

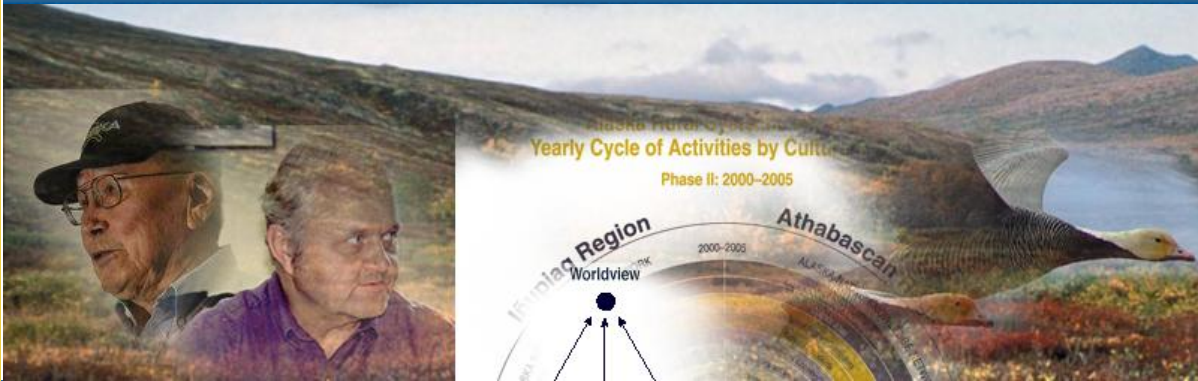
SHARE:



[Join Our Email List](#)



CENTER FOR CROSS-CULTURAL STUDIES  
University of Alaska Fairbanks



## CXCS Newsletter Issue May 2018

Greetings!

Welcome!

Congratulations class of 2018! You did it!

As always a reminder to our students that our faculty and staff are here to help you succeed. Please contact our office at (907) 474-1902 or email [uaf-cxcs@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-cxcs@alaska.edu) if you have any questions. Follow us on Facebook for updates and events.

Fall 2018 registration is now open. Contact your committee chair to register today!

*Also please note that our faculty and staff will be off contract for the summer and will be back in August. Contact the CLA Dean's office for assistance after June 1st at 907-474-7231.*

[Visit the Website](#)



## Cross-Cultural Studies Alumni Spotlight!

### Denise Wartes, M.A. Cross-Cultural Studies Alumni, Class of 2007



Photo credit JR Ancheta

*Denise Wartes, is currently the Program Manager of the **Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI)** at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.*

The oldest of nine children, I grew up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in a small town called DeTour Village. The day after I married Mark Wartes, we moved to the edge of the Arctic Ocean where we lived for the next several years on a homestead in the Colville River Delta. Mark had grown up in Barrow and along the Arctic coast, the son of a missionary pastor pilot and wife. He

considers the Arctic to be home. I joined him there and together we've had many adventures since. While living in the Arctic, our two children were born. We were very fortunate to live on Alaska's North Slope prior to the development of the oil fields. The lifestyle we experienced really doesn't, and can't, exist anymore. We lived on a remote homestead, 40 miles west of Prudhoe Bay, 20 miles north of Nuiqsut, or 180 miles east of Barrow. Our groceries arrived on a C-46 airplane once a year in the fall. Imagine the grocery list I had! What a learning experience. Mark shared with me the grocery list he had developed over the years. I learned to do my own food ordering, expanding it considerably as a bachelor's idea of meal planning left room for improvement. If we started to run out of something, we slowed down on that particular item or switched to a similar one that could be substituted, or just went without. Then next year we looked at what we'd run out of and decide what changes needed to be made. We mailed our food and supply list to a grocery store in Fairbanks that supplied people in bush areas. They, in turn, took our list, knowing that if they didn't have a particular item – that they should substitute something close to it, as there wasn't any way to contact us and ask what we'd prefer. Several grocery carts and many, many cases of food and hundreds of pounds of flour and sugar later, they boxed up all of our food, put it on pallets and transported it to the Fairbanks charter airline company that flew our food north to us.

Since this was before cell phones, you may wonder how we found out when our food and supplies were to be shipped to us, so that we would have the runway all ready, smoothed out, and packed down, with lighted flare pots along its length? In Alaska, commercial radio stations send out twice daily messages to people living the bush, messages from families stating that they'd arrived safely in town, that grandma Susie says hello, that new baby Jonathan was born, that the tundra tires we'd ordered would be shipped by mail next week. We eagerly sat by our radio awaiting word of the long anticipated flight, sometimes to be disappointed when the weather was poor and they had to turn back because of fog or wind over the Brooks Range. Then came the day that we heard the drone of the C-46 in the distance. Everyone grabbed their parka and mukluks, jumped on their snow machines, and quickly drove to the runway so that the flare pots could be lit alerting the pilot of the runway.

Imagine, several trips with the snow machine sledging supplies up the house, where we would unload the sled, separating out the perishable supplies and bringing them into the house, along with checking the unmarked boxes that may contain catsup or mayonnaise or other items that couldn't be frozen. Then there was the mail, such a welcome event. Over the next several weeks we would open more mail each day, read magazines or newspapers with what might seem to be "stale" news, but to us was news that had happened the day before. In addition, the Alaska public library has a system where they send out 10 books each month to us, keeping track of the books they'd sent, so there would be no duplication. When we finished reading the books, we would close up the mailbag and send it back to them on the next mail flight, usually every four months.

In the spring we traveled out onto the ice pack; summers we traveled the Colville delta hunting and fishing. We stacked and gathered driftwood for winter, which we would later retrieve with snow machine, as we heated our home by driftwood. The Arctic slope has no trees. We gathered the driftwood that collected along the shores in the Harrison Bay area, wood that had drifted down the Mackenzie River in Canada and floated over into Harrison Bay. Come fall we would travel inland hunting ducks and geese, moose, caribou, and Dall sheep, preparing ourselves for the winter. From late September to

mid-November we fished for Kaktak (Arctic Cisco) with nets under the river ice, fishing for our personal and commercial use. The sale of these fish helped offset the cost of the C-46 flight that was chartered each fall, bringing in our year's supply of food, and things such as building materials, propane, and mail. Electricity was a luxury we used on an occasional basis from a small generator. Water came from a lake, snow, or ice (depending on the season). Imagine my wash day! Mark would spend the day before washday chopping a hole in the lake ice, a task of several hours, dipping five gallon cans into the water, and transporting these cans of water to the house by snow machine and sled, where I would transfer the water to large clean garbage cans to bring the icy water up to room temperature. The next day we would put as much water as we could into large cooking pots or containers and heating them on our barrel stove and wood burning kitchen range. Then we added this hot water to the cold water placed in our washer, so as to have a warm water wash. Next came the drying of all these wet clothes, wet laundry hung everywhere, especially with two babies in diapers. In between major washdays I washed clothes by hand in a big washtub.

The rapid expanse of oil development was fast changing our subsistence lifestyle. We moved to Fairbanks and enrolled our children in school. While raising our family and working, I continued to take the occasional course, eventually attaining my certified professional secretarial rating. This certification transferred into university credits on my transcript, and I continued, frequently one course a semester, occasionally three courses, to attain a college degree. In 1996, I earned an associate's degree, and in 2001 I earned an interdisciplinary bachelor's degree in Alaska Native Studies and Business at UAF, eventually in 2007 obtaining a **Masters in Cross-Cultural Studies**.

I have a life-long interest in working with Indigenous peoples, personally and professionally. Presently I work at UAF with the Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI), a college preparatory bridge program for rural and Alaska Native high school students. In the past I have worked with UAF Alaska Native studies, Festival of Native Arts, and the Elder-in-Residence class. In addition, I have taught Federal Indian Law at UAF. I have also served as a teaching assistant for a number of classes, including Alaska Native Education, Comparative Aboriginal Rights & Policy, Native Self-Government, and Alaska Native Elder-In-Residence.

I have been fortunate enough to travel occasionally to Native villages, many Alaska Federation of Natives conventions, Bilingual Multi-Cultural Conferences, participate in, assist with, and attend the Festival of Native Arts for the last 35+ years. I have assisted with the World Eskimo Indian Olympics, along with numerous other events such as potlucks at UAF and throughout the community, such as the Presbyterian Church Eskimo Thanksgiving feasts, Christmas feasts, Christmas Nativity Program, and many funeral potlatches. Life has been a wonderful adventure! And, my **Masters in Cross-Cultural Studies** helped me along the way.

---

### **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](mailto: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/>



## Announcements

### Congratulations to our 2017/2018 CXCS Graduates!

#### PhD Indigenous Studies

Charlene Stern, PhD

Dan Ho, PhD

Polly Hyslop, PhD

Alberta Jones, PhD

Lexie Tom, PhD

Beth Geiges, PhD

#### M.A. Cross-Cultural Studies

Amelia Topkok, MA

### Potluck Gathering Celebration



Class of 2018

Congratulations! We look forward to seeing you at the commencement ceremony Saturday, May 5, 2018.

Graduating this spring? Don't forget to check your UAOnline account to ensure your account balance has been paid in full, including your UAF graduation fee. Unpaid balances can prevent access to your diplomas, transcripts, and grades. If you have any questions please contact the **Office of the Bursar** at [uaf-bursar@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-bursar@alaska.edu) , by phone at **907-474-7384** , or stop by and see us at our office located on the first floor of Signers' Hall.

For questions related to honors, graduation status and commencement, try the Graduation Services chat at [www.uaf.edu/reg/grad/](http://www.uaf.edu/reg/grad/) , call 474-6300 or stop by on the first floor, Signers' Hall.

<http://www.uaf.edu/commence/2018/info/student/>

---

## Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to assist with Commencement 2018 — UAF's 96th graduation ceremony. Parking attendants, greeters and information table support are all needed. If you're interested in helping at this special event, email Carla Browning at [uaf-events@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-events@alaska.edu) .

Commencement takes place Saturday, May 5. Volunteers will be asked to arrive at 11 a.m. Graduates arrive at noon and the event begins at 1:20 p.m. It will be a busy day but a rewarding one as we celebrate the accomplishments of our students.

More details on commencement are available at <https://uaf.edu/commence/>

---

## Fall 2018 Registration is now open!

Please register on **UAONLINE** or contact our office if you have any questions (907) 474-1902 or email [uaf-cxcs@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-cxcs@alaska.edu).

Contact your advisory committee for assistance.

*\*First day of instruction is Monday, August 27, 2017 and late registration begins.*

Here's the link to the UA Course Finder.

<http://www.uaf.edu/coursefinder/>

---

## Scholarships

### Doyon Foundation Scholarship

- Must be enrolled to Doyon, Limited or be the child of an original enrollee
- 2.0 GPA or equivalent
- **Apply by May 15th**
- [www.doyonfoundation.com](http://www.doyonfoundation.com)

### American Indian College Fund Full Circle Scholarship

- Must be tribally enrolled or are a descendant of tribal enrolled member
- 2.0 GPA or equivalent
- **Apply by May 31st**
- [www.collegefund.org](http://www.collegefund.org)

### Louis Bunyan Memorial Scholarship

- Must have resided in one of the Coastal Village member communities for a minimum of 5 years
- **Apply by June 1st**
- [www.coastalvillages.org](http://www.coastalvillages.org)

## SAVE THE DATES

# ALASKA NATIVE LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION INSTITUTE



**May 21-24, 2018**  
**Troth Yeddha' Campus**  
**University of Alaska Fairbanks**

UAF College of Rural and Community Development is hosting an Alaska Native Language Revitalization Institute (ANLRI) May 21 - 24 at the Troth Yeddha' Campus in Fairbanks. The Institute advances language revitalization work and preparation for teaching for nine Alaska Native languages, working in seven teams:

- Yup'ik (Team Facilitator: Sally Samson)
- Iñupiaq (Team Facilitator: Cordelia Qigñaaq Kellie)
- Tlingit (Team Facilitator: X'huneí Twitchell)
- Gwich'in (Team Facilitator: Hishinlai' Peter and Sam Alexander)
- Dena'ina and Ahtna (Team Facilitators: Sondra Shaginoff-Stuart and Joel Isaak)
- Supiaq and Alutiiq (Team Facilitator: April Laktonen Counciller)
- Denaakk'e (Team Facilitator: Susan Paskvan)

Each group will have up to 20 participants. If you would like to be considered for participation, please complete an [application](#) by March 30, 2018. Applicants will be notified by April 13 of their participation.

### Travel Scholarships

UAF will support travel for 14 participants from each of the 7 language teams:

- 4 Elder/First language speakers
- 10 participants who will spend the week advancing work on the language

For questions or an **application**, contact **Sandy Kowalski** at [sjkowalski@alaska.edu](mailto:sjkowalski@alaska.edu) or **907-474-7089**.



**UAF** COLLEGE OF RURAL AND  
 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
 University of Alaska Fairbanks  
*Naturally Inspiring.*





## RURAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE

### **RD 425** **Cultural Resources Issues**

**Day: MW**

**Time: 6:40-7:10 pm**

**3 credits**

**CRN 76449 Audio Only**

**Instructor: Judy Ramos**

**jramos2@alaska.edu**

An examination of the potential impacts of development projects on cultural systems. Explores data gathering, analytical techniques and use of impact data.



**DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA NATIVE  
STUDIES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

University of Alaska Fairbanks

#### **CONTACT DANSRD TODAY!**

**From any location in Alaska:**

Office 1-888-574-6528 (toll-free)  
fydanrd@uaf.edu

PO Box 756500  
Brooks Building Room 315  
Fairbanks, AK 99775  
(907) 474-6528

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.  
UAF is an AA/EEO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual. [www.uaf.edu/nondiscrimination](http://www.uaf.edu/nondiscrimination).



[www.uaf.edu/dansrd/](http://www.uaf.edu/dansrd/)

**To Order ANKN Books & Materials contact  
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](mailto:rehum@alaska.edu) for any inquiries on books and posters.

**ANKN Website Link**



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

201 Eielson Building, UAF campus  
PO Box 756730

Fairbanks, AK 99775-6730

Phone: (907) 474-1902

Fax: (907) 474-1957

Email: [uaf-cxcs@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-cxcs@alaska.edu)

Office Hours 8AM-5PM M-F

**Contact Us**

