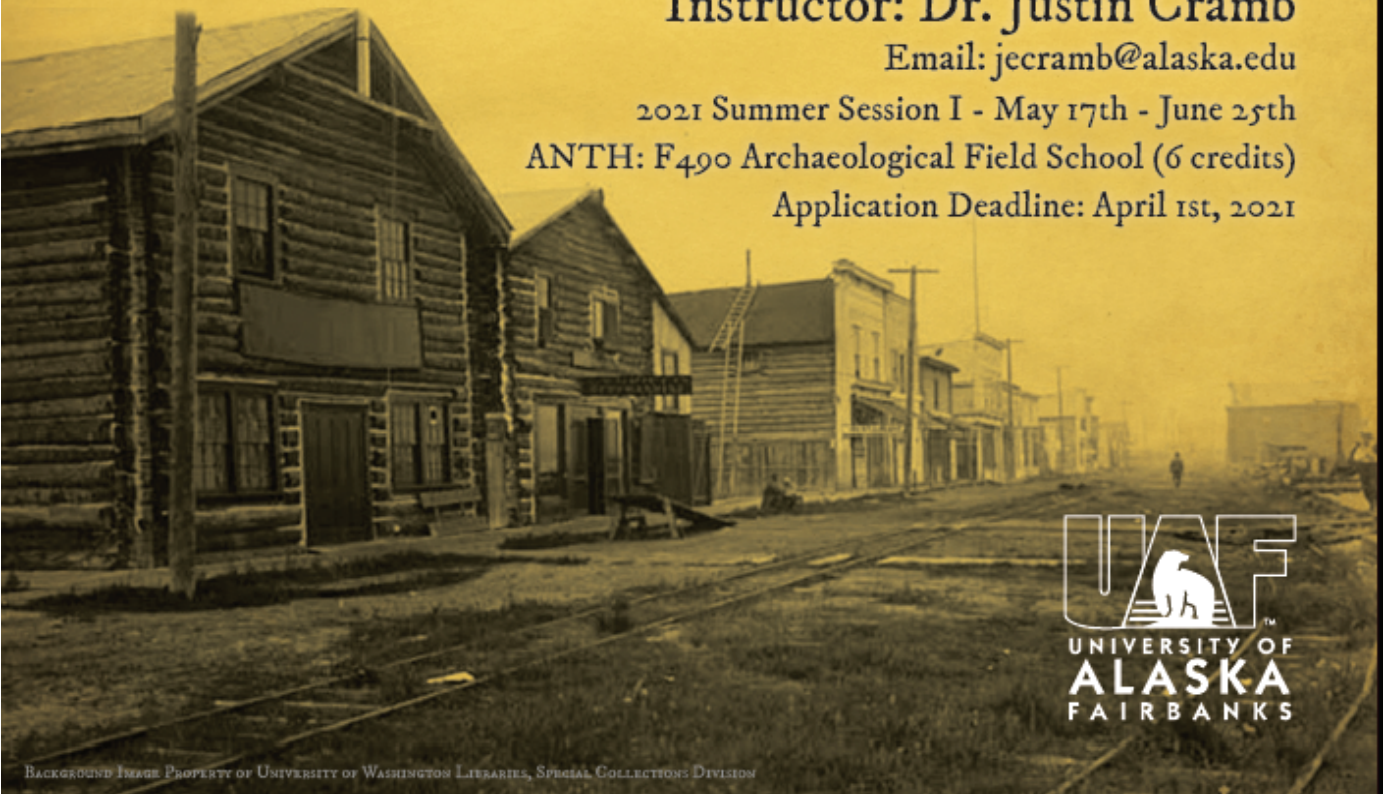
Instructor: Dr. Justin Cramb

Email: jecramb@alaska.edu

2021 Summer Session I - May 17th - June 25th

ANTH: F490 Archaeological Field School (6 credits)

Application Deadline: April 1st, 2021



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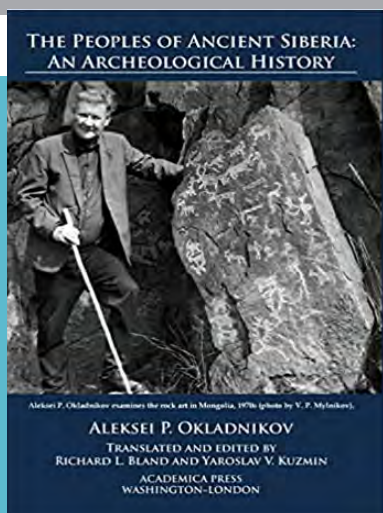
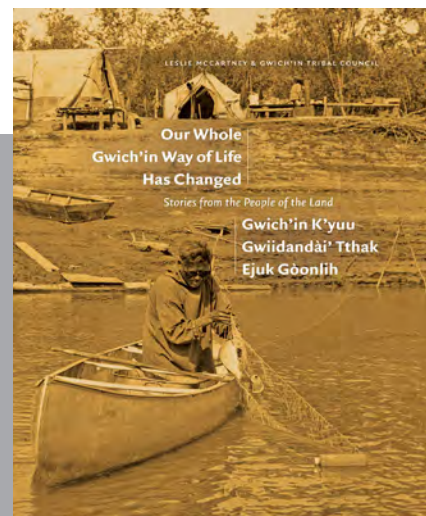
Recent Publications

Our Whole Gwich'in Way of Life Has Changed / Gwich'in K'yuu
Gwiidandàì' Tthak Ejuk Gòonlih Stories from the People of the Land:
Leslie McCartney and Gwich'in Tribal Council

This is an invaluable compilation of historical and cultural information based on a project originally conceived by the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute to document the biographies of the oldest Gwich'in Elders in the Gwich'in Settlement Region. Through their own stories, twenty-three Gwich'in Elders from the Northwest Territories communities

of fort McPherson, Tsiigehtshik, Inuvik, and Aklavik share their joy of living and travelling on the land. Their distinctive voices speak to their values, world views, and knowledge, while McCartney assists by providing context and background on the lives of the narrators and their communities. Scholars, students, and all those interested in Canadian/Northern history, anthropology, Indigenous Studies, oral history, or cultural geography will benefit from this critical resource.

Elders Who Contributed Their Stories: Antoine Andre, Caroline Andre, Hyacinthe Andre, Annie Benoit, Pierre Benoit, Sarah Bonnetplume, Marka Bullock, Lydia Alexie Elias, Mary Martha Firth, Sarah Ann Gardlund, Elizabeth Greenland, Violet Therese Jerome, Peter Kay Sr., Mary Rose Kendi, Ruby Anne McLeod, Catherine Martha Mitchell, Eunice Mitchell, Joan Ross Nazon, Annie Moses Norbert, Alfred Semple, Sarah Simon, Ellen Catherine Vittrekwa, Jim Julius Vittrekwa.

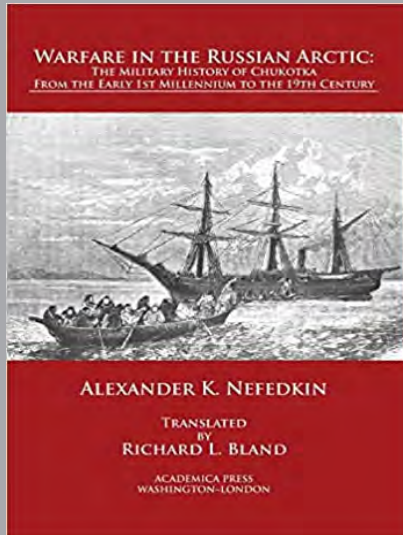


The Peoples of Ancient Siberia: An Archeological History
Aleksei P. Okladnikov

The distinguished Russian archeologist Aleksei P. Okladnikov's study reveals how a field archeologist goes about determining and writing prehistory. Over the course of his career, Okladnikov and his wife Vera Zaporozhskaya travelled across Siberia from the Lena River in the north to the Amur River in the south excavating archaeological sites. During that time Aleksei and Vera found and interpreted the rock art of the vast region from the Paleolithic Era to the present day. Relying on

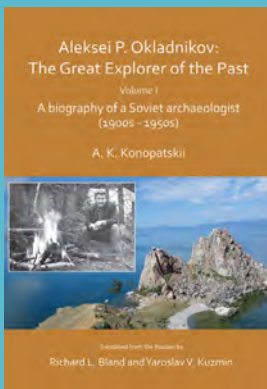
petroglyphs and pictographs left on cliffs and boulders, Okladnikov lays out in detail and straightforward language the prehistory of Siberia by "reading" these artifacts. This book permits the past to be told in its own words: the art portrayed on the cliffs of Siberia.

Recent Publications



Warfare in the Russian Arctic: The Military History of Chukotka from the Early First Millennium to the Nineteenth Century Alexander K. Nefedkin

Alexander Nefedkin's highly original new book, translated by the noted American scholar Richard L. Bland, is devoted to the understudied topic of the military and military-political history of Chukotka, the far northeastern region of the Russian Federation, separated from Alaska by Bering Strait. This study is based on primary sources, including archaeological, folkloric, and documentary evidence, dating from ancient times to the cessation of conflict in the territory in the nineteenth century. Nefedkin's analysis surveys the military history of these eras, reassessing well known topics and bringing to light previously unknown events.



Aleksei P. Okladnikov: The Great Explorer of the Past: Volume 1 & 2 A. K. Konopatskii, translated by Richard L. Bland and Yaroslav V. Kuzmin

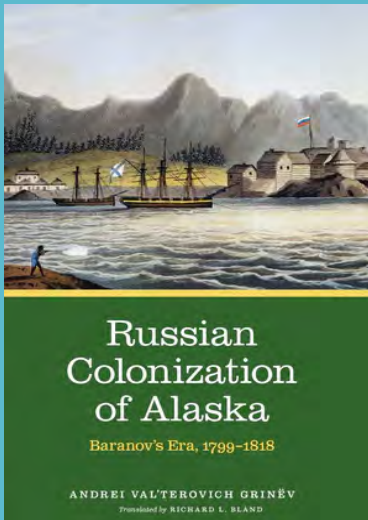
The life and works of Aleksei P. Okladnikov (1908–1981), a prominent archaeologist who spent more than 50 years studying prehistoric sites in various parts of the Soviet Union and in Mongolia. This part of Okladnikov's biography concentrates on his works in 1961–1981, when he was organiser (1961–1966) and since 1966 the Director of the Institute of History, Philology, and Philosophy, Siberian Branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences, in Novosibirsk. This institute was a part of large-scale project of Akademgorodok (Academic Town) built in 1957–1964, the unique phenomenon of Soviet science. In Novosibirsk, Okladnikov continued active fieldworks in Siberia, Russian Far East, Central Asia and Mongolia, and writing of books and articles on different subjects of archaeology and history. He also created the Novosibirsk school of archaeologists who continue to work in Siberia and the neighbouring regions of Asia until today. In 1974, Okladnikov with four colleagues participated in joint US–Soviet expedition to the Aleutian Islands, where W. S. Laughlin and he directed the excavations of early sites. The book is for archaeologists, historians, and everyone who is interested in the history of scholarship (particularly the humanities) in the twentieth century.



Recent Publications

Russian Colonization of Alaska: Baranov's Era, 1799-1818
Andrei Val'terovich Grinëv; Translated by Richard L. Bland

In *Russian Colonization of Alaska: Baranov's Era, 1799-1818*, Andrei Val'terovich Grinëv examines the sociohistorical origins of the former Russian colonies in Alaska, or "Russian America." The formation of the Russian-American Company and the concentration in the hands of Aleksandr Baranov of all the power in south and southeast Alaska's



Russian settlements marked a new stage in the history of Russian America. Expanding and strengthening Russian possessions in the New World as much as possible, Baranov acted in favor of his country before himself, in accordance with the principle "people for the empire, and not the empire for the people."

Russian Colonization of Alaska is the first comprehensive study to analyze the origin and evolution of Russian colonization based on research into political economy, history, and ethnography. Grinëv's study elaborates the social, political, spiritual, ideological, personal, and psychological aspects of Russian America, accounting for the idiosyncrasies of the natural environment, competition from other North American empires, and challenges from Alaska Natives and individual colonial diplomats. Rather than being simply a continuation of Russians' colonization of Siberia, the colonization of Alaska was instead part of overarching Russian and global history.

48th Annual Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association



Fostering a Culture of Equity through the Removal of Boundaries

To register, please visit the “Annual Meeting Page” at www.alaskaanthropology.org

Zoom Room A: Meeting ID 987 6209 0720 (you must register)

Zoom Room B: Meeting ID: 915 7712 8821 (no registration needed)

Conference Planning Committee: Morgan Blanchard (Board), Sally Carraher, Sam Coffman (Board), John Hemmeter (Student Intern), Tamara Holman, Anne Jensen, Joshua Lynch (Board), Amy Phillips-Chan (President), Monty Rogers, Scott Shirar (Board), Marine Vanlandeghem Gillespie

Conference Volunteers: Eileen Paddy Colligan, Roberta Gordaoff, Diane Hanson, Annalisa Heppner, Hollis Miller, Valentine Tusa,

Schedule at a Glance

Monday, March 1, 2021		
9:00am-10:20am	ROOM A	
	Welcome	
	Scholarships and Awards	
10:20am-10:40am	Morning Break	
10:40am-12:00pm	ROOM A	ROOM B
	One Love: A Session in Honor of Mary Pete	Indigenous Language Studies
12:00pm-12:20pm	Afternoon Break	
12:20pm-2:20pm	ROOM A	ROOM B
	One Love: A Session in Honor of Mary Pete	
Tuesday, March 2, 2021		
9:00am-10:20am	ROOM A	
	Keynote Address: Dr. E.J.R. David	
	<i>Beyond Diversity Trainings and Implicit Biases: Toward an Anti-Racist and Equity Approach</i>	
10:20am-10:40am	Morning Break	
10:40am-12:00pm	ROOM A	ROOM B
	What NOT to do in Academia: Lessons Learned from the Trenches	Revitalizing Collections
12:00pm-12:20pm	Afternoon Break	
12:20pm-2:20pm	ROOM A	ROOM B
	What NOT to do in Academia: Lessons Learned from the Trenches	Poster Session
Wednesday, March 3, 2021		
9:00am-10:20am	ROOM A	ROOM B
	Alaska Museums and Artists Respond to the Covid-19 Pandemic	Dealing with the Loss of Cultural Resources: What Can Alaska Learn from What Others Are Doing?
10:20am-10:40am	Morning Break	
10:40am-12:00pm	ROOM A	ROOM B
	Alaska Museums and Artists Respond to the Covid-19 Pandemic	Dealing with the Loss of Cultural Resources: What Can Alaska Learn from What Others Are Doing?
12:00pm-12:20pm	Afternoon Break	
12:20pm-2:20pm	ROOM A	ROOM B
	Talking Circle—Conducting Collaborative Community-Based Participatory Research	
Thursday, March 4, 2021		
9:00am-10:20am	ROOM A	ROOM B
	Academic Support & Success / Career Development	Archaeology
10:20am-10:40am	Morning Break	
10:40am-12:00pm	ROOM A	ROOM B
	Academic Support & Success / Career Development	Archaeology
12:00pm-12:20pm	Afternoon Break	
12:20pm-2:20pm	ROOM A	ROOM B
	Academic Support & Success / Career Development	Anthropology
Friday, March 5, 2021		
9:00am-10:20am	ROOM A	
	Keynote Address: Dr. Heather Iglooliorte	
	<i>Thinking Beyond Geographic and Institutional Boundaries: Circumpolar Art Futures</i>	
10:20am-10:40am	Morning Break	
10:40am-12:00pm	ROOM A	ROOM B
	On the Edge: Saving the Ascension of Our Lord Chapel in Karluk, Alaska	Archaeology Site and Survey Reports: Removing the Boundaries
12:00pm-12:20pm	Afternoon Break	
12:20pm-2:20pm	ROOM A	ROOM B
	On the Edge: Saving the Ascension of Our Lord Chapel in Karluk, Alaska	Virtual Job Fair
3:00pm-4:00pm	ROOM A	ROOM B
	Annual Business Meeting	
7:00pm-10:00pm	ROOM A	ROOM B
	Belzoni Society Meeting and Online Auction	

Conference Keynote Speakers

Dr. E.J.R. David ***University of Alaska Anchorage***

Beyond Diversity Trainings and Implicit Biases: Toward an Anti-Racist and Equity Approach

There was a time when celebrating diversity and acknowledging implicit biases were considered a step forward in addressing racism. As helpful as these efforts were, however, today's climate calls for something more. In this presentation, we will discuss the need to move beyond being non-racist and unbiased, and toward having an anti-racist and equity approach in order to more effectively tackle systemic racism.



Dr. Heather Igloliorte ***Concordia University***

Thinking Beyond Geographic and Institutional Boundaries: Circumpolar Art Futures

Centering Inuit knowledge, relationships, and art, in this presentation. Igloliorte will discuss one of her current research initiatives, Inuit Futures in Arts Leadership: The Pilimmaksarniq / Pijariuqsarniq Project (2018-2025), and the forthcoming co-curated exhibition INUA, which opens at Qaumajuq, the new Inuit art center at the Winnipeg Art Gallery in March 2021, to consider new possibilities and potential trajectories forward in circumpolar arts and institutional practice. How can we work together to create a more equitable future for circumpolar Inuit peoples within and beyond the Western, or southern, institutions that hold our arts and cultural productions in trust?



Virtual Job Fair

Organizers: Tamara Holman and Marine Vanlandeghem Gillespie
Friday, March 5, 12:40pm–2:40 pm, Zoom Room B

This event is an opportunity for students and job seekers of all levels to network with potential employers, field school or internship programs, and other opportunities in Alaska. Government agencies, academic programs, and private employers are encouraged to prepare an introductory slide or flash presentation describing the types of positions available and information about how to navigate the employment process.

In conjunction with the virtual job fair, the University of Georgia Center for Applied Isotope Studies will be available to answer your questions about their services and how isotope studies might improve your research.

Annual Business Meeting

Friday, March 5, 3:00pm-4:00pm, Zoom Room A

Members are invited to join us for an update on association finances and activities, to meet new board members, and remember colleagues.

Belzoni Society

Friday, March 5, 7:00pm-10:00pm, Zoom Room A

The Belzoni Society goes virtual! Join us for the unofficial finale of the annual Alaska Anthropological Association meeting on Friday, March 5. For over 30 years, the Belzoni Society has met at the end of each conference to celebrate, bond, and let off some steam. As always, there will be sacred reading from the Tome of Belzoni followed by the best awards ceremony of the year. NEW this year! We are hosting an online auction of items that are sure to amaze and inspire. All proceeds will go to supporting next year's Student Scholarships so bid high and bid often! See you there!

#AkAA virtual 2021 Organized Sessions

Alaska Museums and Artists Respond to the Covid-19 Pandemic

Organizers: Amy Phillips-Chan and Dawn Biddison

The Covid-19 pandemic has ushered in a new era of educational outreach in which museums and cultural organizations are pursuing alternative strategies to stay engaged with the public and provide meaningful experiences. Alaska museums have responded to the pandemic with innovative programs that offer remote access to educational resources from online exhibits and robotic tours to virtual activities and social events. The dynamic intersection between the contemporary art field and museums has also experienced a surge of creativity as artists partner with museums to visualize emotive responses to the pandemic. This session highlights forward-looking approaches taken by Alaskan artists and museums to reflect, respond, and connect during this period of social transformation.

One Love. A Session in Honor of Mary Pete

Organizers: Rose Meier, Lisa Strecker, and Sveta Yamin-Pasternak

With the title that famously stands for unity and inclusion, this session honors the memory of anthropologist Mary Ciuniq Pete. A life-long practitioner of Yup'ik values, Mary dedicated herself to family, community, scholarship, and leading in advocating for equity and justice. Her professional career included several high profile appointments at federal and state offices, including UAF. Organized by the faculty in the Ethnobotany Program – a part of Mary's vast legacy created during her years as the UAF Kuskokwim Campus Director – this session invites academic presentations, poetry, storytelling, song, and visual art that celebrate knowledge and love in and of Alaska.

“Academic Support & Success/Career Development” Workshop

Organizers: Marine Vanlandeghem Gillespie and Tamara Holman

This Career workshop is dedicated to helping students (members of Native and rural communities, juniors, undergraduates and graduates, international students, etc.) prepare for their future academic or professional careers in archaeology, anthropology, humanities, science, and education in Alaska. This is a very good opportunity for Alaska Anthropological Association members to be seen by potential future coworkers or to be helped if looking for a new position.

#AkAA virtual 2021 Organized Sessions

What NOT to do in academia: Lessons learned from the trenches

Organizer: Britteny Howell

Academic anthropologists have learned some hard lessons over the years and now is our time to share some of those lessons learned! A mixture of funny (horror) stories and insights, this session will gather papers to help the novice and seasoned academic alike succeed in the ivory tower. From choosing your projects wisely, to working with collaborators and co-authors, to teaching and mentoring students, this session will share what NOT to do in academia, as well as what you maybe should do, from academics across the ranks.

Archaeology Site and Survey Reports: Removing the Boundaries

Organizer: Brian Wygal

This session presents archaeology site and survey reports with the intention of submitting written versions for consideration in an upcoming volume of the Alaska Journal of Anthropology. This session is especially designed to allow underrepresented scholars a space to launch. In an effort to remove the boundaries in archaeology, we especially encourage contributions from members of Indigenous, people of color, LGBTQIA+, student, or anyone else interested in participating.

Dealing with the Loss of Cultural Resources: What Can Alaska Learn from What Others Are Doing?

Organizer: Anne Jensen

Environmental change poses a dire threat to cultural heritage in and around the world. In Alaska, sea level change, coastal erosion, permafrost degradation, changes in hydrology and increases in forest and tundra fires all threaten the archaeological record. Currently, there is no organized professional response. But does that need to be the case? Other areas have developed responses involving professionals and citizen scientists. Alaska is unique, and no existing model is ideal, examining a variety of solutions should help in developing a better system. This session provides an overview of various existing models, to see what might be adaptable to Alaska.

#AkAA virtual 2021 Organized Sessions

On the Edge: Saving the Ascension of Our Lord Chapel in Karluk, Alaska

Organizer: Shina duVall

The Ascension of Our Lord Chapel in Karluk, Alaska is in imminent danger of being lost to the Karluk River due to bluff erosion. Currently, it is <25 feet from the edge. The church is the oldest extant church in Alaska, dating to 1888. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. An interdisciplinary team is working to develop a plan to relocate the building and identify solutions for the rest of the site, which includes the Karluk Cemetery and extensive archaeological features. This session will include perspectives from team members working to relocate the church.

Talking Circle–Conducting Collaborative Community-Based Participatory Research

Organizers: Mike Koskey and Yoko Kugo

Social and natural scientists have recognized that community-based participatory research provide them insider perspectives and lead to a holistic approach to their findings. This session invites panelists who have worked on community-based participatory research, participatory action research, and community initiated projects. Panelists include community elders, academic professions and students, and Indigenous scholars to discuss their works, concerns, and goals of the projects from various perspectives. Panelists will use a talking circle style to carry conversations with questions, and introduce to the audience advice on how to conduct respectful, effective, collaborative research with study communities.

Additional conference information and a link to the program can be found at
www.alaskaanthropology.org/annual-meeting/

See you online!

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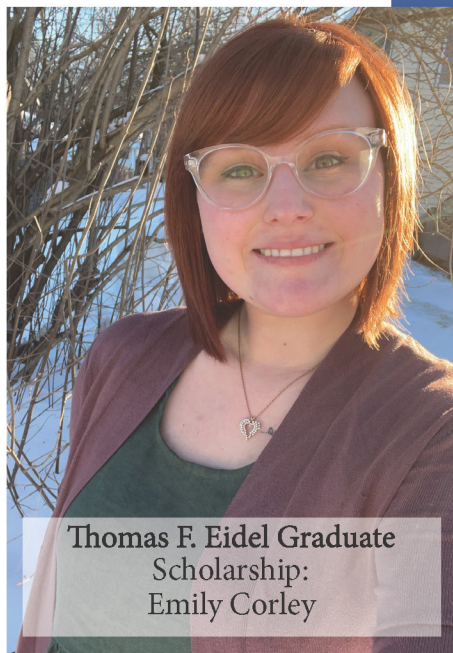
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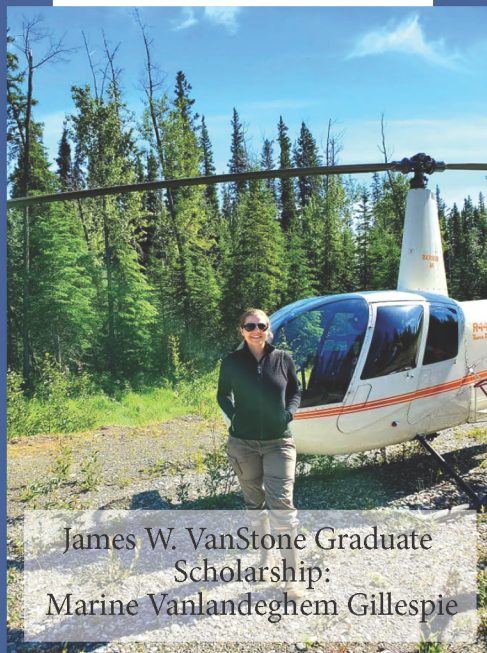
The degree program in cultural and geospatial studies draws from courses in anthropology and geography, providing students with skills necessary for careers in a wide-range of fields related to community development. These include regional and community planning, economic development, **cultural resources management**, **heritage preservation**, **ethnographic studies**, and **geographic information science**.

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Scholarship and Award Winners 2021



Thomas F. Eidel Graduate
Scholarship:
Emily Corley



James W. VanStone Graduate
Scholarship:
Marine Vanlandeghem Gillespie



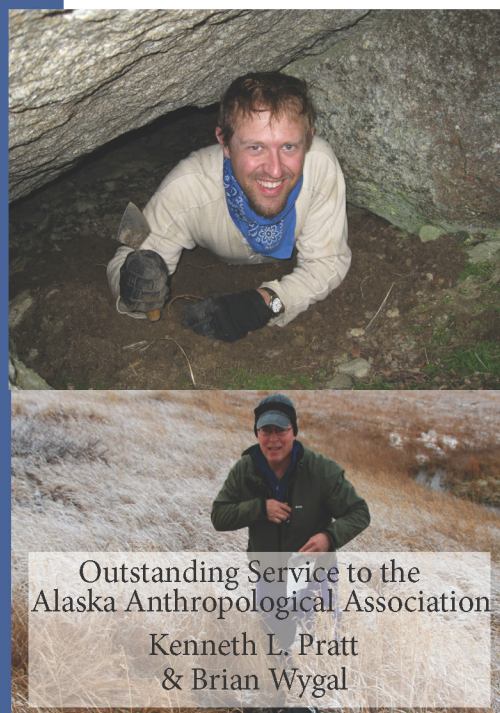
Edwin S. Hall Jr. Student Paper
Competition:
Charlotte McElvaney



John E. Lobdell Undergraduate
Scholarship:
Alexandra Lacy



Outstanding Current Contribution
to Alaskan Anthropology
Ellen Carrlee



Outstanding Service to the
Alaska Anthropological Association
Kenneth L. Pratt
& Brian Wygal