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 Asikłuk 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: 10/06/2026**

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
× = 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.

Name (Cultural Affiliation)	Year: Degree, Institution	Degree Field
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/Unangax̂)+	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 (Unangax̂ 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
19. Milo Adkison (Yup'ik)	1994: Ph.D., University of Washington	Fisheries
20. Donna A McGill-Cameron (Unangax̂ 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
28. Maria Williams (Tlingit)	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
39. Kanaqluk George Charles (Yup'ik)	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 (Tshimshian/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. Jonathan Baines (Tlingit/Tsimshian)+	2004: Ph.D./MD., Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, MN	Tumor Biology
54. *Mary Grantham Campbell (Iñupiaq)	2005: Ph.D., Stanford University, CA	Anthropology and Education
55. Alexis Bunten (Yup'ik/Unangax̂ Aleut)	2006: Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles	Anthropology
56. Beth Ginondidoy Leonard (Deg Hit'an Athabascan)	2007: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Cross-Cultural Studies
57. Sarah (Hicks) Kastelic (Alutiiq Sugpiaq) +	2008: Ph.D., Washington University in St. Louis	Social Work
58. Eve Tuck (Unangax̂ Aleut)+	2008: Ph.D., City University of New York	Education
59. Cayenne Nikoosh Carlo (Koyukon Athabascan/Tlingit)	2008: Ph.D., University of California, San Diego	Neurosciences/ Molecular Biology
60. Charla Lambert (Tsimshian/Haida) +	2008: Ph.D., University of Washington	Genome Sciences
61. Jordan Paul Lewis (Unangax̂ Aleut) ^+	2009: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Cross-Cultural Community Psychology
62. Kathryn Milligan-McClellan	2009: Ph.D., University of	Microbiology

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

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

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

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

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

157. Christina Laree Newhall (Unangax̂)	2025: Ph.D., University of Arizona	Linguistics
158. Lisa Dirks (Unangax̂) +	2025: Ph.D., University of Washington	Information Science
159. Tara Christiansen-Stiller (Sugpiaq/Unganan)	2025: Ph.D., University of North Dakota	Indigenous Health
160. Eldri Waid Westmoreland (Tlingit)	2025: Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks	Indigenous Studies
161. Joseph Koodéik' Mark (Tlingit)	2026: Ph.D., University of Arizona	Joint Ph.D.: Anthropology and Linguistics
162. Kristy Carpenter (Alutiiq Sugpiaq)	2026: Ph.D., Stanford University	Biomedical Informatics
163. Sonia (Lestenkof) Barry (Unangax̂/Alutiiq)	2026: Ed.D., University of Washington Tacoma Muckleshoot	Educational Leadership
164. Amy Gustafson (Athabascan & Iñupiaq)	2026: Ed.D., University of Washington Tacoma	Educational Leadership
165. Aandax̲joon Sabena Allen (Tlingit)	2026: Ph.D., University of Chicago	Anthropology
166. Sara M. London (Unangax̂/Aleut)	2026: Ph.D., University of Washington	Higher Education
167. Kiana Alatkaumaniaq Smith (Iñupiaq)	2026: Ph.D., University of Washington	Education Curriculum and Instruction

Updated October 6, 2026

Add an Alaska Native Ph.D. or Ed.D.

Contact CXCS or email albertajones33@gmail.com to update

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