

Fiftieth Annual Commencement

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2021, 5:00PM

2021 GRADUATES

CL Cum Laude
MCL Magna Cum Laude
SCL Summa Cum Laude

Honorary Doctorate

EDUCATION
Pauline Duncan

Master of Arts in Teaching

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
Carmel Haug

Master of Education

MATHEMATICS EDUCATION
Keri Gray

LEARNING, DESIGN &
TECHNOLOGY
Erika Apathy

Master of Public Administration

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Kimberly Davis

Bachelor of Arts

SPECIAL EDUCATION
Ava Parrish

Bachelor of Business Administration

MANAGEMENT
Breanne Erickson

ACCOUNTING
Robyn Schlins
Nastasha Suarez

Bachelor of Social Science

HISTORY
Megan Christner

PSYCHOLOGY
Chanel Carbillion

Associate of Arts

GENERAL STUDIES
Jasmine Martinez MCL
Dawn McMaster
Kate Nedens
Jade Nodes

Associate of Applied Science

BUSINESS
Patricia Puletau

FISHERIES TECHNOLOGY
David Carroll
Jenna Helminski
Lily Reichard

HEALTH INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT
Deborah Barmer MCL
Jaime Bucatcat
Christiana Buehner
Juanita DeRose CL
Carrie Silvers
Julie Trudeau
Maria Varela
Sarah Walters

HEALTH SCIENCE
Nicole Adams
Megan Dallas MCL
Teslin Gallagher
Patrice Katzenberger
Rhiannon Norton-Davis

Associate of Science

GENERAL SCIENCE
Samantha Willimon
John Kingwell
Breanna Vailencour

Certificate

ACCOUNTING
Patricia Puletau

ALASKA SALMON ENHANCEMENT
Jenna Helminski
Ronald Minter

FISH CULTURE
Shaleena Bott

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT
Shaleena Bott
Jenna Helminski

HEALTH INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT
CODING SPECIALIST
Miranda Green
Ashley Koschoff
Tegan McCarty
Desiree Rodriguez
Carrie Silvers
Maria Varela
Sarah Walters

HEALTHCARE PRIVACY AND
SECURITY
Deborah Barmer
Miranda Green
Ashley Koschoff
Julie Trudeau
Sarah Walters

MEDICAL ASSISTING
Darla Baker-Olarick
Deann Fritz
Jennifer McCoy
April McDougall
Kayla Phillips
Shay Simons
Alexis Yoder

Occupational Endorsement

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ASSISTANT
Christina Svec
Derik Swanson

CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE TRAINING
Maricel Caalim
Ashley Coonradt
Abbey Troup
Pamela Veshti
Emily Young

CONSTRUCTION
EXTERIOR FINISHES
Lucas Crane

FISHERIES TECHNOLOGY
ALASKA SALMON ENHANCEMENT
Kevin Connell
Jenna Helminski

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT
Jenna Helminski

HEALTHCARE INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY
Deborah Barmer
Miranda Green
Ashley Koschoff
Julie Trudeau
Sarah Walters

WELDING
Jimmy Alford
David Bahnke
Jeremy Boose
Trevor Hardy
Dimitri Nay
Kirsten Nevak
Cameryn Olson

LAW ENFORCEMENT
Andrew Ayriss
Joshua Ballard
Katherine Barnes
Noah Belt
Phillip Berg
Yury Bezzubenko
Amber Blackmon
Mitchell Boord
Benjamin Botts
Nakeeya Bowman
Marshall Braun
Dylan Brooks

Taylor Burcell
Kyle Butler
Donovan Chappell
Michael Clauson
Samuel Cooke
Jilween Anthony Del Rosario
Jeremy Detterer
Gavan Eaker
Jared Edenshaw
Tristen Evan
Carter Forney
Miguel Garcia
Jonathan Gill
Ryan Gillogly
Brian Glenn
Thomas Goslin
James Halbert
Kelepi Hausia
Allen Hild
Colton Hittle
Nathan Hollenbeck
Gram Hood
Rachael Huffman
Jacob Janacone
Jonathan Jachim
Christopher Jennings
Maxwell Jusi
Kyle Justus
Cody Kasper
James Kuplack
Dylan Kutzer
Chad Larsen
David Larson
Kevin Manabat
Austin Martino
George Mascarenas
Scott McDaniel
Ryan McMicken
Derek McWeener
Timothy Miller
Roy Mitchell
Joseph Morris
Kodie Moss
Caleb Moyer
Raymond Murray
Derek Norris
Travor Norris
Carolyn Novalovich
Evan Oncay
Leon Osborne
Joshua Palugod
Vladimir Plotnikov
Christopher Rafferty
Tyler Reid
Joshua Robles
Nicholas Robles
Ryan Robles
Jenny Rongstad
Timothy Rosario
Cody Royer
Beckett Savage
Travis Sciaffo
Sarah Schmidt
Wesley Sherbahn
Justin Snoddy
Brandon Spangler
Jordan Spieth
Kristen St. Armand
Garrett Stephens
Kellen Stock
Benjamin Strachen
Caleb Sullivan
Caleb VanAmburg
Gabrielle Vassar
Tyler Waltemyer
Tiffany Walters
Christopher Werschey
Parker White

General Education Development Diplomas

Darren Mitchell
Vanssa De La Torre Hernandez
Landon McGraw
Ariel Miller

Honors

Graduation with honors applies only to the associate and baccalaureate degrees. Candidates who have earned an institutional grade-point average greater than or equal to 3.5 and less than 3.8 will be graduated Cum Laude, an institutional grade-point average greater than or equal to 3.8 and less than 4.0 will be graduated Magna Cum Laude, and an institutional grade-point average of 4.0 will be graduated Summa Cum Laude. These academic honors are signified as a gold cord added to the graduate's regalia.

Veteran's will be signified with a red, white, and blue cord added to the graduate's regalia.

Sitka Campus Faculty

Paul N. Bahna
Assistant Professor of Biology
M.D., DPH, Ain Shams University, Egypt

Terissia Bell
Assistant Professor of Health Information Management
B.B.A. University of Alaska Southeast
RHIA from AHIMA
CPC, COC, CIC from AAPC

Angela Bowers
Assistant Professor of Fisheries Technology
B.S. University of Wisconsin

Marnie D. Chapman
Professor of Biology
B.A., M.A. Humboldt State University
M.S. Saint Joseph College

Susan K. Feero
Associate Professor of Health Information Management
B.B.A. University of Hawaii, Hilo
M.Ed. University of Alaska Southeast

Kitty L. LaBounty
Associate Professor of Biology
B.S. University of Washington
M.S. University of California at Riverside

Joseph B. Liddle
Professor of Mathematics
B.S. Northern Michigan University
M.S. Western Washington University
M.S., Ph.D. University of Alaska Fairbanks

Joel A. Markis
Assistant Professor of Fisheries
B.S. Montana State University
M.S. University of Alaska Fairbanks

Jon A. Martin
Assistant Professor of Biology
B.S., M.S. Portland State University

Academic Procession Pomp and Circumstance, Edward Elgar
Welcome and Introductions Paul Kraft, Sitka Campus Director
Land acknowledgement Eleyna Rosenthal
National Anthem Sherry Patterson
Alaska Flag Song Kristina Paulick
Chancellor's Remarks Chancellor Karen Carey
President Remarks Pat Pitney
Commencement Address Pauline Duncan, Honorary PhD
Conferring of Degrees Chancellor Karen Carey
Regent Sherri Burette
2021 Commencement Speakers Joel Markis, Faculty Reflection, Fisheries Technology
Randy Nutting, Staff Reflection, Registration
Jade Nodes, Student Reflection
Closing of 2021 Commencement Paul Kraft
Recessional Tlingit Dancers & Bubble Gum by Pamyua

OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACADEMIC AWARDS 2021

Jaime Bucatcat
Health Information Management (HIM)
Award for HIM Student of Distinction

April McDougall
Medical Assisting (MA)
Award for MA Student of Distinction

David Carroll
Fisheries Technology (FT)
Award for FT Student of Distinction

Jade Nodes
Associates of Arts
Award for AA Student of Distinction

continued from reverse

Allen D. Puckett
Assistant Professor of Welding Technology
AWS Certification in Welding Education
AWS Certification in Welding Inspection

Amy K. Samuel
Assistant Professor of Medical Assisting
A.S. Whatcom Community College
B.A. University of Alaska Fairbanks

Janice M. Straley
Professor of Marine Biology
B.S. University of Washington, Seattle
M.S. University of Alaska Fairbanks

Math M.A. Trafton
Associate Professor of English
B.S., B.A., M.A., M.A., Ph.D. University of Colorado at Boulder

Sara J. Tomczuk
Term Assistant Professor of Support Services
B.A. The college of New Jersey
M.A. University of Washington
Ph.D. University of Washington

Lauren A. Wild
Adjunct Professor of Fisheries Technology
B.A. Brandeis University
M.S. University of St. Andrews
Ph.D. University of Alaska Fairbanks

Elizabeth S. Zacher
Assistant Professor of Art
B.F.A. The Hartford Art School
M.F.A. The Ohio University

Darcie R. Ziel
Assistant Professor of Health Science
B.S. University of Alaska Fairbanks
B.S. University of Alaska Anchorage

Acknowledgements

Degree Level Reader
Katie Sill

Reader
Audrey Beam

Native Name Reader
Roberta Littlefield

Video Production
John Ingman

Sitka Campus Commencement Committee
John Ingman Emy Roles
Kimberly Davis Katie Sill
Marnie Chapman David Felts
Paul Kraft

UAS Alumni & Friends
for providing pins for each graduate

Officiating University of Alaska Regent
Sherry Baretta

And a special thanks to all staff and faculty volunteers and Commencement committee & Advisory council members

UAS Sitka Campus Advisory Council

Karen Carey Maren Haavig
Lisa Busch Roger Schmidt
Tristan Guevin John Leach
Brian McLaughlin Bonnie Richards
Tim Ryan Fran Schwuchow
Suzanne Portello Janelle Vanasse
Garry White Rachel Roy
John Stein Bob Sam

The University of Alaska Southeast Sitka Campus would also like to express gratitude to all the family members, friends, employers, faculty, and staff who have encouraged and supported our graduates!

Honored Speakers & Awards

Pauline Duncan, PhD, Commencement Address

Pauline was born in Juneau Alaska and now lives in Sitka. She is a descendent from Angoon, Alaska. She is married and has five children and eight grandchildren. She retired from the Sitka school district in 2005. She has written four books, Children of the Alaska Tidelands, Berry picking in SE Alaska, Sitka Herring Spawn and Recpies of Today and Long Ago.

Joel Markis, Faculty Reflection

Growing up in Southcentral Alaska, Joel pursued his passion for fisheries by attending Montana State University in Bozeman, MT, where he received a B.S. in Fish and Wildlife Management. After graduating, Joel worked in various fisheries jobs all over Alaska such as: Katmai, Aniakchak, Kenai Fjords, Denali, the Tongass, and Wrangell St. Elias. With this experience under his belt, he decided to pursue a graduate degree in Marine Biology from the University of Alaska Fairbanks where he used SCUBA to study the nearshore fish and habitat complexity in Kachemak Bay. Joel has also worked for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, helping manage sportfish resources in southcentral Alaska and then working as a research fisheries biologist with the Kachemak Bay Research Reserve in Homer, AK. Joel has been with the Fisheries Technology Program since 2013, working as an outreach coordinator and adjunct faculty at the Homer, AK campus. Since moving to Sitka in 2014, Joel has worked into a tenured track position and now serves as the Director of the Fisheries Technology Program.

Randy Nutting, Staff Reflection

Randy Nutting was born in Ketchikan, Alaska and raised in Sitka, Alaska. Most of his childhood was spent outdoors hunting, fishing, and camping with family and friends. After graduating from Sitka High School he attended Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa, Idaho. After graduating with a BA in Business Management he returned home to Sitka and began working for UAS Sitka Campus in March of 1997. Randy has held multiple positions within the University and is currently the Records and Registration Manager. Randy has appreciated the opportunity to give back to his community in a professional setting. In his off time, Randy coaches basketball and shares his love for the outdoors with his wife and three daughters.

Virtual Commencement

The virtual commencement video can be seen by going to the following web address:
<https://uas.alaska.edu/commencement/index.html>

UA is an AA/EO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual:
www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination.

Honored Speakers & Awards

David Carroll, Fisheries Technology Student of Distinction

Originally from Louisiana, I joined the Marine Corps right out of high school in 2003. Five years later and three deployments to Iraq, I returned to my hometown and gave the university life a shot. Unsuccessful, I used my Marine Corps training in aviation to start a career that led me to Juneau, Alaska in 2014. In 2018, my wife and I decided it was a good time to go back to school and choose a new path. UAS seemed a great place to start and I found the Fisheries Technology program. Working four jobs the first two summers and then in 2020 as a commercial fisherman in the SE Alaska Driftnet Salmon fishery. This summer I will begin work with ADF&G as a fisheries technician. I do plan to continue my education, with a BS in Fisheries and Ocean Science as my next target goal.

Jaime Bucatcat, Health Information Management Student of Distinction

Jaime A.K.A "Bree" Bucatcat has worked in the healthcare field since she was 18-years old. Her current position is the Revenue Cycle Director at Artic Slope Native Association in Barrow. Bree enrolled in the Associates of Applied Science in HIM in Spring 2019. While in the program, Bree joined the AKHIMA board and is currently President elect and Delegate of the board. Bree likes to spend her time cooking with her husband, schooling her two children, and working on their indoor garden.

April McDougall, Medical Assisting Student of Distinction

April Lives in Klawock, Ak. She is the Medical Assisting student of Distinction for this commencement. April would like Amy Samuels for being such a great instructor and for always being there to answer her questions or help with technical issues. She would also like to thank her coworkers for filling any coverage voids while she was doing clinicals, specially Trish Rockstar RN. April would like to send a special thanks to her significant other Frank for "putting up with me throughout it all!" and her children who pushed her to prove if a mom can do it so can they! April said she couldn't have done it without all of you!

Jade Nodes, Associate of Arts Student of Distinction

I was born and raised in Alaska, with most of my life being spent in Sitka. I graduated from Sitka High School in 2012. I received my Associate of Arts degree this spring and I am already enrolled to start the distance Bachelor in Social Work program out of UAF starting this fall. I have been working in a Social Services Agency for over two years and have a true passion to help people from all walks of life and to continue a path of helping people within our communities.



50th
COMMENCEMENT