



## Executive Dean Bernice Joseph AFN Convention Keynote

**BERNICE JOSEPH, THE EXECUTIVE DEAN** of the College of Rural and Community Development (CRCD) at the University of Alaska Fairbanks has been named the keynote speaker for the 2005 Alaska Federation of Natives convention in Fairbanks, October 20–22. CRCD serves two-thirds of the geographic area of Alaska including 180 villages. CRCD main-

tains branch campuses in Bethel, Dillingham, Nome, Kotzebue and the Interior-Aleutians and Tanana Valley campuses in Fairbanks. Among the departments and programs at CRCD are the Center for Distance Education, Cooperative Extension Service, Rural Student Services, Rural Alaska Honors Institute, Health Programs and the Department of Alaska Native and Rural Development.

Joseph has been executive dean of CRCD since 2001 when she returned to UAF after serving as a deputy commissioner of the Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development. She served as an assistant professor of rural development from 1995–2000 and maintains that faculty rank while serving as executive dean. Joseph has a Master of Business Administration degree from UAF.



*CRCD Executive Dean  
Bernice Joseph*



Rural Development student Minnie Naylor from Kotzebue participated in the Australern program spring semester 2005. Australern was held in Rockhampton, Australia at Central Queensland University. Minnie states that she had a great time, an experience she will never forget and made many wonderful friends. She is thankful UAF and Australern have this program and encourages others to apply. For more information contact [www.Austrlern.org](http://www.Austrlern.org) or through the office of International Programs at UAF. Australian friends demonstrated to Minnie how to throw this boomerang.

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# RD Program Builds Professional Capacity at Local Level



*Patricia Phillips*

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS,** Rural Development Applied Field-Based Program has given me an opportunity to obtain a college education while living, working and having a family in Pelican, Alaska. As Mayor of Pelican there are many complex issues to review prior to implementation of programs or projects in my community. I am a Pelican High School graduate, and as such, know the local character and attitudes that can either bog down or move projects forward. The RD program is excellent training for the locally based professional.

The Indigenous Knowledge and Community Research class (RD 350) teaches us to interview our elders in a culturally meaningful way. From this we learn from our elders' experiences of the past. By appreciating our elders we can build on their contributions and lessons. Additionally, lessons learned can be immediately put to work.

RD classes involve the student in group facilitation skills, which are important when managing a public meeting to get community input and support for public facility projects. One learns to collaborate with others through potentially contentious issues. Furthermore, insights learned are

BY **PATRICIA PHILLIPS, RD BA STUDENT**

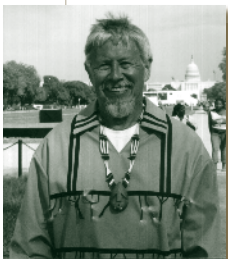
relevant to submitting comments to various entities and agencies.

We need to vividly describe a policy's effects on our lifestyle, after all, we are advocating for our own solutions rather than being told how it will be.

The RD program has enabled me to network with others, the ideas, concerns, and solutions to issues pertinent to Pelican. It offers leadership training for those who are directly involved in community projects. Furthermore, building professional capacity at the local level helps to build and sustain healthy communities that reflect our hopes.

As our rural villages continue to lose families as they move to urban areas for jobs and housing opportunities, it is vital the RD program educates us to recognize opportunities to improve rural Alaska. Alaska Native knowledge must be included in community changes to maintain the social and cultural values important to us all. Our skills need to pass on to future generations as our ancestors did for us.

CHA aa DAY: May our voices be heard across our ancestors' lands.



## Message from the Director

BY **GORDON L. PULLAR**

### WELCOME TO THE FALL

**SEMESTER** and the special edition of the Rural Development News for the Alaska Federation of Natives Convention. It has been 17 years since the AFN convention has been held in Fairbanks and there is a lot of excitement surrounding this annual event. Rural Development students and faculty are playing important roles in the convention. We are particularly proud of our Executive Dean, Bernice Joseph, who is delivering the keynote address this year. As most people know Bernice was a member of the RD faculty for several years and still maintains her RD faculty appointment while serving as executive dean.

The Department of Alaska Native and Rural Development is still adjusting to the loss of three faculty members during the past few months. As this is written recruitment is underway for a new fulltime RD faculty member. We have been

very fortunate to have some high quality adjuncts during our time of transition.

We are excited about our fall RD Leadership Seminar held in Fairbanks this year. We scheduled an impressive list of presenters including John Borbridge, Jr., Barbara Fleek and University of Alaska President Mark Hamilton from Alaska and Frank Dayish, Jr., the vice president of the Navajo Nation; Fred Keaka-okalani Cachola, Hawaiian elder and leader, and Stephen Cornell and Manley Begay from the Native Nations Institute at the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy at the University of Arizona. Both BA and MA RD students participated.

We hope that any place-committed folks considering earning a university degree will take a good look at the Rural Development Program. It is a way to earn either a BA or MA degree while remaining in one's home community. It is a way to join a statewide, national and even international network of exceptional people making impacts in their communities. The RD graduates serving in leadership positions throughout Alaska are testimony to the success of the program. Stop by and chat with RD faculty at the AFN convention to get more details.

# RD Degree Leads to “Dream Job”

BY MICHELLE RAVENMOON, 2005 RD BA GRADUATE

**AS A YOUTH I DREAMED OF A JOB** that would keep me in the outdoors where I loved to be. I could more easily find my way through unknown woods in the dark and in a snow-storm, than on the streets of Anchorage on a good day. When I first saw the “Wanted” poster hanging in a fish cannery, I took it very seriously. It stated, “Wanted, a good hard working woman with a boat and motor, truck, 4-wheeler, and land. A woman who can cook three meals a day, and who can hunt and fish ...” I grew up knowing many women with these qualities; it wasn’t a joke on Lake Iliamna. Many Alaska Native women, such as myself, are taught how survive in the woods and have the means to do so. I drove an outboard motor at the age of nine, picked the salmon net, lead hikes miles into the woods, and knew how to prepare fish and birds to eat. But where do these skills lead one in the busy bustling world of cell phones, eight to five jobs, politics, cars, and jets?

I graduated in May with my BA in Rural Development with a concentration in Community Research and Cultural Documentation after attending all of my classes by audioconference from a cabin on the side of a lake and I would not have done it any other way. I now have the ability to write grants, research and document cultural history, and manage and create large scale projects. I have knowledge of a vast array of computer and internet skills, know how to build a web page, lobby at the state and national level, plan and facilitate meetings, and I have acquired a network of friends and resources among my fellow Alaska Native people. The best is yet to be said, all of these skills are built to meet the needs of rural Alaska. I have the perfect degree to fulfill my desire to live in rural Alaska and continue living on the skills I grew up on. This lifestyle includes living on subsistence, still taking long hikes in the woods, operating ATV’s, outboard motors, and waking up to snow covered mountains and a lake view.

In the spring of 2004 I was approached with a wonderful opportunity, which was to

intern for Lake Clark National Park (LACL). Lake Clark is located adjacent to Lake Iliamna where I grew up. My maternal family is from Nondalton, an Athabascan Dena’ina village neighboring the park. I was asked to assist in an Ethnographic Overview Assessment of the people residing within LACL.

I have a great interest in my Dena’ina history and I am a student of the Dena’ina

language. This was the dream job for me; I knew the subject well, I enjoyed the challenge of learning more, and I was able to make significant contributions to the project as a whole. This was a great learning experience for me and I found that many of the park values concurred with my own. Later, I applied for a permanent job as the LACL Subsistence Coordinator.

To make a long story short, I got the Subsistence Coordinator job in January 2005 and am now living by snow covered mountains with a lake view. I am confident in knowing that I am prepared for this position from the variety of study I encountered in the Rural Development Program. A neat aspect is that even though it takes place in rural Alaska, there is no limit with how far our knowledge can go. We traveled to different parts of the state and as far as Washington DC to take full advantage of our resources. I am grateful that there is such an opportunity as the Rural Development Program; it has left me with potential for a diverse and a wide range of job possibilities.



*Michelle Ravenmoon, BA graduate, May 2005*



# RD BA Graduates 1986–2005

## 1986

Winton Weyapuk, Wales  
Tom Sparks, Nome  
Helen Pootoogooluk, Shishmaref

## 1987

Willa Towarak, Unalakleet  
Jeff Nelson, Chauthbaluk  
Dee Komakhuk, White Mountain  
Greg Anelon, Nondalton

## 1988

Bruce Tungwenuk, Nome  
Laura Pfeffer, Fairbanks  
Isaac Juneby, Eagle  
Ken Hansen, Fairbanks  
Mary (Katie) Durgan, Anderson

## 1989

William Zachares, Kotzebue  
Helen Chythlook, Aleknagik  
Luci Abeita, Fort Yukon

## 1990

D. Scott Williams, Juneau  
Norma Nashalook, Nome  
Mary Jane Derenoff, Huslia

## 1991

Christine Jacko, Pedro Bay  
Carolyn Hoseth, Dillingham  
Patricia Heyano, Dillingham  
Viola Golia, Pedro Bay  
Cyril Andrews, Kotlik

## 1992

Alice Pilcher, Koyuk  
Clara Mayo, Fairbanks  
Leora Kenick, Nome  
Catherine Harpak, Mountain Village  
Katherine Eningowuk, Shishmaref

## 1993

Artha Wright, North Pole  
Mary Beth Solomon, Fort Yukon  
Dawn Salesky, Nome  
Judy Dellinger, North Pole  
Anthony Caole, Quinhagak  
Vonda Brown, North Pole

## 1994

Hugh Walker, Shageluk  
Antoinette Pitka, Beaver  
Jolene John, Toksook Bay  
Dixie Dayo, Manley Hot Springs  
Angie Daugherty, Fairbanks  
Naomi Costello, Evansville  
Sharon Anderson, Ouzinkie

## 1995

Dale Smith, Jr., Mekoryuk  
Noah Naylor, Kotzebue  
Dorothy Larson, Dillingham  
Linda Joule, Kotzebue  
Barbara Joe, Whitehorse, YT  
Stella Hamilton, Alatna  
Dennis Gray, Hoonah  
Ben Boyd, Arctic Village

## 1996

Berda Willson, Nome  
Gabriel K. Sam, Huslia  
Barbara Oleson, Nome  
Deborah Mitchell, Tanana/Fairbanks  
Nina Miller, Tanana  
Kellie Holland, Dillingham  
Johnny Evan, Tuntutuliak

## 1997

Cheryl Stine, Barrow  
Viola Savo, South Naknek  
Marla McPherson, Homer  
Aimee Kniazowski, Unalaska  
Marie Greene, Kotzebue  
Patricia Gardner, Craig  
Sharon Fisher, Fairbanks  
Sam Chanar, Toksook Bay  
Austin Ahmasuk, Nome

## 1998

Darlene Wright, Fairbanks  
Gilda Shellikoff, False Pass  
Kyan Olanna, Shishmaref  
Deborah McCarter, North Pole  
Brian Leal, Grayling  
Norman Krutiak, Fairbanks  
Denise Koutchak, Kotzebue  
Taro Kanazawa, Japan  
Donna Kamkoff, Kotlik  
Isabelle Harrington, McGrath  
Patricia Baldwin, McGrath

## 1999

Marisa Wolfe, New York  
Ann Willert, Bethel  
Mary Jane Nielsen, South Naknek  
Vera Metcalf, Savoonga/Nome  
Carl Jack, Kipnuk/Anchorage  
Terrie Irwin, Barrow  
Betty Inglis, Tetlin  
Darla Brown, Tok  
Brian Bourdon, Nome  
Melissa Boeckmann, Nome

**2000**

Lauri Weston-O'Brien, Bethel  
 Fred Smith, Noorvik  
 Rebecca Shellikoff, Grayling  
 Lissa Robertson, North Pole  
 Kristy Nicholas, Nulato  
 Alexa Martinson, Nome  
 Jonella Ququngaq Larson, Nome  
 Elvin Dayton, Ruby  
 Rocelyn Daniels, Trapper Creek  
 Caroline Constantine, Tyonek/Kenai  
 Judy Bauman, Fairbanks

**2001**

Brenda Wynne, Fairbanks  
 Moses Tulim, Chevak  
 Russell Snyder, Barrow/North Pole  
 Bing Santamour, Bethel  
 Elizabeth Piedra, Elfin Cove  
 Nathan Nagaruk, Elim  
 Velda Miller, Bethel  
 Colin McDonald, Bethel  
 Ellen Frantz, Barrow  
 Millie Evan, Akiachak  
 Dena Austin, St. Michael  
 Max Angellan, Kwethluk

**2002**

Byron Ulak, Scammon Bay  
 Rex Snyder, Barrow  
 Michelle Kignak-Weyiouanna, Barrow  
 Jade Hill, Kotzebue  
 Joanne Gustafson, Arctic Village  
 Alice (Abby) Cropley, Sitka  
 Nicholas (Bob) Charles, Bethel  
 Bonnie Ayojiak, Manokotak

**2003**

Jaylene Z. Wheeler, Nome  
 Valerie Totemoff, Tatitlek/Anchorage  
 Gerene L. Sumpter, Bethel  
 Gloria Simeon, Bethel  
 Nancy Shewfelt-Joseph, Fairbanks  
 Marlane Shanigan, Pilot Point/Anchorage  
 Patsy A. Jackson, Juneau  
 Margo Clayton, Haines  
 Steven W. Angasan, Naknek  
 Andria Agli, S. Naknek/Anchorage

**2004**

Stacey J. Stasenکو, Shishmaref/Fairbanks  
 Diana R. Riedel, Cordova  
 Jamie L. Nollner, Galena/Fairbanks  
 Beverly Melovidov, St. Paul Island/Fairbanks  
 Annie A. Fritze, Dillingham  
 Traci R. Boschert-Wiggins, Nenana  
 Leo G. Ash, Nanwalek  
 William (Bil) Aldrich, Tok

**2005**

Vera Weber, Anaktuvuk Pass  
 Clarence Selig, Kodiak  
 Mary Sage, Barrow  
 Michelle Ravenmoon, Illiamna  
 Valerie Pingayak, Chevak  
 Darlene Lord, Kaltag/Fairbanks  
 Robert Bulger, Barrow

# RD MA Graduates 2002-2005

**2002**

Anastasia Cooke Hoffman, Bethel  
 Christopher Kiana, Sr., Selawik/Anchorage  
 Carl Jack, Kipnuk/Anchorage  
 Gerri Mesack, Sitka

**2003**

Esther Combs, Anchorage  
 Dixie M. Dayo, Manley Hot Springs/Fairbanks

**2004**

Melissa Boeckmann, Nome  
 Melanie Edwards, Savoonga/Nome  
 Lauri Weston-O'Brien, Bethel  
 Evelyn Pensgard, Bethel  
 Shauna Hegna, Port Lions/Anchorage  
 Alan Sorum, Valdez

**2005**

Michelle Anderson, Gulkana/Anchorage  
 Sharon Anderson, Ouzinkie/Anchorage  
 Edith Hildebrand, Nulato/Fairbanks  
 Sarah Lukin, Port Lions/Anchorage  
 Mary Jane Nielsen, South Naknek  
 Gail Pass, Dillingham/Anchorage  
 Dawn Salesky, Nome  
 Esther Stauffer, Dillingham



*Earn your BA in Rural Development While Living in Your Home Community*

# The Rural Development Applied Field-Based Program

**Spring 2006 Application Deadline: December 1, 2005**

**For more information, call 1-800-770-9531 or 907-474-5293**

## ***What is the RD BA program?***

The Rural Development BA Program prepares students for community leadership through wide exposure to rural issues throughout the world and hands-on skills for effective community development. The more than 140 RD graduates are shaping the future of rural Alaska.

The program is designed specifically for mature and nontraditional students who are committed to serving rural Alaska. Most students are already employed and many serve as active community leaders. Nearly all have family and other obligations that make it difficult to complete a degree in a traditional campus setting. Special learning opportunities include travel study, internships, intensive seminars, credit for prior learning and audio-conference classes.

Students choose one of these five concentration areas for their studies:

- Community Business and Economic Development
- Tribal and Local Government Administration
- Rural Health and Human Services Management
- Community Research and Indigenous Knowledge
- Land Resources and Environmental Management

## ***How do I qualify?***

Interested individuals must meet the following requirements:

- Have earned 30 or more university credits
- Be eligible for admission to UAF
- Be able to participate in at least two week-long intensive seminars

## ***To apply, you must submit:***

- A letter of application
- A current resume
- Copies of all university transcripts
- A letter of recommendation from a representative local entity (e.g., tribal or municipal council, ANCSA corporation board, school board) supporting your application and discussing your understanding of local and regional development issues
- A thoughtful essay describing:
  1. your career goals
  2. how the RD Applied Field-Based Program will meet these goals, and
  3. two or three major development issues facing your community or region, and how your goals will address those issues
- A completed UAF undergraduate application form with a \$40 processing fee. Form can be found online at <http://www.uaf.edu/admissions/apply/index.html>

***Mail completed application materials to:***

***Office of Admissions  
University of Alaska Fairbanks  
P.O. Box 757480  
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7480***



# Earn your MA Through UAF's Distance Degree Program

**Spring 2006 Application Deadline: December 1, 2005**

**For more information, call 1-800-770-9531 or 907-474-5293**

## ***What is the RD MA program?***

The Rural Development MA Program prepares students for effective and culturally-informed community development that recognizes regional, national, and global political economics influencing rural communities. Graduates are prepared as administrators, planners, community development specialists, and other leadership positions within tribal, corporate, business and public service agencies. Courses are taken through audioconferences and intensive seminars.

## ***How do I qualify?***

Interested individuals must meet the following requirements:

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with at least a 3.0 ("B") cumulative grade point average in undergraduate studies, and a 3.0 GPA in major. Students with a GPA below 3.0 must take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- TOEFL—Score of 213 (computer exam) or 550 (paper exam) (if English is not your native language)

## ***To apply, you must submit:***

- A brief essay (500 words or less) stating academic goals and reasons for wanting to earn an MA in Rural Development
- Three letters of recommendation
- All transcripts

- Resume/vita
- UAF Graduate Application Form and check for \$50 made out to UAF. Form can be found online at <http://www.uaf.edu/admissions/apply/index.html>

## ***Credit requirements***

A total of 30 credits are needed for the MA degree

### **Core requirements: 21–24 credits**

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| RD 600 | Circumpolar Indigenous Leadership Symposium (3 credits) |
| RD 601 | Political Economy of the Circumpolar North (3 credits)  |
| RD 625 | Community Development Strategies (3 credits)            |
| RD 650 | Community-Based Research Methods (3 credits)            |
| RD 651 | Management Strategies for Rural Development (3 credits) |
| RD 698 | Applied Community Development Project (6-9 credits) OR  |
| RD 699 | MA Thesis (9 credits)                                   |

### **Electives: 6–9 credits**

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| RD 652 | Indigenous Organization Management (3 credits)            |
| RD 655 | Circumpolar Health Issues (3 credits)                     |
| RD 693 | Special Topics  |
|        | Other 600-level courses as approved by advisory committee |

***Mail completed application materials to:***

***Office of Admissions  
University of Alaska Fairbanks  
P.O. Box 757480  
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7480***

# Spring 2006 Class Schedule

Course	Title	Instructor
RD265	Perspectives on Subsistence in Alaska (Distance & Fairbanks Campus)	TBA
RD280	Resource Management Research Techniques	Kim Williams
RD325	Community Development Strategies (Distance & Fbks. Campus)	TBA
RD351	Strategic Planning for Rural Communities	TBA
RD352	Rural Business Planning & Proposal Development	Bill Hall
RD400	Rural Development Internship	Dixie Dayo
RD425	Cultural Impact Analysis	Ted Birkedal
RD430	Indigenous Economic Development & Entrepreneurship (Fbks.)	TBA
RD430	Indigenous Economic Development & Entrepreneurship (Distance)	Bill Hall
RD450	Managing Rural Projects and Programs (Fairbanks Campus/Distance)	Ralph Gabrielli
RD475w	Rural Development Senior Project	Ralph Gabrielli
RD492	Rural Development Leadership Seminar	Mike Davis/Theresa John
RD650	Community-Based Research Methods	Miranda Wright
RD651	Management Strategies for Rural Development	TBA
RD652	Indigenous Organization Management	Gordon Pullar/ Dixie Dayo
RD698	Applied Community Development Project	RD Staff
RD699	Thesis	RD Staff
ANTH100x	Individual, Society and Culture	Theresa John
PS/ECON/100x	Political Economy	Mike Davis
PS263	Alaska Native Politics	Dixie Dayo

## Department of Alaska Native & Rural Development

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