

EMERITI RECOGNITION

DR. JEFFRY ALAN LEER

PROFESSOR OF ALASKA NATIVE LANGUAGES AND LINGUISTICS, EMERITUS

Dr. Jeffrey Alan Leer has served the University of Alaska Fairbanks with distinction in teaching, research and public service from 1976 to 2012.

He has distinguished himself in the field of linguistics for Alaska Native languages, with work primarily on the Tlingit and Alutiiq languages. His work is recognized among linguists as being of utmost importance to the field, and he is known among Alaska Natives for his exceptional knowledge of several Native languages. Dr. Leer has made a significant contribution to the State and its people with his research, which documents, analyzes and preserves our linguistic heritage.

His teaching has had a great impact on his students. He taught language as well as reading, writing and grammar, both at UAF and in off-campus workshops, where his understanding of the complex grammar of several Native languages was highly valued. Dr. Leer developed a speaking ability in a number of the languages he worked with, and this knowledge of the spoken languages allowed him to conduct many of his classes with little English used, so that students gained conversational exposure to their language of study in addition to grammatical instruction.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks expresses its deep appreciation to Dr. Jeffrey Alan Leer for his extensive contributions to both the State of Alaska and the University. 🌸
