

CLASS OF 2020

*Hooding
Ceremony*

Saturday, Dec. 12, 2020

3 p.m.



UNIVERSITY *of* ALASKA
ANCHORAGE

Order of Events

Welcome and Message to the Graduates Dean Mary Jo Finney

Chancellor’s Address. Chancellor Cathy Sandeen

Provost’s Address. Provost Denise Runge

Graduate Student Speaker Naidene Baechler

Introduction of Deans and Hooding of the Doctoral Graduates. .Dean Mary Jo Finney

College of Arts and SciencesDr. John Petraitis, Interim Dean

College of Business and Public Policy.Dr. John Nofsinger, Interim Dean

College of EngineeringDr. Kenrick Mock, Interim Dean

College of Health. Jeff Jessee, Dean

Closing Remarks. Dean Mary Jo Finney

Faculty Honor Aisle

Graduate Student Speaker

NAIDENE BAECHLER

Even amidst a pandemic slowdown, it's been a productive year for Naidene Baechler. One week after earning her Master of Social Work, she kicked off her career as program supervisor for the Knik Tribal Council (KTC) and is closing out 2020 as the student speaker for the virtual fall graduate degree hooding ceremony.

In April, the Arctic Research Consortium of the United States named Baechler one of three Arctic Indigenous Scholars for 2020. The honor is awarded to individuals whose work exemplifies social, political and environmental issues important in their communities.

Baechler's focus is twofold: to resolve the high rates of suicide among the Alaska Native community and the increased number of missing and murdered Indigenous women through educational and economic equity.

"Systemic changes that need to happen such as having mental health be part of the curriculum can start addressing the here and now," said Baechler. "Policies that make sure there's equity in education can shorten the economic gap, especially in rural Alaska with higher suicide rates, which may be a key factor in those rates. So my focus has been looking at how we change and advocate on a policy level because that's where it's going to have a standing impact."

As program supervisor, Baechler tackles those issues head-on by building KTC's new behavioral health program from the ground up. Part of a six-person team, her role is to understand the ins and outs of Medicaid, state and federal regulations, and to develop the program's policies and procedures in adherence to those regulations.

Born in Newhalen, Alaska where her mother is from, and raised in Nevis, Minnesota where her father is from, Baechler describes having always felt a need to help others. That feeling became a calling thanks to two formative experiences. The first was realizing that her mother was able to provide Christmas presents to Baechler and her siblings thanks to a gift donation charity. The second was seeing the assistance her father received to take care of her ailing grandfather.

"As I grew older, I recognized the people and systems in place that allowed my mom to provide Christmas presents for us. That memory has always driven me to want to help people," said Baechler. "And there was also the hospice care that came in to help my dad take care of my grandpa. Seeing their warmth and empathy inspired me to continue to want to help people in whatever way possible."

Doctoral Candidates

Brittany Freitas Murrell

Doctor of Philosophy, Clinical-Community Psychology

Dissertation title: An examination of audience attitudes and reception to a theatre-based performance addressing child sexual abuse

Child abuse is an issue we should be contesting as a collective. Brittany's research explored the utility of community theatre for fostering social change. Using a repeated measures design, Brittany investigated audience member's beliefs, attitudes and behaviors. One significant finding of this work was performances turned up the volume around pressing social issues, like child abuse, for a short time.

Major advisor: E.J.R. David, Ph.D.

Alicia F. Marvin

Doctor of Philosophy, Clinical-Community Psychology

Dissertation title: "It's time for a change. I need to. I have to.": Turning points in recovery from substance misuse among individuals with the lived experience of homelessness in Anchorage, Alaska.

Extant treatment efforts have had limited success in helping homeless individuals recover from drug and alcohol addiction. To better understand the process of recovery, this dissertation examined the phenomenon of a turning point — the moment when individuals made the radical choice to leave addiction and pursue recovery from substance misuse.

Major advisors: Sara Buckingham, Ph.D., E.J.R. David, Ph.D.

Kierra Brecht

Doctor of Philosophy, Clinical-Community Psychology

Dissertation title: Pokémon Go and its effect on depressive symptoms, physical activity and social connectedness

This study investigated the effects of playing Pokémon Go on individuals' depressive symptoms, social connectedness and physical activity as compared to a control condition that played Candy Crush.

Major advisor: Patrick Dulin, Ph.D.

Brionne Elkins

Doctor of Philosophy, Clinical-Community Psychology

Dissertation title: Community perceptions of patient-targeted googling

An examination of the ethics behind clinician behavior in digital environments and how it impacts our clients. The purpose of this study was to evaluate perceptions of patient-targeted googling (PTG), particularly those of individuals who do not identify as mental health professionals. Ultimately, it was identified that such actions are not seen favorably unless such action is taken explicitly for emergency purposes.

Major advisor: James Fitterling, Ph.D.

Jordan Skan

Doctor of Philosophy, Clinical-Community Psychology

Dissertation title: Improving information delivery: The enhancing procedures for informed consent video

Major advisor: Patrick Dulin, Ph.D.

Steffi Kim

Doctor of Philosophy, Clinical-Community Psychology

Dissertation title: "We're an adaptable people.": Resilience in the context of successful aging in urban-dwelling Alaska Native elders

This qualitative study investigated protective factors of successful aging during and after relocation of Alaska Native elders from rural communities to Anchorage. Successful aging is strongly tied to Alaska Native culture, and improved access to cultural activities and community engagement in Anchorage may foster urban successful aging.

Major advisor: Jordan Lewis, Ph.D.

Samantha Mack

Doctor of Philosophy, Clinical-Community Psychology

Dissertation title: Effectiveness of a smartphone-based alcohol intervention

This quantitative experimental study compared the outcomes of two technology-based alcohol interventions among a population of treatment-receptive individuals who self-identified as wanting to change their drinking habits. This study sought to explore whether a smartphone-based alcohol intervention is more effective than a web-based intervention in reducing alcohol consumption and alcohol-related problems and whether the severity of alcohol dependency moderates use frequency and effectiveness in reducing alcohol consumption.

Major advisor: Patrick Dulin, Ph.D.

Sean Farley

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Project title: The utilization of close observation in acute psychiatric inpatients

The purpose of this project was to evaluate how and when close observation is utilized at a psychiatric inpatient facility for patients at risk for self-injurious and aggressive behaviors. This project generated revisions to current close observation policies based on the literature review and statistical analysis from data collected through a record review process.

Committee chair: Morgan Brissette, DNP, M.S., B.S.Sc

Kelly Mitchell

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Project title: Improving emergency airway care at a critical access hospital

The purpose of this project is to assess if video laryngoscopy instruction and simulation will improve confidence and decrease intubation attempts in non-expert providers as compared to current use of traditional direct laryngoscopy. The project findings demonstrated an improved confidence with use of video laryngoscopy, increased confidence that video laryngoscopy is associated with improved visualization of glottic area and increased confidence associated with first pass of the endotracheal tube in non-expert providers using laryngoscopy to perform endotracheal intubation.

Committee chair: Sharyl Toscano, Ph.D., M.S., B.S., RN-CPN

Jonathan Beatty

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Project title: A telemedicine follow-up program to improve glycemic outcomes for patients with uncontrolled Type 2 diabetes

The purpose of this project was to assess the acceptability and effectiveness of a provider-implemented intense telephonic follow-up program on glycemic outcomes and self-management of patients with uncontrolled Type 2 diabetes. Over a three-month period, patients meeting criteria for the intervention attended telephonic provider follow-up visits, which included education on lifestyle changes, medication management and self-care. The project demonstrated clinically and statistically significant improvement in hemoglobin A1C lab values and patient-reported self-care measures.

Committee chair: Sharyl Toscano, Ph.D., M.S., B.S., RN-CPN

Class of 2020

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Dr. John Petraitis, Interim Dean

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Clinical-Community Psychology

Kierra Brecht
Brionne V. Elkins
Brittany N. Freitas Murrell
Steffi M. Kim
Samantha L. Mack
Alicia F. Marvin
Jordan D. Skan

MASTER OF ARTS

Anthropology

Kaare R. Erickson
Nathan I. Harmston
Theodore H. Parsons
Holly A. Thorssin

English

Deborah M. Castillo
Nancy L. Strahan
Robert K. Whiteley

MASTER OF FINE ARTS

Creative Writing and Literary Arts

Alexa G. Cherry
Dale B. Donaldson Jr.
Pamela A. Hays
Eric G. Johnson
Mohagani A. Magnetek
Cameron A. Murray
Lisa L. Pachuta
Jenifer L. Ruckle

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Applied Geological Sciences

Daniel M. Coffey
Seth R. Nolan
Scott T. Pantaleone
Frederick W. Transburg
Timothy S. Williams

Biological Sciences

Katie L. Anderson
Jacob J. Bozzini
Kelly S. Ireland
Megan L. Keller
Amy C. Klink
Ryan B. Lucas
Timm W. Nawrocki
Hugo A. Villavicencio Chiu

Clinical Psychology

Julie M. Denny
Hannah A. Ferguson
Elizabeth J. Mangini
Robyn N. Mertz
Luke B. Offord
Kathryne Oglin
Grace P. Olrund
Ervie G. Salao
Samantha K. U. Skirko
Nicole Zegiestowsky

Interdisciplinary Studies

Marie-Sophie Boggasch
Jordan M. Couture
Jillian C. Jablonski
Hannah R. Uher-Koch

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Early Childhood Special Education

Beth T. Craig

Educational Leadership

Kate M. Cornell
Jodi A. Darling
Amy R. Eakin
Nate C. Freeman
Chelsea L. Garney
Sarah D. Glaser
Nicholas S. Hoy
ThanhTam N. Karasiewicz
Jacklyn E. Larson
Tevya Robbins
John J. Sassman
Stephanie M. Seward
Abigail M. Watson
Douglas P. Williams

Special Education

Danielle C. Are
Rebecca A. S. Ingram
Danika K. Neuner
Calista M. Pruitt
Christina M. Sitz

Teaching and Learning

Olga S. Fontaine
Pamela L. Gilden
Julie J. Gregory
Kristen L. Holmes-Ryder
Serap K. Johnson
Lillian A. M. Olson
Joshua W. Pheley
Jessica M. Ross
Amy K. Samuel
Brian J. Smith

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND PUBLIC POLICY

Dr. John R. Nofsinger, Interim Dean

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

General Management

Tamra L. Aguilar
Aleksandr O. Altukhov
Brian P. Blessington
Gregory L. Bultron
Landon R. Chapman
Adam J. Commandeur
Gregory S. Dutton
Stephen J. Ferntheil
Tevin J. Gladden
Donald V. Gotchal
Victoria M. Hofmann
Nicolette J. Holmes
Peter O. Ikewun
Duo Ji
Megan J. Mazurek
Jennifer A. McConnell
Laurie A. Meyer
Craig Miller
Gavin M. Northey
Martins Onskulis
Jonah Renouf
Nathan Renouf
Patrick J. Rider
Katie E. Rowell
Emily J. Seidler
Gabrielle B. St Pierre
Jason Stevens
David C. Trinkberger
Farrah R. Weinert
Amanda M. Wooster
Carin N. Yeh

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Micah K. Chelimo
Alyssa M. Hartman
Alyssa N. Hutchins
Florence M. Kargi
Brandon A. Nye
Mario R. Pagni
Stephen J. G. Sweet
Alysa Wooden

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Global Supply Chain Management

Najla J. Adlawan
Thomas C. Boots
Lloyd M. Burton
Edward M. Conner
Rujun Cui
Loreen E. Davis
Bradley J. Lipscomb
Joshua J. Lucca
Sofia Maldonado Diaz
Willie Moody
Ryan L. Ruble
Eva A. Ulukivaiola

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Dr. Kenrick Mock, Interim Dean

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Civil Engineering

Travis M. Bradshaw
Daniel J. Dahms
Medhat M. S. Elmorsy
Kristopher R. Ford
Bryan P. Oakland
Michael Shalabi
John H. Street
Cameron W. Wilson

Mechanical Engineering

Christina F. Forbes
Martin T. Henke
Tanner B. Penrod

Project Management

Jason R. Barber
Jessica L. Bornholdt
Jack W. Carlson
Edward M. Conner
Erin W. Else
Ardrienna L. Everett
Virginia C. D. Groeschel
Kristopher K. Hall
Elinor M. Harrington
Melissa L. Metzger
Leslie T. Stokes

COLLEGE OF HEALTH

Jeff Jesse, Dean

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health Practice

Nicole D. Cabrera
Ashley E. Carrick
Karen L. Conner
Kelsey L. Cusack
Karina S. Gonzales-Smith
Joanna V. Kanayurak
Maka J. Monture
Emily K. Ricci
Dyanne V. Rodriguez
Tara C. Schmidt
Aliassa L. Shane
By Thao
Hannah E. Warren
Amanda M. Woody

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Dietetics and Nutrition

Audrey R. Anderson
Allison M. Hillen
Kiana L. Holland
Haley J. Salazar
Kylie J. Viens

SCHOOL OF NURSING

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Nursing Science

Jonathan R. Beatty
Sean T. Farley
Kelly E. Mitchell

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Nursing Science

Kaveri Bharti
Molly A. Duffy
Cheryl L. George
Sarah E. Hines
Sara M. Krokos
China K. Larson
Melanie R. Lott
Christine M. Michel
Allison M. P. Moe
Kelly N. Moore
Rosa L. Niemi
Ellen L. Reeder

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Mazio C. Anderson
Naidene S. F. Baechler
Sophia E. Branson
Tawny L. Brooks
Jonathan J. Dahlberg
Jacob A. Farber
Ian J. Foster
Michael L. Gray
Stacy M. Johnson
Keeli N. Joiner
Tiana J. Kraus
Matthew J. Leonard
Kelly L. Marre
Shelly A. Matherne awarded posthumously
Emily G. McClelland
Erin C. Neubauer
David J. Pantaleone
Danielle M. Penaranda
Rowena M. Queja
Kathrine A. Quelland
Vanessa R. Salmon
Kristen Smith
Katelyne P. Sonido
Catherine C. Stallings
Emma Steinzeig
Maliko Ubl
Cimmie L. White

History and Significance of the Graduate Hood

THE ORIGINS of academic dress date back to the 12th and 13th centuries when universities were taking form. The ordinary dress of the scholar, whether student or teacher, was the dress of a cleric. With few exceptions, the medieval scholar had taken at least minor orders, made certain vows and perhaps been tonsured. Long gowns were worn and may have been necessary for warmth in unheated buildings. Hoods seem to have served to cover the tonsured head until superseded for that purpose by the skull cap.

Today, hoods are the most expressive component of the academic costume. They serve to communicate the owner's school, degree and field of study through their length and the colors of the lining and binding. Today's hoods have evolved from a serviceable article of clothing to a type of elongated scarf draped over the shoulders and displayed down the back with the lining turned inside out.

University of Alaska Anchorage doctoral and master's degree graduate candidates receive their hoods to recognize the level of education they have pursued beyond the baccalaureate degree. UAA colors are green and gold, hence these colors within the hood. The velvet trim on the hood signifies the scholar's field.

Academic Regalia Colors by College

<i>College of Arts and Sciences</i>	<i>Anthropology</i>	<i>Golden Yellow</i>
	<i>Biological Sciences</i>	<i>Golden Yellow</i>
	<i>Clinical Psychology</i>	<i>Golden Yellow</i>
	<i>Creative Writing and Literary Arts</i>	<i>Brown</i>
	<i>Education</i>	<i>Light Blue</i>
	<i>English</i>	<i>White</i>
	<i>Interdisciplinary Studies (M.A.)</i>	<i>White</i>
	<i>Interdisciplinary Studies (M.S.)</i>	<i>Golden Yellow</i>
	<i>Clinical-Community Psychology (Ph.D.)</i>	<i>Dark Blue</i>
	<i>College of Business and Public Policy</i>	<i>Business Administration</i>
<i>Global Supply Chain Management</i>		<i>Golden Yellow</i>
<i>Public Administration</i>		<i>Peacock Blue</i>
<i>All Disciplines</i>		<i>Orange</i>
<i>College of Engineering</i>		
<i>College of Health</i>	<i>Nursing</i>	<i>Apricot</i>
	<i>Public Health</i>	<i>Salmon Pink</i>
	<i>Social Work</i>	<i>Citron</i>



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