

# Program and Abstracts

## Annual Meeting

*of the*

## Alaska Anthropological Association

Fairbanks, Alaska  
March 14-17, 2007



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## Highlights

### WEDNESDAY

**6:00 PM** Reception at University of Alaska Museum of the North  
The shuttle bus from the Westmark departs at 5:45 PM.

### THURSDAY

**6:00 PM** Reception and Book Signing (Ernest S. Burch, Jr.)

**7:00 PM** Dinner speaker Dennis Stanford (Smithsonian Institution) New  
Perspectives on the Origins of the First Americans

### FRIDAY

**12:15 PM** Lunch speaker Shepard Krech III (Brown University)  
“Crow” and Other Birds: Ruminations on Man and Nature

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## Schedule at a Glance

### THURSDAY MORNING

- 8:00 AM SESSION 1 (EAST GOLD)** *Gathering, Gardens, and Horticulture in Alaska: Some Overlooked Aspects of Subsistence*
- 8:00 AM SESSION 2 (MIDDLE GOLD)** *About Bering Strait: Current Research around the Seward Peninsula*
- 8:00 AM SESSION 3 (WEST GOLD)** *Recent Research in Subarctic Archaeology*
- 11:00 AM SESSION 4 (EAST GOLD)** *Student Papers*
- ALL DAY (RAMPART)** *Poster Session*

### THURSDAY AFTERNOON

- 2:00 PM SESSION 4 (EAST GOLD)** *Student Papers (continued)*
- 2:00 PM SESSION 5 (MIDDLE GOLD)** *A Fresh Look at Nuvuk, Point Barrow, Alaska: Results from Recent Work*
- 2:00 PM SESSION 6 (WEST GOLD)** *The Anthropology of Colonialism in the Arctic*

### FRIDAY MORNING

- 9:40 AM SESSION 7 (EAST GOLD)** *The Northern Archaic (Part I)*
- 8:30 AM SESSION 8 (MIDDLE GOLD)** *International Collaboration for the International Polar Year (Part I)*
- 8:00 AM SESSION 9 (WEST GOLD)** *Contributed Papers in Archaeology*
- ALL DAY (RAMPART)** *Poster Session*

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON

- 2:40 PM SESSION 7 (EAST GOLD)** *The Northern Archaic (Part II)*
- 2:40 PM SESSION 8 (MIDDLE GOLD)** *International Collaboration for the International Polar Year (Part II)*
- 4:20 PM SESSION 10 (WEST GOLD)** *Forging One's Own Future: Indigenous Childhood and Youth in the Arctic*
- 2:40 PM SESSION 11 (WEST GOLD)** *Contributed Papers in Cultural Anthropology*

## **SATURDAY MORNING**

**8:00 AM SESSION 12 (MINTO)** *Archaeology of Auke Lake*

**11:00 AM SESSION 13 (MINTO)** *Museums and Communities: Current Collaborations*

**11:00 AM SESSION 14 (TANANA)** *Friends of Archaeology at the University of Alaska  
Museum Working Group*

**8:00 AM SESSION 15 (YUKON)** *Athabascan Traditions: Linking Past, Present,  
and Future*

## **SATURDAY AFTERNOON**

**2:30 PM BUSINESS MEETING (YUKON)**

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## **BOOK ROOM**

Located in the Rampart Room and open 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Thursday and Friday; open Saturday (outside Minto and Yukon) from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

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## Wednesday Evening, March 14

6:00-8:00 PM Reception and Registration at the **University of Alaska Museum of the North** (Cash Bar). The shuttle bus from the Westmark departs at 5:45 PM.

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## Thursday Morning, March 15

### POSTER SESSION (RAMPART)

Robert (Max) Dean (Chugach National Forest) / An Examination of Hard-Rock Mining Prospects on the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

Heather C. Hall (Chugach National Forest) / Ashes to Asbestos—End of an Era of a Volunteer Fire Hall in Whittier, Alaska

Diane K. Hanson (UAA), G. Richard Scott (University of Nevada, Reno), Brian Hoffman, and Roy Mitchell / 25 Years with the Belzoni Society

Shannon Huber (Chugach National Forest) / Reassessing the Eligibility of a National Register Site for the Abandoned Mine Lands Program—The Hirshey Mine—Hope, Alaska's "End of the Road"

Teneal Jensen (Chugach National Forest) / An Experiment in Archaeology: Recreating a Traditional Dena'ina Fish Cache Pit

James Kari (Dena'inaq' Titaztunt) / Some Features of the Dena'ina Topical Dictionary

Kathryn Krasinski and Gary Haynes (University of Nevada, Reno) / Refining the Radiocarbon Record: Implications for Interpreting Eastern Beringian Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Extinctions

Robin Mills and Steven Lanford (both of Bureau of Land Management) / Hills Bros. Coffee Can Chronology Field Guide

Megan A. Partlow (Central Washington University) and Robert E. Kopperl (Northwest Archaeological Associates, Inc.) / Exploring the Skeletal Evidence for Dried Cod in the North Pacific

Becky Saleeby and Susan Bender (National Park Service) / Archeological  
Mentorship Program 2004–2006

Scott Shirar (UAF and National Park Service) / The Maiyumerak Creek Site  
(XBM-131): An Analysis of Artifacts and Faunal Remains from a  
Late Prehistoric House Pit in Northwest Alaska

Cody J. Strathe (UAF) / Seal Bones from the Beach Ridges: Isotopic Values of  
Cape Krusenstern Archaeofauna

## **SESSION 1 (EAST GOLD ROOM): *Gathering, Gardens, and Horticulture in Alaska: Some Overlooked Aspects of Subsistence***

Session co-organizers: Daniel Monteith (UAS) and Elizabeth Kunibe (UAS)

Currently there is a variety of new research being conducted on the resilience of gathering and gardening practices in Alaska. Research indicates that gathering and gardening strategies have been historically significant but oftentimes these activities are overlooked in the literature. Contemporary subsistence activities are re-emphasizing the importance of gathering and gardening as a stable and healthy food source even in the midst of rapid climatic change. Gathering and gardening seems to be essential to the health and economy of many rural Alaskan communities today; the research projects in this session will examine how these practices are both preserved and perpetuated.

8:00 AM Daniel Monteith (UAS) / Alaska Native Gathering and Gardening  
in Southeast Alaska: Ethnohistorical Analysis and Contemporary  
Implications

8:20 AM Douglas W. Veltre (UAA) / Gardening in Russian America: Archaeo-  
logical Evidence from the Aleut Region

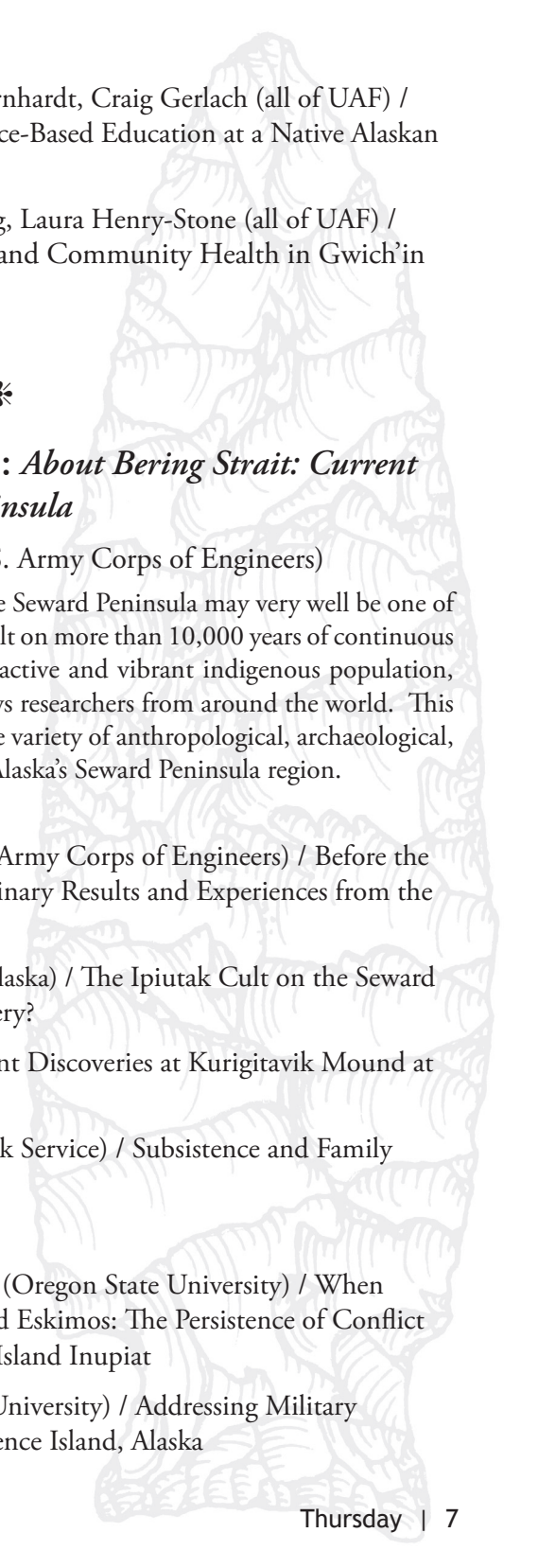
8:40 AM Elizabeth Kunibe (UAS) / Potatoes and the Kenai Peninsula: Ob-  
taining Introduced Potato Cultivars from Russian Old Believers and  
Early Settlers

9:00 AM Alberto Pantoja, Aaron Hagerty, and Susan Emmert (USDA) /  
Gathering, Gardening, and Agricultural Production in Alaska: Why  
IPM Cannot Be Overlooked Even at Latitude 64° North

9:20 AM BREAK

9:40 AM Philip Loring and Craig Gerlach (both of UAF) / Outpost Garden-  
ing in Interior Alaska: Historical Dimensions of Food-System Inno-  
vation and the Exploration of a Traditional and Customary Practice

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- 10:00 AM Laura Henry-Stone, Ray Barnhardt, Craig Gerlach (all of UAF) / Linking Gardening with Place-Based Education at a Native Alaskan Charter School
- 10:20 AM Craig Gerlach, Philip Loring, Laura Henry-Stone (all of UAF) / Country Foods, Nutrition and Community Health in Gwich'in Ecosystems
- 10:40 AM Discussion



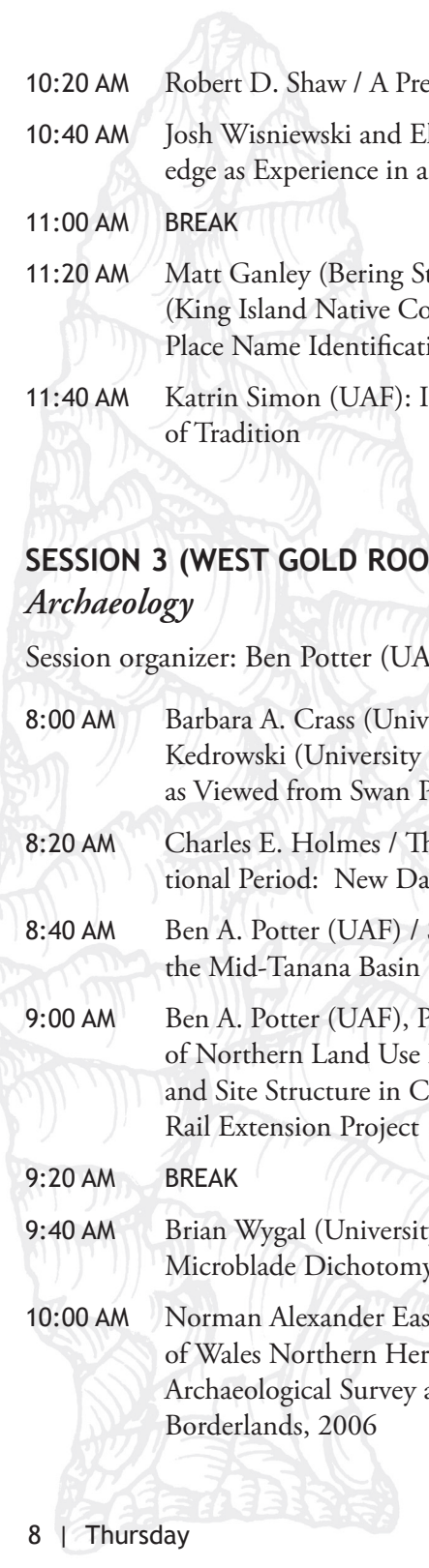
## **SESSION 2 (MIDDLE GOLD ROOM): *About Bering Strait: Current Research around the Seward Peninsula***

Session organizer: Margan Grover (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

As the former eastern reach of Beringia, the Seward Peninsula may very well be one of the earliest occupied regions in Alaska. Built on more than 10,000 years of continuous occupation, the Seward Peninsula has an active and vibrant indigenous population, and a fascinating past and future that draws researchers from around the world. This multi-disciplinary session will highlight the variety of anthropological, archaeological, ethnographic, and other research around Alaska's Seward Peninsula region.

- 8:00 AM Margan Allyn Grover (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) / Before the Three Lucky Swedes: Preliminary Results and Experiences from the Nome Sandspit Site.
- 8:20 AM Owen K. Mason (GeoArch Alaska) / The Ipiutak Cult on the Seward Peninsula: Center or Periphery?
- 8:40 AM Roger Harritt (UAA) / Recent Discoveries at Kurigitavik Mound at Wales, Alaska, in 2006
- 9:00 AM Rachel Mason (National Park Service) / Subsistence and Family Networks in Buckland
- 9:20 AM BREAK
- 9:40 AM Deanna Paniataaq Kingston (Oregon State University) / When Bad Things Happen to Good Eskimos: The Persistence of Conflict Avoidance among the King Island Inupiat
- 10:00 AM Kai Henifin (Oregon State University) / Addressing Military Contamination on St. Lawrence Island, Alaska



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- 10:20 AM Robert D. Shaw / A Preliminary Look at the Houses of King Island
- 10:40 AM Josh Wisniewski and Elizabeth Marino / Being as Knowing: Knowledge as Experience in a Sentient World
- 11:00 AM BREAK
- 11:20 AM Matt Ganley (Bering Straits Native Corporation) and Ted Mayac, Sr. (King Island Native Corporation) / Using Oblique Aerial Photos for Place Name Identification: King Island, Alaska
- 11:40 AM Katrin Simon (UAF): In Quest of Authentic Yup'ik Art—Concepts of Tradition

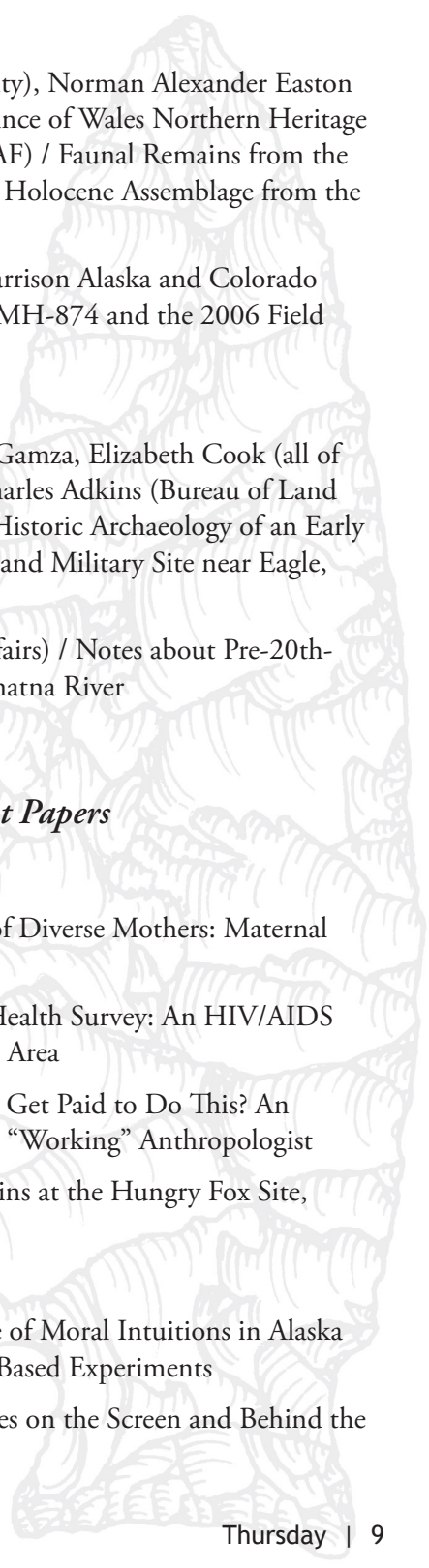


### **SESSION 3 (WEST GOLD ROOM): *Recent Research in Subarctic Archaeology***

Session organizer: Ben Potter (UAF)

- 8:00 AM Barbara A. Crass (University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh) and Brant L. Kedrowski (University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh) / Paleolithic Hearths as Viewed from Swan Point.
- 8:20 AM Charles E. Holmes / The East Beringian Tradition and the Transitional Period: New Data from Swan Point
- 8:40 AM Ben A. Potter (UAF) / Site Location Model and Survey Strategies in the Mid-Tanana Basin
- 9:00 AM Ben A. Potter (UAF), Peter M. Bowers, and Edmund P. Gaines (both of Northern Land Use Research, Inc.) / Chronology, Technology, and Site Structure in Central Alaska: Results of the 2006 Northern Rail Extension Project
- 9:20 AM BREAK
- 9:40 AM Brian Wygal (University of Nevada, Reno) / Microblade/Non-Microblade Dichotomy in Southcentral Alaska
- 10:00 AM Norman Alexander Easton (Yukon College), Glen MacKay (Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre), Patricia Bernice Young (UAF): Archaeological Survey and Excavations of the Yukon–Alaska Borderlands, 2006



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- 10:20 AM Vance Hutchinson (Tulane University), Norman Alexander Easton (Yukon College), Glen MacKay (Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre), Patricia Bernice Young (UAF) / Faunal Remains from the Little John Site (KdVo-6): An Early Holocene Assemblage from the Yukon–Alaska Borderlands
- 10:40 AM Aaron C. Robertson (U.S. Army Garrison Alaska and Colorado State University) / Excavations at XMH-874 and the 2006 Field Season on Donnelly Training Area
- 11:00 AM BREAK
- 11:20 AM Robert Sattler, Tom Gillispie, Tom Gamza, Elizabeth Cook (all of Tanana Chiefs Conference), and Charles Adkins (Bureau of Land Management) / The Beck Site: The Historic Archaeology of an Early Gold Rush Era Dwelling, Business, and Military Site near Eagle, Alaska
- 11:40 AM Matt O’Leary (Bureau of Indian Affairs) / Notes about Pre-20th-Century Dena’ina Houses on Mulchatna River



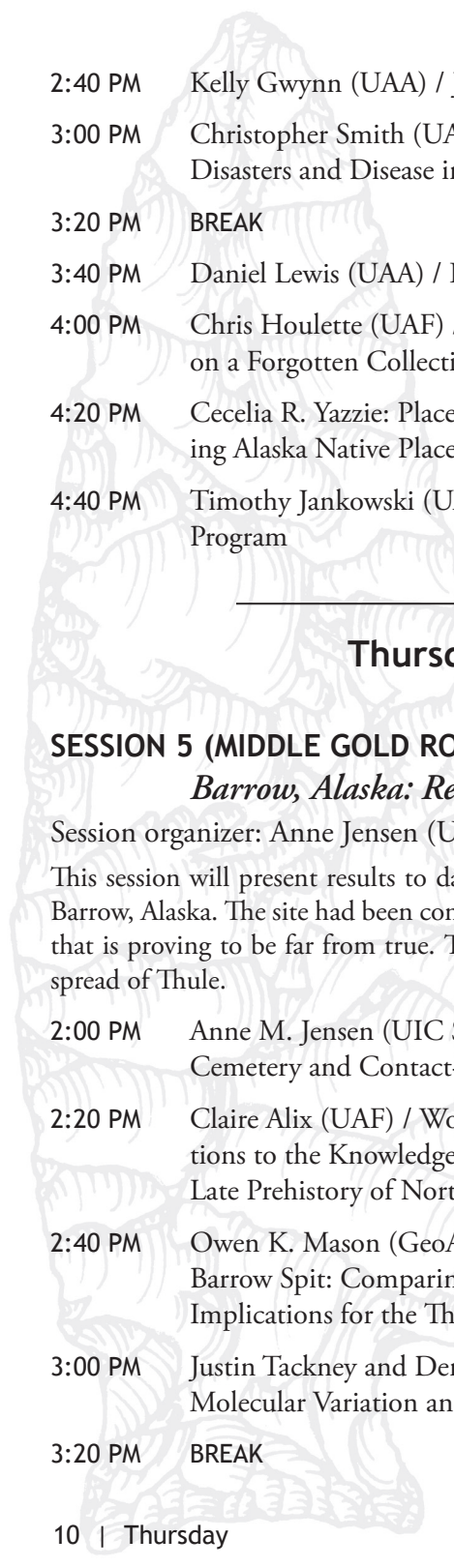
#### **SESSION 4 (EAST GOLD ROOM): *Student Papers***

Session organizer: Natalia Slobodina (UAA)

- 11:00 AM Kimberly Fleming (UAA) / Voices of Diverse Mothers: Maternal Medical Care in Anchorage
- 11:20 AM Cornelia Jessen (UAA) / Women’s Health Survey: An HIV/AIDS Needs Assessment in the Anchorage Area
- 11:40 AM Jessica Hay (ADF&G and UAA) / I Get Paid to Do This? An Intern’s Journey Into the World of a “Working” Anthropologist
- 12:00 PM Kristin Sheidt (UAA) / Avian Remains at the Hungry Fox Site, Alaska: A Preliminary Report

#### **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**

- 2:00 PM Sargent Shriver (UAF) / The Nature of Moral Intuitions in Alaska Native Populations: Questionnaire-Based Experiments
- 2:20 PM Kelly Gwynn (UAA) / Alaska Natives on the Screen and Behind the Scenes... Or Not

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- 2:40 PM Kelly Gwynn (UAA) / Jonathon Solomon and John F. Kennedy
- 3:00 PM Christopher Smith (UAA) / The Effects of Global Terrorism, Natural Disasters and Disease in Bali on the Alaska Native Art Market
- 3:20 PM BREAK
- 3:40 PM Daniel Lewis (UAA) / Life After the Fall
- 4:00 PM Chris Houlette (UAF) / Reconsidering Kukulik: New Perspectives on a Forgotten Collection
- 4:20 PM Cecelia R. Yazzie: Place Names and Landscape Stories / Documenting Alaska Native Place Names and Geography in Southwest Alaska
- 4:40 PM Timothy Jankowski (UAF) / A Perspective on Alaska's Wolf Control Program
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## Thursday Afternoon

### **SESSION 5 (MIDDLE GOLD ROOM): *A Fresh Look at Nuvuk, Point Barrow, Alaska: Results from Recent Work***

Session organizer: Anne Jensen (UIC Science)

This session will present results to date from current research at the Nuvuk site, Pt. Barrow, Alaska. The site had been considered too eroded to be of research interest, but that is proving to be far from true. The results have implications for the origins and spread of Thule.

- 2:00 PM Anne M. Jensen (UIC Science) / Archaeology of Nuvuk: Thule Cemetery and Contact-Era Work Area
- 2:20 PM Claire Alix (UAF) / Wood Technology at Nuvuk: New Contributions to the Knowledge of Wood-Working Practices and Use in the Late Prehistory of Northern Alaska
- 2:40 PM Owen K. Mason (GeoArch Alaska) / Massive Storms Rake the Pt. Barrow Spit: Comparing the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennia AD and the Implications for the Thule Cemetery and Global Change
- 3:00 PM Justin Tackney and Dennis H. O'Rourke (University of Utah) / Molecular Variation and Prehistory at Nuvuk, Pt. Barrow, Alaska
- 3:20 PM BREAK

- 3:40 PM Shawn Miller (University of Utah) / Human Skeletal Materials from the Excavation at Point Barrow
- 4:00 PM Laura L. Smith (Barrow Arctic Science Consortium) / The Thule Cemetery at Nuvuk: Burial Patterns and Practices at the Top of the World



## **SESSION 6 (WEST GOLD ROOM): *The Anthropology of Colonialism in the Arctic***

Session organizer: Lisa Frink

Archaeologists and anthropologists are increasingly exploring the complex and long-term processes of colonialism. Because of the relatively late sequence of colonial events in Arctic North America there is a rich data set of archaeological, ethnographic, ethnohistoric, and oral historic evidence that researchers can draw from. As such our data sets and analyses will prove to be critical for cross-cultural comparisons of the contingent and patterned processes, interactions, and outcomes of colonialism among Indigenous people and settlers.

- 2:00 PM Robert E. King (Bureau of Land Management) / Homesteading on the Last Frontier: The Sometimes Surprising Story of America's Last Homesteads in Alaska and Elsewhere
- 2:20 PM Karlene Leeper (U.S. Air Force) / Erosion and Memory: Post-Colonial Implications for the Port Heiden, Alaska Cemetery Project
- 2:40 PM Michael Nowak (Colorado College) / Tracing Colonial Heritages: Socioeconomic Life in Greenland, Arctic Canada, and Alaska.
- 3:00 PM Gregory A. Reinhardt (University of Indianapolis) / Government-Issued "Indians": Officially Sanctioned Images of American Indians
- 3:20 PM BREAK
- 3:40 PM Christyann Darwent (University of California, Davis) and Genevieve LeMoine (Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum, Bowdoin College) / Inughuit and Explorers: History and Archaeology in Northwest Greenland
- 4:00 PM Aron Crowell (Smithsonian Institution), David Yesner (UAA), Rita Eagle (UAA), and Diane Hanson (UAA) / A Historic Alutiiq Village on the Outer Kenai Coast: Subsistence and Trade in the Early Russian Contact Period

- 4:20 PM Rita Shepard (Cotsen Institute of Archaeology, UCLA) / Semi-Subterranean Structures in Early Viking Age Iceland
- 4:40 PM Lisa Frink (University of Nevada, Las Vegas): Technology and Identity in Coastal Alaska
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## Thursday Evening

- 6:00 PM Cash Bar, Reception and Book Signing by Ernest S. Burch, Jr., of *Social Life in Northwest Alaska* (2007) and *Inupiaq Eskimo Nations* (1998)
- 7:00 PM Dinner Service Begins
- 7:45 PM Speaker Dennis Stanford (Smithsonian Institution) / New Perspectives on the Origins of the First Americans
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## Friday Morning, March 16

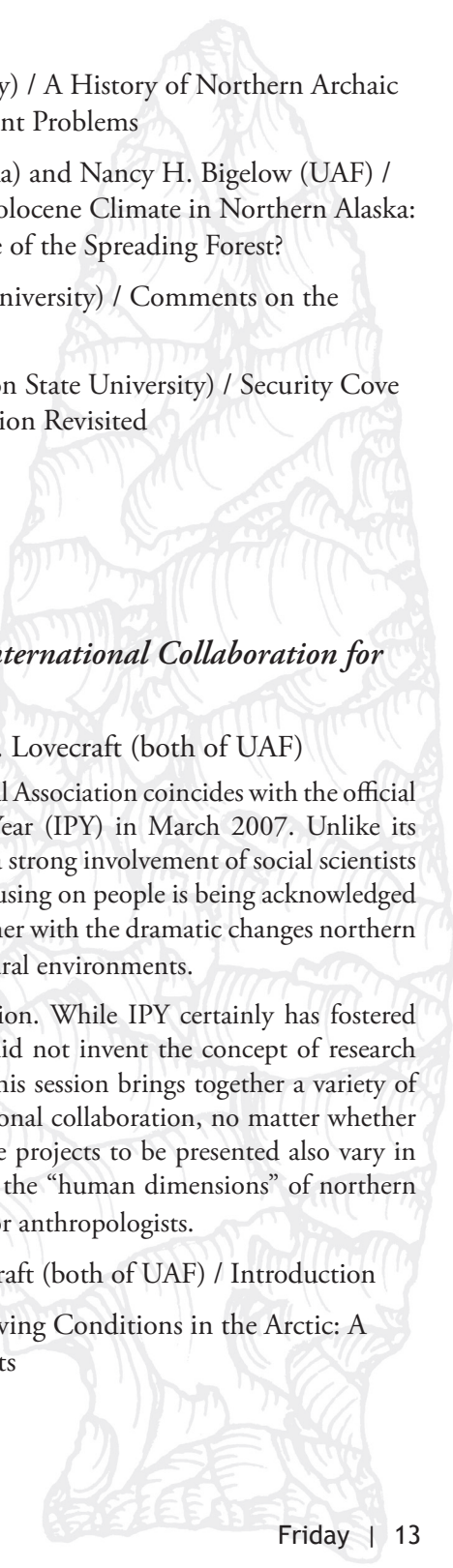
### SESSION 7 (EAST GOLD ROOM): *The Northern Archaic (Part I)*

Session organizers: Julie Esdale (Brown University) and Jeff Rasic (National Park Service)

Session discussant: William Workman (UAA)

It has been almost forty years since the Northern Archaic tradition was defined based on mid-Holocene age sites containing notched projectile points and notched pebbles and other stone tools. Assemblages from sites such as Onion Portage, Tuktuk-Naiyuk and Security Cove, were noted as broadly similar to Archaic period assemblages that are widespread in North America. It remains an open question whether the Archaic in the north represents a trend toward increasing subsistence diversification and intensification as it has been interpreted in mid latitudes. Dozens of other Northern Archaic sites have been discovered in the intervening years but our understanding of this widespread arctic phenomenon is far from clear. Studies continue to address the age and distribution of the tradition, the ethnicity of its people, human-environment interactions, as well as its very definition and material culture traits. Contributed papers revisit some of these topics, and also expand the discussion to include consideration of site structure and community organization, intersite assemblage variability, subsistence scheduling, and resource use.



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- 9:40 AM Julie A. Esdale (Brown University) / A History of Northern Archaic Research and Summary of Current Problems
- 10:00 AM Owen K. Mason (Geoarch Alaska) and Nancy H. Bigelow (UAF) / The Crucible of Early to Mid-Holocene Climate in Northern Alaska: Are Northern Archaic the People of the Spreading Forest?
- 10:20 AM Douglas D. Anderson (Brown University) / Comments on the Northern Archaic
- 10:40 AM Robert E. Ackerman (Washington State University) / Security Cove and the Northern Archaic Tradition Revisited
- 11:00 AM BREAK FOR LUNCH

NOTE: Session Will Continue After Lunch




### **SESSION 8 (MIDDLE GOLD ROOM): *International Collaboration for the International Polar Year (Part I)***

Organizers: Peter P. Schweitzer and Amy L. Lovcraft (both of UAF)

The 2007 meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association coincides with the official start date of the Fourth International Polar Year (IPY) in March 2007. Unlike its predecessors, IPY 2007–08 is characterized by a strong involvement of social scientists and northern stakeholder groups. Research focusing on people is being acknowledged as one of the key areas of the current IPY, together with the dramatic changes northern communities are facing in their social and natural environments.

A key aspect of IPY is international cooperation. While IPY certainly has fostered an increase in international collaboration, it did not invent the concept of research across national and disciplinary boundaries. This session brings together a variety of projects dedicated to the principle of international collaboration, no matter whether they are official IPY projects or not. While the projects to be presented also vary in their disciplinary home bases, they all address the “human dimensions” of northern research, that is, they are potentially relevant for anthropologists.

- 8:30 AM Peter Schweitzer and Amy Lovcraft (both of UAF) / Introduction
- 8:40 AM Jack Kruse (UAA) / Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic: A Research Tool for Anthropologists

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- 9:00 AM M. L. Druckenmiller, H. Eicken, A. L. Lovcraft (all of UAF) / Sea-Ice System Services: A Framework for Informing an Arctic Observing Network that is Responsive to Stakeholder Needs
- 9:20 AM Chanda Meek and Martin Robards (both of UAF) / North by 2020: Living Marine Resources Theme
- 9:40 AM Patrick Marlow and Lawrence Kaplan (both of UAF) / Language Planning for Eskimo-Aleut Languages: A Research and Training Project for the International Polar Year
- 10:00 AM Discussion
- 11:00 AM BREAK FOR LUNCH

NOTE: Session Will Continue After Lunch



## SESSION 9 (WEST GOLD ROOM): *Contributed Papers in Archaeology*

Session Chair: Morgan Blanchard (University of Nevada, Reno)

- 8:00 AM Linda Finn Yarborough (Chugach National Forest) / Creating an Archaeological Predictive Model for the Seward Ranger District, Chugach National Forest
- 8:20 AM Justin Hays / A Glimpse of Early Kachemak Subsistence in the Kodiak Archipelago
- 8:40 AM Patrick G. Saltonstall (Alutiiq Museum) and Amy F. Steffian / (Alutiiq Museum) / Kodiak's Oldest Houses: The Origins of the Semi-Subterranean *Ciqlluaq*
- 9:00 AM Sarah Meitl (UAF) and Dixie West (University of Kansas) / New Excavations in the Central Aleutians: Adak Island
- 9:20 AM BREAK
- 9:40 AM Dixie Lee West (University of Kansas) / First Report on Petroglyphs from Gillon Point, Agattu Island, Aleutian Islands, Alaska
- 10:00 AM Allison Young McLain (OHA) and Marie-Amélie Salabelle / A Closer Examination of the Delarov/Unga Island Cave Masks and Other Objects, Eastern Aleutians, Alaska

- 10:20 AM Cody J. Strathe (UAF) / Variability in Marine Ecosystem Productivity and Its Effects on Phocid Seal Abundance, Morphology, and Subsistence Hunting throughout the Holocene as Reflected in the Archaeological Record at Mink Island (XMK-030), Alaska
- 10:40 AM Morgan Blanchard (University of Nevada, Reno) / News of Home: Interpreting a Large Collection of Newspapers and Magazines Excavated at the North Fork Telegraph Station of the Washington Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System
- 11:00 AM G. Richard Scott, Claire Johnson, and Susan Steen (all of University of Nevada, Reno) / Eskimo Craniofacial Morphology: The Hard-Chewing Hypothesis Revisited
- 11:20 AM G. Richard Scott, Verla Davis, Elyse Jolly, Alex Marko, Lindsey Moore, and Shayne Bundy (all of University of Nevada, Reno) / Oral Pathology of Medieval and Post-Medieval Populations from the Cathedral of Santa Maria, Vitoria, Spain: A Preliminary Assessment

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## Friday Luncheon

- 12:15 PM Lunch
- 12:45 PM Speaker Shepard Krech III (Brown University) / “Crow” and Other Birds: Ruminations on Man and Nature

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## Friday Afternoon


### SESSION 7 (EAST GOLD ROOM): *The Northern Archaic (Part II)*

Session organizers: Julie Esdale (Brown University) and Jeff Rasic (National Park Service)

Session discussant: William Workman (UAA)

- 2:40 PM Michael Kunz and Constance Adkins (both of Bureau of Land Management) / Beyond Sixty-Eight Degrees: The Northern Archaic Tradition on Alaska's North Slope



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- 3:00 PM Aaron Wilson (UAA) and Jeff Rasic (National Park Service) / Northern Archaic Settlement and Subsistence Patterns at Agiak Lake, Brooks Range, Alaska
- 3:20 PM Charles E. Holmes / Regional Variation on a Common Theme: Comprehending the Later Holocene Archaeology in Central Alaska
- 3:40 PM Natalia Slobodina (UAA) and Jeff Rasic (National Park Service) / The Use of Multiple Weapon Systems Explains Some Northern Archaic Period Assemblage Variability: Evidence from the Rosaliya Site in the Central Brooks Range
- 4:00 PM BREAK
- 4:20 PM Robert Gal (National Park Service) / Earlier Notched Point Assemblages in the Western American Arctic
- 4:40 PM Robert J. Speakman (Smithsonian Institution) / An Overview of Obsidian Provenance Studies in Alaska and Northeast Asia
- 5:00 PM William Workman (UAA) Discussion



## **SESSION 8 (MIDDLE GOLD ROOM): *International Collaboration for the International Polar Year (Part II)***

Organizers: Peter P. Schweitzer and Amy L. Lovecraft (both of UAF)

- 2:40 PM Daniel Odess and Erica Hill (both of UAF) / International Collaboration to Investigate the Origins of Whaling in the Bering Sea
- 3:00 PM Anne M. Jensen (UIC Science) / IPY Projects in the Barrow Area
- 3:20 PM Peter Schweitzer, Patty Gray (both of UAF), and Lee Huskey (UAA) / BOREAS: Histories from the North—Environments, Movements, Narratives—Three International Projects Directed from Alaska
- 3:40 PM Schweitzer, Gray, and Huskey continued
- 4:00 PM Discussion



## **SESSION 10 (WEST GOLD ROOM): *Forging One's Own Future: Indigenous Childhood and Youth in the Arctic***

Session organizer: Olga Ulturgasheva (Scott Polar Research Institute)

Session chair: Phyllis Morrow (UAF)

The problem of ideas of future among young generation in the Arctic indigenous communities has been given rare consideration and reflected only as a part of broader discussion on general social and economic situation in the remote areas of the Arctic North. This session is designed to explore current social situations in the Arctic indigenous communities and the ways they affect younger generation's visions of future. We would like to discuss how younger generation responds and reacts to the current ideologies reinforced in mass media, the community, the region and the household.

Since children and adolescents eventually grow up to be adults carrying with them their youthful decisions and longings, which will still matter in their adult life, it is important to consider how existing social practices and ideologies impact on young people's representations of themselves and their visions of own future, i.e. how they evaluate own social and economic positions in rapidly changing societies, how they orientate themselves towards the future through personal, social and culturally constituted practices, and what social resources they are drawing on while envisaging own future.

The session will start with brief presentations from the international panel of researchers. This will lay the groundwork for facilitated discussion related to Indigenous young people, their experiences of childhood and their conceptions of the future.

- 4:20 PM Olga Ulturgasheva (Scott Polar Research Institute) / Reindeer as a Developmental Metaphor: Eveny Children's Socialization in the Forest
- 4:40 PM Lisa Wexler (University of Massachusetts) / Perspectives on Growing Up: Constructions from Inupiat Youth Focus Groups
- 5:00 PM Meghan McKenna / Youth-Led Vulnerability Research and Adaptation to Change: Assessing the Vulnerability of Inuit Youth in Arctic Bay to Social and Climate Changes
- 5:20 PM Marie Lowe (UAA) / Alaska Coastal Community Youth and the Future
- 5:40 PM David Maas / Potential Impacts of Outer Continental Shelf Activities on Bowhead Whaling Hunting in the Beaufort Sea: A Student Perspective

## SESSION 11 (WEST GOLD ROOM): *Contributed Papers in Cultural Anthropology*

- 2:40 PM Medeia Csoba DeHass (UAF) / Fractured Authority: Local and Outside Management Systems within a Rural Alaskan Community
- 3:00 PM Félix Torres / Whaling as War: A New Perspective on Aleut and Aleut Whaling Based on the Kagamil Mummies Legend and the Tales of the “Old Man of Micix”
- 3:20 PM Adeline Peter Raboff /Gwich’in Family Origins: The Broken Braid
- 3:40 PM Mike Burwell (US Minerals Management Service) / The 1976 Decline of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd.
- 4:00 PM Craig Mishler / Njah, njoh: Lobsticks among the Gwich’in and Others
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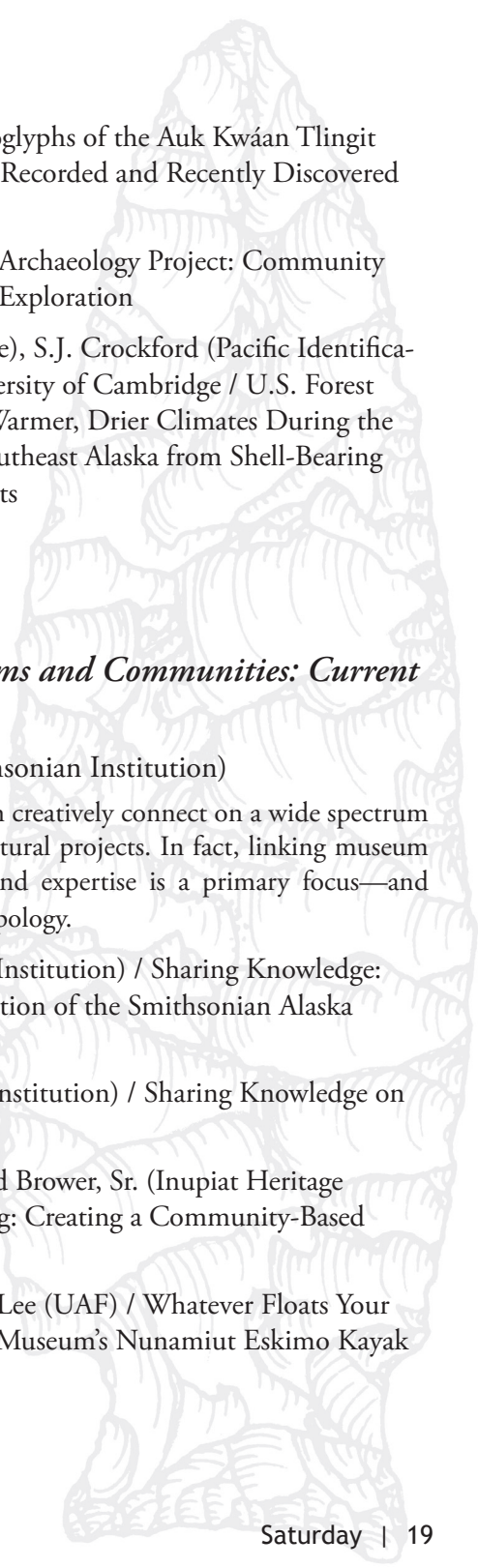
## Saturday Morning, March 17

### SESSION 12 (MINTO ROOM): *Archaeology of Auke Lake*

Session co-organizers: Daniel Monteith and Mike Farrell (UAS)

Recent development in the Juneau area includes the expansion and renovation of the historic Auke Lake trail. The new trail project is a cooperative effort between the stakeholders of the University of Alaska and the city and borough of Juneau. The geological and archaeological work is being conducted by the university and has provided field school opportunities for students. The archaeological work will add to our knowledge of both the Tlingit occupation of the area as well as historical archaeology of various industries in the region. Interpretative projects including ethnobotanical and cultural historical information of the area will follow the archaeological investigations.

- 8:00 AM J.F. Baichtal (U.S. Forest Service) R.J. Carlson (University of Cambridge / U.S. Forest Service): New Mapping of Old Landforms: The Paleogeography of Shell-bearing Raised Marine Deposits in Southeast Alaska and Their Potential Archaeological Significance
- 8:20 AM Mike Farrell (UAS) / Public Archaeology of the Auke Lake Area: Methods and New Investigations
- 8:40 AM Lacey Smith (UAS) / Geologic and Bathymetric Investigations of Auke Lake: Understanding the Human Ecology of the Auke Bay Area

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- 9:00 AM BREAK
- 9:20 AM Elizabeth Kunibe (UAS) / Petroglyphs of the Auk Kwáan Tlingit of Southeast Alaska: Previously Recorded and Recently Discovered Petroglyphs
- 9:40 AM Erin Ryder (UAS) / Auke Lake Archaeology Project: Community Collaboration and Continuing Exploration
- 10:00 AM J.F. Baichtal (U.S. Forest Service), S.J. Crockford (Pacific Identifications, Inc.), R.J. Carlson (University of Cambridge / U.S. Forest Service): Possible Evidence of Warmer, Drier Climates During the Early Holocene of Southern Southeast Alaska from Shell-Bearing Raised Marine and Peat Deposits
- 10:20 AM Discussion



### **SESSION 13 (MINTO ROOM): *Museums and Communities: Current Collaborations***

Session organizer: Aron L. Crowell (Smithsonian Institution)

Museums and Alaska Native communities can creatively connect on a wide spectrum of collaborative research, exhibitions, and cultural projects. In fact, linking museum collections to source community interests and expertise is a primary focus—and challenge—of contemporary museum anthropology.

- 11:00 AM Aron L. Crowell (Smithsonian Institution) / Sharing Knowledge: Collaborative Study and Exhibition of the Smithsonian Alaska Collections
- 11:20 AM Dawn Biddison (Smithsonian Institution) / Sharing Knowledge on the Web
- 11:40 AM Terry Dickey (UAF) and Ronald Brower, Sr. (Inupiat Heritage Center) / The People of Whaling: Creating a Community-Based Exhibition
- 12:00 PM Angela Linn (UAF) and Molly Lee (UAF) / Whatever Floats Your Boat: The University of Alaska Museum's Nunamiut Eskimo Kayak Project



## SESSION 14 (TANANA ROOM, 11:00 AM): *Friends of Archaeology at the University of Alaska Museum Working Group*

Session organizer: Daniel Odess UAF)



## SESSION 15 (YUKON ROOM): *Athabaskan Traditions: Linking Past, Present, and Future*

Session organizers: David R. Yesner and Phyllis A. Fast (both of UAA)

Athabaskan identity and its maintenance through time is an issue to which archaeologists, historians, cultural anthropologists, and linguists can all contribute important insights. Although technologies, economies, and subsistence patterns may change, key aspects of sociality and kinship relations which are at the core of Athabaskan identity have remained unchanged through various historical periods and into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This symposium explores the maintenance of Athabaskan identity through the use of archaeological, historical, linguistic, and cultural data, and attempts to point some pathways toward the future.

- 8:00 AM Daniel E. Stone (Matanuska-Susitna Borough), Fran Seager-Boss (Matanuska-Susitna Borough), and David R. Yesner (UAA) / Lajat: A Precontact K'enaht'ana Dena'ina Village on the North Side of Knik Arm, Upper Cook Inlet
- 8:20 AM David R. Yesner (UAA), Daniel E. Stone (Matanuska-Susitna Borough), Rita Eagle (UAA), Fran Seager-Boss (Matanuska-Susitna Borough), Christopher Roe (UAA), and Jolie Rozell (UAA) / Positions of Power and the Power of Position: Landscape and Sociopolitical Meaning in an Early Contact Dena'ina Athabaskan Community
- 8:40 AM Michelle LeBlanc (UAA) / The Ahtna Athabascans' Skewed History
- 9:00 AM David C. Natcher (Memorial University of Newfoundland) / Factors Contributing to Cultural and Spatial Variability in Landscape Burning by Gwich'in and Koyukon Athabascans of Interior Alaska
- 9:20 AM BREAK
- 9:40 AM Alan Boraas (Kenai Peninsula College) / The Verb People: Observations on Language Mediated Thought among Dena'ina Athabascans

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- 10:00 AM Beth Leonard (UAF) / Deg Xinag Traditional Narratives and Indigenous Education: A Learner's Perspective on Interpretation and Translation
- 10:20 AM Patricia Bernice Young (UAF), Camille Sanford (UAA), Norman Alexander Easton (Yukon College), Glen MacKay (Prince of Wales Heritage Centre) / Cross-Cultural Collaboration and the Emergence of an Athabascan Anthropology in the New Millennium
- 10:40 AM Donita L. Peter (Alaska Native Heritage Center) / Revitalization of Dena'ina Language and Culture
- 11:00 AM BREAK
- 11:20 AM Phyllis A. Fast (UAA) / Athabascan Art Worldview in Transition
- 11:40 AM Debra Call (Alaska Native Heritage Center) / Traditional Places and Media-Generated Prejudice in a Contemporary Athabascan Community: The Knik Village Experience
- 12:00 PM Davin L. Holen (Alaska Department of Fish and Game) / Modern Expression of Athabascan Culture: A Revitalization of Dena'ina Culture within the Context of Modernity
- 12:20 PM Aaron Leggett (Alaska Native Heritage Center) / Forays into Anchorage Area Applied Anthropology: Dena'ina Athabascan Rediscovery in a Local Population

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## Saturday Afternoon

- 2:30 PM Business Meeting (YUKON ROOM)

## ABSTRACTS

Robert E. Ackerman (Washington State University)

### *Security Cove and the Northern Archaic Tradition Revisited*

The Northern Archaic tradition, primarily identified by the presence of bifacial side-notched projectile points along with a variety of bifacial and unifacial forms including knives, choppers, scrapers, etc. (but without microblades), has been found at a number of sites on or near the coast and within river valleys and lake basins in Southwestern Alaska. The most complete expression of the Northern Archaic tradition in southwestern Alaska has been found at the Security Cove site. This assemblage and its site context will be revisited as part of an overview of the Northern Archaic tradition. (Session 7)

Claire Alix (UAF)

### *Wood Technology at Nuvuk: New Contributions to the Knowledge of Wood-Working Practices and Use in the Late Prehistory of Northern Alaska*

Excavation at Nuvuk in 2002 and 2006 has exposed large and thick layers of wood remains (chips, worked pieces and objects) in various areas of the site, indicating that a lot of wood was worked during the relatively long occupation of the Point. As it is often the case in late prehistoric sites of northern Alaska, the state of preservation of the wood is remarkable. Other wood remains in various state of decay were also found associated with some of the excavated burials. This paper presents preliminary results of wood analyses performed on these various remains. It provides new information on wood working practices and proposes some comparison with earlier analysis conducted in other parts of Alaska and the Canadian Arctic. Moreover, the presence of metal blade fragments associated with some wood chips from the “peat area” at Nuvuk provides an opportunity to build the first Arctic data set on cut marks left on wood by metal blades. This data set will be critical for re-examining earlier collections where suspicion of metal used for wood working is high but not demonstrated. (Session 5)

Douglas D. Anderson (Brown University)

### *Comments on the Northern Archaic*

Northern Archaic tradition's original definition was based on archaeological assemblages from northwestern Alaska dated to between c 6500 and 4200 BP. Subsequently, the concept expanded to include sites in northwestern Canada and elsewhere in Alaska. Considerations of two artifact categories—the absence of microblades and presence of a particular form of notched point have assumed critical importance in sparking discussions on the reality, usefulness, and significance of the tradition in Arctic



prehistory. Although these arguments have often impeded more nuanced analyses of the relevant assemblages, recent interest in the relation between assemblage variability and activities has refocused the critiques. This paper examines some new analyses of activity clusters and associated artifact types from Onion Portage in an effort to expand on this interest. (Session 7)

J. F. Baichtal (U.S. Forest Service) and R. J. Carlson (University of Cambridge and U.S. Forest Service)

***New Mapping of Old Landforms: The Paleogeography of Shell-Bearing Raised Marine Deposits in Southeast Alaska and Their Potential Archaeological Significance***

An extensive literature search and years of field reconnaissance have resulted in a dataset of over 300 shell-bearing raised marine deposits throughout Southeast Alaska. It includes site location, elevation, and description when available, and over 170 radiocarbon dates beginning at 14,380 B.P. Interpretation of this data gives insight on the timing and complexity of isostatic crustal adjustments that resulted from glaciation and deglaciation, eustatic sea level change, and subsequent tectonic uplift. Comparisons with the paleogeographic modeling of the Queen Charlotte Islands/Hecate Strait (QCI/HS) region of British Columbia suggest a similar response to ice loading during the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) resulting in a forebulge to the west of the ice front adjacent to Prince of Wales Island in the Alexander Archipelago. The Alexander forebulge would have created a much larger land mass than previously modeled, providing a nearly ice-free coastal plain available for plants, animals and human occupation as early as 13,500 B.P. This now submerged landform may have provided a refugium for flora and fauna for re-colonizing the islands after the LGM and an explanation for the absence of archaeological sites prior to 10,000 B.P. The great local variation in the sea level history of the study area induced by crustal displacement and eustatic sea level changes results in sites stranded above and submerged below present sea level. (Session 12)

J.F. Baichtal (U.S. Forest Service), S.J. Crockford (Pacific Identifications, Inc.), and R.J. Carlson (University of Cambridge and U.S. Forest Service)

***Possible Evidence of Warmer, Drier Climates During the Early Holocene of Southern Southeast Alaska from Shell-Bearing Raised Marine and Peat Deposits***

In 2003 a shell-bearing raised marine deposit (SBRMD) was discovered on the southern side of Yatuk Creek on western Prince of Wales Island (POWI). The site is 1.12 kilometers inland from the present high tide line in Naukati Bay at an elevation

of approximately 12.2 meters. Subsequent testing in 2004 and 2005 yielded a sequence of alluvial and marine sediments ranging in age from 8560 to 9430 YBP. These sediments contained abundant marine molluscan fauna, fishbone, and charcoal. With the presence of charcoal and fishbone, the possibility that this site was of cultural origin was considered. Analysis of the fishbone identified 18 species of fish that inhabit shallow inter-tidal to outer-shelf habitats. Of note was the consistent presence of Pacific sardine, *Sardinops sagax*, previously only observed in southeastern Alaska during the end of exceptionally warm, strong El Niño periods in 1931 and 1997 (Wing et al, 2000). The presence of Pacific sardine caused us to rethink the cultural origin of the charcoal in the deposits. The presence of the charcoal and Pacific sardine may be an indicator of a warmer and dryer climate following the end of the Younger Dryas from 10000 to 8000 YBP. To test this hypothesis, 13 samples of SBRMDs ranging in age from 8170 to 9400 YBP, were checked for charcoal. All samples analyzed contained some charcoal. One peat sample from near Ketchikan was previously known to contain charcoal dating to 9305 YBP (Ager, 2006). Though preliminary, we have found charcoal from 14 sites and 20 samples ranging in age from 8170 to 9430 YBP. These samples from northern, western, central, and eastern POWI, Tuxekan, and Revillagigedo Islands suggest that fire may have been a component of the ecology of southeastern Alaska during the early Holocene. This evidence combined with ongoing pollen research in Southeast suggests that this may have been a time of relatively dry climate as well, which would favor the occurrence of wildfires, either natural or man-caused (Ager 2006). (Session 12)

Morgan Blanchard (University of Nevada, Reno)

*News of Home: Interpreting a Large Collection of Newspapers and Magazines Excavated at the North Fork Telegraph Station of the Washington Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System*

In the summer of 2003 archaeologists from the University of Nevada, Reno, working with the Bureau of Land Management, excavated a large collection of printed material from a frozen privy at the North Fork Telegraph Station (1900-1909), located near the junction of Middle and North Forks of the Fortymile River. Analysis of this material has led to the identification of more than 50 different periodicals from the United States, Canada and England published between 1902 and 1909. This paper examines the collection in an effort to understand the interests of the soldiers stationed at this isolated interior post and their efforts to maintain their place in a changing America. (Session 9)

Alan Boraas (Kenai Peninsula College)

***The Verb People: Observations on Language-Mediated Thought among Dena'ina Athabascans***

While the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis—that language mediates cognition—is controversial among linguists and anthropologists, there is little disagreement among Native peoples: language does predispose one toward certain thought patterns. While much of the work in cognitive science (linguistics, anthropology, psychology) has focused on nouns (e.g., folk taxonomies) leading to noun-based schema theory, little attention has been paid to how verb structure mediates cognition. Three grammatical elements, among others, of the Dena'ina Athabaskan verb would predispose one to orient themselves to the world according to predetermined structural categories: singular/dual versus three+ plurality, classificatory prefixes, and stem aspect categorization. These subconscious structural elements are central to Dena'ina cognition and hence identity. (Session 15)

Mike Burwell (U.S. Minerals Management Service)

***The 1976 Decline of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd***

In 1976, and for the first time in the 17 years since statehood, the Alaska Board of Game set season and bag limits on the local harvest of caribou from the Western Arctic Caribou Herd (WACH) in order to save the herd from a drastic, unexpected, and largely undocumented population decline. The ramifications of this decision and how it was made served only to increase simmering Northwest Alaska Native hunter discontent for and non-compliance with, Juneau-based game management and enforcement policies. The part played by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) in the Game Board's decision and the Board's decision itself still resonate with Native hunters as emblematic of what can happen when distrust pervades the relationship between management agencies and local harvesters and opportunities for local communication are missed, frustrated, or completely break down. (Session 11)

Debra Call (Alaska Native Heritage Center)

***Traditional Places and Media-Generated Prejudice in a Contemporary Athabaskan Community: The Knik Village Experience***

In 1982, organizers of the Iditarod Trail developed a course for the dogsled race that included crossing through the Knik Village traditional cemetery. The Knik Tribal Council opposed the action, and resulting media coverage positioned the “Natives” as obstructive. This and later development issues have created prejudice about and within Knik Village. This paper examines the nature of media rhetoric and its impact on transmission of cultural knowledge in a Dena'ina Athabaskan community. (Session 15)

Barbara A. Crass and Brant L. Kedrowski (both of University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh)

### *Paleolithic Hearths as Viewed from Swan Point*

Traditionally, hearths are features identified by the charcoal and ash produced with a wood fire. However, in an environment with little or no wood, what constitutes the remains of a hearth? Using data collected from 14,000 year old hearths at Swan Point, we will describe the hearth features from a bone fire, chemical analyses of the associated residues, and implications of bone fire technology. Insights obtained from experimental bone burning will also be discussed. (Session 3)

Aron Crowell (Smithsonian Institution), David Yesner (UAA), Rita Eagle (UAA), and Diane Hanson (UAA)

### *An Historic Alutiiq Village on the Outer Kenai Coast: Subsistence and Trade in the Early Russian Contact Period*

The Early Contact Village site (XBS-029) in Aialik Bay represents Alutiiq life on the outer coast of the Kenai Peninsula during the first decades of interaction with Russian fur traders. Artifacts and stratigraphic evidence suggest a brief occupation (probably less than two years) that took place between ~1785-1820, when Russian companies were exploiting the region for sea otter furs and operating a shipyard at nearby Voskrenskaia Gavan (Seward). House and midden excavations allow a detailed reconstruction of Alutiiq subsistence and trade activities during this period of historic cultural and economic change. Findings from the site, which is among the first to be excavated on the outer Kenai coast between Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound, are considered within the framework of Crowell's world systems model of Russian colonialism. Artifact analysis includes consideration of traditional hunting weapons, rare metal objects, and early trade beads. Faunal analysis focuses on seasonality and harvesting practices, based on a rich assemblage of marine mammal, seabird, and fish remains. (Session 6)

Christyann Darwent (University of California, Davis) and Genevieve LeMoine (Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum, Bowdoin College)

### *Inughuit and Explorers: History and Archaeology in Northwest Greenland*

The Inughuit (Polar Eskimo) of Northwest Greenland played an important role in the exploration of the far north. From the 1850s to the 1920s their expertise and assistance was vital to the success of nearly every expedition to the region,



including those led by Elisha Kent Kane, Robert Peary, Donald MacMillan, and members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. In return for their support, Inughuit families received manufactured goods, ranging from sewing needles to rifles and whaleboats. They were also active players not just passive recipients of these new materials, as they recovered wood, metal and other items from abandoned (and occupied) ships, lodges and supply caches. While the role of the Inughuit on various expeditions is documented (if under-emphasized) in traditional historic sources, the impact of the explorers, and the goods they left behind them, on Inughuit society is not. In this paper we discuss preliminary results of the 2006 excavations at Lita (Etah) by the Inglefield Land Archaeology Project and what they tell us about the ways in which Inughuit families made use of the new technologies these expeditions introduced and how this work in contributing to a history of Inughuit society in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. (Session 6)

Medeia Csoba DeHass (UAF)

***Fractured Authority: Local and Outside Management Systems within a Rural Alaskan Community***

Small communities in Alaska have certain factors that hold their inhabitants together, while they also have different factions that are articulating different needs, wants and interests of their members. Village politics are quite elaborate and vivid in such communities and they are usually rather successful in provoking the members of the community to form strong opinions that can be quite contradictory. In my recent fieldwork in Nanwalek, Alaska, I have found an exception to this scheme; the Church, that is the local Russian Orthodox Church, was always considered the most important authority in the community, and it worked as a common denominator for everyone in the village. Thus examining the Church and the ways it is maintained and provided for by the people gives an informative insight to the local traditions concerning integrity, authority, and most importantly resource and population management. While such concepts inevitably changed throughout the increasing exposure to, and fulfilling the constant requirements of, federal and state government practices, the local customs of management are still distinguishable in Church related affairs. Examining changes that occurred in the ways people provided maintenance for their Church and comparing them to the current mainstream dynamics that organize the village's secular life maps out a pattern that reveals integration processes of external elements to local settings and highlights problem areas between local and outside authorities. (Session 11)

Robert (Max) Dean (Chugach National Forest)

*An Examination of Hard-Rock Mining Prospects on the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska*

During the summer of 2006, Forest Service archaeologists from the Seward Ranger District of the Chugach National Forest investigated eight hard-rock mining prospects on the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska. The prospects are described, and their relationships to the larger progress of mining in the Seward-to-Hope corridor during the 20<sup>th</sup> century is examined. (Poster)

M. L. Druckenmiller, H. Eicken, A. L. Lovcraft (all of UAF)

*Sea-Ice System Services: A Framework for Informing an Arctic Observing Network that Is Responsive to Stakeholder Needs*

The western Arctic has experienced a drastic reduction in sea ice thickness and extent in the past few decades. These changes will directly affect the well-being of people and industries dependent upon the ecosystem services provided by sea-ice cover. To respond to the associated challenges and opportunities, planning efforts are underway throughout the circum-Arctic for an Arctic Observation Network that is responsive to the needs of both the scientific and stakeholder communities. We aim to answer two interrelated questions: (1) is the available information about past, current and future sea-ice change adequate and of sufficient accuracy to inform and guide planning at the local, regional and global level? (2) How can stakeholder interests help guide the design of an Arctic Observation Network that addresses private and public needs? We argue that the concept of Sea-Ice System Services (SISS)—ecosystem services provided by the sea-ice cover—in conjunction with a bottom-up approach (scaling up from local observations and expertise) is a viable path towards implementation of such a network. The vast body of indigenous expertise and knowledge of the relevant processes holds significant predictive power at timescales currently not well addressed by models. At the same time, major multinational industries, such as oil and gas, have needs that drive information collection.

The spring whale harvest in coastal arctic Alaska is a prime example of a Sea-Ice System Service which may be used as a pilot study to identify key variables to be incorporated into a sea-ice observing system. During whale hunting, trails are cleared through the highly deformed landfast ice to allow whaling crews to position themselves along open leads in wait for the migratory passage of bowhead whales. In Barrow, wildlife biologists with the North Slope Borough have geographically referenced whaling trails occasionally since 2001; however, a thorough collection of this data along side detailed information about ice conditions has yet to be initiated. We plan to expand upon this work by providing a multi-year comprehensive documentation of trail data (e.g., trail location, timing, density, tortuosity, construction effort, etc.) in relation to sea-ice

conditions. This analysis may provide information on the temporal and spatial scale of sea-ice observations and predictions needed to inform communities that rely on sea ice to provide access to subsistence resources (e.g., whales, seals, walrus, etc.). Key variables of importance to hunters may also be relevant in the broader context as they relate to the monitoring needs of other stakeholder groups, such as those of the oil and gas industry during the engineering of sea-ice roads in winter. (Session 8)

Norman Alexander Easton (Yukon College), Glen MacKay (Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre), Patricia Bernice Young (UAF)

### *Archaeological Survey and Excavations of the Yukon–Alaska Borderlands, 2006*

Further excavations were carried out at the Little John site (KdVo-6) on Mirror Creek in 2006, expanding the evidence of the mid-Holocene Northern Archaic occupation as well as the early holocene occupation, currently dated to circa 10.5 K cal ybp. Test excavations were undertaken at a newly discovered site on Snag Creek near the international border. An aerial survey of the upper Scottie Creek basin identified the locations of six historically occupied village sites which we hope to investigate in coming years. In collaboration with the Tanana Chief's Conference, field survey of three sites in Alaska was also done, identifying an early historic site at the mouth of Mirror Creek, an undated prehistoric occupation nearby, and what seems to be a late prehistoric fishing camp on lower Scottie Creek. This paper will present an account of site distribution, lithic materials, and new radiocarbon dates. (Session 3)

Julie A. Esdale (Brown University)

### *A History of Northern Archaic Research and Summary of Current Problems*

Middle Holocene archaeological research in the north has been primarily concerned with describing assemblage characteristics within one of several classificatory constructs (e.g. Northern Archaic, Northwest Microblade Tradition, Northern Notched Point Tradition) or one of many regional phase names (e.g. Taye Lake phase, Tuktu, Kurupa Phase). There has been more emphasis on naming than describing assemblage variation, and with good reason- in Alaska, we are still refining the chronological framework for much of the Holocene. "Northern Archaic" has stood the test of time and been commonly applied to describe notched point bearing assemblages all over Alaska. This paper will critically review the age, distribution, and material culture of this tradition and discuss archaeological evidence that challenges our assumptions. Northern Archaic research has the potential to contribute to debates and test problems relevant to the broader discipline including human-environmental interactions, community organization, subsistence base changes and differences between cultural groups. (Session 7)



Mike Farrell (UAS)

### ***Public Archaeology of the Auke Lake Area: Methods and New Investigations***

During the summer of 2006 the UAS collaborated with the City and Borough of Juneau to conduct an archaeological survey of the Auke Lake area. The proposed development activity is updating and developing a recreational trail around the Lake. This project came to fruition by careful cooperation between the university and the City and Borough of Juneau and offered many benefits to both the academic and general communities of the area. This paper will specifically provide an overview of the research design, methods used, and GIS survey data collected. (Session 12)

Phyllis A. Fast (UAA)

### ***Athabascan Art Worldview in Transition***

This is a study of several Athabascan artists whose lives and artworks are centered on their Athabascan heritage. Most of the artists are women between the ages of thirty to sixty. Two of them artists are elders. They represent most areas of the Alaska Athabascan world, and use their art for different purposes. In most cases, they create and sell artwork as all or part of their family income, however, some of them create art for other reasons, and most of the artists of this study produce art because of its prominence in mentoring younger Athabascans to learn about their heritage. This study focuses on the influence of charitable forums that seek donations of Alaska Native art, such as the Alaska Native Medical Center and Kohanic Broadcasting in encouraging Athabascan art to maintain and reinforce artistic traditions of the past as well as to take an active part in contemporary art transitions. (Session 15)

Kimberly Fleming (UAA)

### ***Voices of Diverse Mothers: Maternal Medical Care in Anchorage***

Anchorage is the medical hub of the state of Alaska, serving not only the Greater Anchorage Area, but also outlying communities from all over the state. A significant portion of the medical care received and delivered in the Anchorage area comes in the form of pre-natal care as well as labor and delivery services. In 2004 (the last year for which there are available statistics) Anchorage saw 4,838 live births. The city of Anchorage has a long standing history of being Alaska's largest village and accordingly has a large Alaska Native population; in addition to this, there is a burgeoning immigrant population. As a result of this more and more of births are occurring amongst women from ethnically and cultural diverse backgrounds, who come into their pregnancies with many different previous experiences and expectations about the care they will receive through the courses of the pregnancies and deliveries. This project aims to

interview mothers of multiple cultural backgrounds to gain a better understanding of how their pregnancy and birth experiences in their place of origin compares with their experiences with the care they received in Anchorage. (Session 4)

Lisa Frink (University of Nevada, Las Vegas)

### *Technology and Identity in Coastal Alaska*

Colonialism transforms cultural orders and redefines relationships. This paper examines the interplay of social and economic change and the historically contingent interactions between people and materials. I explore how coastal western Alaskan Yup'ik women and men, young and old were affected by colonial imports differently. Imports could heightened young men's access to status seated in their production, however, new materials supplanted older women's productive skills and contributions, undermining their claims to authority. This paper untangles the mechanisms and meanings of this process by using historical and oral historic data to investigate the import of the gun and the metal cook pot. (Session 6)

Robert Gal (National Park Service)

### *Earlier Notched Point Assemblages in the Western American Arctic*

In 1968 Anderson described an early notched point assemblage and related stemmed and lanceolate projectile point assemblages from the middle levels of the Onion Portage Site as phases of a Northern Archaic Tradition. Three sites located near the juncture of Primus and Buccaneer creeks in the Noatak National Preserve have produced notched, lanceolate and lanceolate points and evidence of microblade technology and have been radiocarbon dated to between 8,000 and 9,000 rcya. These and other sites within and near the Western Arctic National Parklands are compared with the Onion Portage Northern Archaic assemblages. (Session 7)

Matt Ganley (Bering Straits Native Corporation) and Ted Mayac, Sr. (King Island Native Corporation)

### *Using Oblique Aerial Photos for Place Name Identification: King Island, Alaska*

It is unusual in this day and age to find a place where no accurate topographic maps exist. The majority of so-called place name projects utilize USGS quad sheets as a primary reference when working with Elders and other knowledgeable informants. This method, while effective, can be greatly supplemented through the use of oblique aerial photos to pinpoint specific locales. Additionally, the photos provide numerous visual perspectives which result in greater detail in terms qualitative data associated with specific places and sites. From 2004 to 2007 a project to document place names and

land use on King Island required the use of oblique aerials because no accurate maps were available that cover this 2 square mile island in the Bering Sea. This presentation will discuss the process of photo acquisition and their use for plotting place names and discussing land use. (Session 2)

Craig Gerlach, Philip Loring, Laura Henry-Stone (all of UAF)

***Country Foods, Nutrition and Community Health in Gwich'in Ecosystems***

Important issues facing Alaska's rural communities include the impacts of the global food economy and the synergistic effects of land use, climate and land cover change on country food harvest, use, and access to traditional harvest areas. Food systems make for a powerful anthropological research focus because food is a proxy for understanding the biophysical and ecological dimensions of a region, and the physiological and psychological health and vulnerabilities of individuals and communities. (Session 1)

Margan Allyn Grover (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

***Before the Three Lucky Swedes: Preliminary Results and Experiences from the Nome Sandspit Site***

Historic signs and tour guides inform visitors that Nome was discovered by the "Three Lucky Swedes" near the end of the 19th century. Some state that no Eskimos lived here before that point. A 2006 archaeological excavation along the Snake River Sandspit in the center of Nome revealed a late pre-contact village site. Devoid of post-contact artifacts, this site is providing insight into life along the northern shores of Norton Sound before the Three Lucky Swedes arrived. This paper will present preliminary results from the excavation, some discussion of how the site fits into the regional culture chronology, and the meaning of the site to the community. (Session 2)

Kelly Gwynn (UAA)

***Alaska Natives on the Screen and Behind the Scenes... Or Not***

Despite the worldwide rise in indigenous-produced cinema, Alaska Natives are still not taking up cameras. Historically, Alaska Natives, and Alaska in general, have been ignored or grossly caricatured and this remains true, even today, where the only popularly available Alaska Native-produced moving images are Jeanie Greene's "Heartbeat Alaska" and several documentaries that have been produced by KYUK in Bethel. This paper takes a historic look at how Alaska Natives have been portrayed on film and addresses the lack of available Native-produced images as a possibility for Alaska Natives also being entirely ignored in the literature about indigenous cinema. (Session 4)

Kelly Gwynn (UAA)

*Jonathon Solomon and John F. Kennedy*

In order to more closely examine Athabascan leadership styles, I thought it would be useful to compare them to a more familiar Western model, particularly John F. Kennedy. With Phyllis Fast's definition of Athabascan leadership as seen in the Gwich'in village of Ft. Yukon as a guide, I chose a Gwich'in leader from that area to personify Athabascan leadership—Jonathon Solomon—and compared both his style and controversies with John F. Kennedy's. I was surprised to find that the two men differed very little, with similar methods, goals, and unsavory rumors circulating about them. (Session 4)

Heather C. Hall (Chugach National Forest)

*Ashes to Asbestos: End of an Era of a Volunteer Fire Hall in Whittier, Alaska*

Built by the US Army Corps of Engineers in the industrial section of Whittier in 1951 and purchased by the US Forest Service in 1967, the Whittier Fire Hall was used continuously for nearly 50 years, from 1951 until 1999. More than a fire hall, the town jail was here and meetings and dances were also held in the building. Classic 1950's architecture with traditional fire doors and skylight windows, the cement building proved to be central to Whittier's volunteer fire department for many years. After being determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A in 2004, photographic mitigation and documentation was completed. Now abandoned and deemed unsafe due to asbestos and lead paint, the Whittier Fire Hall is nearing the end of its life and will soon be demolished. (Poster)

Diane K. Hanson (UAA), G. Richard Scott (University of Nevada, Reno),  
Brian Hoffman, and Roy Mitchell

*25 Years with the Belzoni Society*

The Belzoni Society has been part of the anthropological scene in Alaska since it began in the spring of 1982. Soon, Belzoni Society meetings were held in conjunction with the Alaska Anthropology Association (aaa) meetings, presenting their own awards, and providing the final hurrah for the end of the annual aaa meetings. The poster describes the history of the Belzoni Society in Alaska and its brief appearances elsewhere, why Belzoni was the icon for the society, whether the rising star award affected anybody's career, and what the role of the Belzoni Society is within the Alaska Anthropological Association. (Poster)



Roger Harritt (UAA)

***Recent Discoveries at Kurigitavik Mound at Wales, Alaska, in 2006***

Work in the north excavation block at Kurigitavik Mound in 2006 as part of the Wales Archaeology Project further exposed a portion of a log house feature in the upper levels of the excavation. The newly exposed remains reveal fundamental differences in construction techniques between the upper level house and a 700 year old lower level house, also in the north block, that was excavated in previous years. The upper level remains represent a horizontal log wall construction that is consistent with published contact period images of some Wales houses, whereas the lower house construction includes extensive use of small uprights to define rooms entries and alcoves. The overall configuration of the lower house is consistent with some excavated Punuk houses on St. Lawrence Island. Unusual items were recovered from the upper house in 2006, including decomposed muktuk sections, large sections of hide and strips of knotted baleen, bird feathers, and a variety of fur and hair samples. Additional excavation in the north block at Kurigitavik will be necessary in order to fully document the two house forms that have been identified. (Session 2)

Jessica Hay (ADF&G and UAA)

***I Get PAID to Do This? An Intern's Journey into the World of a "Working" Anthropologist***

The Importance of student internships as a foundation for a career in the field of anthropology. Internships offer students educational, real-world work experience. Also highly valuable for a student intern are the many contacts and relationships formed in this sort of atmosphere as well as exposure to different agencies. In the summer of 2006 an internship was established through cooperation between the Bristol Bay Native Association, National Park Service, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence. The work ranged from reading and annotating oral history narratives, helping to restore a Bristol Bay double-ender fishing boat, to participating in an archaeological survey. One of the end goals of this internship is to assist in researching and writing a cultural atlas about place names and heritage of the Dena'ina peoples in and near Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. Opportunities such as these are invaluable for a student pursuing a career in Anthropology because it grounds the student in real world work experience and helps the student to "get a foot in the door". The student presentation will focus on an individual experience as an intern both in the field and in an office and discuss aspects of expected and unexpected benefits of the work. (Session 4)

Justin Hays (UAA)

***A Glimpse of Early Kachemak Subsistence in the Kodiak Archipelago***

Not enough is known about the Early Kachemak people who once inhabited extensive areas of the south-central Alaskan coast. This period, beginning roughly 4000 years ago, exhibits a dramatic shift in the archeological record from the prior Ocean Bay period. This shift is marked by changes in lithic tool technology, the use of smokehouses, and the presence of netsinkers and finely ground-slate ulus. This is just some of evidence that supports a shift from marine mammal hunting to fishing intensification. Until recently, there has never been a faunal collection analyzed to support the other existing data. This year, a household midden has been analyzed to better understand the full diversity of resources harvested by the Early Kachemak in this region. The faunal evidence seems to support a subsistence economy based on the intensified fishing of pelagic fishes. (Session 9)

Kai Henifin (Oregon State University)

***Addressing Military Contamination on St. Lawrence Island, Alaska***

St. Lawrence Island is home to two Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) under remediation by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers since 1985. After nearly three decades the local residents continue to be concerned about inadequate site characterization and cleanup. During the summer of 2005, I collected ethnographic and geographic data on St. Lawrence Island about local people's perceptions of the contaminated sites and the remediation efforts by federal agencies. This paper will present their perceptions and discuss how global political and strategic interests have impacted the land and the people of St. Lawrence Island. (Session 2)

Laura Henry-Stone, Ray Barnhardt, Craig Gerlach (all of UAF)

***Linking Gardening with Place-Based Education at a Native Alaskan Charter School***

The curriculum at the new Effie Kokrine Charter School in Fairbanks, Alaska is grounded in Native Alaskan culture. Our collaborative research explores the integration of gardening into the seasonally-appropriate, place-based, thematic curriculum and serves as a demonstration project for teaching about sustainable community food systems in Interior Alaska. This presentation will focus on the historical, cultural, and ecological context for this project. (Session 1)

Davin L. Holen (ADF&G)

***Modern Expression of Athabascan Culture: A Revitalization of Dena'ina Culture within the Context of Modernity***

The past several years have seen a revitalization of culture throughout Dena'ina country. Both young and old have a renewed interest in learning Dena'ina language and heritage. Stories told in both Dena'ina and English have been recorded and placed on the internet, and culture camps and language workshops have been focal points for a revitalization of culture. Over the past few years several of these activities have been observed in the context of modernity. In addition these activities are being undertaken within the larger context of indigenous revival throughout Athabascan territory, Alaska, and the nation. Observations have been made that demonstrate a changing culture due to modernity and the larger context of this revitalization, yet at the same time a Dena'ina culture deeply rooted in the past. (Session 15)

Charles E. Holmes

***Regional Variation on a Common Theme: Comprehending the Later Holocene Archaeology in Central Alaska***

Although, radiocarbon dated archaeological sites for the Holocene are sparse and stratigraphy problematic, notwithstanding the limited artifact inventory available, a model appears. In the greater Tanana Valley notched points frequently are accompanied by specific microblade core forms, i.e., wedge-shaped “Campus” and tabular-blocky “Tuktu” microblade cores. Yet non-notched biface forms also are prevalent. Better resolution of Holocene cultural configurations is necessary to test this model and may be possible by reassessment of artifact assemblages. Evidence from Swan Point will be presented that supports the perception of Northern Archaic regional variation in central Alaska during the middle and late Taiga Period (6000–1500 cal BP). (Session 7)

Charles E. Holmes

***The East Beringian Tradition and the Transitional Period: New Data from Swan Point***

The East Beringian Tradition (EBT) at Swan Point (13,550–14,450 calBP) is predominately a microblade and burin industry. Microblades were produced using the Yubetsu technique. The burin industry consists of dihedral and transverse burins made on blades and unifacially prepared flakes. Although lithic tool production accounts for the majority of the artifacts, evidence for organic tool production is present as well. Associated fauna include mammoth, horse, waterfowl, and grouse/ptarmigan. Similarity between EBT and Late Pleistocene Siberian lithic technology is significant. The Transitional Period (TP) is complex, with diverse biface technology



along with present or absence of microblades being significant. Appellations, such as American Paleo-Arctic tradition, Denali, Chindadn, Nenana, and Mesa complexes, describe cultural material found all over Alaska between 13,000 and 9,500 cal. yr. BP. Swan Point TP (12,500–11,500 calBP) has a variety of small biface forms. Bison, elk, waterfowl, grouse/ptarmigan, and fish are associated with hearths. (Session 3)

Chris Houlette (UAF)

***Reconsidering Kukulik: New Perspectives on a Forgotten Collection***

In 1934 and 1935, the Department of the Interior–Alaska College Expedition under the direction of Otto Geist collected over 33,000 artifacts from Kukulik, a deeply stratified midden site on Saint Lawrence Island. Since publication of Geist and Rainey's typologically driven site report (1936), this important collection has languished. New funding has allowed Museum staff to undertake the daunting task of re-organizing and re-housing this collection to ensure its long-term preservation and continued utility for research. With an eye to concerns about data quality, this paper will discuss the analytical potential of this under-utilized resource. (Session 4)

Shannon Huber (Chugach National Forest)

***Reassessing the Eligibility of a National Register Site for the Abandoned Mine Lands Program—The Hirshey Mine, Hope, Alaska's "End of the Road"***

The Hirshey Mine, located on the Kenai Peninsula, south of the town of Hope, was placed on the National Register in 1978. In 1987, it was proposed for removal from the National Register. A great loss of site integrity occurred due to avalanches that destroyed the standing structures and looting. The Abandoned Mine Lands program with the Chugach National Forest proposed the closure of the adits at Hirshey Mine for reasons of safety. Mitigation measures for adverse effect to a National Register Historic Properties included reevaluating the site eligibility and completing a detailed, survey grade site map. Results from the 2006 field season showed that a majority of the non-structural components are still present and that because of time the site actually contains a substantial subsurface component, attesting that the site continues to retain integrity for nomination to the National Register. (Poster)

Vance Hutchinson (Tulane University), Norman Alexander Easton (Yukon College), Glen MacKay (Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre), Patricia Bernice Young (UAF)

***Faunal Remains From the Little John Site (KdVo-6): An Early Holocene Assemblage from the Yukon–Alaska Borderlands***

The Little John Site is located on the upper reaches of Mirror Creek, Yukon, about 5 kilometres from the international border with Alaska. Well preserved, culturally modified faunal remains, dated to circa 10.5 K cal bp, include caribou, swan, hare, rodentia, and canis. Evidence of butchering and burning are present on these remains. As well, several bones have been formed into tools, including two nearly identically shaped chisel-like forms of different sizes. This paper will present our current analyses of these fauna. (Session 3)

Timothy Jankowski (UAF)

***A Perspective on Alaska's Wolf Control Program***

Wolves, bears, and moose have interacted with each other long before Alaska became part of the United States. Their population density has become a major concern; along with their interactions, and the way that they affect the economy in Alaska. A major problem that is faced today by government biologists and biologists from the private sector is the question on whether or not the predation of wolves and bear on moose can create a prominent sustainable environment, and also limit the amount to a point where it is effecting their consumption by humans. (Session 4)

Anne M. Jensen (UIC Science)

***Archaeology of Nuvuk: Thule Cemetery and Contact-Era Work Area***

North America's northernmost village, Nuvuk, was once located at the tip of Point Barrow, Alaska. Erosion has been exposing ancient graves at an alarming rate. A variety of cultural features associated with the period from time of first contact with Euroamericans through the Yankee whaling period, are also eroding. This project has completed the second field season of a major archaeological project to excavate these threatened cultural resources, and save the data they contain about the past 1100 or 1200 years of history at Nuvuk. A project overview and preliminary results from the 2006 field season will be presented, as will an extensive series of C14 dates from the excavations. In addition to 16 graves, this season we also excavated an extremely well preserved activity area from the period of initial Inupiat adoption of Yankee whaling technology. (Session 5)

Anne M. Jensen (UIC Science)

### ***IPY Projects in the Barrow Area***

This paper will describe several anthropologically-focused projects which are planned to take place at least in part in Barrow during the fourth International Polar Year.

The first, “Northern Material Culture through International Polar Year Collections, Then and Now: In the Footsteps of Murdoch and Turner,” will be undertaking a modern version of the ethnological collecting projects undertaken by Murdoch and Turner at Pt. Barrow and Fort Chimo. Using their categories, with a few additions (e.g. communications equipment, navigation devices), the project will document modern equivalents of the items they collected and their uses. The project has been designed to be relatively low cost, and can be undertaken in any interested community. A K-12 educational component involving partnerships between Northern and southern schools has also developed in connection with this project. We are interested in adding additional partners to the project. The second project, “Polar Field Stations and IPY History: Culture, Heritage, Governance (1882–Present),” is studying the history and legacy of IPY through its field stations, approaching a variety of disciplinary vantage points. The overall project is organized by Michael Bravo, of the Scott Polar Research Institute at the University of Cambridge. I am looking at the scientific field stations in Barrow, Alaska and their associated outlying landscapes and buildings and developing a cultural historical context for the stations, understanding their important role in local history and culture and the development of the North Slope Borough as it exists today and their place in the history of U.S. polar science, and the roles they played in the 1<sup>st</sup> IPY. The third project, currently being proposed, involves an international field school in conjunction with archaeological investigations in the Barrow area. (Session 8)

Teneal Jensen (Chugach National Forest)

### ***An Experiment in Archaeology: Recreating a Traditional Dena'ina Fish Cache Pit***

Many of the traditional practices of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe have been forgotten or unused for generations. One such traditional practice is building a cache pit to store the late run of silver salmon along the Kenai River. With Instruction from Kenaitze Indian Tribe elders, the tribes youth and PIT volunteers constructed a traditional salmon cache pit. This project occurred in four sessions. In the first session, birch bark was collected for lining the pits and elder interviews were conducted. The second session entailed the systematic archaeological excavation of the cache pit locations. The third session of the project was the actual caching of the fish. The final session of the project will occur just before the AAA meetings, where the cache pits will be opened

and the fish will be tested for edibility, the success of this project will be presented at the meeting. (Poster)

Cornelia Jessen (UAA)

### *Women's Health Survey: An HIV/AIDS Needs Assessment in the Anchorage Area*

In the context of an internship with the State of Alaska HIV/STD Program, I am currently involved in a needs assessment related to HIV prevention for women at increased risk in Anchorage and nearby communities. The assessment is based on theories of behavior change. The project employs a computer technology called QDS™ Software—Questionnaire Development System to gather data and is intended to be completed by June, 2007. This presentation will describe the project's process, its methodology, the intended application of the data, share observations on community participation and discuss the applied/basic research distinction related to this needs assessment. (Session 4)

James Kari (Dena'inaq' Titaztunt)

### *Some Features of the Dena'ina Topical Dictionary*

This poster summarizes features of the forthcoming *Dena'ina Topical Dictionary* (spring 2007 Alaska Native Language Center). These vocabulary lists offer a panoramic view of the central cultural and ecological concepts of the Dena'ina. Over one-hundred Dena'ina speakers have contributed words to the book over a thirty-three year period. One goal for this book is to position the Dena'ina topical materials at the intersection of ethnology and linguistics. Some important themes in this lexicon are the geography of Cook Inlet Basin as reflected in terms for marine-oriented biota and the diverse month and wind names. Included are word sets for many specialized fields such as landscape, anatomy and tools. One simple point about method in a topically organized project: because these chapters have been maintained as cumulative files, they have been advanced and refined. (Poster)

Robert E. King (Bureau of Land Management)

### *Homesteading on the Last Frontier: The Sometimes Surprising Story of America's Last Homesteads in Alaska and Elsewhere*

This paper examines the sometimes surprising story of how the 1862 Homestead Act was applied to Alaska and how it was modified to meet the special circumstances of the Last Frontier State. It also gives an overview of the last homesteads awarded in the contiguous United States, a process not yet entirely finished despite popular



belief that that no more land patents are being issued under various homestead laws in America. Focusing on Alaska, this paper identifies the last homesteaders (so far) and reveals how homesteading first began in Alaska during the gold rush period of the late 1890s. It further chronicles the unusual circumstance of the 1862 Homestead Act being amended to enable Alaskans to gain title to smaller sized “homesteads,” with the last of those still being awarded in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century. Associated with this amendment was the last great “Homestead Rush” in the 1970s in Alaska, which itself has led to unexpected and even humorous results over the years. In all, the story of America’s Last Homesteads (using a PowerPoint presentation) is a window into better understanding how a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century law designed to promote settlement and private land ownership has played out—and continues to play out—in the United States. (Session 6)

Deanna Paniataaq Kingston (Oregon State University)

***When Bad Things Happen to Good Eskimos: The Persistence of Conflict Avoidance among the King Island Inupiat***

In the summers of 2005 and 2006, my co-principal investigators and I led a large, complex project, funded by NSF, and entitled “Documenting the Cultural Geography, Biogeography, and Traditional Ecological Knowledge of King Island, Alaska.” Inevitably, with a research crew of 50 or more King Island Inupiat and 8–10 western scientists, conflict occurred. This paper will discuss the effects of either confronting the conflict and/or avoiding it on my relationship with the King Island Inupiat community. In particular, I will discuss how my situation as “insider-outsider” in the community helped me to understand that conflict avoidance is still a cultural norm. (Session 2)

Jack Kruse (UAA)

***Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic: A Research Tool for Anthropologists***

The Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic (SLiCA) is an international collaborative project by researchers and indigenous peoples. The intent of SLiCA is to measure living conditions in a way relevant to indigenous people living in the Arctic and to enhance understanding of living conditions in the Arctic, particularly by people who make decisions affecting life in the Arctic. The release of SLiCA results is intended as a contribution to IPY. This paper describes the methods and collaborative process used in SLiCA and presents results for Alaska, Canada, Greenland, and Chukotka with a view toward use of SLiCA results by anthropologists. (Session 8)

Kathryn Krasinski and Gary Haynes (University of Nevada, Reno)

***Refining the Radiocarbon Record: Implications for Interpreting Eastern Beringian Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Extinctions***

Interpreting the timing and process of the initial colonization of eastern Beringia and subsequent extinction of megafauna is largely dependent on radiocarbon chronologies. But these are only generally established and techniques have greatly improved in the last decade. This study provides a systematic procedure for evaluating the reliability of over 500 paleontological (*Equus*, *Mammuthus*, and *Bison*) and archaeological dates. Correlating refined chronologies with proxy climatic records could impact our current interpretation of radiocarbon data and may provide evidence for either climatic or human induced megafaunal extinctions. (Poster)

Elizabeth Kunibe (UAS)

***Petroglyphs of the Auk Kwáan Tlingit of Southeast Alaska: Previously Recorded and Recently Discovered Petroglyphs***

A current archeological survey of petroglyphs in the Juneau Auk Kwáan Territory indicates that the AHRS listing of petroglyphs is incomplete. This research has recorded some new petroglyph sites in the area. Comparisons will be made with other Southeast petroglyphs. The present day condition of these petroglyphs will be compared using recent and historic photos to ascertain deterioration due to weathering, vegetation and tidal action. Methods and issues of photo enhancement and documentation will be discussed. (Session 12)

Elizabeth Kunibe (UAS)

***Potatoes and the Kenai Peninsula: Obtaining Introduced Potato Cultivars from Russian Old Believers and Early Settlers***

This presentation will discuss potato cultivars from the Russian Old Believers of Kachemak Selo and Nikolaevsk Village as well as pioneer gardens such as the Yule Kilcher Homestead in Homer, AK that were collected during September 2007. Some of these pioneer varieties may have been rediscovered such as the Arctic Seedling, because their planting has been discontinued except on the Kenai. Potatoes in Alaska arrived from different sources such as trade among Northwest Coast Native People, explorers and homesteaders. Potatoes presently being grown in Southeast Alaska have been traced back generations through oral and written history. Tlingit potatoes called Maria's potato and Haida potatoes called Kasaan potatoes were recently obtained and DNA testing shows they are related, but not identical to each other and the Ozette potato of the Makah Nation. (Session 1)

Michael Kunz and Constance Adkins (both of Bureau of Land Management)

*Beyond Sixty-Eight Degrees: The Northern Archaic Tradition on Alaska's North Slope*

There does not appear to be a hard and fast definition for the Northern Archaic tradition, as definitions seem to vary regionally and with archaeological interpretation. Contributing to this hazy view of the tradition is the limited amount of research that has been conducted (and even less published) as well as the paucity of radiocarbon dates. The generally accepted hallmark artifact of the tradition is moderate to large notched/expanding stem projectile points, sometimes associated with microblade technology. However, as is the case with wedge shaped microblade cores, notched projectile points do not appear to be temporally sensitive with bracketing dates ranging from about 8000 to 3000 RCYBP. Despite this generally nebulous Northern Archaic picture there are some distributional and perhaps behavioral aspects of the tradition that this paper will attempt to tease from the existing North Slope data. (Session 7)

Michelle LeBlanc (UAA)

*The Ahtna Athabascans' Skewed History*

The Ahtna Athabascans had a reputation of being warlike, because three different Russian expeditions between 1783 and 1867 ended disastrously when 19 people were killed. Historians often admire explorers such as Henry Allen, who was the first to have passed unharmed through Ahtna territory in 1885, but they have not been nearly as kind to the Ahtna. The latter have been viewed as “hostile savages” and as “ferocious cannibals, drinking their own blood during hunger and feeding on the flesh of their own children.” However, there are other historians who have depicted the Ahtna as a “virtuous and peaceful people.” Why is there such a discrepancy? This paper looks at historical states to explain the double horizon of the Ahtnas’ first outside contact. (Session 15)

Karlene Leeper (U.S. Air Force)

*Erosion and Memory: Post-Colonial Implications for the Port Heiden, Alaska Cemetery Project*

In November 2003, citizens of the small Aleut community of Port Heiden rescued human remains eroding into the Bering Sea during severe high tides. Other cemeteries were situated nearby on federal land, including a mass grave associated with the 1919 influenza epidemic and another associated with the early twentieth century Russian Orthodox chapel. These unmarked cemeteries were located and recovered. This presentation ponders the successful and failed attempts of Port Heiden residents and

a USAF cultural resources team to recover history resulting from, and lost to, such colonial products as epidemic, migration and military activities. (Session 6)

Aaron Leggett (Alaska Native Heritage Center)

*Forays into Anchorage Area Applied Anthropology: Dena'ina Athabascan Rediscovery in a Local Population*

Applied anthropology is underway as a result of recent interest in telling the story of Dena'ina people in public spaces throughout the Anchorage bowl. The Dena'ina people are for the first time being consulted and recognized publicly in their homeland. Some of the resulting projects include the new Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center, a major exhibit at the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center, an Arctic Studies Center exhibit, and the E Street Corridor Art Project. This current activity represents a future model for applied anthropology and for indigenous groups to incorporate new voices into urban spaces. (Session 15)

Beth Leonard (UAF)

*Deg Xinag Traditional Narratives and Indigenous Education: A Learner's Perspective on Interpretation and Translation*

"Deg Xinag," literally 'local language' (also known as "Ingalik") is the westernmost of the Athabascan languages within the Na-Dene language family. The language area is also referred to as "Deg Hit'an," literally, 'local people'. There are currently three villages in western interior Alaska where this language is spoken, and about 20 fluent speakers of this language remaining. Reviving and translating traditional oral narratives in the Deg Xinag language has great significance in terms of potential contributions to indigenous and cross-cultural education, as well as to the revitalization of the language itself. As translated, traditional narratives of Alaska Native or Native American people often come across as one-dimensional, i.e., foreign in both content and structure from most texts used in our formal educational system. This paper presents an early stage of analysis of "The Man and Wife," a complex, cosmological narrative told in the Deg Xinag language by the late Deg Hit'an elder, Belle Deacon. Thompson (1990) references the importance of understanding cultural metaphor, metonymy, and simile, the breadth and depth of which is difficult to convey in the publication of an oral literature text. Here I have chosen to examine a few aspects of "The Man and Wife" narrative. These aspects include an analysis of the narrative title and an examination of Deacon's English and Deg Xinag descriptions of one of the key characters. As much of the narrative focuses on the creation of the pike, I also include a brief discussion of the literal translations of terms for pike, including possible connections to the ontology of the Deg Hit'an. (Session 15)



Daniel Lewis (UAA)

### *Life After the Fall*

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, many group under there control struggled to find their way in the aftermath. The Evenk of Siberia feeling the full force of the effects of this changing environment, both culturally and with regards to subsistence practices. Despite all of the hardships the Evenk people are maintaining their cultural identity in a rapidly changing world. (Session 4)

Philip Loring and Craig Gerlach (both of UAF)

### *Outpost Gardening in Interior Alaska: Historical Dimensions of Food-System Innovation and the Exploration of a Traditional and Customary Practice*

Alongside hunting and gathering, gardens have for over a century played an important role within the customary and traditional foodways of Native Alaskans. Nevertheless, a question of 'nativeness' pervades the dialogue regarding contemporary village gardening initiatives in rural Alaska, both from within and without native communities. This paper makes use of some recently identified archives to explore the history of gardening practices in the Yukon Flats region of Alaska, its legitimacy in respect to tradition as a state-legislative context, and the origin of (mis)conceptions regarding its role in household and community economies. Ultimately, it is presented here that gardening has and continues to fulfill a role best characterized as 'outpost gardening' (after Francis 1967), where agriculture is not valued as a primary or ideal means of subsistence, but as one component of a flexible and diversified cultural system. (Session 1)

Marie Lowe (UAA)

### *Alaska Coastal Community Youth and the Future*

This paper presents preliminary research on community impacts of fisheries restructuring in coastal Alaska. As an ancillary component to the study of the impact of new legislation in crab fisheries, focus groups were conducted with high-school aged students in the Aleutians East Borough (AEB) to examine their perspective on the future. Attitudes toward lifestyle in the communities differed between those youth that were raised locally and those whom accompany parents with work opportunities in the AEB. Youth originating in the AEB value outdoor and subsistence activities and especially those that involve a relationship with the sea. They place an importance on family and the AEB as their home. AEB youth originating from outside the region look to maximize opportunities presented to them from living in communities with small populations. AEB originating youth value occupations with which they are familiar

in their own communities such as air piloting, fishing, construction/trades, city or entrepreneurial business. Outside originating youth place more value on occupations that are dominant in greater American society: i.e. computers, health care. All youth interviewed expressed a desire to leave the AEB after high school but AEB originating youth felt that they would return one day.

With diminishing opportunities in the fishing industry, young people are either forced to move away from the AEB or look to higher education or training in order to provide them with an alternative future. However, students' preparedness to move on to higher education is complicated by the threat of closure of schools in small villages and the low levels of funding awarded to schools with diminishing enrollment. Other problems such as a lack of higher math and science courses, low reading levels, and high teacher turnover in schools that could be barriers to success for students. Parents report that community youth also have some problems adjusting to life outside of their small communities in losing support and social networks. Because of this, many community youth do return to the AEB, some without fully completing their education or training. (Session 10)

David Maas

### *Potential Impacts of Outer Continental Shelf Activities on Bowhead Whaling Hunting in the Beaufort Sea: A Student Perspective*

This paper is part of a larger study that grew out of the concerns among North Slope residents that oil and gas exploration and development activities were having adverse effects on whale hunting and Iñupiat life. There are three general concerns. First, are worries over the physical impact of seismic testing, the movement of barges, aircraft, and other transport vessels, and the construction of offshore platforms. Many think these disruptions alter the feeding and migration patterns of Bowhead whales and other marine mammals.

The social, cultural, and economic effects of energy development is a second area of apprehension. There are the direct benefits of economic growth, e.g., employment opportunities, more income, improved public services, and the ill effects of industrialization, e.g., pathological alcohol and drug use, restrictions on hunting and fishing, loss of territory, environmental damage. Finally, there are more intangible worries about what might happen to the health and well being of one's family and Iñupiat culture. North Slope leaders are especially interested in younger people and their perceptions and attitudes about social and economic change, subsistence, the value of sharing and language, the importance of elders, and so on.

This paper will summarize the results of the student surveys in Barrow, Kaktovik, Nuiqsut, and Savoonga and compare their responses to the findings of the adult, elder, and whaling captain interviews. (Session 10)

Patrick Marlow and Lawrence Kaplan (both of UAF)

***Language Planning for Eskimo-Aleut Languages: A Research and Training Project for the International Polar Year***

Under strong political, economic, and cultural pressure due to globalization, language shift has become common throughout the arctic. This shift has serious psychological and cultural implications at both the individual and group level. We argue, therefore, that research in Eskimo-Aleut language policy and planning should be prioritized over the next 10 to 15 years. Such research should have solid community ties and serve local interests in determining language use and function. In this paper, we discuss a National Science Foundation proposal to coordinate ANLC efforts in language planning with community members and researchers from Eskimo-Aleut communities in Alaska, Siberia, Canada, and Greenland. (Session 8)

Owen K. Mason (GeoArch Alaska)

***The Ipiutak Cult on the Seward Peninsula: Center or Periphery?***

The Ipiutak presence along the Seward Peninsula coasts and its interior at Trail Creek Cave 2 is documented by large (100 m<sup>2</sup>) structures at Deering and Qit Chauvik interpreted as community spaces (“*qarigi*”). Community size remains uncertain as only single houses are excavated at Cape Espenberg and Deering. The most significant reflection of Ipiutak is the small number (n=20) of burials at Deering; the associated grave goods elaborately and enigmatically engraved with anthropomorphic representations. A nearly identical style was employed at Qit Chauvik, Pt. Spencer, Deering and Pt Hope. Aside from the undated Pt Spencer site, the Seward Peninsula Ipiutak occurred between AD 600 and 850, the terminal period of the cult. Present data suggest that Ipiutak arrived on the Seward Peninsula from elsewhere, very likely from its Northern congeners. The linkage of Ipiutak to the outside is marked by conflict, the impaled burial 1 at Deering, as well as a trade in iron at Pt. Spencer and Deering. (Session 2)

Owen K. Mason (GeoArch Alaska) and Nancy H. Bigelow (UAF)

***The Crucible of Early to Mid-Holocene Climate in Northern Alaska: Are Northern Archaic the People of the Spreading Forest?***

The Archaic stage was defined as a cultural response to post-Pleistocene landscapes dominated by trees. To some extent, in Alaska white spruce attained its farthest limit during the Milankovitch thermal maximum (ca. 10,000-9000 BP). The Early Holocene produced a more open landscape susceptible to colluviation, flooding and gulleying. Paleo-environment surrounding the development of Northern Archaic can be reconstructed from proxy records of flooding, loess fall and soil formation at Onion

Portage and Tingmiukpuk, and a variety of Brooks Range studies of lake levels, glacial expansions and colluvial activations, supplemented by loess and dune stratigraphy from the Kobuk and North Slope. The development of Northern Archaic correlates with the retreat of treeline but may be inversely related to the development of peatland and forest landscapes 6000-5000 BP in that the treeless Brooks Range “pulled” Archaic peoples north as the sphagnum peatland developed in the interior. (Session 7)

Owen K. Mason (GeoArch Alaska)

*Massive Storms Rake the Pt. Barrow Spit: Comparing the 1st and 3rd Millennia AD and the Implications for the Thule Cemetery and Global Change*

The development of the Nuvuk (Point Barrow) spit superficially resembles the conventional model that links bluff erosion updrift with progradation at the termini of long shore transport systems. Radiometrically dated driftwood from cores and exposures extracted in the 1960s indicated that the spit was built intermittently from the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC during periods with elevated storm surges across the Chukchi Sea, from the southwest. Native elders and oral history accounts describe the spit as considerably longer. Data collected in 2005-06 during the ECHO project indicate that the evolution of the spit was more complex as very massive storms prior to AD 700 acted across the spit. During the last 50 years, erosion was very intense prior to 1950 and has intensified since 1997, under the impact of lessening ice cover associated with anthropogenic global climate change. Adverse and intensifying impacts include the destabilization of the vegetation cover due to four-wheeler traffic as well as the mitigating archaeological excavation. (Session 5)

Rachel Mason (National Park Service)

*Subsistence and Family Networks in Buckland*

In Buckland, a community on the Seward Peninsula, sharing, cooperation, and indeed household membership are not confined to co-residing family members, but extend beyond the village. In 2003, the National Park Service funded a study of subsistence and family networks in Buckland, conducted jointly by the ADF&G Division of Subsistence and UAA's Institute of Social and Economic Research. The study combined ethnographic research with a household harvest survey and social network analysis in order to shed light on patterns of subsistence sharing and other cooperation. Based on project findings, this paper examines Buckland residents' participation in regional and community networks. (Session 2)



Meghan McKenna

***Youth-Led Vulnerability Research and Adaptation to Change: Assessing the Vulnerability of Inuit Youth in Arctic Bay to Social and Climate Changes***

Predicted and observed climate change and its associated impacts in the Arctic, have highlighted the need for better understanding of the determinants and dynamics of vulnerability at the community level. Research on vulnerability and adaptation to climate change has emphasized the need for increased community collaboration, and some recent studies of climate change have been in partnership with Inuit communities. However, community involvement in Nunavut has been largely limited to elders, members of Inuit organizations, and representatives of the government. Despite recognition by these groups that younger generation community members are facing a number of particular challenges as a result of climate change, there has been little involvement of Inuit youth in vulnerability and adaptation research. In addition to challenges posed to Inuit youth by climate change, elders and southern researchers have highlighted the loss of traditional skills and the lack of research and transferable skills among Inuit youth (AHDR, 2004; NTI, 2005; Ford, 2006; Pearce, 2006).

This paper outlines research to be conducted with Inuit youth in the community of Arctic Bay, Nunavut. The goal of the research is to document vulnerability, by involving Inuit youth as researchers to (1) develop an understanding of how social and climate changes interact to affect the function and well-being of Arctic communities, specifically for Inuit youth (2) identify research and policy initiatives which will enhance adaptive capacity (3) build capacity for research and transferable skills among Inuit youth. This research is at the preliminary stages, one community site visit has already been completed. The paper outlines the research approach to establish northern partnerships and involve youth in academic research. (Session 10)

Allison Young McLain (OHA) and Marie-Amélie Salabelle

***A Closer Examination of the Delarov/Unga Island Cave Masks and Other Objects, Eastern Aleutians, Alaska***

In November 2006 a research team visited the Château Musée in Bolougne-sur-Mer, France to examine all the Delarov Harbor/Unga Island Cave masks and other objects collected by Alphonse Louis Pinart in 1871. We examined the masks along side photographs of all the Unga Island masks and other objects collected by William Healy Dall in 1873; these objects are in the Anthropology Collections at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. This examination allowed us to “see” all the cave material together. This paper will provide a description of the entire collection and illustrate many objects some of which were published for the first time in Lydia Black’s second edition of *Aleut Art* and some of which have never been

published. We will discuss our preliminary observations and pose research questions which we will investigate in a project now being organized. (Session 9)

Chanda Meek and Martin Robards (both of UAF)

### ***North by 2020: Living Marine Resources Theme***

The UAF IPY initiative, North by 2020, aims to bring scholars, scientists, and educators from UA together with recognized stakeholders, key experts and the broader public to jointly assess challenges facing the North. The role of the University in this process is mostly that of an honest broker, specifically as a generator and translator of information relevant to stakeholders. PhD students Chanda Meek and Martin Robards will discuss the development of the North by 2020 living marine resources theme, especially as it relates to their work with marine mammal management and resilience in Alaska. (Session 8)

Sarah Meitl (UAF) and Dixie West (University of Kansas)

### ***New Excavations in the Central Aleutians: Adak Island***

During 2006, the Central Aleutians Archaeological and Paleobiological Project conducted the second season of an international, interdisciplinary research program on Adak Island, Aleutian Islands, Alaska. Archaeologists focused on the well preserved site ADK-011, the Zeto Point Site. This paper provides a summary of the expedition and descriptions of the multiple laboratory research efforts being conducted on materials collected during the 2006 field season. Laboratory research includes: artifact identification, stone tool use wear, raw material sourcing, identification of ancient lipids in archaeological soils, DNA and stable isotope analyses, and geological and zooarchaeological research. (Session 9)

Shawn Miller (University of Utah)

### ***Human Skeletal Materials from the Excavation at Point Barrow***

Careful analysis of a human skeleton can provide substantial information about the individual. This information includes sex, estimated age at death, and general ancestral affiliation as well as trauma, specific disease states, and cultural practices that leave a record on the bone. Post-depositional processes often obscure much of this information. This is the case with the skeletal materials from the Nuvuk excavation at Point Barrow, Alaska. It is likely that the damage patterns we see in these skeletal materials can be attributed to the annual freezing and thawing of the ground in combination with the recreational use of the of the land by heavy vehicles. Over the last two field seasons we have been able to collect information regarding sex and estimated age at death from most of the burials. Additionally, we have collected some

craniometric measurements from a couple of the burials in which the crania were more or less complete. We hope that this next field season will yield better preserved materials that will enable us to collect additional data from the individuals buried at Nuvuk. (Session 5)

Robin Mills and Steve Lanford (both of Bureau of Land Management)

***Hills Bros. Coffee Can Chronology Field Guide***

Copies available in the book room (RAMPART ROOM). (Poster)

Craig Mishler (Vadzaih Unlimited)

***Njab, Njob: Lobsticks among the Gwich'in and Others***

The creation of lobsticks across Canada and Alaska in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries illustrates the symbolic use of spruce trees both as cultural landmarks and as living memorials. Such symbolism is also manifested in beliefs and ceremonies. These visual sculptures, in which certain tree branches are artfully removed, demonstrate a virtual connection between Cree and Athabaskan traditions which was also adopted by non-Natives and transmitted via Hudson's Bay Company voyageurs and traders. Drawing upon historic records and a contemporary interview, my paper focuses on the significance of lobsticks to the Gwich'in living on both sides of the Alaskan-Yukon border and probes the ecological semiotic of trees. (Session 11)

Daniel Monteith (UAS)

***Alaska Native Gathering and Gardening in Southeast Alaska:  
Ethnohistorical Analysis and Contemporary Implications***

Many historical and ethnographic sources emphasize the importance of fishing and hunting to the Tlingit but few sources discuss the contributions of gathering and gardening activities. In light of further ethnohistorical and archaeological analysis gathering and gardening activities were essential to economic well-being in Southeast Alaska. Recent research done in association with the Potato Genome Project suggests an expansive regional trade network. Contemporary revitalization of these activities in Native rural communities will be explored. (Session 1)

David C. Natcher (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

***Factors Contributing to Cultural and Spatial Variability in Landscape Burning by Gwich'in and Koyukon Athabascans of Interior Alaska***

Wildfire has been part of the ecological dynamics of interior Alaska since the arrival of spruce 9000 years ago. With return intervals of 50-150 years, wildfire is an important part of the disturbance and succession process. The contributions of humans to the process, however, are relatively unknown. In order to address this question, a multidisciplinary research team, together with partners from the Gwich'in and Koyukon Athabaskan communities, examined patterns of human-fire interaction over time in interior Alaska, including the extent to which landscape burning was used historically as a cultural practice to modify the landscape. We were able to successfully identify both social and ecological factors that may have contributed to the adoption of fire as a landscape management tool, and provide new insights into the cultural and spatial variability of landscape burning by Athabaskan peoples of interior Alaska. (Session 15)

Michael Nowak (Colorado College)

***Tracing Colonial Heritages: Socioeconomic Life in Greenland, Arctic Canada, and Alaska***

Initial contacts with the northern people of Greenland, Canada, and Alaska, have many common elements, particularly as European and American governments begin to play active roles in effecting change. Yet, within each region we also see the development of distinctive social features as differing national colonial agendas express themselves. Historical and current government policies support a variety of programs that aid local communities. The current trend toward self rule and greater autonomy likewise expresses itself uniquely in each of the three regions. A move towards self determination however does not remove the critical role national governments play in the continued economic stability and overall success of everyday life in these regions' inhabitants. This is not likely to change in the near-term future as local economic developments are not often stable, longer term enterprises. Sometimes too, the expenses involved in such industries are greater than revenues generated. To this extent, modern life in all three regions will continue to see a large role played by national and regional governmental agencies. Where regional indigenous corporations exist, another layer has been added, but basic realities remain the same. (Session 6)

Matt O'Leary (Bureau of Indian Affairs)

***Notes about Pre-20<sup>th</sup> Century Dena'ina Houses on Mulchatna River***

This is a follow-on paper for the Mulchatna Archeological Survey, though the principals may wish to distance themselves from my remarks (Branson and McMahan, AAA



2002). It describes historic (and protohistoric?) Dena'ina cold season hamlets on a portion of middle Mulchatna River, based on survey results for 2000–2005. My paper will address model house forms, tree ring limiting ages, some test findings and aspects of the historic context for a crude assessment of settlement geography for part of the Inland Dena'ina. (Session 3)

Daniel Odess and Erica Hill (both of UAF)

### *Investigating the Origins of Whaling in the Bering Sea*

The origins of Eskimo whaling are obscure. We know that Thule and Punuk people took bowhead and grey whales starting roughly 1000 years ago, that there is evidence of occasional whaling in Old Bering Sea culture times. However, while we know that whaling has influenced the development of many aspects of Eskimo culture, including ideology, ritual, social organization, and economy, among others, we do not know when or where or why Eskimos began hunting whales. The Old Whaling culture (ca. 3000 BP), defined by Giddings in 1960 on the basis of excavations at Cape Krusenstern, has been posited as the earliest whale hunting culture in Bering Strait. However, this interpretation has been contested on the grounds of epistemological uncertainty, and until recently, no additional Old Whaling culture sites have been found. This paper discusses plans for a collaborative Russian-American research project to investigate the origins of Eskimo whaling at a newly discovered Old Whaling site in southwestern Chukotka. (Session 8)

Alberto Pantoja, Aaron Hagerty, and Susan Emmert (USDA/ARS, Subarctic Agricultural Research Unit)

### *Gathering, Gardening, and Agricultural Production in Alaska: Why IPM Cannot Be Overlooked Even at Latitude 64° North*

Because of its geographical isolation and climatic constraints, Alaska agriculture is considered relatively free of diseases and insect pests. Early colonizers into the state did not encounter the pest problems of modern farmers. However, since 1973, the winter temperatures in Alaska have increased by 2–3° C. It is logical to assume that continued global climate change could produce conditions that are more favorable to insect development, the introduction of new crops, and the disappearance of crops that can not adapt to climate change. This work reports on the insect pest associated to agricultural settings in low input and organic crops in Alaska and the efforts to improve knowledge on the biological properties of high latitude species and native Alaska crops. (Session 1)

Partlow, Megan A. (Central Washington University) and Robert E. Kopperl  
(Northwest Archaeological Associates, Inc.)

### *Exploring the Skeletal Evidence for Dried Cod in the North Pacific*

Salmon storage in the eastern North Pacific is well known both from the ethnohistoric record and zooarchaeological skeletal part data, but the storage of other fish species, particularly Pacific cod, is not well understood. This poster examines the ethnohistory and skeletal part evidence for storage of cod from 15 site assemblages along coastal Alaska and the Northwest Coast. While there is tantalizing ethnographic evidence, the skeletal part data is equivocal with most sites exhibiting a slight preponderance of cranial elements. Archaeofaunal signatures of cod storage may be obscured by the co-location of processing, storage, and consumption of cod at these sites, unlike the case for salmon. (Poster)

Donita L. Peter (Alaska Native Heritage Center)

### *Revitalization of Dena'ina Language and Culture*

Who are the Dena'ina? What is being done today to preserve the Dena'ina language, history, and culture? How are materials being compiled? What materials are being created today? This paper explores these questions and others concerning the contemporary revitalization of Dena'ina language and culture. (Session 15)

Ben A. Potter (UAF)

### *Site Location Model and Survey Strategies in the Mid-Tanana Basin*

A GIS-based site location model was developed for a recent railroad project, encompassing an 80-mile-long corridor along the Tanana River in central Alaska. The model was used primarily to identify appropriate survey strategies across a heterogeneous environment. Forty-two prehistoric sites were discovered, ranging in age from over 10,000 to 2,000 radiocarbon years BP. All but one of the sites were found through subsurface testing, a relatively rare occurrence in the Subarctic. Model performance is assessed through various measures, and site data are discussed relative to important archaeological problems in the region. (Session 3)

Ben A. Potter (UAF), Peter M. Bowers, and Edmund P. Gaines (both of  
Northern Land Use Research, Inc.)

### *Chronology, Technology, and Site Structure in Central Alaska: Results of the 2006 Northern Rail Extension Project*

We report data and analyses relating to the discovery of 42 buried prehistoric lithic sites in the mid-Tanana basin. Twenty-seven components are dated through hearth charcoal

and associated stratigraphic charcoal, from 10,000–2,000 radiocarbon years BP. Several local chronologies and landscape evolution sequences are developed on the basis of stratigraphic and radiocarbon date correlation, and we explore the well-represented Middle Holocene suite of components (8000–4000 BP, n=13). We present evidence for changing land-use patterns in the region during the Holocene, with the aid of recovered fauna, and explore patterns in site structure and organization. (Session 3)

Adeline Peter Raboff

### *Gwich'in Family Origins: The Broken Braid*

This is a book in progress that will include: the genealogy of the modern-day Gwich'in, family histories with a minimum of five generations back from the present in most families, marriage-group identification and patterns of marriage, identification of family origins, and the movement of families through time; establish settlement patterns and intermarriage across tribal lines; give Gwich'in place names; include family photographs and tout the longest list of Gwich'in personal names outside of Archdeacon Robert McDonald's journal which began in 1862, and identify the cause of death when possible.

This book will demonstrate: that marriage patterns were an important part of keeping an isolated community of people from gross genetic problems; that communities of people moved great distances; that communities were not static; that the naming system was not repetitious; that when people left one estate for another they adopted the language, customs, and belief system of that community; that people were multi-lingual; that many Gwich'in people were literate starting in 1870s. Will show the effects of disease, famine, and displacement; the effects of Christianity on marriage group identification; that the marriage system has survived into the present time; the Gwich'in naming system and how it translated into Euro-American surnames in the U.S. and the resulting confusion caused in relationship identification. (Session 11)

Gregory A. Reinhardt (University of Indianapolis)

### *Government-Issued "Indians": Officially Sanctioned Images of American Indians*

Since Colonial times, American government agencies have used "Indian" images to convey notions about national identity, purpose, and resolve. This slide show illuminates some historical depth behind these visual portrayals. "Indians" appear on such media as coins, currency, postage stamps, and militaria. These objects represent a microcosm of popular-culture sentiments as to what American Indians look like, do, and signify, as reified pictorially by bureaucrats. Government-issued "Indians" in effect make and validate connections between "our Indians" and the rest of us

in American society. The images' distribution—usually widespread—also presumes government authentication, authorization, and widespread dissemination as to what “Indians” are. And most of the time, we just eat it up. (Session 6)

Aaron C. Robertson (U.S. Army Garrison Alaska and Colorado State University)

### *Excavations at XMH-874 and the 2006 Field Season on Donnelly Training Area*

For the past six years U.S. Army Garrison, Alaska (USAG-AK) has proactively managed the cultural resources on army lands (1.7 million acres). Archaeological field work conducted during the summers of 2002 to 2006 by USAG-AK on Fort Wainwright's Donnelly Training Area, 4 km south of Delta Junction, includes the survey of over 250 km<sup>2</sup> and identification of over 290 new archaeological sites. During the 2006 field season excavations at site XMH-874 began as part of the mitigation for the construction of a new range. During this first season of excavations forty square meters were excavated and 1845 pieces of cultural material were found: 822 lithic artifacts and 1000+ bone fragments. The lithic artifacts are comprised of 53 tools and diagnostics including projectile point fragments, a microblade core tab and 24 microblades and 769 pieces of lithic debitage. The 2007 field season will further explore areas of interest at the site and conduct additional testing within the site boundaries. (Session 3)

Erin Ryder (UAS)

### *Auke Lake Archaeology Project: Community Collaboration and Continuing Exploration*

During the summer 2006 field season a fox farm historical homestead site and a possible Tlingit fish processing camp site were found. The 2007 season will involve conducting more fieldwork at these two sites within the project area. Work will also begin on developing interpretive materials that can be used along the trail to inform the public about the history and archaeology of the area. (Session 12)

Becky Saleeby and Susan Bender (both of the National Park Service)

### *Archeological Mentorship Program 2004–2006*

For the past three summers, young people from five villages in Northwest Alaska participated in the Archeological Mentorship Program, funded by a National Park Service (NPS) Shared Beringian Heritage Program grant. Besides providing training and archeological fieldwork opportunities, the program also required the teenagers to create projects of local cultural interest to share with their home communities, which included Anaktuvuk Pass, Noatak, Kiana, Point Hope, and Kotzebue. In this



photographic display, we highlight our excellent adventures in teaching and learning from these kids. (Poster)

Patrick G. Saltonstall and Amy F. Steffian (both of the Alutiiq Museum)

***Kodiak's Oldest Houses: The Origins of the Semi-Subterranean Ciqlluaq***

Archaeological research along the coast of Kodiak Island's Chiniak Bay has revealed a variety of sites with structural remains from the Ocean Bay tradition. These structures illustrate patterns in the development of shelter. Through time structures become more massive and their variety increases. Kodiak's earliest Ocean Bay foragers inhabited tents while later Ocean Bay I foragers began building semisubterranean dwellings with interior kitchens and sod roofs. By the Ocean Bay II foragers used a variety of structures. These changes reflect both economic shifts and the development of deep soils. Importantly, Ocean Bay and succeeding Early Kachemak houses share layout and structural details that suggest cultural continuity. (Session 9)

Robert Sattler, Tom Gillispie, Tom Gamza, Elizabeth Cook (all of Tanana Chiefs Conference), and Charles Adkins (Bureau of Land Management)

***The Beck Site: The Historic Archaeology of an Early Gold-Rush Era Dwelling, Business, and Military Site near Eagle, Alaska***

The Beck Site consists of the foundation and living floor of a log building, and several middens, located on the Yukon River seventeen miles down river from Eagle, Alaska. The site was first occupied in 1898 as a roadhouse, but became the headquarters for a business based upon wood and freight contracts with the United States Army garrison at Fort Egbert. The Beck site enjoys an exceptional local game supply, and it became an important destination for Army foragers. Archaeological excavation has produced a 100% sample of the building contents and a 75% sample of the middens. By combining the excavation data with historical research we are reconstructing the history of the site. We have also begun analysis on local adaptations to the environment and business climate, frontier economics, transportation, social relationships and site formation processes. (Session 3)

Peter Schweitzer, Patty Gray (both UAF) and Lee Huskey (UAA)

***BOREAS: Histories from the North—Environments, Movements, Narratives—Three International Projects Directed from Alaska***

BOREAS is a research initiative by the European Science Foundation, geared specifically at social science and humanities research in and of the North. Unlike other ESF initiatives, Canada and the United States (and to a lesser degree Russia) are full participants of the program, which more or less coincides with the International Polar

Year. This presentation will provide a short general overview over the scope of the initiative and slightly more detailed information about the following three BOREAS projects led by Alaskan researchers. Gray is the project leader of “New Religious Movements in the Russian North: Competing Uses of Religiosity after Socialism,” which—for the first time—will document the complex topography of new religious movements in the Russian North. Huskey is the project leader of “Understanding Migration in the Circumpolar North.” The goal of that project is to develop a better understanding of the patterns, causes and consequences of migration in the Circumpolar North through interdisciplinary and transnational comparative research. Schweitzer leads “Moved by the State: Perspectives on Relocation and Resettlement in the Circumpolar North,” which refers to the circumpolar commonality of communities having to cope with relocations and other population movements triggered by outside decisions. (Session 8)

G. Richard Scott, Claire Johnson, and Susan Steen (all of University of Nevada, Reno)

### *Eskimo Craniofacial Morphology: The Hard-Chewing Hypothesis Revisited*

In 1977, Hylander proposed that many distinctive features of Eskimo craniofacial morphology were involved in the generation and dissipation of heavy vertical occlusal forces. Cranial variables linked to hypertrophied chewing muscles include sagittal keeling, high temporal lines, and pronounced zygomaxillary tuberosities. Characters thought to aid in dissipating forces include pinched nasal bones, mandibular and palatine tori, and possibly thickened tympanic plates. Although Hylander’s argument was persuasive, he did not evaluate the interaction of these variables through correlation-regression analysis. When a sample of 150 crania and mandibles from Nunivak Island were analyzed for interrelationships among craniofacial variables, few significant correlations were found. This suggests that hard chewing is not reflected as a functional complex of interdependent traits. (Session 9)

G. Richard Scott, Verla Davis, Elyse Jolly, Alex Marko, Lindsey Moore, and Shayne Bundy (all of University of Nevada, Reno)

### *Oral Pathology of Medieval and Post-Medieval Populations from the Cathedral of Santa Maria, Vitoria, Spain: A Preliminary Assessment*

Observations on oral health variables, including dental caries, antemortem tooth loss, and abscesses, were made on 250 skeletons exhumed from the Cathedral of Santa Maria in Vitoria, Spain. The remains date from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Temporally, the clearest distinction is between excavation units outside the cathedral that pre-date 1500 and burials within the cathedral that fall after that time. Comparing skeletal

samples that date before and after 1500 reveal the following trends: (1) a significant increase in antemortem tooth loss in the post-medieval sample, including many more edentulous individuals; (2) an increase in the frequency and intensity of dental caries in the post-medieval sample; and (3) an increase in the frequency of abscesses between the two time units. The general impression is one of decreasing oral health through time, reflecting in part increased longevity but also because of the greater use of refined carbohydrates in Western European populations after the Middle Ages. (Session 9)

Robert D. Shaw

### *A Preliminary Look at the Houses of King Island*

While on King Island in association with the NSF-sponsored cultural and natural history research headed by Dr. Deanna Kingston of Oregon State University during the 2005–06 field seasons, I photographed and measured numerous standing houses within King Island Village. That work was conducted and is being reported with the permission and cooperation of the King Island Village community. The village is set on the toe of a steep, granite rubble field that drops precipitously into the sea. Because of its unique setting the village is boldly photogenic and widely known to the general public and anthropological community, most notable through the photography of Edward Curtis dating from near the turn of the last century. Being sited on a 40ish degree slope, the houses Curtis recorded were walrus-hide structures supported on driftwood stilts. Even though the walrus houses photographed by Curtis are long gone, newer frame houses having many of their unique characteristics remain, very notably the supporting stilts. The stilts are a functional adaptation to construction on such a steep slope. Many currently standing houses date to the 1940–50s which show outside influences from seasonal residence in Nome after the Gold Rush, mission activities in the village during the 1930s and from military experiences of many community members during World War II. This paper is a preliminary look at the houses and their functional characteristics related to the unique setting both physiographic and climatic. An initial house type description is presented based on shared characteristic of the existing housing stock along with a few thoughts of how the modern structures relate to older structures of very different materials. (Session 2)

Rita Shepard (Cotsen Institute of Archaeology, UCLA)

### *Semi-Subterranean Structures in Early Viking Age Iceland*

How do colonists attack the job of initial settlement into a completely unexplored and uninhabited new land? Survival of first colonists to any land depends on ability to endure between supply events. Many early Viking Age longhouses in Iceland have a small pit-house situated closely adjacent. It has been suggested that the colonists built these houses as initial shelters while they erected their turf long houses. What can be

said about the use of these pit-houses beyond their obvious efficacy for adaptation to cold? This talk will be a consideration of Icelandic Viking pit-houses with insights gleaned from Native Alaskan semi-subterranean houses, including those from my research along the Unalakeet River, AK. Structurally similar to Native Alaskan semi-subterranean dwellings, they are 3 to 5 meters across and can have rough stone lined floors and small benches. The variable contents and layouts of the Icelandic pit-houses has led some to propose that these are not primary dwellings, but rather cult houses, weaving houses, or even purposely dug refuse pits. Alaskan structures are often multi-functional or re-purposed through their life use. I suggest here that focused excavations at pit-houses in Iceland will reveal stages of farmstead development in a new land. (Session 6)

Kristin Sheidt (UAA)

***Avian Remains at the Hungry Fox Site, Alaska: A Preliminary Report***

Hungry Fox (49-KIR-289) is a Late Prehistoric Iñupiat site located on the Killik River in the Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve. It contains a large faunal assemblage dominated by caribou remains (like other faunal-rich sites in the region). It also boasts a considerable amount of non-caribou fauna such as birds, fish, and small mammals. This paper describes the avian remains, which are dominated by ptarmigan, and is a preliminary report of their importance and contribution to subsistence at this site. (Session 4)

Scott Shirar (UAF and National Park Service)

***The Maiyumerak Creek Site (XBM-131): An Analysis of Artifacts and Faunal Remains from a Late Prehistoric House Pit in Northwest Alaska***

The Maiyumerak Creek Site (XBM-131) is a late prehistoric site located near the confluence of Maiyumerak Creek and the Noatak River in the Noatak National Preserve. Excavations conducted at the site by the National Park Service during the 2006 field season focused on one of eight identified house pits (House Pit 8). Due to excellent preservation at the site, the excavation of House Pit 8 resulted in the recovery of a plethora of artifacts and faunal material. This analysis focuses on how subsistence resource use is reflected in a sample of the artifacts and faunal assemblages and the relationship between these two classes of data. (Poster)



Sargent Shriver (UAF)

*The Nature of Moral Intuitions in Alaska Native Populations: Questionnaire-Based Experiments*

Work in psychology and cognitive neuropsychology suggests we are not aware of the extent to which intuitions shape our judgment and supports the general hypothesis that our moral judgment is mediated by innate components. This study explores moral judgment by comparing moral knowledge to linguistic knowledge in the Chomskyan tradition. We are collaborating with the Cognition and Evolution Laboratory (CEL) at Harvard University on this project. We follow the general design of previous research by CEL to investigate moral intuitions in Alaska Native populations, but in addition we compare judgment between generations, thereby allowing a more dynamic investigation of the relationship between implicit moral judgment and explicit moral justification. (Session 4)

Katrin Simon (UAF)

*In Quest of Authentic Yup'ik Art—Concepts of Tradition*

My interest is the various stereotypes—including my own—that people have of the concepts “traditional” and “authentic” as it applies to contemporary Alaska Native art and artists. With my research I examine Yup'ik art from different angles and investigate the different cultural standards and definitions that exist about authentic Yup'ik art and artists. Consumers, collectors, the government, and Yup'ik artists from diverse cultural backgrounds all have different concepts of what authentic, traditional Yup'ik art constitutes. I believe that there is a necessity to investigate Native art without reservations and prejudgments and to listen closely to the artist's voice, especially when it contradicts our own perception. (Session 2)

Natalia Slobodina (UAA) and Jeff Rasic (National Park Service)

*The Use of Multiple Weapon Systems Explains Some Northern Archaic Period Assemblage Variability: Evidence from the Rosaliya Site in the Central Brooks Range*

Rosaliya (KIR-196) is a small, single-component microblade production and weapon repair site in the central Brooks Range. The assemblage contains bifacial (large lanceolate points), microblade (wedge-shaped cores and microblades), and burin (expedient burins and retouched spalls) technologies. Dates of  $5250 \pm 40$  (Beta-214539),  $5120 \pm 40$  (Beta-210701) RCYBP were derived from hearth charcoal and place the occupation solidly within the Northern Archaic period. Although the site was fully excavated, notched projectile points so characteristic of Northern Archaic assemblages are absent. We propose that a short occupation span and specialized site

activities explain this pattern. We also forward a hypothesis that Northern Archaic technology included multiple weapon systems with lanceolate-shaped projectiles as spear points, notched projectiles as dart tips, and microblades as light duty cutting tools and/or arrow armaments. (Session 7)

Christopher Smith (UAA)

***The Effects of Global Terrorism, Natural Disasters and Disease in Bali on the Alaska Native Art Market***

Since September 11, 2001, the Balinese tourist industry has been in a steady state of decline, weathering a bombing in 2002, SARS in 2003, and the devastating tsunami of 2004. As Western tourists become ever more paranoid of travel overseas, the export of imitation Alaska Native art from Bali has increased exponentially to supplement the faltering economy. This paper will explore options to protect Native art in Alaska by working with local artists, municipalities, and the state of Alaska to curtail the import and misrepresentation of this art through the formation of artist co-operatives and certification programs. (Session 4)

Lacey Smith (UAS)

***Geologic and Bathymetric Investigations of Auke Lake: Understanding the Human Ecology of the Auke Bay Area***

The Auke Lake archaeology project has conducted geo-archaeological fieldwork to establish a better understanding of the geology of the project area. This research will provide a geological overview of the project area. In particular 4,904 new bathymetric soundings were collected to produce a bathymetric map of the lake in order to better understand the origin of the bedrock lake basin and its glacial history. In addition, the new map will support archaeological understandings about the human occupation of the area. Other applications of this research include ecological and fisheries studies directed at questions about physical limnology, sockeye and pink salmon habitat distributed by depth, water quality, and nutrient cycling. (Session 12)

Laura L. Smith (Barrow Arctic Science Consortium)

***The Thule Cemetery at Nuvuk: Burial Patterns and Practices at the Top of the World***

Located at Point Barrow, Alaska, the archaeological site of Nuvuk rests on a gravel spit at the northernmost tip of the North American continent. As a result of increasingly dramatic coastal erosion all that remains of the large Thule-period village at Nuvuk is the cemetery. Ongoing excavations at Nuvuk from 1997 through to 2006 have

resulted in the recovery of 26 complete individuals, and partial remains of over 25 more individuals.

The spatial and temporal distribution of material remains from the Nuvuk burials show continuity in burial practices through time and across age groups and sexes. The presence of bowhead whale bone in many of the burials suggests the importance of bowhead whales to the prehistoric residents of Nuvuk. Although the economic importance of bowhead whales to Thule cultures is well-known, skeletal elements of bowhead whales are typically found only in relation to house features and are not well-documented outside of structural contexts. Patterns in the distribution of material remains, as well as the study of grave shapes, profiles and orientations of the burials at Nuvuk offer a unique opportunity to examine north Alaskan Thule burial practices. (Session 5)

Robert J. Speakman (Smithsonian Institution)

*An Overview of Obsidian Provenance Studies in Alaska and Northeast Asia*

As part of a larger effort to better understand prehistoric trade, migration, and social interaction within and between Alaska and northeast Asia, a large-scale obsidian sourcing project has been initiated. This research project includes numerous collaborators in Alaska and Russia and builds upon John Cook's earlier obsidian research. As a consequence of recent efforts and Cook's earlier research, more than 1800 artifacts and geologic samples from Alaska, Chukotka, and Kamchatka have been analyzed to date. Here, I provide an overview of research conducted to date, describe the various analytical techniques that are available, and report on the subgroup structure identified through quantitative analysis of the compositional data. (Session 7)

Cody J. Strathe (UAF)

*Variability in Marine Ecosystem Productivity and Its Effects on Phocid Seal Abundance, Morphology, and Subsistence Hunting throughout the Holocene as Reflected in the Archaeological Record at Mink Island (XMK-030), Alaska*

Archaeological harbor seal samples from Mink Island (XMK-030) will provide important insight into change and continuity of human exploitation of seals and marine ecosystem structure and function over the past 6500 years in the Shelikof Strait. Osteometric data is used to determine age and size of individual seals selected by human predators, as well as season of harvest. Stable carbon and nitrogen isotope analysis of bone collagen from the archaeological seal remains will be used to develop a picture of marine productivity and trophic level structure. Statistical analysis of

the many variables will allow for broader understanding of ties between the marine ecosystem and the human system. (Session 9)

Cody J. Strathe (UAF)

*Seal Bones from the Beach Ridges: Isotopic Values of Cape Krusenstern Archaeofauna*

Seal bones associated with datable material were collected during the 2006 surveys at Cape Krusenstern for stable carbon and nitrogen isotope analysis. Examining isotopic data from these archaeologically deposited seal remains provides a view of cultural and ecological change at large temporal scales. Datable material and seal bone samples were collected from shovel tests on beach ridges assumed to have been occupied by Ipiutak and Thule cultures. These stable carbon and nitrogen values and associated radiocarbon dates will be used in reconstructing temporal changes in Chukchi Sea marine ecosystem productivity from approximately 2000 B.P. to present. This preliminary proxy of ecosystem change can then be compared to changes in cultural systems at Cape Krusenstern to test for possible causation. (Poster)

Daniel E. Stone, Fran Seager-Boss (both of Matanuska-Susitna Borough),  
and David R. Yesner (UAA)

*Lajat: A Precontact K'enabt'ana Dena'ina Village on the North Side of Knik Arm, Upper Cook Inlet*

Archaeological investigation was conducted in the fall of 2006 to mitigate adverse effects of developing the 40-acre Secluded Meadows subdivision within ANC 035, the Cottonwood Creek and Vicinity archaeological site, including the ancient Dena'ina Athabascan village of Lajat. In the course of investigation 83 house pits were found, consisting of 14 different structural types, as well as 544 cache pits. Many of the house designs appear unique to Lajat, never before mentioned in the ethnographic literature. The 14 houses tested all proved to be pre-Russian contact in age, with the village inhabited for over half a millennium. Nearly 40% of all of the houses exhibited a food preparation technique that spanned centuries. One house showed that the vital socioeconomic role a "qeshqa" ("rich man" or "cache master") performed in Dena'ina society had been well established by at least 700 years ago. (Session 15)

Justin Tackney and Dennis H. O'Rourke (both of University of Utah)

*Molecular Variation and Prehistory at Nuvuk, Pt. Barrow, Alaska*

Molecular genetic variation among North American arctic populations is characterized by reduced mitochondrial haplogroup diversity. We have recently shown (Marchani et al. 2007) that a severe bottleneck is not necessary to account for this pattern of



genetic variation under plausible demographic scenarios during the Thule expansion. Moreover, haplogroup diversity may be reduced without a comparable reduction in mtDNA sequence diversity. To more clearly identify the range of molecular genetic variation present in prehistoric North Alaska, and to more directly inform us regarding ancestral/descendant relationships among early northern populations, we initiated an analysis of ancient DNA obtained from skeletal samples from the Nuvuk site at Pt. Barrow, Alaska. The samples were collected in collaboration with the Nuvuk ECHO project, and with the encouragement, support, and permission of the local community. We have documented the presence of high-quality nucleic acid preservation in the Nuvuk material, and report mtDNA sequence variation in this prehistoric Thule population from northernmost Alaska. The new molecular data from Nuvuk is compared with similar data from other prehistoric and modern arctic populations to provide context for inferences regarding population history and arctic colonization. (Session 5)

Félix Torres

***Whaling as War: A New Perspective on Aleut and Aleut Whaling Based on the Kagamil Mummies' Legend and the Tales of "the Old Man of Micix"***

This article proposes a new light on Aleut and Alutiiq whaling based on the analysis of two cycles of Aleut tales. The first recounts the story of Chief Qatxayusax ("Little-wren") who is said to be connected with the origin of the mummies found in 1874 in a cave on the Isle of Kagamil (Four Mountains Islands, Aleutians). The second describes the bloody confrontation between a certain Kuykuyaa (or Koikoiusa) and "the Old Man of Micix," a giant who uses the shoulder blades of whales as a paddle. Both cycles deploy the same plot element—the refusal of marriage and hence of alliance—between two lineages, causing the total extinction of both.

The Kagamil mummies legend probably reflects the manner in which the neighboring and rival Umnak Aleuts interpreted the quasi-total destruction of the inhabitants of the Four Mountains Islands at the hands of the Russians in the 18th century. If "the Old Man of Micix" is the master-spirit of whales (or at least of one whale specie), this would explain the utterly peculiar character of solitary whaling among the Aleuts and Alutiiq. Their practice was much like a ruthless war, lacking as it does the cooperation and give-and-take which makes other animal hunting possible. (Session 11)

Olga Ulturgasheva

***Reindeer as a Developmental Metaphor: Eveny Children Socialization in the Forest***

My paper examines young people's ideas about their own future among the Eveny, a small indigenous group of reindeer herders in the village of Topolinoye in Northeast Siberia, based on 12 months' fieldwork. Against a background of despair, alcoholism, suicide, and the recent collapse of infrastructure, I deconstruct local discourses of futurelessness as a component of young people's identity, and examine their strategies for dealing with this. Topolinoye is considered a particularly accursed place, haunted by the unhappy ghosts of a former gulag camp. Through a detailed ethnographic study of the narratives of Eveny children and adolescents, I explore how local social practices and ideologies shape their constructs of time, space, agency and personhood. This research is placed within broader anthropological issues on social change, child development and family dynamics.

I analyse differences in socialisation between children brought up in the forest and those brought up in the village, and the implications for later life-trajectories. I suggest that each part of this total social space is associated not only with a different kind of life trajectory but also with the formation of a different kind of person. In particular, I show how a reindeer, a central element in the forest construct of time and space, serves as a developmental metaphor and a trope for the child's expression of the self. I propose that in the course of narration children evolve as moral persons by presenting how they learn to take care of others and value the care of others, in addition to exercising autonomy and performing agency in the setting of the forest. (Session 10)

Douglas W. Veltre (UAA)

***Gardening in Russian America: Archaeological Evidence from the Aleut Region***

From 1974 to 1976, archaeological investigations at the pre- and postcontact site of Korovinski on Atka Island in the central Aleutian Islands revealed the remains of extensive Russian period gardens. Subsequent field work identified gardens of the same age at a few additional locales in the Aleut region. This paper reviews both the nature of these archaeological remains as well as the accounts of gardens in oral history and documentary sources. The importance of gardening in the context of the larger Russian American Company fur hunting economy is also considered. (Session 1)

Dixie Lee West (University of Kansas)

***First Report on Petroglyphs from Gillon Point, Agattu Island, Aleutian Islands, Alaska***

While counting sea lions at the rookery near Gillon Point on Agattu Island, Aleutian Islands, biologists with National Marine Fisheries recorded petroglyphs. This is the first documentation of rock art in the Aleutian archipelago. The images, individually and in groups, represent female genitalia, rectangles and straight lines, and what appears to be an anthropomorphic figure. The Agattu petroglyphs may represent: 1) art that arose *in situ*? 2) imagery imported from the east? or, 3) communication with human groups living to the west or south? (Session 9)

Lisa Wexler (University of Massachusetts)

***Perspectives on Growing Up: Constructions from Inupiat Youth Focus Groups***

In this presentation, I consider the experience of growing up for Inupiat young people living in remote Alaskan villages. This presentation draws from the thirteen youth focus groups. The discussion fosters an awareness of young people's perspectives regarding their situatedness among peers, family and other social and generational groupings in their villages. This is important because young people's "choices" or "fates" are structured by these understandings, and their identities are constructed within the parameters of their wider society. According to these Inupiat young people, they are situated between the innocent happiness of childhood and the difficulties of adulthood. Health implications of this perspective will be discussed. (Session 10)

Aaron Wilson (UAA) and Jeff Rasic (National Park Service)

***Northern Archaic Settlement and Subsistence Patterns at Agiak Lake, Brooks Range, Alaska***

While dozens of sites in the central Brooks Range have been assigned to the Northern Archaic tradition, most tend to be small lithic scatters that represent ephemeral occupations and often contain only a single side-notched biface. In contrast, two sites at Agiak Lake within Gates of the Arctic National Park have revealed a range of Northern Archaic tools such as side-notched projectile points, scrapers, notched pebbles, and bifacial knives, which are firmly associated with at least 55 stone tent rings. Multiple radiocarbon dates from hearth features within the tent ring features range from 4800-4200 years BP. The lithics, tent rings, and their spatial positioning on the landscape give insight into the nature of site occupations and associated subsistence activities. Data indicate that the sites were occupied repeatedly by multiple households, who likely engaged in cooperative caribou hunting. (Session 7)

Josh Wisniewski and Elizabeth Marino (both of UAF)

***Being as Knowing: Knowledge as Experience in a Sentient World***

Inupiaq knowledge in Shishmaref, Alaska flows out a relational ontology within which there is no absolute division between humans as cultural subjects and natural phenomena. Intentionality and sentience are experienced in relation to non-human objects which are in-turn influenced by human actions and intentions. Ontological relations are foundational dimensions of people's being-in-the-world. They are lived, and shape differing forms of knowing against wide ranging experience. Researching local human-ecological knowledge and experience with rapid biophysical changes in terrestrial freshwater systems in northwest Alaska cannot be limited to data collection but must concurrently engage with the ontological structures of local knowledge production. (Session 2)

Brian Wygal (University of Nevada, Reno)

***Microblade/Non-Microblade Dichotomy in Southcentral Alaska***

Why do microblades occur in some sites but not others? Over the years, many explanations have been offered with two central themes recurring: 1) microblades were a climatic adaptation to cold climates and 2) the nature of raw material availability determine microblade production at specific sites. To better understand technological adjustments made by prehistoric colonizers in the unfamiliar post-glacial conditions of southcentral Alaska, we have dated and compared the assemblages from two early Holocene sites within the wider archaeological and climatic records from greater Alaska. (Session 3)

Linda Finn Yarborough (Chugach National Forest)

***Creating a Archaeological Predictive Model for the Seward Ranger District, Chugach National Forest***

As allowed by the rules and regulations of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Chugach National Forest conducts its archaeological work under a Programmatic Agreement (PA) with the State Historic Preservation Officer. The two Districts that encompass Prince William Sound have a predictive model that allows only partial archaeological survey of low probability areas, however, the PA requires 100% survey of all project areas on the Seward Ranger District, regardless of the probability of finding sites in an area. Work to develop a predictive model for the Seward Ranger District, located on the northeast portion of the Kenai Peninsula, has been in progress since the mid-1990s. This paper compares the state of archaeological knowledge on the three Districts in relation to the current and proposed models, and describes the work completed towards a predictive model for the Seward Ranger District. (Session 9)



Cecelia R. Yazzie (UAA)

### ***Place Names and Landscape Stories: Documenting Alaska Native Place Names and Geography in Southwest Alaska***

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game Division of Subsistence are working with the National Park Service to conduct a research project titled “Place Names and Landscape Stories: Documenting Alaska Native Place Names and Geography in Southwest Alaska.” Since September 2005, the National Park Service and Alaska Department of Fish and Game Division of Subsistence have been involving interns in their joint projects in cooperation with the UAA. The Subsistence Division is currently leading the way on this three year project to document Dena’ina place names and landscape stories relating to the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. The primary outcome of the project is to have a better understanding of the Dena’ina Athabascan culture regarding their land and natural resource use in and near Lake Clark National Park, with the creation of a cultural atlas. The student presentation will discuss the intern’s activities connected to this project in assisting the Division of Subsistence and National Park Service staff. Such activities include collecting and analyzing ethnographic material, entering place names into the database, gaining experience in GIS mapping, as well as creating maps for the cultural atlas. (Session 4)

David R. Yesner (UAA), Daniel E. Stone (Matanuska-Susitna Borough), Rita Eagle (UAA), Fran Seager-Boss (Matanuska-Susitna Borough), Christopher Roe (UAA), and Jolie Rozell (UAA)

### ***Positions of Power and the Power of Position: Landscape and Sociopolitical Meaning in an Early Contact Dena’ina Athabascan Community***

Houses and associated cache pits of Qeshqa (“rich men” or “chiefs”) in postcontact Dena’ina Athabascan settlements investigated in both Upper and Lower Cook Inlet (Squillantnu village, 1989; Chief Wasilla’s House, 1994; Old Knik Qeshqa House, 2006) show similarities of positioning on the landscape, related to high elevations above the confluence of important salmon streams with a lake or major river. These landscape positions may reflect optimal locations for resource harvesting, but more importantly they symbolically reflect positions of power within the community, including the incrementally greater importance of the role of Qeshqa during the Russian and early American contact periods. Detailed investigations of the Old Knik Qeshqa House during summer 2006 revealed similarities in structure with other postcontact Upper and Lower Cook Inlet qeshqa houses, reflecting the dynamics of similar sociopolitical processes. Artifacts recovered from the house, particularly in areas of sleeping benches, were dominated by high status items, such as copper sheet pendants with attached cordage, decorative ceramics, and a wide variety of beads,

including early trade bead types. Subsistence-related artifacts included unilaterally-barbed harpoons and worked cobble spalls, and the subsistence base itself, as reflected by faunal remains, was dominated by caribou, in country that no longer supports resident populations of caribou today. (Session 15)

Patricia Bernice Young (UAF), Camille Sanford (UAA), Norman Alexander Easton (Yukon College), and Glen MacKay (Prince of Wales Heritage Centre)

*Cross-Cultural Collaboration and the Emergence of an Athabascan Anthropology in the New Millennium*

During the late twentieth century anthropologists have been diligently working in close collaboration with members and governments of Native communities throughout the Subarctic. This work has cultivated an emerging generation of Athabascan scholars who are themselves Athabascan. This fact promises to fundamentally alter the social process of research in the north, as well as the analytical perspectives brought to bear on anthropological and archaeological data. In this paper we discuss our experience in this history and explore its implications for the future. (Session 15)

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Credits

The 2007 annual meeting is hosted by the University of Alaska Museum of the North. Thanks to the Bureau of Land Management Northern Field Office for logistical support.

Organizer: Daniel Odess  
Volunteers: Stephanie Culler  
Julie Esdale  
Kim Fleming  
Victoria Florey  
Kelly Gwynn  
Chris Houlette  
Shane Husa  
Connie Jessen  
Sarah Meitl  
Jeff Rasic

Kristin Scheidt  
Travis Shinabarger  
Scott Shirar  
Lisa Slayton  
Howard Smith  
Cody Strathe  
Tina Troup  
Jim Whitney  
Patricia Young

Drawing of biface from Nogahabara I by Sarah Moore.