

## **CXCS Newsletter Issue March 2018**

#### Greetings!

#### Welcome!

Spring is right around the corner. Before you know it, it will be graduation time! Students are knocking out dissertations, graduate forms are flowing in. As always our faculty and staff are here to help you succeed, please contact our office at (907) 474-1902 or email uaf-cxcs@alaska.edu if you have any questions. Follow us on Facebook for updates and events.

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# **Indigenous Studies Alumni Spotlight**

# Dr. Yvette Running Horse Collin PhD Indigenous Studies Alumni Class of 2017



Dr. Yvette Running Horse Collin received her doctorate in Indigenous Studies from UAF in May 2017. She is of Lakota, Nakota, Cheyenne, Arapaho, and Mayan descent on her mother's side, and Cherokee, Choctaw and Scottish descent on her father's side. Dr. Collin acknowledges the Native Elders, equine preservationists, and the ancient-line horses she caretakes as having helped to provide the "indigenous education" she received during her decade of preresearch. She credits her Doctorate Committee, professors, and UAF staff for providing the culturally respectful educational environment and curriculum that she needed to successfully conduct the Western academic portion of her research.

Her experience merging these two distinctly different educational approaches solidified her belief that combining Indigenous traditional knowledge systems with the best of Western academic scholarship is the key to creating an inclusive and sustainable educational model. This approach will result in more

accurate scholarship that is free of Eurocentric bias, and it offers a path to true compassion and wisdom. Such a system has the power to ensure a healthy future for the next seven generations.

This bifurcated approach led to the creation of her dissertation titled: *The Relationship Between the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas and the Horse: Deconstructing a Eurocentric Myth*. In this work, Dr. Collin deconstructed Western academia's version of the history of the horse in the Americas, and reconstructed it to include: cross-cultural translation, the TK of many Indigenous Peoples, Western scientific evidence that did not support the dominant cultural claim, and historical records. This dissertation proves that data from the latest Western technology combined with information from our Indigenous Peoples has the power to reconstruct more accurate and unbiased histories.

Today, Dr. Collin and her family manage Sacred Way Sanctuary (SWS), a research and educational facility located in Florence, Alabama that focuses on the following: preserving the Ancient Horse of the Americas; sponsoring cutting-edge Western scientific research; providing top-quality education on local Native heritage; offering a foundation for youth/elder traditional knowledge exchange; and creating an indigenous learning experience for those who visit. Sacred Way Sanctuary is an official interpretive center for the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area and the National Park Service. Dr. Collin is also a founding member of the Native American Horse Trail, which links likeminded horse preserves across the United States to present a more accurate history of the horse in the Americas, as well as introduce the public to Americas ancient horses.

Dr. Collin is currently the Executive Director of Sacred Healing Circle, a non-profit organization that focuses on healing Native individuals and communities. In this capacity, she works closely with Native Elders and Youth for the preservation and protection of traditional knowledge systems, sacred sites, and ceremonial and spiritual ways of knowing. She also proudly serves as part of the Administrative Team for the Black Hills Sioux Nation Council of Elders, which is centered on Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. All of her present work is focused on correcting inaccurate portrayals of Native Peoples, freeing sacred sites from the prisons in which they are currently held (due to improper "management" by the dominant Western culture), and helping Indigenous Elders to safely transmit their traditional knowledge to youth who are prepared to receive it.

Dr. Running Horse Collin is an award-winning journalist, and has held various executive positions at non-profit institutions around the United States. She has advised state, federal and Fortune 100 organizations on Native American policy. She lectures extensively throughout the United States and internationally on her people's traditions and the history surrounding the horse. Dr. Running Horse Collin has presented at conferences such as: The World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education (WIPCE), the Canadian Indigenous/Native Studies Association (CINSA), the Alaska Native Studies Conference, and Standing Rock Sioux Nation's Prophecy of the Grandfather's Conference, as well as for American Indian-themed forums hosted by private

organizations, educational institutions, and state and federal governments. She practices the traditional ways of her Ancestors and is a wife, mother, and grandmother.

Sacred Way Sanctuary: www.sacredwaysanctuary.org Sacred Healing Circle: www.sacredhealingcircle.org

(Elder and Youth work) "Earth Mother Protection Movement" Video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNBWpLcRFhU&feature=youtu.be The Relationship Between the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas and the Horse: Deconstructing a Eurocentric Myth

https://search.proquest.com/openview/1b40a9128eaba2e22ab3fed4cf6551a8/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=18750&diss=y

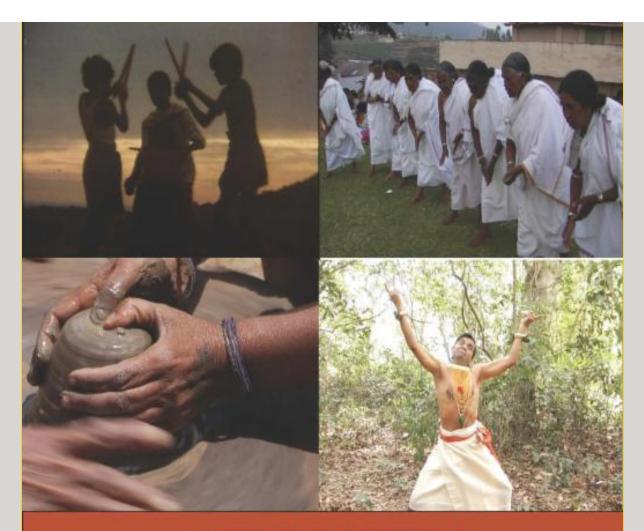
We are proud of our alumni!

Stay connect with the Center for Cross-Cultural Studies. Do you have an exciting career or family success story to share? We would love to feature you on our newsletter and highlight your accomplishments.

To share your story, email **uaf-cxcs@alaska.edu** with a paragraph of your accomplishments, your research, along with a photo.

This is where we would post it: http://www.uaf.edu/cxcs/graduate-profiles/

College of Liberal Arts



# "IT RESTED"

A film by Fulbright-Nehru Visiting Filmmaker

DR. SOUDHAMINI

A Conversation on New Directions in Indigenous Storytelling

Thursday, March 1, 3:00 pm, Brooks Building Reception Area

## Are you planning on graduating this spring?

Here are some important deadline reminders for PhD Indigenous Studies students:

Step 1: Graduation applications are due February 15th for Spring graduation Step 2: Final dissertation is due to the CXCS Department Chair Mike Koskey on March 10th (once changes are made as requested, the dissertation will be sent back the student's committee for review, once the committee is okay with it, you may send it to the Dean)

Step 3:Final dissertation is due to CLA Dean Sherman March 24th for review (email a Word format electronic copy to tlsherman@alaska.edu and also be sure to cc: Mike Koskey mskoskey@ alaska.edu and your committee members)

Note: Once the Dean has reviewed the final dissertation, it will be sent back to the student and committee with suggestions. Also be sure to acknowledge the receipt of his email and suggestions.

Step 4: Once changes are made and is also approved by your committee chair, a copy of your final dissertation can be submitted on the UAF Graduate School website for formatting. It is due to the UAF Graduate School April 7th.

Submit here: http://www.uaf.edu/gradsch/current/ready-to-graduate/

Outside examiner needs to be requested two weeks before the oral defense. All other graduate school paperwork is due April 24th

To learn more about the graduation process, please join our Brown Bag Luncheon. See flier below for more information. RSVP to uaf-cxcs@alaska.edu

Good luck on the semester everyone! Please contact our office if you have questions.

UAF Graduate School website: http://www.uaf.edu/gradsch/calendar/dates-and-deadlines/

#### **SAVE THE DATES**



#### Dissertation Defense

Thursday, March 8, 2018, 9:00 AM The Gathering Room, Brooks Building University of Alaska Fairbanks campus



Audio: Toll Free: 1-866-245-9952 (no pin required)

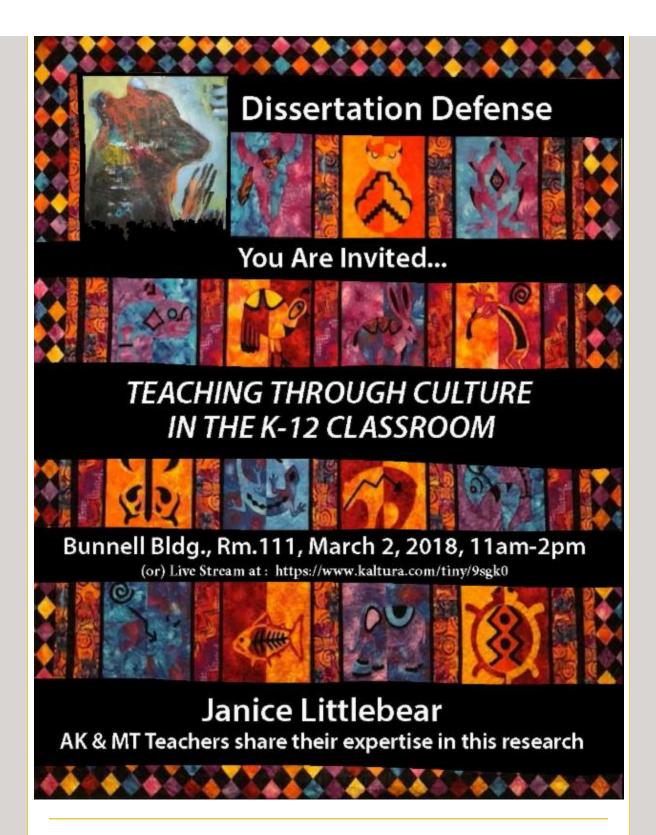
Alberta J. Jones, UAF PhD candidate, Indigenous Studies

#### Alaska Native Scholars: A Mixed Methods Investigation of Factors Influencing PhD Attainment

#### Abstract:

This study investigated the contributing factors influencing the attainment of PhD degrees by nearly all living Alaska Natives. Originating from a cross-section of rural and urban communities in Alaska and the lower 48 Alaska, this small group of scholars attended graduate schools throughout the country. The findings analyzed results from a survey instrument with a 92% response rate from all living Alaska Native PhD graduates that were identified. Survey participants shared personal, demographic, cultural, social, academic, and economic factors both hindering and supporting PhD attainment. Survey data was validated by ten personal interviews from eight Alaskan tribes. Most PhD graduates shared advice to Alaska Native graduate students and universities seeking to recruit, support, and graduate Alaska Native graduate students.





## Information from the UAF Graduate School

The **Thesis/Dissertation Completion Fellowship** application process is undergoing significant changes with regard to eligibility, application periods and deadlines for applying.

The UAF Graduate School anticipates that the first application period will open in mid-April and close June 1st.

They will update their website and send out more information via this list-serv when the changes are finalized.

For questions contact the UAF Graduate School at UAF-Grad-School@alaska.edu or via phone 907-474-7464.

# **PhD Indigenous Studies**

Brown Bag Tele-Luncheon

Join us in-person or via audio-conference



March 22nd

12-1 p.m. In-person GRUE 503F Topic: Steps in Dissertation Final Journey

Join us via audio-conference, dial: 1-866-245-8984 RSVP to:

Polly Hyslop physlop@alaska.edu and Richard Hum rehum@alaska.edu.
Upcoming dates:

April TBA



Center for Cross-Cultural Studies

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#### 2018 Summer Internship Program



First Alaskans Institute is recruiting for the 2018 Summer Internship Program. We place Alaska Native, American Indian and rural undergraduate and graduate students into organizations around Alaska to provide leadership development and real-life work experience.

#### Highlights

- Paid Internship, \$15/hour
- Employer placements available throughout Alaska
- Travel provided from home to worksite communities
- Mandatory leadership development sessions
- Interns are expected to secure their own housing and accommodations during program

### Important Dates

- March 2: Application Deadline
- June 18-August 10: Intern placement at partner organization
- June 11-15 & August 13-17: Mandatory Leadership Development Retreats, 8 am-5 pm
- June 29, July 13 & 27:
   Mandatory Leadership
   Development Fridays, 1-5 pm

Please contact Ella Tonuchuk, Indigenous Leadership Continuum Coordinator, at 907-677-1707 or ellatonuchuk@firstalaskans.org with any questions.

# Information and application at: www.firstalaskans.org

# The Center for Cross-Cultural Studies will be at the 2018 Festival of Native Arts

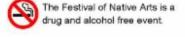
The Center for Cross-Cultural Studies and ANKN will be at the Festival of Native Arts event. Stop by our table to purchase ANKN books and learn more about our graduate programs. See you there!

See the following fliers for schedule of events.



(888)574-6528 festival@uaf.edu #UAF2017FNA





#UAF2017FNA www.uaf.edu/dansrd/

facebook.com/festivalofnativearts fna.community.uaf.edu instagram.com/festivalofnativearts

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	Friday, March 2
4:30 p.m.	Doors Open for public
5 p.m.	Opening Remarks
5:10 p.m.	Young Native Fiddlers
5:50 p.m.	Dakwàkàda Dancers
6:10 p.m.	Miracle Drummers and Dancers
6:40 p.m.	Pathfinder Award ~ Announcements  Dedication to James Nageak and Kris Ann Mountain
7:10 p.m.	GgaaL'Doh Dancers (Kaltag)
7:30 p.m.	Mt. Edgecumbe High School Athabascan Dance Group
7:50 p.m.	Pavva Iňupiaq Dancers
8:10 p.m.	Kelt'áaddh Měnn' Dancers (Dot Lake Schools)
8:30 p.m.	Troth Yeddha'
8:50 p.m.	Acilquq
9:10 p.m.	Naaska Qwuaa Yatki
9:30 p.m.	Anchorage Yupik Dancers
9:50 p.m.	UAF Kuskokwim Campus Dancers
10:10 p.m.	Sleeping Lady

Saturday, March 3		
4 p.m.	Doors Open to the Public	
4:30 p.m.	Troth Yeddha'	
5 p.m.	Opening Remarks	
5:10 p.m.	Kelt'áaddh Měnn' Dancers (Dot Lake Schools)	
5:30 p.m.	Dlul Hutanneets Hut'aannee Ch'ets'edelee (Rampart)	
5:50 p.m.	Anchorage Yupik Dancers	
6:10 p.m.	Naaska Qwuaa Yatki	
6:30 p.m.	Acilquq	
6:50 p.m.	Tlingit and Haida of Anchorage	
7:30 p.m.	Announcements and Rural Student Services Clubs	
7:40 p.m.	Cupiit Yuratet	
8 p.m.	Sleeping Lady	
8:30 p.m.	Iñu-Yupiaq Dance Group	
9 p.m.	Raffle Drawing	
9:10 p.m.	Get Out the Native Vote	
9:20 p.m.	UAF Kuskokwim Campus Dancers	
9:40 p.m.	Dakwàkàda Dancers	
10 p.m.	Stevens Village	
10:20 p.m.	Iñu-Yupiaq Dance Group Closing Song	

# 2018 FESTIVAL OF NATIVE ARTS

Alaska's tradition of sharing cultures and friendship.



Doors open at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 1

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 2

Doors open at 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 3

**UAF Davis Concert Hall** 

More schedule information at: facebook.com/festivalofnativearts instagram.com/festivalofnativearts fna.community.uaf.edu

www.uaf.edu/dansrd **#UAF20187FNA** 

All events are free and open to everyone

Additional Activities:

Workshops: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on March 1-2

James Nageak and Kris Ann Mountain

**UAF Wood Center** 

10 a.m.-3 p.m. on March 3

Theatre Green Room

Fine Arts Complex Theatre 101

Noon-4 p.m. on March 3 Powwow:

**UAF Wood Center** 

The Festival of Native Arts is made possible in part by a grant from the Fairbanks Arts Association/ City of Fairbanks Bed Tax.



The Festival of Native Arts is a drug and alcohol free event.

UAF is an AA/50 employer and ediscound institution and prohibits (legal distribution against any individual against against against AA/50 employer and ediscound institution and prohibits (legal distribution).



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We is an AVEO employer and educational institution and prohibits ideas discrimination expires any individual years also and prohibits in the courter of Sarah Peele. 02/2018

1-3 p.m. on Saturday in Theatre Green Room, Fine Arts Bldg.

# 2018 Alaska Native Studies

The ANS Conference will be held the weekend of **April 13-15**, **2018** in Juneau, AK

To register visit their website at: http://alaskanativestudies.org/

Acting and Voice-Overs

Conference

For any questions contact: ehhayes@alaska.edu or a.jones@alaska.edu



# 2018 Alaska Native Studies Conference



Past, Present, Future - Working Together

April 13-15, 2018

save the date!

conference updates & details at alaskanativestudies.org

Áak'w <u>K</u>wáan Aaní Káx' Juneau, AK



## Richard Hum at 907-474-5897

#### **Alaska Native Knowledge Network**

The Alaska Native Knowledge Network (ANKN) is a unique resource maintained through the Center for Cross-Cultural Studies for our students and the communities they serve.

ANKN is located on the 5th floor of the Gruening Building, room 503F. Please contact Richard Hum at 907-474-5897 or email rehum@alaska.edu for any inquiries on books and posters.



#### **ANKN Website Link**

#### University of Alaska Fairbanks Center for Cross-Cultural Studies

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Email: uaf-cxcs@alaska.edu Office Hours 8AM-5PM M-F **Contact Us** 

