Emeriti Recognition

Dr. Roman J. Motyka
Research Professor, Emeritus

Dr. Roman J. Motyka has served the University of Alaska Fairbanks with distinction in teaching, research and public service from 1997 to 2013.

He has made lasting contributions to the fields of glaciology, volcanology and geothermal research, nationally and internationally; and whose studies of tidewater and lake-calving glaciers in Southeast Alaska became the first-ever quantification of subglacial melt rates at the terminus of a tidewater glacier, receiving widespread recognition and leading to similar studies in Greenland that he became highly involved in.

He, while based in Juneau, worked diligently to integrate faculty and students from the University of Alaska Southeast into his research with the Geophysical Institute, and several of his students have received doctoral and master’s degrees, and he has served on multiple graduate student committees.

He has shared his knowledge with the greater public, frequently giving lectures at the Mendenhall Glacier Visitors Center, the Glacier Bay Visitors Center, and the Wrangell-St. Elias Visitors Center, and provided scientific advice and training for interpretive staff at those centers.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks expresses its deep appreciation to Dr. Roman J. Motyka for his extensive contributions to the State of Alaska and to the University.