Graduate studies in sustainability science at the University of Alaska Fairbanks

Resilience & Adaptation Program

Special resources for RAP students

- IGERT Fellowships of $30,000 per year for U.S. PhD students, plus tuition waiver and health insurance;
- Other fellowships through various UAF programs;
- Teaching and research assistantships;
- Funding for an international internship experience to broaden disciplinary perspectives;
- Laptop computer and offices with other RAP students;
- Interaction and learning in a community of students and faculty from different disciplines interested in sustainability and change.

Application process

- Applications are evaluated on the basis of students’ commitment to interdisciplinary studies in sustainability;
- IGERT PhD Fellowships available only to US citizens;
- Application target date is February 1st;
- More information is found at www.uaf.edu/rap.

For more information, contact

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UAF is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution.

All photos by Gary Kofinas, except inside top right: UAF photo by Todd Paris, 08/09
RAP is an interdisciplinary graduate program, focusing on global-to-local sustainability in times of rapid change. RAP offers studies in sustainability science as society faces critical decisions about the future of humans and their relationship to the Earth System. Sustainability science serves to bridge scholarship and approaches from the natural and social sciences, engineering, and medicine to help society devise innovative strategies for adaptation and transformation. Resilience and adaptation serve as central concepts in exploring the challenges of sustainability. Student research is both “basic” and “applied”, transcending disciplinary boundaries by focusing on urgent real-world problems.

RAP is funded by the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) Program of the US National Science Foundation. RAP prepares students for positions of leadership in academia, research institutes, government agencies, non-government organizations, and indigenous organizations. The core curriculum of RAP includes coursework in resilience theory and methods for integrated assessment, an international internship experience, thesis research, and participation in special seminars, workshops, and conferences.

Our focus is on questions of sustainability for Alaska, the Circumpolar North, and beyond. Research opportunities are available in:

- Climate-Disturbance-Human Interactions
- Food Security
- Water Resources
- Wildlife Ecology, Ecosystem Services, and Subsistence
- Adaptive Resource Co-Management
- Land-use Change and Sustainable Development
- Sustainable Resource Economics
- Wildlands Management
- Integrating Indigenous Knowledge with Western Science
- Alternative Energy
- Rural-Urban Interdependencies and Conflicts
- Other topics

Program elements

- Interdisciplinary graduate training is available at the PhD or Masters levels;
- RAP is open to students at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and to visiting students enrolled in PhD studies at other universities;
- Alaska Natives and members of other minorities are encouraged to apply.

RAP builds on existing graduate programs at the University of Alaska Fairbanks in ecology, biology and wildlife, natural resources management, indigenous studies, anthropology, economics, political science, geology, geophysics, engineering, interdisciplinary studies, and other relevant disciplines to address sustainability in a systems framework.

www.uaf.edu/rap