



# Alaska Native Knowledge Network

*Resources for compiling and exchanging information related to Alaska Native knowledge systems and ways of knowing.*



## Alaska Native Earned Research (Ph.D. or Ed.D.) Graduates

The original list of 56 graduates was created by Dr. Jessica Bissett Perea, 10/2013. Updates after 10/2013 maintained by Drs. Alberta Jones and Sean Asikluk Topkok with input from *many* Alaska Native scholars! Research graduates listed are from accredited universities. This living list is a continuation of research work that focused on the PhD/EdD degrees. **Most recent update: 5/5/2026**

**Bold** = currently works in UA system or an Alaska university or college

**^** = previously worked in UA system or an Alaska university or college

**+** = May work/live outside of Alaska

**x** = May work/live in Alaska (not in UA system)

**\*** = deceased (~13)

**~** = Publications or contact information

*Work location/residency may not be accurate since the list has grown substantially and tracking can be difficult.*

<b>Name (Cultural Affiliation)</b>	<b>Year: Degree, Institution</b>	<b>Degree Field</b>
1. *James Simpson (Ahtna Athabascan) ^	1970: Ed.D., University of Washington, WA	Education
2. *Michael F. Tillman (Tlingit) +	1972: Ph.D., University of Washington, WA	Fisheries Science
3. *Raymond Carroll (Ahtna Athabascan) +	1972: Ph.D., University of Michigan	Physics
4. *William Demmert (Tlingit/Oglala Sioux) +^	1973: Ed.D., Harvard University, MA	Education
5. *Louis Jacquot (Tlingit) ^	1973: Ph.D., University of Oregon	Education
6. *Paul A Goodwin (Iñupiaq) ^	1979: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Physics
7. *Marvin Charles McCallum (Aleut/Unangax)+	1980: Ph.D., University of New Mexico	Psychology
8. Robert D Stearns (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) +	1983: Ph.D., Stanford University, CA	Anthropology
9. Elizabeth Parent (Athabascan) +	1984: Ph.D., Stanford University, CA	Education
10. Lora L Johnson (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) x	1984: Ph.D., Brown University, RI	Classics
11. Denis O'Hearn (UnangaꝔ Aleut) +	1988: Ph.D., University of Michigan	Sociology
12. Larri Fredericks (Lower Tanana Athabascan) +	1990: Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley	Medical Anthropology
13. John Weise (Yup'ik) ^	1990: Ph.D., University of Oregon	Education
14. Ted Wright (Tlingit) ^	1990: Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University	Education Theory and Policy
15. Dorothy Pender (Iñupiaq) x	1991: Ph.D., Stanford University, CA	Electrical Engineering
16. Jeanmarie Crumb (Athabascan) x	1992: Ed.D., University of Southern California	Education
17. *Angayuqaq Oscar Kawagley (Yupiaq) ^	1993: Ph.D., University of British Columbia CAN	Education
18. Brian Wescott (Athabascan/Yup'ik) +	1993: Ph.D., Yale University, CT	American Studies
<b>19. Milo Adkison (Yup'ik)</b>	1994: Ph.D., University of Washington	Fisheries
20. Donna A McGill-Cameron (UnangaꝔ Aleut)	1994: Ed.D., University of LaVerne, CA	Physical Chemistry

21. Jeane Breinig (Haida) x^	1995: Ph.D., University of Washington	English
22. Edna Ahgeak MacLean (Iñupiaq) x	1995: Ph.D., Stanford University, CA	Linguistics
23. Catherine Swan Reimer (Iñupiaq) +	1995: Ed.D., George Washington University	Education (Counseling)
24. Jay Corwin (Tlingit) +	1995: Ph.D., Florida State University	Modern Languages
25. Connie (Leask) Lambert (Tsimshian/Haida) +	1995: Ph.D., University of Washington	Special Education
26. Dolores Garza (Haida) ^+	1996: Ph.D., University of Delaware	Marine Science
27. Shari Huhndorf (Yup'ik) +	1996: Ph.D., New York University	Comparative Literature
<b>28. Maria Williams (Tlingit)</b>	1996: Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles	Ethnomusicology
29. *Gordon Pullar (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) ^x	1997: Ph.D., The Union Institute, Ohio	Anthropology
30. Denise Dillard (Iñupiaq) x	1997: Ph.D., Colorado State University	Counseling Psychology
31. Cheryl Ann Denesha Wilga (Dena'ina Athabascan) ^	1997: Ph.D., University of Southern Florida	Biological Sciences
32. *Phyllis Fast (Koyukon Athabascan) ^+	1998: Ph.D., Harvard University, MA	Anthropology
33. Mary Jean Longley (Iñupiaq) +	1998: Ed.D., Portland State University	Education
34. Joyce Shales (Tlingit) x	1998: Ph.D., University of British Columbia CAN	Education
35. *Bernice Tetpon (Iñupiaq) +^	1998: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Cultural Education
36. Rosita Worl (Tlingit) x^	1998: Ph.D., Harvard University, MA	Anthropology
37. *Deanna Paniataaq Kingston (Inupiaq) +	1999: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Anthropology
38. Stephanie LaRocque (Curyung)	1999: Ph.D., University of North Dakota	Clinical Psychology
<b>39. Kanaqluk George Charles (Yup'ik)</b>	2000: Ph.D., University of California, Santa Barbara	Religious Studies
40. Linda Crothers (Koyukon Athabascan) +	2000: Ph.D., University of California, Santa Barbara	Psychology
41. Sven Haakanson, Jr. (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) +	2000: Ph.D., Harvard University, MA	Anthropology
42. Steven Verney (Tsimshian) +	2000: Ph.D., University of California, San Diego	Clinical Psychology

43. *Karen L. Roberts (Tlingit) x	2000: Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	TBD
44. Kamilla Venner (Chitina Athabascan) +	2001: Ph.D., University of New Mexico	Psychology
45. Christopher Caskey Russell (Tlingit) +	2001: Ph.D., University of Oregon, Eugene	English
46. Kyle Grant (Tlingit) x	2001: Ph.D., University of Utah	Chemistry
47. Dalee Sambo Dorough (Iñupiaq) ^	2002: Ph.D., University of British Columbia, CAN	Law
48. *Steven Leask (Tsimshian/Haida) +	2003: Ph.D., New Mexico State University	Educational Administration
49. Lisa Rey Thomas (Tlingit) +	2004: Ph.D., University of Washington, WA	Clinical Psychology
50. Dian Millon (Lower Tanana Athabascan) +	2004: Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley	Ethnic Studies
51. Kathleen Graves (Alutiiq) +	2004: Smith College	Clinical Social Work
52. Christina L. Gilchrist (Tlingit)	2004: Ph.D., Washington State University	Educational Psychology
53. *Mary Grantham Campbell (Iñupiaq)	2005: Ph.D., Stanford University, CA	Anthropology and Education
54. Alexis Bunten (Yup'ik/Unangaꝥ Aleut)	2006: Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles	Anthropology
<b>55. Beth Ginondidoy Leonard (Deg Hit'an Athabascan)</b>	2007: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Cross-Cultural Studies
56. Sarah (Hicks) Kastelic (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) +	2008: Ph.D., Washington University in St. Louis	Social Work
57. Eve Tuck (Unangaꝥ Aleut)+	2008: Ph.D., City University of New York	Education
58. Cayenne Nikoosh Carlo (Koyukon Athabascan/Tlingit)	2008: Ph.D., University of California, San Diego	Neurosciences/ Molecular Biology
59. Charla Lambert (Tsimshian/Haida) +	2008: Ph.D., University of Washington	Genome Sciences
<b>60. Jordan Paul Lewis (Unangaꝥ Aleut) ^+</b>	2009: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Cross-Cultural Community Psychology
61. Kathryn Milligan-McClellan (Iñupiaq) ^+	2009: Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison	Microbiology
62. Malia Villegas (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) +	2010: Ed.D., Harvard University, MA	Education

63. Nancy Jean Furlow (Tlingit) x^	2010: Ph.D., University of California, Santa Barbara	Religious Studies
64. Theresa Arevgaq John (Yup'ik) x^	2010: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
65. Roy F. Roehl II (Unangaʔ Aleut) x^	2010: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Education & Mathematics
66. April G. L. Counciller (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) x^	2010: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Interdisciplinary Studies
67. Paul F. Trebian (Tlingit) +	2010: Ed.D., University of Phoenix	Educational Leadership
68. Walkie Kumaggaq Charles (Yup'ik) x^	2011: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Applied Linguistics
69. Jessica Bissettt Perea (Dena'ina Athabascan) +	2011: Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles	Musicology
70. Thomas Michael Swensen (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) +	2011: Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley	Comparative Ethnic Studies
71. Kutraluk J. D. Bolton (Iñupiaq) +	2011: Ph.D., Stanford University, CA	Anthropology
72. Kenneth Samuelson (Tsimshian/Tlingit/Yup'ik) +	2011: Ed.D., East Tennessee State University, TN	School System Leadership
73. Julia Parish-Morris (Tlingit) +	2011: Ph.D., Temple University, Pennsylvania	Developmental Psychology
74. Nadia Jackinsky-Sethi (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) x	2012: Ph.D., University of Washington, WA	Art History
75. Alisha Drabek (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) x^	2012: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
76. Darin Woolpert (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) +	2012: Ph.D., Loma Linda University, CA	Language & Communicative Disorders
77. Ronnie Tooyak Tingook (Iñupiaq) x	2012: Ph.D., University of Texas, Arlington	Geological and Earth Sciences/Geosciences
78. Tina Woods (Unangaʔ Aleut) x	2013: Ph.D., University of Alaska (Joint Anchorage-Fairbanks)	Clinical Community Psychology
79. Adelheid Hermann (Dena'ina Athabascan) x	2013: Ed.D., University of LaVerne, CA	Organizational Leadership
80. Jeremy Gilbreath (Unangaʔ Aleut) +	2013: Ph.D., Uniformed Services University, MD	Emerging Infectious Diseases
81. Miranda Belardi-Lewis (Tlingit/Zuni) +	2013: Ph.D., University of Washington, WA	Information Science

82. Edgar Blatchford (Iñupiaq) ^	2013: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Interdisciplinary Studies
83. Cara Burnidge (Unangaʔ Aleut) +	2013: Ph.D., Florida State University	Religion
84. Gail Cheney (Haida/Tlingit) x^	2014: Ph.D., Antioch University, WA	Leadership and Change
85. Barb GasuGlana Amarok (Iñupiaq) x^	2015: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
86. Mique'l Dangeli (Tsimshian/Tlingit) +^	2015: Ph.D., University of British Columbia, CAN	Art History
87. Norma Shorty (Tlingit) x	2015: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
88. Sean Asikluk Topkok (Iñupiaq/Sámi) x^ ~	2015: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
<b>89. Michele Yatchmeneff (Unangaʔ Aleut)</b>	2015: Ph.D., Purdue University, IN	Engineering Education
<b>90. Matt Calhoun (Deg Hit'an Athabaskan)</b>	2015: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Civil Engineering
91. Leilani Sabzalian (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) +	2015: Ph.D., University of Oregon, Eugene	Education
92. Kristen Barnett (Unangaʔ Aleut) +	2015: Ph.D., University of Montana	Anthropology
<b>93. Wendy F. Smythe (Haida) +</b>	2015: Ph.D., Oregon Health and Science University	Oceanography/ Environmental Science
94. Stephanie Russo Carroll (Ahtna Athabaskan) +	2015: DrPh., University of Arizona	Maternal & Child Health
<b>95. Michael Iqyaʔ Livingston (Unangaʔ/Chugach and Eyak)</b>	2015: Ph.D. Idaho State University	Education
96. * Carol Edelman Warrior (Alutiiq Sugpiaq/Dena'ina Athabaskan/A'aniih-GrosVentr) +	2015: [Ph.D.], University of Washington, WA	English Language & Literature
97. Pearl Kiyawn Brower (Iñupiaq) ^	2016: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
98. Sarah Aarons (Iñupiaq) +	2016: Ph.D. University of Michigan	Earth & Environmental Science
99. *Bernice Joseph (Koyukon Athabaskan) ^	2017: Ph.D., University of Adelaide, Australia	Interdisciplinary Studies
100. Heidi Aklaseaq Senungetuk (Iñupiaq) ^	2017: Ph.D., Wesleyan University, CT	Ethnomusicology

101. Jacinda Mainord (Iñupiaq) +	2017: Ph.D., Portland State University, OR	Earth, Environment, & Society
<b>102. LaVerne Demientieff (Deg Hit'an Athabaskan)</b>	2017: Ph.D., University of Utah	Social Work
<b>103. Jessica Black (Gwich'in Athabaskan)</b>	2017: Ph.D., Washington University in St. Louis	Social Work
<b>104. Charleen Fisher (Gwich'in and Upper Koyukon Athabaskan)</b>	2018: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
105. Alberta Jones (Alutiiq Sugpiaq/ Tsimshian) ^+	2018: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
<b>106. Polly Hyslop (Upper Tanana Dineh Athabaskan)</b>	2018: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
<b>107. Charlene Stern (Gwich'in Athabaskan)</b>	2018: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
<b>108. Panigkaq Agatha John-Shields (Yup'ik)</b>	2018: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Interdisciplinary Studies
109. Holly Miowak Guise (Iñupiaq) +	2018: Ph.D., Yale University	History
110. Richard Hilleary (Kenaitze & Salamatoff Athabaskan) +	2018: Ph.D., University of Wisconsin Madison	Botany
<b>111. X'unei Lance Twitchell (Tlingit/Haida/Yup'ik/Sámi)</b>	2018: Ph.D., University of Hawaii, Hilo	Hawaiian & Indigenous Language
112. Jerreed Ivanich (Tsimshian) +	2018: Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln	Sociology
113. Liza Mack (Unangaꝥ Aleut) x	2019: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
114. Hishinlai' Peter (Gwich'in Athabaskan) x^	2019: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Interdisciplinary (Applied Linguistics)
<b>115. Sharon Guenther Lind (Unangaꝥ Aleut)</b>	2019: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
116. Jen Rose Smith (Eyak or dAXunhyuu) + ~	2019: Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley	Comparative Ethnic Studies
<b>117. Robert Guenther Snigaroff (Unangaꝥ Aleut)</b>	2019: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Interdisciplinary Studies
118. Alyssa Bader (Tsimshian) +	2019: Ph.D., University of Illinois	Anthropology
119. Heather Sauyaq Jean Gordon (Iñupiaq) +	2019: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies

120. Paneen Petersen (Iñupiaq) +	2019: Ph.D., University of Washington	Epidemiology
121. Bridget Groat (Iñupiaq/Unangaġ Aleut) +	2019: Ph.D., Arizona State University, Tempe	History
<b>122. Jessica Saniguoq Ullrich (Iñupiaq)</b>	2020: Ph.D., University of Washington	Social Welfare
123. Marcus Gho (Iñupiaq) +	2020: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Fisheries
124. Jordan Skan (Haida) +	2020: Ph.D., University of Alaska Anchorage	Clinical Community Psychology
125. Stanley Edwin (Gwich'in Athabaskan) +	2020: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Atmospheric Sciences
126. Alicia Marvin (Tlingit) +	2020: Ph.D., University of Alaska (Joint Anchorage-Fairbanks)	Clinical Community Psychology
127. Dylan Suvlu (Iñupiaq) + ≈	2020: Ph.D., University of Maine	Physical Chemistry
128. Charlene Aqpiġ Apok (Iñupiaq) +	2021: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
129. Maria Crouch (Deg Hit'an Athabaskan, Coahuiltecan) +	2021: Ph.D., University of Alaska (Joint Anchorage-Fairbanks)	Clinical Community Psychology
130. Cana Uluak Itchuaqiyag (Iñupiaq) +	2021: Ph.D., Utah State University	Technical Communication and Rhetoric
131. Victoria Qutuuq Buschman (Iñupiaq) +	2021: Ph.D., University of Washington	Conservation Biology
132. Chantel Justice (Dena'ina Athabaskan, Aleut) +	2021: Ph.D., University of Alaska, Anchorage	Clinical Community Psychology
133. Brandon Joseph + (Koyukon Athabaskan/Muscogee Creek)	2021: Ph.D., University of Louisville	Counseling and Personnel Services
134. Olga Skinner (Yup'ik) ^	2022: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
135. Jacy Hutchinson (Koyukon Athabaskan) x	2022: Ph.D., University of Alaska, Anchorage	Clinical Community Psychology
<b>136. Jorene Carr'er Volkheimer (Cup'ig)</b>	2022: Ph.D., Walden University, Texas	Psychology
137. Catherine Rice (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) +	2022: Ed.D., University of Southern California	Organizational Change and Leadership
138. Tracy Stewart (Unangaġ Aleut) x	2022: Ph.D.: University of Alaska, Anchorage	Clinical Community Psychology

<b>139. Angela Lunda (Tlingit) ^x</b>	2022: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
<b>140. Angass'aq Sally Samson (Yup'ik) x</b>	2023: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Interdisciplinary Studies
<b>141. Forest Haven (Tsimshian/Tlingit)+</b>	2023: Ph.D., University of California, Irvine	Anthropology
<b>142. Catherine Moses (Yup'ik)</b>	2023: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Interdisciplinary Studies
<b>143. Anamaq Margaret Cysewski Rudolf (Inupiaq)</b>	2023: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Interdisciplinary Studies
144. Haliehana Alaġum Ayagaa Stepetin (Unangaġ, Qigiiġun) ^	2023: Ph.D., University of California Davis	Native American Studies
<b>145. Buddy Boren North (Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in)</b>	2023: Ph.D., Columbia University	Philosophy and Education
146. Tanya Lukin-Linklater (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) +	2023: Ph.D., Queen's University, Ontario, Canada	Cultural Studies
147. Lauren Peters (Unangaġ) +	2023: Ph.D., University of California Davis	Native American Studies
<b>148. Skyer Kern (Yup'ik)</b>	2023: Ph.D., University of Colorado Boulder	Mechanical Engineering
149. Irene Anderson-Bare (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) +	2024: Ed.D., University of Washington	Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
150. Dominic W. Bush (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) +	2024: Ph.D., East Carolina University	Coastal Resource Management
<b>151. Joel Isaak Łiq'a Yes (Dena'ina)</b>	2024: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
152. Elisha Chi (Iñupiaq) +	2024: Ph.D., Villanova University	Theology/Religious Studies
153. Rebecca Ipiaqruk Young (Iñupiaq)x	2024: Ph.D., University of Alaska Anchorage	Clinical Community Psychology
154. Spencer L. Lunda (Tlingit) x	2025: Ph.D., Oregon State University, Corvallis	Microbiology
<b>155. Christina Laree Newhall (Unangaġ)</b>	2025: Ph.D., University of Arizona	Linguistics
156. Lisa Dirks (Unangaġ) +	2025: Ph.D., University of Washington	Information Science

<b>157. Tara Christiansen-Stiller (Sugpiaq/Unganan)</b>	2025: Ph.D., University of North Dakota	Indigenous Health
<b>158. Eldri Waid Westmoreland (Tlingit)</b>	2025: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
<b>159. Joseph Koodéik' Mark (Tlingit)</b>	2026: Ph.D., University of Arizona	Joint Ph.D.: Anthropology and Linguistics
160. Kristy Carpenter (Alutiiq Sugpiaq)	2026: Ph.D., Stanford University	Biomedical Informatics
161. Sonia (Lestenkof) Barry (Unanga&/ Alutiiq)	2026: Ed.D., University of Washington Tacoma Muckleshoot	Educational Leadership
162. Amy Gustafson (Athabascan & Iñupiaq)	2026: Ed.D., University of Washington Tacoma	Educational Leadership

**Updated May 5, 2026**

**[Add an Alaska Native Ph.D. or Ed.D.](#)**

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