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Dr. William E. Schnabel, Dean

Kelsey Ann Frazier \*\*

Ph.D. Engineering

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of Alaska Anchorage, 2020.

Thesis: Icy Insights: Decrypting the Depths with Novel Stochastic Techniques  
to Model and Mitigate Arctic Under-Ice Oil Spills

This research analyzed Arctic sea ice's subsurface to create models simulating oil

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This research enhances oil-ice interaction models and emphasizes the critical  
role of international cooperation in Arctic response strategies.

Major professor: Dr. Rorik Peterson

**Fayzul Kabir**

Ph.D. Engineering

B.S., Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, 2011; M.S., King Fahd University of  
Petroleum and Minerals, 2018.

Thesis: Implications of Detachment Promoting Agents, Disinfectants and

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Drinking Water Distribution Systems

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levels and temperature. The results inform policymakers and water operators to  
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Major professor: Dr. Srijan Aggarwal

\* Summer degree recipient

\*\* Fall degree recipient



**Matthew James Smukall \*\***

Ph.D. Fisheries  
B.S., University of Florida, 2009.

Thesis: Relative Abundance and Movement Ecology of Tiger Sharks

(*Galeocerdo cuvier*) in the Waters Surrounding Bimini, The Bahamas

This study investigated the relative abundance and movement ecology for tiger sharks, *Galeocerdo cuvier*, in the waters around Bimini, The Bahamas. The local relative abundance remained stable from 1984 to 2019, but sharks readily moved protection but regional management plans are important.

Major professor: Dr. Andrew Seitz

Jared David Weems

Ph.D. Fisheries  
B.S., Iowa State University, 2008; M.S., University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2011.

Thesis: Early Life Biology and Ecology of King and Tanner Crabs in the Bering and Chukchi Seas

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Major professors: Dr. Ginny Eckert and Dr. Franz Mueter

\* Summer degree recipient  
\*\* Fall degree recipient

**Alec Bennet**

Ph.D.

Derek Arnold \*\*

Ph.D. Biological Sciences

B.S., University of Montana, 2012; M.S., University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2023.

Thesis: Movement Ecology, Survival, and Territorial Dynamics in Canada Lynx  
(*Lynx canadensis*) Over a Cyclic Population Decline

Population dynamics of lynx cycles are not clearly understood. This research indicated that although physical connectivity is high, population declines are driven by reduced survival in dispersing lynx, which manifests in a population

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Major professor: Dr. Knut Kielland

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\* Summer degree recipient

\*\* Fall degree recipient



**Nathan Arrow Graham**

Ph.D. Geoscience

B.S., Humboldt State University, 2015.

Thesis: Mechanisms of Magmatic Degassing and Eruption Triggering at Alaska Volcanoes: Experimental Controls and Natural System Analogues

Understanding the magmatic processes that drive volcanic eruptions is integral to monitoring volcanic unrest and mitigating hazards. The main goals of this thesis were to understand the mechanisms of magma degassing and eruption triggering. The results can be used to aid in modeling of volcanic systems and assist in monitoring volcanoes worldwide.

Major professor: Dr. Jessica Larsen

**Rajan Itani \*\***

Ph.D. Physics

B.S., Tribhuvan University, 2006; M.S., Tribhuvan University, 2013.

Thesis: Dynamics of the Earth's Thermosphere Across a Range of Spatial and Temporal Scales

Aspects of the dynamics of Earth's thermosphere that do not harmonize with our current paradigm for understanding the behavior of the thermosphere. These discoveries have implications for spacecraft orbit predictions and mitigation of the risk of collision between orbiting satellites.

Major professor: Dr. Mark Conde

\* Summer degree recipient

\*\* Fall degree recipient



**Joshua Knicely\***

Ph.D. Geophysics

B.A. Texas A&M University, 2011; M.S. Texas A&M University, 2015.

Thesis: Examination of Volcanism and Impact Cratering on Terrestrial Bodies

The planet Venus holds clues to the Earth's habitability. Remote sensing allows us to use volcanism and impact cratering to peer into the depths of planets and understand their history. We can use this information to better understand our sister planet and thereby better understand the myriad other worlds.

Major professor: Dr. Robert Herrick

**David Skye Kushner\*\***

Ph.D. Geoscience

B.S., University of Manitoba, 2016; M.S., University of Manitoba, 2019.

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Quantifying volcanic gas can be challenging due to logistical barriers and atmospheric conditions. Two methods were developed to better characterize volcanic mercury and sulfur dioxide emissions, and a model was used to € E ù I p y Ø E ù p € : € I ù \$ N š \$ ù B Ø p € I B E y p \$ E ò : N € ù › • Ø y I ! N emission rate estimates under these conditions has been improved.

Major professor: Dr. Taryn Lopez

**Scott S. Leorna\***

Ph.D. Biological Sciences

B.S. University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2016; M.S. University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2019.

Thesis: Using Camera Traps to Advance Wildlife Monitoring in the Arctic

The utility of camera traps (i.e., remotely triggered cameras) for monitoring wildlife in the Arctic was advanced through a landscape-level study focused N E \$ E N I B \$ E E • y ò E \$ k € p p h ò \$ ± ò Ø : › y Ø \$ : N I ù y N N h E : Ø by evaluating their capacity to assess seasonal caribou (Rangifer tarandus) distribution and habitat use in Arctic Alaska.

Major professor: Dr. Todd Brinkman

**Xi Lu**

Ph.D. Space Physics

B.S., Shandong University, 2018.

Thesis: Foreshock Density Holes and Their Connection with Other Foreshock Transients

Characteristics and occurrence preferences of foreshock density holes on the upstream of the Earth's bow shock are investigated. The role of the : N • \* ù E p \$ y › p y I € ò y € I p \$ E y N I B Ø y \$ N E N N y ² N • Ø E N B Ø : \$ magnetohydrodynamics process are unveiled by the comparison between the two-dimensional simulations and the spacecraft observations.

Major professor: Dr. Peter Delamere



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Dr. Amy Vinlove, Dean

**Karen Martin**

Ph.D. Teacher Agency in Teacher Research: Interdisciplinary Studies  
B.S., Eastern Washington University, 1998; M.S., Oregon State University, 2004; M.A.T., University  
of Alaska Southeast, 2005.

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Through Teacher Action Research

This research investigated teacher agency as a component of teacher professionalism. Studying the lived experience of rural Alaska teachers, it explored how engaging teachers in action research-based professional  
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engagement, capacity to know their impact on learning, feeling empowered by trust, and critical consciousness.

Major professor: Dr. Ute Kaden