Greetings!

Welcome!
We are so excited that graduation is almost here! Before you know it, summer will be here.
Graduation is one of the most exciting times of the year at UAF, soak it all in, live in the moment. All your hard work will pay off and you can finally just relax.
As always, a reminder to our students that our faculty and staff are here to help you succeed. Please contact our office at (907) 474-1902 or email uaf-cxcs@alaska.edu if you have any questions.
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram and join our newsletter for updates and events and what's happening.
We are proud of our alumni and students!
Stay connected with the Center for Cross-Cultural Studies. Do you have an exciting career or family success story to share? We would love to feature you on our newsletter and highlight your accomplishments.

To share your story, email uaf-cxcs@alaska.edu with a paragraph of your accomplishments, your research, along with a photo.
This is where we would post it: http://www.uaf.edu/cxcs/graduate-profiles/
https://www.uaf.edu/cxcs/student-spotlight/

Alumni in the News

In March 2019, Indigenous Studies alumnus and DANSRD Professor, Dr. Charlene Stern, was elected as the Vice President of the Tanana Chiefs Conference.
Congratulations Dr. Stern!

A Message from Our Department Chair Mike Koskey
Hello everyone!

I hope the very early spring is going well for each of you. I’m writing this letter to all Indigenous Studies and Cross-Cultural Studies PhD and MA students, as a way to evaluate your progress within the program as we near the end of another academic year. I will also provide a few reminders at the end.

As you all know by now, the university is facing a massive budget cut that could include 41% of the statewide system’s annual budget. Though following legislative negotiations this will likely be reduced, it will still be a 1/5 cut even if lowered to half of the governor’s requested amount. This is likely to lead to changes in organization, and we will deal with it as best as we can. Reorganization of departments and colleges is likely, but I have been reassured that the PhD and MA in Indigenous Studies, and the MA in Cross-Cultural Studies, will not be eliminated. So please keep moving along in your PhD or MA work, and we will keep you all informed of any changes that might affect your degree work.

I’ve been repeatedly told by the leadership here at the university that no voice is heard more clearly and strongly than those of students, so please, if you’re so motivated, contact your legislator and inform them of your opinion regarding the massive budget cuts to the university, public education, and healthcare in Alaska.

Now, on to more practical matters, here is some information that should help you to organize yourself and your progress in the program:

- Graduate Advisory Committee: By the end of your first semester in the program, you should be in the process of putting together your graduate advisory committee (see Appointment of Graduate Advisory Committee form: www.uaf.edu/gradsch/forms). This is most important for MA students, since your program is 2-3 years, on average. All students—MAs and PhDs—should have their graduate committee in place by the time of their first Annual Review (by every May 15th). If you have been in the program for more than a year and have not established a Graduate Advisory Committee, you are far behind and not receiving the guidance and mentorship you are due as a graduate student.

- Graduate Study Plan: By the end of your first semester in the program (at the very latest), you should have your Graduate Study Plan (GSP) in place with your Graduate Advisory Committee and the Graduate School. The GSP is your plan for progress, and it cannot be finalized without the overview (and signatures) of your Graduate Advisory Committee, the Department Chair, and the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. Without a GSP in place a student cannot submit a required Institutional Review Board (IRB) for fieldwork project approval, cannot be advanced to candidacy, and cannot defend comprehensive exams or dissertation. The GSP can be found at www.uaf.edu/gradsch/forms.

- Defenses: Each MA thesis defense, and each PhD comprehensive exam defense, and each PhD dissertation defense must have an Outside Examiner that is requested from the Graduate School at least two weeks before the scheduled defense. It is the student’s responsibility to set up.

- Graduation: Remember that each student must fill out an intent to graduate at the beginning of the semester in which a student intends to defend and graduate. The necessary form can be found at www.uaf.edu/gradsch/forms. Also, please remember that theses must be submitted for review in the following order: Graduate Advisory Committee, then Department Chair, then College Dean, then the Graduate School.

- Incomplete Grades: we are finding an increase overall in the use of ‘Incomplete Grades’ (I); please be careful when requesting this from an instructor. While this does
provide you with additional time to complete a class, it can make future classes more difficult due to having to do the work from a previous class. Also, and this happens more frequently than you might think, if a student does not finish the classwork by the agreed-upon due date, the class grade changes to an ‘F’, and the instructor is not permitted to stop or change this. Please use this grading option with caution, and carefully.

- Summer Work: While we strongly encourage students to continue their graduate work in the summer, if possible, please remember that all faculty are on 9-month contracts and do not get paid in the summer. Additionally, most are doing fieldwork or other work-related travel, and so please do not assume that faculty are available in the summer—contact them each for their availability. For this reason we do not do summer defenses and graduations.

I hope this information helps, and feel free to email your Advisory Committee Chair with any questions (or me at mskoskey@alaska.edu).

Now, a few reminders:

- The extended deadline for nominations for the 2019 Angayuqaq Oscar Kawagley is April 1st—only a few more days, so please contact Crystal (cafrank@alaska.edu) send any nominees, your name, and some info on why the nominee should receive this award, by the April 1st deadline. Here’s the website link: https://www.uaf.edu/cxcs/aok-award/

- The Center for Cross-Cultural Studies’ Indigenous Studies Programs will have a Graduation Gathering (with food provided) for all students on Friday, May 3rd from 3-5 pm with good food and company. We haven’t decided yet where this will be held, but likely either at UAF or at Alaskaland (a.k.a. ‘Pioneer Park’). We’ll let you all know where this will be held soon.

- Graduation in Fairbanks is at the Carlson Center on Saturday, May 4th—congratulations Indigenous Studies PhD 2019 graduates Kitty Deal, Heather Gordon, and Liza Mack!

- Annual Reports of Graduate Committee (including attached progress report and full committee meeting) is due to the Graduate School by May 15th each year.

As always, contact me with any questions you may have: mskoskey@alaska.edu. I hope you all have a very good end of the semester and an enjoyable, happy spring!

Mike

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Commencement Information
Class of 2019

Congratulations!
We look forward to seeing you at the commencement ceremony Saturday, May 4, 2019.

Graduating this spring? Don’t forget to check your UAOnline account to ensure your account balance has been paid in full, including your UAF graduation fee. Unpaid balances can
prevent access to your diplomas, transcripts, and grades. If you have any questions please contact the **Office of the Bursar** at uaf-bursar@alaska.edu, by phone at 907-474-7523.

For questions related to honors, graduation status and commencement, try the Graduation Services chat at [www.uaf.edu/reg/grad/](http://www.uaf.edu/reg/grad/), call 474-6300 or stop by on the first floor, Signers' Hall.

**UAF Commencement Website:**
[https://www.uaf.edu/commence/graduate.php](https://www.uaf.edu/commence/graduate.php)

**Fairbanks campus**
The Fairbanks campus' 97th graduation ceremony will be held at the Carlson Center at 1:20 p.m., Saturday, May 4, 2019.

- Noon — Carlson Center opens for guest seating
- 12:20 p.m. — Processional lineup
- 1:20 p.m. — Academic procession
- 1:30 p.m. — Ceremony begins

**Community campuses**
**Bristol Bay Campus**
Saturday, May 11, 2019

- Chukchi Campus
  1 p.m., Friday, May 10, 2019

- Interior Alaska Campus
  - Fort Yukon Center
  - Noon, Thursday, May 16, 2019

- Kuskokwim Campus
  1:30 p.m., Thursday, May 2, 2019

- Northwest Campus
  7 p.m., Thursday, May 9, 2019
THE UAF
CENTER FOR CROSS-CULTURAL STUDIES (CCS)
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US
IN CELEBRATING THE

CLASS OF 2019

CCS MASTER’S & PHD INDIGENOUS STUDIES
GRADUATES

WITH A POTLUCK CELEBRATION
Friday, May 3, 2019 at 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM
CENTER FOR CROSS-CULTURAL STUDIES
Location: TBA

FOR QUESTIONS contact Professor Richard Hum
rehum@alaska.edu
(907) 474-5897

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2019 Angayuqaq Oscar Kawagley
Indigenous Scholars Award

We will announce our 2019 Angayuqaq Oscar
Kawagley award at the CCS Celebration Potluck
and in our May 2019 newsletter.

Website: http://www.uaf.edu/cxcs/aok-award/
Indigenous Studies Apparel

Indigenous Studies t-shirts and hoodies for sale with the Indigenous Studies logo (open for anyone to order). For Indigenous Studies Ph.D. students and faculty, you can order the Indigenous Studies Qaspeq (Kuspuk) from this website: [http://kuspuks.com/](http://kuspuks.com/).

For those graduating this spring, red sashes are available for Alaska Natives who are graduating through the College of Rural and Community Development (CRCD) (please contact them at 907-474-7143). Santa Stitches can embroider the Indigenous Studies Logo on your sash. Please email Professor Sean Topkok at cstophok@alaska.edu for more details and order form.

Dennis Demmert Award Nominations

The Dennis Demmert award recognizes staff and faculty members who have made a positive impact on the Alaska Native and rural student experience at UAF. As a student, if you know of someone who has gone above and beyond to educate, advocate, or support you, show them your appreciation by nominating them today! The deadline for nominations is April 15th. [Click here](http://kuspuks.com/) for the nomination form and more information or visit Rural Student Services in the Brooks Building!
Please understand that because this award is offered through Rural Student Services, the RSS staff cannot be considered as award recipients!

Recipients of this award will be recognized at a reception in the RSS Gathering Room on Thursday, April 25th at 12 pm.

**To Order ANKN Books & Materials contact Richard Hum at 907-474-5897**

**Alaska Native Knowledge Network**

The Alaska Native Knowledge Network (ANKN) is a unique resource maintained through the Center for Cross-Cultural Studies for our students and the communities they serve. ANKN is located on the 5th floor of the Gruening Building, room 503F. Please contact Richard Hum at 907-474-5897 or email rehum@alaska.edu for any inquiries on books and posters.

*ANKN Book Order Form*

*ANKN Website Link*

**ANKN Monthly Book Feature**

**K'aiiroondak**

**Behind the Willows**

Richard Martin as told to Bill Pfisterer

This is a collection of remembrances of things past as seen through the eyes of Richard Martin, one person who remembered the Porcupine River and it's stories. K'aiiroondak in the Gwich'in language means, "something behind the willows." In the north country willows often grow in areas that were once cleared for settlement. When viewed from the river, the willows screen any sign of human inhabitation. Yet, these places were home to many and still live in the memory of a few. Trade and life prospered along the Porcupine until after World War II. But by the early 1950s, the settlements of the Porcupine were deserted or inhabited only seasonally. Richard Martin's stories bring back this busy time in Alaska history.

*Please contact the Alaska Native Knowledge Network at 907-474-5897 or email Richard Hum at*
rehum@alaska.edu.
Order form for ANKN books and Materials:
https://form.jotform.com/90216390139151

SAVE THE DATES
INDIGENOUS STUDIES

Brown Bag Lunch Series

Join us for informal discussion over lunch!

Time: Noon - 1PM AK time
Join via audio, dial 1-866-245-8984
Meeting dates scheduled:
February 26th
March 27th
April 24th

Important Dates & Deadlines!
- **4/1/19** - Begin fall 2019 priority registration (UAF degree students)
- **4/8/19** - Thesis/Dissertations are due to the UAF Graduate School
- **4/15/19** - Begin fall 2019 open registration (all UAF, UAA and UAS students, including non-degree students)
- **4/19/19** - Spring Fest (classes are NOT cancelled)
- **4/24/19** - Thesis Projects are due to the UAF Graduate School
- **4/29/19** - Last day of instruction
- **4/30/19-5/4/19** - Final examinations
- **5/3/19** - CCS Graduation Celebration Potluck 3PM-5PM
- **5/4/19** - UAF Commencement
- **5/5/19** - Residence Halls Close at Noon
- **5/8/19** - Deadline for faculty to post grades, noon.
Free Tax Preparation
Let GAAP Help You E-File for FREE!

Dates
Saturday, March 2
Saturday, March 23
Saturday, March 30
Saturday, April 6
Saturday, April 13

Time
10:00am-2:00 pm

Note
We reserve the right not to accept returns after 1:00 p.m. each day, depending on the number of taxpayers waiting.

Location
UAF Campus
Bunnell Building
1790 Tanana Loop
Room 319

What to Bring
1. Social Security Cards or copies of cards for you, your spouse, and all dependents
2. Government-issued photo identification card
3. W-2 Forms (Wage and Tax Statement) from each employer
4. All income information
   e.g. Forms 1099-INT, 1099-DIV, SSA-1099 or RRB-1099 and 1099R
5. Property tax and mortgage interest statements
6. List of your medical expenses, interest, contributions, and miscellaneous expenses (to itemize your deductions)
7. Copies of last year’s tax return
8. Child care payment information and name, address, and SSN/EIN of your child care provider
9. Bank routing and account numbers for direct deposit

Questions? Contact:
Courtney Snodgress at cnsnodgress@alaska.edu
or Amy Cooper at (907) 474-5745

UA is an AA/EO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual. www.alaska.edu/enddiscrimination
Office Hours 8AM-5PM M-F