

2020 Arctic Research & Scholarship Highlights

UAA administrators & faculty in new leadership roles

This year, UAA faculty and administrators have taken on new leadership roles in national and international Arctic organizations.

UArctic Leadership

UAA Chancellor Cathy Sandeen has added to her portfolio the position of Vice President Academic for the University of the Arctic. In this role she is responsible for providing strategic leadership for all of UArctic's academic activities. Diane Hirshberg, Professor of Education Policy, has been appointed Associate Vice President and will support Chancellor Sandeen in implementing her agenda. Jeff Welker, Professor of Biological Sciences, continues in his role as the inaugural UArctic Research Chair.



Chancellor Cathy Sandeen

U.S. Arctic Research Commission

Maj Gen Randy "Church" Kee, United States Air Force (ret), Executive Director of the Arctic Domain Awareness Center (ADAC) at the University of Alaska, a DHS Center of Excellence, has been notified by the White House that he will be appointed to the U.S. Arctic Research Commission.

New Arctic Research Projects

UAA faculty have some exciting new Arctic research projects, a few of which are highlighted here:

Chad Briggs, Director of Graduate Programs/Associate Professor of Public Policy & Administration is co-PI of Migration in Harmony, a Research Coordination Network on Arctic migrations funded by the National Science Foundation.

Marie Lowe, Associate Professor of Public Policy, is PI of a new Navigating the New Arctic (NNA) Track 2 Collaborative Research project titled: Adaptable Microgrids in Arctic Communities.

Mohammad Heidari Kapourchali, Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering is PI of another new NNA Track 2: Collaborative Research project titled Foundations for Improving Resilience in the Energy Sector against Wildfire on Alaskan Lands (FIREWALL). Matthew Berman, Professor of Economics, and Elizabeth Snyder, Associate Professor of Public Health are Co-PIs on this initiative.

Kevin Berry, Assistant Professor of Economics, is part of a new Belmont project titled: Marine Arctic Resilience, Adaptations and Transformations (MARAT), focusing on coastal communities in Nunavut, Canada and Alaska.

Recent Publication Highlights

Herminia Din, Professor of Art Education, and Diane Hirshberg along with Paul Wasko of Academic Innovation & eLearning have articles in the 2020 *Shared Voices Magazine* published by UArctic at: <https://www.uarctic.org/shared-voices/shared-voices-magazine-2020/>

Jeff Welker co-authored the cover story for the August 2020 *Journal of Glaciology* on the thinning and melting of the Greenland Ice Sheet.