



Commencement
2022



To our extraordinary graduates

As Chancellor of the University of Alaska Southeast, I want to congratulate you and all of our graduates in the Class of 2022! You are strong, you are resilient, and you persevered. I am so very proud of you for completing your degrees while living through a pandemic, and you should be proud of yourselves.

This has been a tough two years on everyone but you stuck to it, you focused on what you needed to do, and you did it! Completing a degree is a major life achievement. You have demonstrated you are successful and I wish you the best as you land your dream job, continue on with your studies, or focus on family.

I am so glad that we are celebrating in person! Commencement is the highlight of the year for us at UAS. You are a part of the UAS family so stay in touch with us, let us know how you are doing, and come and visit any time.

Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Karen T. Carey". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dr. Karen Carey, UAS Chancellor



Fifty-First Annual Commencement

Sunday, May 1, 2022



UAS Commencement Ceremony 1 at 10:00 a.m.
School of Education
Department of Business and Public Administration



UAS Commencement Ceremony 2 at 1:00 p.m.
School of Arts and Sciences
School of Career Education



COMMENCEMENT 2022

Order of the Ceremony

Academic Procession*

Video: Woosh.Ji.Een Dancers

Grand Marshals

1st Ceremony: Associate Professor Heather Batchelder,
Past President of Faculty Senate

2nd Ceremony: Associate Professor Andrea Dewees,
President of Faculty Senate

Traditional Welcome

Áak'w Kwáan Elder Frances Houston

Traditional Land Acknowledgement

X'unei Lance Twitchell, Ph.D.

The National Anthem & Alaska's Flag Song*

Ms. Alyssa Fischer

Introduction of Dignitaries and Commencement Remarks

Chancellor Karen T. Carey, PhD

Conferring of Degrees

University of Alaska Regent John Davies

University of Alaska Regent Kali Spencer

Chancellor Karen Carey

Provost Maren Haavig

Dr. Richard Collins, Director of UAF Graduate Studies

Conferring of Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree to Ms. Beth Kerttula

Regent John Davies

Chancellor Karen Carey

2022 Commencement Student Speakers

1st Ceremony: Mr. Robert Yates

2nd Ceremony: Ms. Annie Masterman

Charge to the Graduates

Dr. Paul Layer, UA Vice President for Academics, Students, and Research

Closing of 2022 Commencement

Chancellor Karen Carey

Recessional*

*Glacier Blue Funk—Original Composition by Dr. Linda Rosenthal,
Professor of Music, UAS Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters (2005)*

*Audience Stands

Degree Recipients 2022

The University of Alaska Southeast is pleased to honor graduates from 2020, 2021, and 2022 in this year's ceremony. UAS students pursue their studies from many different locations across Alaska. We offer congratulations to those graduates who could not be here today.



Honors

SCL - *Summa Cum Laude* - 4.0 G.P.A.

MCL - *Magna Cum Laude* - 3.8 G.P.A.

CL - *Cum Laude* - 3.5 G.P.A.

All college work attempted, including that attempted at other institutions, is considered in the calculation of honors. Honors at commencement are based on grades through the fall semester, and calculations may be revised after spring grades have been posted. Honors are not awarded to certificate and graduate degree students.

2022 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Certificate

Accounting Technician

Richelle Jolee Calvin Blake
Holley Lynn Drake
Brenda A. Jacobson
Robert D. Mell
Ann Marie Morris
Andrew D. Ringle
Lucienne Ortiguerra Shoemaker
Sean K. Smith
Glory C. Subillaga
Carrie L. Wawrzyk

Drafting Technology

Mitchell E. McDonald III

Indigenous Language Teaching

Julianna Marie Clock
David R. Lang
Victoria Maureen McKoy
Sarah Susanne Peele
Herb Sheakley
Robert Ray Yates

Outdoor Skills and Leadership

Naomi Wynn Boyles-Muehleck
Cassidy L. Somerville

Pre-Radiologic Technology Qualifications

Jessie Elaine Dugan

Pre-Nursing Qualifications

Peyton M. Harp
Yvonne R. Peterson
Robin Roehl

Small Business Management

Richelle Jolee Calvin Blake
Jordan Dessa Lehr

Elizabeth Eilean Mears
Tessa R. Nelson
Jasper Posey
Mike Standridge

Associate of Arts

Rosalinda Marie Ainza CL
Danya Fannie Nicole Brink CL
Grace Eliza Carter
Tauni Bazh Cavanaugh MCL
Maren E. Chaffee
Sabrina Critchfield MCL
Naomi Marie Cure
Angela de Mello
Joseph Carl Giesbrecht
Angelo Dennis Katasse
Amy Kelleher CL
Carson Louis Landingham CL
Matthew M. Magie
Mariah Roxann McCallum
Thomas Brian Monreal McCarthy
Darby L. McMillan
Owen G. Mendoza
Lillian J. Morgan
Casey Nelson
Amador Alexander Olea Jr.
Elise Marie Pypaert
Autumn Gabrielle Records
Krishant Chandrukumar Samtani
Tiare R. Simbahon
Jarald Adam G. Soriano
Payten Annette Stroud
Wynn Ethel Tripp
Lauren Marie Wall
Kiele C. Wise
Mandy Anne Wood
Monica Marlene Yatchmeneff
Charlene Y. Zanoria CL

2022 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Associate of Applied Science

Business Administration

Shannon C. Sexton

Accounting

Kiersten Browne CL

Brandi Leigh Deafendeffin

Caleyanna Maureen Drake

Gilbert Thomas Goodrich

Adam P. Harford

Samuel M. Hobbs

Helen Holzmeister CL

Hannah L. Lager CL

Miriam Ramos Escobar

Stacey Nicole Solanoy Rodriguez

Lucienne Ortiguerra Shoemaker

Maynard JS Willburn

General Business

Tessa Rae Cavanaugh

Joshua Honon Dey

Daniela Escamilla Fernandez CL

Kaisen Rian Garcia

Mohamed Azez Thariq Ishie

Eileen Cheryl Johnston

Kaitlyn E. Mountcastle

Tessa R. Nelson

Cagney A. Ramirez MCL

Promish Sharma Chopra

Sabrina C. Smith

Mike Standridge

Theresa Diane Wilson MCL

Health Sciences

Siniva A. Maka

Elise Marie Pypaert

Power Technology

Diesel/ Heavy Duty

Triston Nicholas Chaney

Ian M. Fay-Hiltner

Trevor Lee Fritz

Cody Chance Mitchell

Mine Mechanic

Carl A. Doutt

Associate of Science

Jenna R. Helminski

Tabatha A. Hommel

Christen Louise Peck

Robin Roehl

Denali B. Edward Shapland

Jeremy Ross Simmons CL

James Joseph Westcott

Bachelor of Arts

Biology

Benjamin R. Derting

Elementary Education

Juliana Maria Booth

Sommer Rae Burgett

Tauni Bazh Cavanaugh MCL

Amber Conoly MCL

Cassia May Coutlee

Laura Elizabeth Drennen

Amanda Kay Easterling

Ivette J. Egoak

Sierra Lynn Ezrre CL

Timothy Duane Farring

Tali Catherine Hadfield MCL

Erin Anita Herrick CL

Felisha Lynn Hope CL

Cora Ann Kibling

Emma R. Kohler

Joseph Andrew Luger

2022 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Andrew J. Madsen
Canzada M Maruskie MCL
Shannon Victoria McConnell
Mairiah K. McDonald CL
Darby L. Milburn
Sarah Elizabeth Newman
Bethany Eneria Ochs
Christen Louise Peck
Kortney R. Rupprecht MCL
Kathleen Ceclia Schoff
BreAna Michelle Scott CL
Amy Settles CL
Chance W. Shank MCL

English

Creative Writing

Erika Eileen Bergren
Jurny Victoria Hinz CL

Literature

Todd J. Wehnes

Geography and Environmental Studies

Seth Joseph Classen

Geography, Environmental and Outdoor Studies

Emily Marguerite Gettis

Social Science

Grace Eliza Carter
Kieran Casey MCL
Joshua Lyle Cravez
Riley S. Davis
Jannie Blanche Bulauan Fernandez CL
Cade A. Havel CL
Ally Jordan Heuelsen-Bratlie
Brenna Ann McLaughlin
David B. Ostlund
Graham Jake Seibel
Valbona Veshti CL
Kelsey Wood CL

Special Education

Sylvia Inez Andrew
Brian Charles Reid
Annica Tufele

Bachelor of Business Administration

Accounting

Andrew Edward Allen CL
Arian Austria
Grace A. Bachini CL
Christina Bigsby CL
Lyndsey Marie Brisard
Alice Marie Campbell CL
James William Dobson
Natalia K. Dyakanoff CL
Erik Daniel Reyna
Hannah Michelle Smith
Matthew Torres MCL
Janelle Mary Williams

Human Resource Management

Heidi Browning CL
Kerry A. Halter
Andrea Hervey CL
Brehanna Rae Johnson

Management

Jeremy Jonathon Albright
Ellie Indica Bietsch
Kathryn Brownlee
Sarah E. Dushkin
Breanne Carol Erickson
Caroline Marie Henn CL
Cory Kim
Courtney Corynn Lowe MCL
Bethany Baan Monfore CL

2022 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Max Jurgen Nicholson
Kayla M. Roys
Connor Dale Ulmer
Aaron Edwin Young

Management Information Systems

Michael E. Helms Jr.
Elizabeth F. Sakeagak

Bachelor of Liberal Arts

Alaska Native Languages and Studies

Lauryn Margaret Framke CL
Katie A. Turner CL

Interdisciplinary Studies

Pearl Doxa Boamah
Kierstyn Marie Cadiente-Laiti-Blattner
CJ Harrell CL
Rachele Holom
Shaadootlaa Tinaayeil Iyall
Kylie Mackenzie Jordinelli MCL
Michelle Marie Manning
Miles Riley C. Nye CL
Amy E. Webb
Charles Lee Westmoreland

Bachelor of Science

Biology

Katelyn S. Carlile CL
Joshua Douglas Dore Jr.
Sierra Rose Lissick
Colten G. Mack B

Environmental Resources

Lillian E. Bannerman
Mollie Rose Dwyer
Caitlyn Ryan Montalto CL

Environmental Science

Ashley Marie Ford
Lucy Elizabeth Franklin MCL
Ezra Ingalls Grey
Samuel Joseph Nielson
Charles-William Mark Thorpe

Fisheries and Ocean Sciences

Alex Knobloch
Emily Ann Klosterman CL
Jessica R. Lupo
Kelson B. Rounds-Mcpherson

Geography and

Environmental Resources

Carmen Laree Soto

Marine Biology

Jonathan Michael Calleja
Sabrina Marie Croft MCL
Hannah Raye Forshee
Jason Conrad Hock
Annie Masterman CL
Dillon L. Quealey CL
Sarah Katreen Rauchenstein
Emily Carrie Vernon

Mathematics

Joshua Kyle Walsh CL
Austin L. Knull

2022 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Master of Arts in Teaching

Elementary Education

Kathryn Marie Borchardt
Timothy P. Chandler
Gary Scott Gibbs
Sondra Elin Howard
Julie J. Jordan
Matthew Brandon Liston
Molly Lynn McFarland
Sarah Beth Rowley
Eva Sanchez
Ariane R.C. Skaw
Joseph Conor Spink
Zachery Andrew Trudeau
James Richard White

Secondary Education

Travis Anderson
Rianne Amanda Aster
Alexandria Grace Bako
Grecia Angelica Barajas Duran
Annalis Henjum Brownlee
Jamie Lynn Buehner
Vance Sawyer Churchwell
Delton Davis Claggett
Gretchen Clayton
Kellene Nicole Cooper
Dylan Corel Freeman
Casey Otis Gates
Heather Adelle Gause
Sharon A. Gibbons
Briana Kaelyn Glasionov
Matthew Stuart Hemry
Limalau Kaneyo Hirata
Leticia Pureza Holloway
Robert Leroy Jeffrey Jr.

Katie Elizabeth Krehlik
Katelyn Troy Lanier Moylan
Larry Evan Larrecou
Mackenzie J Lindeman
MaryRose Grace Maley
Daniel S. Ogden
Sara D. Orozco
Samuel Roberts
Allen Mallari Santa Maria
Caleb B. Schneck
Brittany M. Tilton
Melissa Elizabeth Wechter
Joel Kempker Williams

Special Education

Sarah Marie Bagron
Brendan Lawrence Ellis
Laurel Nina Jurs Ellsworth
Alison Erickson
Andrea N. Gordon
Molly Jo Marvel Keyse
Lance Jordan LaRue
Laura Theresia McNowen
Cheyenne Kristie Peterson
Tyler Buchan Thain

Master of Education

Educational Leadership

Marsha L. Browder
Haylee Elizabeth Donovan
Julie Lynn Eberhardt
Stacy Lou Foshee
Corrie Catherine Hruby
Craig Robert Kasemodel
Michael Jay Lancaster
Kristen Rausch McDonald
Rebecca Kyleen Menzia
Shaun Robert Milligan

2022 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Karen Cooke Phillip
Barron Sample
Riley William Spetz
Kelly Anne Stewart
Shonia Gayle Werner
Liesl Johanna Wietgreff

Reading Specialist

Alison Jenney Anteau
Amy C. Bauer
Anna C. Buchanan
Ava Camille Ernst
Allison Nicole Hargrave
Lauren Ashley Jeffrey
Matilda Rose Kazimirowicz
Stephanie J. Pawuk
Sarah Ttereve Powers
Samantha Gene Scranton
Kathleen Riley Yerbich

Special Education

David William Brighton
Mariah Hanson
Angela Michelle Marrero
Christy Jean McMillan
Darcie L. Zimmer-Stewart

Master of Public Administration

Gloria G. Backes
Jynene Annette Black
Teri G. Cothren
Jan Jakub Grzeda
Carrie Lynn McEnteer
Rosemary Oslund
Jessica C. Pierson
Zachary Alan Rover
Michaela Roi Thompson
Jessie Lee Zimmerman

Higher Education

Valerie S. Rickards
Jessica A. Speed
Shayla Marie Sulser

Municipal Governance

David Jordan Lane Clark
Margaret M. Wilcox

Natural Resource Policy

Tisa Marie Becker
Jessica I. Post
Traci Lynn Taylor
Thomas John Tripodi

Rural Development

Michelle Alexandra Koontz

Graduate Certificate

Elementary Education

Heea Lee Chang
Areana Christie Taylor Cuddy
Michael Chase Dickerson
Adam Gullen
Kristin K. Jones
Julie J. Jordan
Samantha J. Knutson
Erin Michelle Leighton
Kathy Renae Lien
Martha Mack
Megan Maloney
Rachel A. Ostler
Esther A. Pepin Graduate
Michelle E. Rhein Graduate
Erin N. Saunders Graduate
Anne Frances Schuerger
Joseph Conor Spink
Tyler Jacob Yoder

2022 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Reading Specialist

Alison Jenney Anteau
Amy C. Bauer
Anna C. Buchanan
Ava Camille Ernst
Allison Nicole Hargrave
Lauren Ashley Jeffrey
Matilda Rose Kazimirowicz
Stephanie J. Pawuk
Sarah Ttereve Powers
Samantha Gene Scranton

Special Education

Heather Louise Bauman
Conner Brooks
Stacy Louiese Dorman
Samantha Rose Halchak
Mariah Hanson
Angela Michelle Marrero
Amanda C. McClure
Christy Jean McMillan
Jaella Amber Morris
Hannah Beth Ragland
Jessica Emma Seltzer
Michael A. Simpson
Margaret Lynn Taylor
Jessica Allison Vincent
Darcie L. Zimmer-Stewart

Occupational Endorsement

Accountant

Janice L. Hotch
Amanda Judy
Michael Shane Pittmann
Danicia Faith Shiryayev
John C. Stackhouse

Behavioral Health Assistant

Christina Elizabeth Adams
Brynn Ashlee Butler
Jack R. Byrne
Michala D. Coghill
Shannon D. Harris
Misty Hasper
Sydney Mariah Holst
Austin M Martin
Kristen Morales
Shawna E. Nelson
Kimberly A Novak
Kaia J. Quinto
Sara M. Raster
Carly L. Royer
Orion K. Sanguine
Stephen P. Wilson
Matthew J. Wright

Certified Nurse Aide Training

Kien Chesree T. Abad
Portia A. Carney
Geneva Earls
Jonas P. Hamilton
Florian D. Himaya
Ma Jean Sapilan Jimmerson
Elizabeth Claire King
Kelsey Rose Thein
Shirika Kayanna Thomas
Christine Rose Quezon Yadao

Exterior Finishes

Robert K. Johnson
Violet Elizabeth Johnson

Financial Institutions

Brittany M. Ivy

Northwest Coast Art

Davina R. Cole

2022 UAS/UAA/UF DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Power Technology

Triston Nicholas Chaney
De'Andre Jazz King
Bryan B. Miramontes
Devin T. Reid
Dominic James Watt

Welding

Joselle Abad
Joseph Afa Samoa Allen
Randal Benc
Triston Nicholas Chaney
Bryce A. Davies-Brown
Benjamin William Etheridge
Taylor Patrick Funderburk
George W. Lewis
Noah M. Luna
Arthur W. Morris
Edward R. Scharen
Stephen Sikes
Drakkar R. Smith

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE

Associate of Applied Science

Nursing

Kristyn Bernaldo
Jennifer Jimenez Gomez
Chelsea Stonex

Bachelor of Arts

Computer Science

Charles Ian McAndrews

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

Master of Science

Fisheries

A. Darcie Neff
M.S. Fisheries, 2021
B.S. Recreation & Leisure,
University of Utah, 1992

Thesis Title: A Nonlethal, Whole Oocyte Approach to Determining Spawn Readiness in Pacific Sand Lance, *Ammodytes personatus* in Southeastern Alaska
Major Professor: Dr. Brenda Norcross

Doctor of Philosophy

Fisheries

Sonia Ibarra
Ph.D. Fisheries, 2021
B.S. Marine Biology & Zoology,
Humboldt State, 2008

Thesis Title: Addressing a complex resource conflict: Humans, sea otters, and shellfish in Southeast Alaska
Abstract: Competition for resources between sea otters and humans in Southeast Alaska has led to food security concerns in rural subsistence communities. This dissertation documents Indigenous and local knowledge of Alaska Native customary and traditional food experts, sea otter hunters, and elders to understand how to restore balance with sea otters.
Major Professor: Dr. Ginny Eckert

Outstanding Student Academic Awards 2022



Christina Bigsby

Bachelor of Business Administration, Accounting

Kieran Casey

Bachelor of Arts, Social Sciences

Teri Cothren

*Master of Public Administration
Ernest Gruening Award*

Lauryn Framke

Bachelor of Liberal Arts, Alaska Native Languages and Studies

Kerry Halter

Bachelor of Business Administration, Human Resource Management

Caroline Henn

*Bachelor of Business Administration, Management
Bob Ellis Award*

Molly Keyse

Master of Arts in Teaching, Special Education

Alex Knobloch

Bachelor of Science, Fisheries and Ocean Sciences

Annie Masterman

Bachelor of Science, Marine Biology

Caitlyn Montalto

Bachelor of Science, Environmental Resources

Cagney Ramirez

Associate of Applied Science, Business Administration

Amy Settles

Bachelor of Arts, Elementary Education

Katie Turner

Bachelor of Liberal Arts, Alaska Native Languages and Studies (eLearning)

Ms. Beth Kerttula



Honorary Doctorate of Laws

Beth Kerttula's family's roots in Alaska go back to 1918 when her grandfather, Oscar Kerttula sailed to Nome. Oscar loved Alaska and its people and in 1935 he, and his young Finnish-American wife, Elvi Marja, brought their family back to Alaska as part of a Federal project to colonize the Matanuska Valley.

Beth's father, Jalmar (Jay) Kerttula, went to UAF, and the University of Washington, and returned home to become a successful farmer. Instrumental in building Alaska's University system, he served 34 years in the Alaska State Legislature, where he became the only legislator to hold both distinguished positions of House Speaker and Senate President.

Beth's mother Joyce, an English teacher who had an adventurous nature, and a strategic mind, ran Jay's offices and campaigns as an unpaid volunteer during this entire time. Together, they were a remarkable team and taught Beth to respect public service and the power of education.

Beth grew up in both downtown Juneau (during the legislative session) and on her family's farm in Palmer. She graduated from High School in 1974 and went on to Stanford University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, then to the University of Santa Clara School of Law for her Juris Doctor.

During Law School Beth and her Moot Court partner won their school Moot Court contest (and best brief) and went on to quarter-finals nationally.

Beth returned to Alaska as a young lawyer, beginning as a law clerk for the Chief Judge of the then newly-created Court of Appeals. She was a trial attorney at the Alaska Public Defender Agency, Volunteer Counsel to the Alaska State Senate Judiciary Committee, and served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Alaska Department of Law, where she found her true calling, Ocean and Alaska Coastal Zone Management. Beth's legal work was highly respected and she became President of the Alaska Bar Association Board of Governors.

Beth eventually followed in her parents' footsteps and successfully ran for political office, representing Juneau and Northern SE Alaska in the Alaska House of Representatives for 15 years. A stalwart supporter of the University and a respected leader, she was noted for her fair and thoughtful negotiating style as well as focusing on issues and not personalities. She was House Minority Leader from 2007 to 2014.

In 2014, Beth left her legislative seat to return to Stanford as a Fellow with the Center for Ocean Solutions. A few



months later she was appointed by the Obama Administration to run the newly created National Ocean Council (NOC), representing 27 federal agencies, state and Tribal governments, as well as a host of other stakeholders. Again, she was known for her fairness, dedication and her ability to work with diverse parties. In her time with the NOC, Beth implemented the National Ocean Plan and coordinated the nation's first two regional marine plans (New England and Mid-Atlantic). After her service at the NOC, she was presented with a U.S. Coast Guard Distinguished Public Service Award, the highest recognition the Commandant may bestow on a civilian. She was also given the Office of Science and Technology Policy Director's Award for Excellence for helping coordi-

nate the first visit to the Arctic by a sitting U.S. president.

In addition, Beth has been a Council of State Governments Toll Fellow, a Roosevelt Fellow, and a Center for Women's Policy Studies Foreign Institute Fellow. She received great recognition for filing the nation's first cruise ship pollution legislation, and is currently part of team funded by the National Science Foundation designed to inform Arctic decisions with the best available scientific, Indigenous, and decision-making expertise.

While Beth is proud of and committed to Alaska, education, and public service, she feels that her greatest role was that of family caregiver for her parents. She thanks her husband, Jim Powell, PhD, and her sister, Anna Kerttula de Echave, PhD, for their love and support.

Mr. David Kiffer



Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters

This year UAS will honor David Kiffer with an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, presented during the Ketchikan Commencement Ceremony.

David Kiffer is a community leader in Ketchikan and an important figure in the arts and letters of Southeast Alaska. He has worn many hats in his lifetime including journalist, regional historian, teacher, poet, musician, and mayor.

He is currently the education coordinator at the Ketchikan Correctional Center and previously was the long-time executive director of Historic Ketchikan, a non-profit organization dedicated to historic preservation and sustainable historic tourism in Southeast Alaska. A noted columnist for local newspapers and websites, he has written hundreds of articles on regional history, exploring a wide range of topics and providing unparalleled documentation of many forgotten aspects of our history. He has written and published hundreds of poems.

Mr. Kiffer is a leading figure on Ketchikan's music scene and leads his own popular jazz band as well performing with numerous other groups in the area. He also taught private woodwind lessons to Ketchikan youth and adults for more than 20 years.

He has been an adjunct professor at UAS-Ketchikan for 25 years, most recently



teaching a very successful course in music appreciation for UAS.

He is currently the Mayor of City of Ketchikan and has served on the City Council for the past eight years. He previously served as Mayor of Ketchikan Gateway Borough and as a member of the

borough assembly. He has served statewide on the Alaska Humanities Forum, the Alaska Center for the Book and on the executive boards of the Alaska Municipal League and the Alaska Conference of Mayors.

Mr. Kiffer has worked as a journalist in Alaska, Los Angeles, Boston and Wyoming and has written articles for the Associated Press, the New York Times, the Seattle Times, and the Anchorage Daily News among many others. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in journalism from Northeastern University in Boston and a Master's Degree in poetry and Irish Studies from Poets' House at Lancaster University in Donegal, Ireland.

UAS Chancellor Karen Carey remarked, "Mr. Kiffer is truly deserving of this award. Honorary doctorates recognize people in our communities who have gone above and beyond to contribute to the state of Alaska and beyond. From journalist to musician, Mr. Kiffer has done it all and this recognition exemplifies his concern for all Alaskans."

Dr. Elliot Bruhl



Meritorious Service Award



This year UAS honors Dr. Elliot Bruhl with a Meritorious Service Award, presented at the Sitka Commencement Ceremony.

Dr. Elliot Bruhl is a well-respected medical doctor who has served Sitka for many years. He is currently Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer for the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) and has been a leader in COVID-19 planning and response throughout Southeast Alaska communities. As a member of the COVID response Sitka Unified Command Team, he has provided especially noteworthy service for the community of Sitka. Bruhl and many others have selflessly dedicated themselves to lessening the impact of the pandemic on Sitka and throughout Southeast Alaska.

Sitka has run its COVID response through the Unified Command Team, which includes leaders from EMS services, businesses, schools, city management, and other areas. As the medical doctor for the group, Dr. Bruhl has coordinated with and provided advice for all sectors of the community.

UAS Chancellor Karen Carey noted, “The pandemic hit all of us hard, but Dr. Bruhl didn’t let it stop him. He stepped up and did what needed to be done to keep Sitka and all Southeast communities safe. The Meritorious Service Award is presented to those individuals who go above and beyond in their communities, and Dr. Bruhl is most deserving of this award.”

Congratulations!

On behalf of the UAS Alumni Association, congratulations on achieving a milestone event in your life – earning your degree! As you embark on your new path, we hope you will remember the time you spent with the University with fondness. We'd love to keep in touch with you as you move on. As you are now an alumnus of UAS, we hope you will consider joining the UAS Alumni Association to stay connected with the University, be invited to special events, and show your support for UAS.

*Stay Connected
and be a Part of Something Bigger
Please join us by becoming a member of
UAS Alumni & Friends Association.*

*Connections • Impact • Membership
uas.alaska.edu/alumni*



Alaska's Flag Song

Alaska's Flag
Words by Marie Drake
Music by Elinor Dusenberry

Eight stars of gold, on a field of blue
Alaska's flag, may it mean to you
the blue of the sea, the evening sky
the mountain lakes, and the flowers near by
The gold of the early sourdough's dreams
the precious gold of the hills and streams
the brilliant stars in the northern sky
the bear, the dipper, and shining high
the great north star with its steady light
o'er land and sea, a beacon bright
Alaska's flag to Alaskans dear,
the simple flag of the last frontier

**Digital 2020, 2021, and 2022 Commencement Programs
are available for viewing and downloading at
uas.alaska.edu/commencement.**



**UNIVERSITY
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SOUTHEAST**



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