

ANCSA Symposium

April 12-13, 2022 | UAF Wood Center Ballroom & Virtual



Department of Alaska
Native Studies and
Rural Development



9:00 A.M. Opening Prayer and Welcome

Emcee Tid Tidwell, UAF

Reverend Dr. Anna Frank, Chief of Denakkanaaga
Aaron Schutt, Doyon, Limited President and CEO
Dan White, UAF Chancellor

9:30 A.M. Managing ANCSA Lands Panel

Moderated by Freddie Olin, UAF Alumni

Liz Cravalho, NANA Corporation
Dr. Richard Glenn, former ASRC
Jamie Marunde, Doyon, Limited
Tisha Kuhns, Calista Corporation

12:00 P.M. Networking Lunch - Lunch Provided

1:00 P.M. Alaska Policy and ANCSA Panel

Moderated by Sarah Obed, Doyon, Limited

Elizabeth Saagulik Hensley, NANA
Sarah Lukin, Cook Inlet Region, Inc.
Rex Rock, Jr., State of Alaska
Raina Thiele, Department of Interior

**3:00 P.M. Partnering between Alaska Native Organizations
and Academic Institutions Panel**

Moderated by Tiffany Simmons, Doyon Foundation

Barbara Amarok, UAF Northwest Campus
Dr. Sharon Lind, Alaska Native Business Management
Jolene Nanouk, UAF Graduate
Dr. Herb Schroeder, ANSEP

**6:00 P.M. Symposium Reception Benefitting Troth Yeddha'
Indigenous Studies Center**

Hosted by Doyon, Limited

Chief's Court, Doyon Plaza

*Emcee Anna Atchison, Kinross Alaska and
UAF Board of Advisors*

9:00 A.M. Opening Remarks

Emcee Cheyenna Kuplack, Doyon, Limited
Dr. Jessica Black, UAF Professor
Laura Ekada, UAF Student

9:30 A.M. Keynote Address

Anthony Mallott, Sealaska

10:00 A.M. Economic Impacts in Alaska Panel

Moderated by Professor Cathy Brooks, UAF
Sheri Buretta, Chugach Alaska Corporation
Andrea Gusty, Kuskokwim Corporation
Kim Reitmier, ANCSA Regional Assosiation
Aaron Schutt, Doyon, Limited

11:30 A.M. Alaska Congressional Delegation Remarks

Senator Lisa Murkowski
Sentator Dan Sullivan

12:00 P.M. Networking Lunch - Lunch Provided

1:00 P.M. Looking Ahead to the Next 50 Years Panel

Moderated by Dr. Charleen Stern, UAF
Curtis McQueen, Sealaska and Eklutna
Ethan Schutt, Bristol Bay Native Corporation
Meghan Sullivan, Indian Country Today

Looking for a digital program?

View the digital program and live webcast, or learn about the Troth Yeddha' Indigenous Studies Center, by scanning this barcode with your mobile camera!



BIOGRAPHIES



Panelist

Barb (QasuGlana) Amarok is from Nome and is employed as the director of the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) Northwest Campus. She earned a masters in Educational Leadership through the University of Alaska Anchorage and a Doctoral Degree in Indigenous Education through UAF. Barb worked with Nome Public Schools for 20 years and, most recently has served on the Nome School Board since 2010. Barb has served on the Sitnasuak Native Corporation Board of Directors since 2011 and as the Board Chair for three years.



Speaker

Dr. Jessica Black (she/her) is Gwich'in from the villages of Gwichyaa Zhee (Fort. Yukon) and Toghotthele (Nenana). Dr. Black currently serves as an Associate Professor in the Department of Alaska Native Studies, Rural Development and Tribal Governance at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Dr. Black received her bachelor's degree in Social Work (BSW) at UAF and her master's degree and PhD in Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. Her dissertation and current research examine the relationship between governance and well-being among Alaska Native peoples, especially as it pertains to Tribal Stewardship and Cultural Connectivity. She resides in Fairbanks with her family, however, she frequently returns home to Gwichyaa Zhee to hunt, fish, gather and engage in other, important cultural practices.



Moderator

Cathy Brooks is an Associate Professor in the Department of Alaska Native Studies and Rural Development at UAF. She teaches rural development courses tied to rural and community development, communication, entrepreneurship, business planning, and management.

Previously, Cathy was the instructor/program manager for the Festival of Native Arts and adjunct instructor for UAF's Interior-Aleutians Campus and UAF's Developmental Education Department. Brooks also served as the 4-H Youth Development Specialist in the mid-90s.

She and her family call Fairbanks home but, spend most of the summer on the Yukon River at her husband's family camp, where skills and traditions are shared with the next generation.



Sheri Buretta, UAF Board of Regents Chair, was appointed in 2015 by Governor Walker. Regent Buretta is the Chairman of the Chugach Alaska Corporation. She is also Director of the Native American Contractors Association and serves on the Board of Directors for the Alaska Federation of Natives, the Board of Directors for Alaskans Standing Together, the Tatitlek Corporation Board, and the ROSSIA Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska, Inc. Regent Buretta was born in Anchorage; her family is from the village of Tatitlek located in Prince William Sound.



Elizabeth "Liz" Qaulluq Cravalho is NANA's Vice President of Lands, responsible for providing strategic leadership and management for programs that focus on the environmental protection and enhancement of NANA lands for subsistence use by shareholders and local communities. President Joe Biden appointed Liz to serve as an industry member on the U.S. Arctic Research Commission. Liz chairs the International Inuit Business Association, which was created by the Inuit Circumpolar Conference to encourage sustainable and equitable expansion of the economy throughout the Arctic and to promote greater self-sufficiency in the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions where Inuit hold rights.



Laura Deloodeneentla Ekada (she/her) is a senior at UAF studying biology with a concentration in biomedical sciences and a goal of becoming a physician serving rural villages. Laura's family is from Koyukuk, Nulato, and Minto, where she has taken part in the cultural traditions of each place. She was raised in the small village of Minto by her grandparents.

Laura graduated from Mt. Edgecumbe High School in 2018. She wrestled, ran cross country and competed in track and field for Umpqua Community College for two years. She is the 2021 first runner-up Miss WEIO at the World Exhibition of Indigenous Events. She is the recipient of the Chief Andrew Isaac Leadership Award from Doyon.

At UAF, Laura is a BLaST scholar. She does research with Dr. Jacques Phillip. She is the president of the UAF beading club and the Troth Yeddha' Dance Group. Laura is a Peer Educator at the Nanook Diversity and Action Center. Laura also hosts a podcast called the Urban Auntie Show where she interviews guests on Indigenous culture and life.

BIOGRAPHIES



Charleen Fisher, Ph.D. is Gwich'in, Koyukon, and Dena'ina from Beaver. She currently teaches at the University of Alaska Fairbanks as an Assistant Professor.

She has many years of experience as a K-12 certified teacher and principal. She has held multiple positions including Executive Director with the Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments and has served as the Chief of Beaver Village Council. She is currently serving on the Doyon, Limited, Alaska Humanities Forum, and the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute Board of Directors.



Reverend Dr. Anna Frank, Chief of Denakkanaaga was born in Old Minto, and raised living a subsistence lifestyle. She has dedicated her life to working on behalf of the Interior Native community; serving on numerous boards and committees. She currently serves as First Chief of Denakkanaaga and as the Elder Advisor to the Fairbanks Native Association Board of Directors. Frank was the first successfully ordained Indigenous woman in the world.



Dr. Richard Glenn served on the leadership team of the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC), where he was Lands Manager, Senior Vice-President of Lands, and Executive Vice-President of Government and External Affairs. He was an elected At-Large director of ASRC for most of that time. Prior to that, he was a North Slope Borough (NBS) department director and worked for multiple NSB Borough Mayors as a department director (Barrow Gas Fields and Energy Management Departments). He was a geologist for his Alaska Native regional and village corporation subsidiaries and has a variety of experience in sea ice research, oil, gas, and mineral exploration and development projects, and permafrost. In Barrow, he served as crew member and co-captain of his extended family's subsistence whaling crew.

He was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Alaska Fairbanks for his contributions to the advancement of arctic science and engineering.



Panelist

Andrea Gusty is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Kuskokwim Corporation (TKC), an ANCSA village corporation consisting of ten communities in the Middle Kuskokwim River region. Andrea is the daughter of Cheryl Jerabek of Aniak and Andrew Gusty Sr. of Stony River. Yup'ik and Athabascan, Andrea is a TKC Class B Shareholder and a Tribal member of Aniak.

After college, Andrea returned home to Alaska to work as an investigative news reporter and anchor for KTVA CBS 11 News in Anchorage. Andrea was hired by U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski in 2011 to be her Alaska Communications Director. Wanting to do more for the people of the Kuskokwim region and their descendants, Andrea began working for The Kuskokwim Corporation in April 2014. Andrea previously served as Community Relations, Land and Resource Manager, and Vice President before being appointed as President and CEO of TKC in February 2020.



Panelist

Elizabeth Saagulik Hensley, J.D., is NANA Corporation's Vice President of External and Government Affairs, responsible for developing, managing, and leveraging relationships with key stakeholders and partners to advance NANA's mission. Saagulik has worked for NANA as a staff attorney and as a partner at a private law firm, advising Alaska businesses and Alaska Native Tribes, organizations, and corporations. Her most recent position was as general counsel for Maniilaq Association, a Tribal nonprofit corporation that provides health, Tribal government, and social services to residents of northwest Alaska. She has served as a senior policy advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs at the U.S. Department of the Interior and an aide for the Alaska Legislature. Saagulik is a NANA shareholder and a Tribal citizen of the Native Village of Kotzebue. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Native American Studies from Dartmouth College and a Juris Doctor from the University of Arizona, James E. Rogers College of Law.

BIOGRAPHIES



Tisha Kuhns was appointed Vice President of Land and Natural Resources in 2019, after serving for three years as a geologist in Calista's Land and Natural Resources Department. Before joining Calista, she worked for 12 years with the Donlin Gold Project in geology and water quality baseline management.

At Calista, Tisha is responsible for the management of Calista land and natural resources to achieve Calista Corporation's goals of financial success. She provides technical advice concerning economic minerals, land issues, and coordination with industry and government agencies. Tisha is a Calista Shareholder born and raised in Bethel and Homer. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Geology from Southern Oregon University in Ashland, Oregon.

Tisha currently serves on the governor-appointed Alaska Minerals Commission and the Alaska Miners Association's Board of Directors and is pursuing a graduate certificate in Alaska Native Executive Leadership at Alaska Pacific University. In 2021, she was named a Native American 40 Under 40 by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development.



Cheyenna Kuplack is the Public Relations Specialist for Doyon, Limited. She is responsible for the creation and distribution of print and digital media, management of the company website and intranet, press and public relations, and assists with special projects and events.

She serves as a board member on the Fairbanks Youth Soccer Association, a committee member of the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce Government Relations Committee, co-chairs the Publicity Committee for PRSA, and a member of the Fairbanks Diversity Council.

Cheyenna is Gwich'in Athabascan, and her family originates from Gwichyaa Zhee (Fort Yukon). She is married to James Kuplack, and together they are raising their daughter, Charlie Ch'ikiitsoo.



Sharon (Chilux) Guenther Lind, MBA, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor of Management at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) College of Business and Public Policy. Her area of study and teaching is Alaska Native Business Management where she created a minor focused on the Alaska Native Corporation. She was born and raised in Kenai to Bob and Angelina (Snigaroff) Guenther.

She currently serves on the Board of Directors of The Aleut Corporation, an Alaska Native Regional Corporation and Atxam Corporation, an Alaska Native Village Corporation. Currently, she is launching an Occupational Endorsement Certificate in Alaska Native Business Management, the first certificate in this area at UAA with a projected launch date of Fall 2022.



Sarah Lukin is CIRI's Chief Strategy Officer who plays a key role in identifying long- and short-term business strategies for CIRI while ensuring the organization maintains strategy at the forefront of decision making and management of its resources. She also oversees the corporate affairs and shareholder programs departments and is responsible for CIRI's government relations.

Prior to joining CIRI in 2021, Sarah served as Senior Vice President and Chief Administration Officer for NANA Regional Corporation where she provided strategic leadership in a range of functions for the company. Sarah brings nearly 20 years of experience working with businesses across the U.S. and Canada, including her previous roles as chief operating officer for Pt Capital, senior vice president of corporate affairs for Afognak Native Corporation and executive director of the Native American Contractors Association.

Sarah is Alutiiq from the village of Port Lions, a remote community on Kodiak Island. She is a shareholder of Koniag, Inc. and Afognak Native Corporation and an enrolled tribal member of the Native Village of Afognak and Native Village of Port Lions.



Keynote

Anthony Mallott is President and CEO of Sealaska, an Alaska Native corporation owned by 23,000 Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian shareholders.

Anthony began serving as Sealaska President and CEO in June 2014. In this role, he guides the investment decisions that directly impact Sealaska's people, communities, and the natural environment, all while focusing on increasing profits and benefits for shareholders.

Anthony earned a Bachelor of Industrial Engineering Degree from Stanford University. He originally joined Sealaska in 2006 as the company's Chief Investment Officer and treasurer where he was responsible for the direction of treasury activities of the company and the management of corporate investment funds. Prior to Sealaska, Anthony was a vice president within Bank of America's capital markets, working in the portfolio and risk strategy group for 10 years.

Anthony currently serves as a Trustee and former chair of the Kootznoowoo Permanent Fund Settlement Trust, which benefits Kootznoowoo, Inc. shareholders. He has also served as a board member of the Rasmuson Foundation, a \$600 million private foundation that promotes a better life for all Alaskans; an investment committee member of the Alaska Community Foundation, a \$100 million philanthropic fund; and a Board Director of the Native American Bank.

Anthony is a passionate advocate for the community and works closely with organizations and partners throughout the region to bring people together for the benefit of all Southeast Alaska. He is Tlingit, Eagle, Tsaagweidí (Killerwhale) Clan, as well as Koyukon Athabascan, Caribou Clan. His Tlingit name is Gunnuk'.



*Panelist*

Jamie Marunde serves as the Vice President of Lands and Natural Resources for Doyon, Limited. She is responsible for the management of Doyon's Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act lands and resources. She provides technical advice concerning economic minerals, land issues, and coordination with industry and government agencies.

Jamie has worked for Doyon since 2013 in the Finance, Operations, and Lands and Natural Resources Departments. Previous to joining Doyon, she worked at Denali State Bank. Marunde has served on many boards to include the Alaska Miner Association, Northway Natives, Inc., the Wrangell St. Elias National Park Service Subsistence Resource Commission, and the Resource Development Council.

Jamie is Upper Tanana Athabascan raised in Northway.

*Panelist*

Curtis J. McQueen is a current Board Member of the Rasmuson Foundation, Alaska's largest philanthropic foundation. Additionally, he serves as the Chairman of the advisory board overseeing the University of Alaska Anchorage Distinguished Rasmuson Chair of Economics. From 2013-2019, Curtis served as an Honorary Commander for Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, the forward command for the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Army located in Anchorage.

*Panelist*

Jolene Nanouk, a graduate student studying Rural Development at the University of Alaska Fairbanks

BIOGRAPHIES



Sarah Obed is Senior Vice President of External Affairs for Doyon, Limited. She is responsible for representing Doyon on a wide range of matters before federal, state, and local governments. Sarah is responsible for reviewing and analyzing legislative issues that may impact Doyon’s business. Sarah oversees corporate and shareholder communications, including print and digital media, and press relations.

A Doyon shareholder and a Minto Tribal member, Sarah and her husband, Stephen, are raising their daughters in Fairbanks.



Freddie R. Olin IV is Koyukon Athabascan and a Doyon, Limited shareholder. He is a current employee and shareholder descendant of Gana-A’Yoo, Limited. Freddie’s position at Gana-A’Yoo is Project Coordinator, Shareholder Programs. His portfolio includes lands/resources management, community relations, and the Gana-A’Yoo Foundation.

Freddie is a recent graduate of the UAF Rural Development Bachelor of Arts program, with an emphasis in Indigenous Organization Management. Freddie’s undergraduate research and senior thesis was focused on ANCSA lands management, shareholder subsistence, and climate change impacts. As a non-traditional student he has built a strong knowledge base on the history of land selections and land management under ANCSA and ANILCA.



Photo courtesy: Koniag, Inc.
Photo credit: Lachelle Roberts

*Panelist*

Kim Reitmeier is President of the ANCSA Regional Association (ARA). Kim is Sugpiaq, a Koniag, Inc., and Ouzinkie Native Corporation shareholder, and a Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak member.

Kim has made education, advocacy, and collaboration cornerstones of ARA's work. Prior to joining ARA in 2011, she served as Chief of Staff to the President of Alyeska Pipeline Service Company and Director of Alaska Heritage Tours, where she oversaw tour package operations for CIRI Alaska Tourism.

A University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) graduate, Kim is deeply involved in her community at every level. She received the Alaska Journal of Commerce's Top 40 Under 40 Award, was inducted into the Anchorage ATHENA Society, and was honored as a YWCA Woman of Achievement in 2021. Currently, she serves on the boards of the Alaska Community Foundation, Alaska Chamber, Alaska Business Week, and the Providence Alaska Region, and is a past advisory board member of the UAA Alaska Native Organizational Management program.

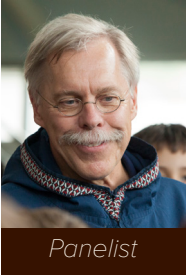
*Panelist*

Rex Rock, Jr. serves as the Policy Advisor for rural outreach and economic development with Alaska Native corporations in Governor Dunleavy's Office. In this role, he also works on a variety of state and federal tribal issues. Rex is on the Board of Directors of the Tikigaq Corporation, a village corporation created through the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, representing the Inupiat people around Point Hope, 330 miles southwest of Barrow. He also serves on the North Pacific Research Board. Rex is a whale hunter and son of Rex Rock Sr., who is the President of Arctic Slope Regional Corporation.



Photo courtesy: Sealaska
Photo credit: Violet Sensmeier

BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. Herb Schroeder started the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) in 1995 with a single Alaska Native student. Dr. Schroeder has received many honors, including a Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring in 2004, the Alaska Federation of Natives Denali Award in 2005, the greatest honor presented by the Federation to a non-Native, and in 2018 the George Norlin Award from the University of Colorado Boulder which recognizes a demonstrated and long-lasting commitment to excellence in his professional career and a devotion to the betterment of society and his community. In 2009, the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME) honored him with the Reginald H. Jones Distinguished Service Award (Founders Award), which recognizes individuals whose efforts and accomplishments have resulted in increased underrepresented minority participation in the engineering workforce. In 2021, he was awarded the Friends of First Alaskans Ted Stevens Award by First Alaskans Institute.



Aaron M. Schutt is President and Chief Executive Officer of Doyon, Limited. He is responsible for working with the Board of Directors to set the overall direction of the Doyon Family of Companies and provide leadership to its senior management team. Aaron has worked at Doyon since 2006. Prior to being named President and CEO, Aaron served as Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer from 2008 to 2011.

Aaron is Koyukon Athabascan and is an enrolled member of the Native Village of Tanana. He was born in Anchorage and raised in Tok. He is married to Marissa Flannery and together they have two sons and a daughter.





Ethan Schutt has spent two decades in roles of public service and executive management in Alaska. After graduating from Washington State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in mathematics and then from Stanford Law School with a Juris Doctorate, he worked for Alaska Supreme Court Justice Walter “Bud” Carpeneti in Juneau. He then worked for a law firm in Anchorage and as general counsel for Tanana Chiefs Conference in Fairbanks before returning to Anchorage in 2005 to work for Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI). He spent 13 years as an executive with CIRI and a decade leading and overseeing its energy investment portfolio and the development of several projects, including the Fire Island Wind Project. He was also responsible for the land management of CIRI’s approximately 1.5 million acres of land in the Cook Inlet, which included substantial oil and gas leasing. Schutt then worked in several leadership roles with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. Ethan is currently Executive Vice President & General Counsel for Bristol Bay Native Corporation (BBNC), where he leads BBNC’s efforts in legal, compliance and records management. Ethan and his wife are the proud parents of five hockey players.



Tiffany Simmons serves as the Executive Director for Doyon Foundation. Tiffany is a Doyon shareholder and Central Koyukon Athabascan, raised in the Yukon River communities of Koyukuk and Galena. She is the daughter of Marie Simmons and the late James Walldow, and her grandparents are the late Sidney and Angela and Jennie Huntington. Tiffany raised her two children, Traven and Tessa Sweetsir, in Fairbanks, where she currently resides with her husband, Harold Attla.

Tiffany has extensive experience working with tribal members and tribal governments in various management and senior leadership positions. In her free time, Tiffany enjoys beading, sewing, teaching others to bead and sew, and getting out on the rivers and land.

BIOGRAPHIES



Panelist

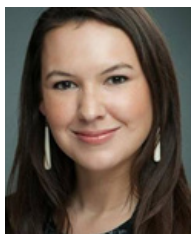
Meghan Sullivan is an Alaskan journalist from Anchorage and Fairbanks, who was selected to lead a recent reporting series for Indian Country Today, Alaska Public Media and the Anchorage Daily News, that focused on the 50th Anniversary of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Before this role, she studied International Relations at Stanford University and worked for the NBC News Investigative Unit. In summer 2022, she will begin a foreign reporting fellowship with the Associated Press.

Her grandparents are the late Mary Jane Fate and Hugh Bud Fate from Fairbanks.



Master of Ceremonies

Tia Tidwell is an Assistant Professor of Alaska Native Studies. She belongs to the Nunamiut people of Anaktuvuk Pass and currently resides in Fairbanks. Tia holds a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degree in English Literature from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.



Panelist

Raina Thiele serves as Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Interior for Alaska Affairs and Strategic Priorities. She serves as the Department of the Interior's policy lead on issues related to Alaska, which comprises a large proportion of the Department's overall portfolio. She has spent her career in public service, the private sector, and the nonprofit sector. In her previous public service role, she was President Obama's tribal liaison and led planning for President Obama's historic 2015 trip to Alaska. Raina was born and raised in Alaska and her family hails from Pedro Bay Village on Lake Iliamna and Alexander Creek. She is Dena'ina Athabascan and Yup'ik.

*Speaker*

Daniel M. White has served as University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) chancellor since July 2017. He previously served as University of Alaska vice president for academic affairs and research. He joined the faculty of UAF in 1995 as a professor of civil and environmental engineering. He has served in several positions at UAF, including director of the Institute of Northern Engineering, UAF associate vice chancellor for research and head of the Office of Intellectual Property and Commercialization, and interim vice chancellor for research. He has a bachelor's degree in physics from Colorado College, a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Washington University, and a doctorate in civil and environmental engineering from the University of Notre Dame.



Photo courtesy: Koniag, Inc.
Photo credit: Lachelle Roberts

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Thank You

for attending the ANCSA Symposium!



Department of Alaska
Native Studies and
Rural Development

