

Current Appointment

Feb. 2022-Present Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies, Center for Cross-Cultural Studies, University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Education

- 2021 Ph.D. Cultural Anthropology, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Dissertation Title: “Northern Dene Astronomical and Sky-Related Knowledge: a Comparative Anthropological Study”
- 2014 M.A. Northern Studies, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Thesis Title: “Alaska Athabascan Stellar Astronomy”
- 2007 B.S. Wildlife Biology, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Research Foci

Northern Dene languages and cultures with a focus on astronomical knowledge and practices, worldview, cosmology, wayfinding and spatial orientation, and on-the-land documentation of language, subsistence practices, and other domains of traditional knowledge.

Publications

Journal Articles (Peer-Reviewed)

- Cannon, Chris M., Paul Herbert., and Fred Sangris. 2022. Yellowknives Dene and Gwich'in Stellar Wayfinding in Large-Scale Subarctic Landscapes. *Arctic* 75(2).180-197.
- Cannon, Chris M., Wilson Justin, Paul Herbert, Charles Hubbard, and Charlie Neyelle. 2020. Northern Dene Constellations as Worldview Projections with Case Studies from the Ahtna, Gwich'in, and Sahtuot'ine. *Arctic Anthropology* 56(2).1-26.
- Cannon, Chris M. and Gary Holton. 2014. A Newly Documented Whole-Sky Circumpolar Constellation in Alaskan Gwich'in. *Arctic Anthropology* 51(2).1-8.

Books (Peer-Reviewed)

- Cannon, Chris M. 2025. In the Footsteps of the Traveller: The Astronomy of Northern Dene.

Book Sections (Peer-Reviewed)

Cannon, Chris M. 2024

Presentations

Cannon, Chris M. 2022. The Astronomy of the Northern Dene. Public presentation given to the Journal Club (Physics department) given in the Globe Room at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, September 23

Community-led Research and Collaboration

2020 *Y m r ya* in the sky: A Sahtuot'ine healing and wellness workshop funded and organized by the Deline

Additional Service Activities

Professional Service

- 2023 Peer reviewer, Arctic Anthropology
- 2023 Grant reviewer, National Science Foundation, Arctic Social Sciences Program. March
- 2023 Edit sections of *The Lower Tanana Dene Dictionary*, compiled and edited by James Kari. Fairbanks, AK: Alaska Native Language Center.
- 2022 Edit chapter of “Spirits Dancing: The Night Sky, Indigenous Knowledge, and Living Connections to the Cosmos” (2023) by Travis Novitsky (photos), and Annette Lee (text).
- 2018 Peer reviewer, Journal of Australian Anthropology

University Service

- 2025 Search committee member, Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies. February
- 2025 Committee Member: University Program Review. August 2024-February 2025.
- 2023 Search committee member, Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies. June-August
- 2023 Organizer and facilitator, World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium and World Indigenous Nations University Annual General Meeting (WINHEC/WINU AGM), University of Alaska Fairbanks. July 16-20.
- 2023 Outside examiner, PhD oral comprehensive exam in Wildlife Biology. University of Alaska, Fairbanks. May 10
- 2023 Search committee member, Director of the Center for Cross-Cultural Studies. March
- 2022 Outside examiner, PhD dissertation proposal defense and oral comprehensive exams in Geophysics. University of Alaska, Fairbanks. December 7
- 2022- Editorial Board Member, Alaska Native Language Center
- 2022- Member, Alaska Native Studies Council
- 2022- Committee Member, Oscar Kawagley Indigenous Scholar Award
- 2022- Reviewer, Graduate Application Review for the MA and PhD programs i

- [big-dipper-and-the-dene-traveller-legend-how-indigenous-teachings-can-change-views-of-the-night-sky-1.6471007](https://www.uphere.ca/articles/seeking-true-knowledge-stars)
- 2020 “Seeking true knowledge in the stars.” UpHere magazine article, by Jacob Boon. September/October issue. <https://www.uphere.ca/articles/seeking-true-knowledge-stars>
- 2019 “Comparative study explores Northern Dene astronomical knowledge.” Article in Witness the Arctic, edited by Betsy Turner-Bogren, Arctic Research Consortium

