

## UNANGAĀ: MARITIME PEOPLE IN A MODERN WORLD

Korea Maritime Institute, Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies,  
University of Washington and Aleut International Association Partnership  
**19–20 June 2018 Workshop**

This workshop will provide an overview of the UnangaĀ to increase knowledge and understanding of how this maritime people is successfully negotiating in a modern world, including how the Korea Maritime Institute, UnangaĀ and University of Washington are working together to build international relations for the future. UnangaĀ were the traditional inhabitants of the Aleutian Islands. As a result of resettlements, there are only about 2,000 UnangaĀ in small communities in the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands and another approximately 15,000 UnangaĀ who live elsewhere in Alaska and other states. UnangaĀ are hunters, whalers, and fishers. As with most Indigenous peoples, political mobilization in the form of regional organizations began in the 1960s and '70s. In 1998, in a strategic move to increase the voice and interests of the UnangaĀ internationally, the Aleut International Association was formed to provide the UnangaĀ an official role on the Arctic Council. In this workshop we will explore the growing political influence of the Aleut on the domestic and world stage. The workshop will take place in Unalaska. Approximately 900 miles from Anchorage, Unalaska is the gateway to the Aleutian Islands and number one fishing port of the United States.



*Carl E. Moses Boat Harbor, Dutch Harbor, Amaknak Island, Aleutian Islands, Alaska, United States of America, North America. Source: [Getty Images](#).*

### PROGRAM

#### **Tuesday, 19 June 2018**

8:30-9:00—Breakfast, Grand Aleutian Hotel

Welcome from Workshop Host and Sponsor, Dr. Min Su Kim, Head, Polar Policy Research Center, Korea Maritime Institute, Republic of Korea

9:00-9:30—Introductions

9:30-9:45—Opening Blessing, Reverend Evon Bereskin, Acting Rector, Holy Ascension of our Lord Cathedral, Diocese of Alaska, Orthodox Church in America

9:45-10:15—Welcome from the Workshop Co-Chairs, Dr. Nadine C. Fabbi, Managing Director, Canadian Studies Center, Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington; and Liza Mack, Interim Executive Director, Aleut International Association

10:15-10:30—*Arctic and International Relations*, special Issue, Dr. Joanne Muzak, Editor and Writing Consultant, Montréal, Québec

10:30-11:00—Welcome and Overview of Unalaska, Mayor Frank Kelty

11:00-11:30—Welcome and Overview of Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska, Tom Robinson, Tribal President and Chris Price, Environmental Director

11:30-Noon—Overview of Ounalashka Corporation, Denise M. Rankin, Property and Leasing Manager

Noon-1:00—Lunch, Grand Aleutian Hotel

1:00-1:30—The Korea Maritime Institute's Collaborations with Arctic Indigenous Peoples, including Indigenous Marine Use Survey Process and Suggestions for Building Future Collaborations, Dr. Min Su Kim

2:00-3:30—Welcome and Tour of Welcome Museum of the Aleutians, Dr. Virginia Hatfield, Executive Director

4:00-5:00—Tour of Aleutian Greens, Blaine and Catina Shaishnikoff

6:00—Dinner, Grand Aleutian Hotel, hosted by the Korea Maritime Institute

**Wednesday, 20 June 2018**

8:30-9:00—Breakfast Grand Aleutian Hotel

9:00-9:30—Archaeology of the Aleutians, Virginia Hatfield

9:30-10:30 - An Overview of the Korea-Alaska Relations by Jeehye Kim, Researcher, Polar Policy Research Center, Korea Maritime Institute, Republic of Korea

10:30-11:00—Introduction to the Aleut International Association, Liza Mack

11:00-Noon—Plant walk with Sharon Svany-Livingston, Independent Alternative Medicine Professional

12:15-1:00—Lunch, Grand Aleutian Hotel

1:00-3:00—City Tour, Mayor Kelty; Tour of Aleutian Greens, with Blaine and Catina Shaishnikoff

3:15-4:00—Tour, Port of Dutch Harbor, Scott Brown, Deputy Port Director

4:00-4:30—Future of Arctic Marine Cooperation and Partnership Opportunities, open dialogue

6:00—Seafood Buffet at the Chart Room, Grand Aleutian Hotel

**Thursday, 21 June 2018**

8:30-9:30 a.m.—Breakfast, check out, bus to airport

10:00-11:30—Tour World War II Museum

*This workshop is part of the Agreement for Academic Cooperation (2014) between the Korea Maritime Institute, Republic of Korea and the Arctic and International Relations Initiative in the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington in the fields of Arctic policy and maritime research. In 2017, the Aleut International Association, joined the partnership to offer this workshop focused on Aleut influence in domestic and international affairs. The Canadian Studies Center in the Jackson School manages the MOU and its activities.*



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## PRESENTER AND ORGANIZATION BIOGRAPHIES

### Unangaġ: Maritime People in a Modern World 19–20 June 2018 Workshop

**Reverend Evon Bereskin**, Acting Rector, [Holy Ascension of Our Lord Cathedral](#), Diocese of Alaska, Orthodox Church in America. Holy Ascension of Our Lord Cathedral, as it stands today, was built in 1896. The current cathedral is the fourth church built for the Unalaska parish. The priest assigned to Unalaska at the time the cathedral was built was Fr. Alexander Kedrovsky, who served the parish from 1894 to 1908. The cathedral had seven bells in the bell tower. Located throughout the cathedral are several icons that date back to the sixteenth century from Russia. In the central part of the cathedral, above the royal doors, is the long mural with different saints that go all the way across the iconostas. The mural is believed to have been a gift from the last Czar of Russia.

**Scott Brown**, Deputy Port Director, [International Port of Dutch Harbor](#) – The Port of Dutch Harbor promotes the growth and health of the community of Unalaska through the planning, development, and management of marine-related municipal properties and facilities to provide moorage and other marine services on a self-supporting basis. To this end, the facilities and services are developed and operated to promote and accommodate marine-related commerce, fisheries industry, safety, environmental protection, recreation, and visitors.

**Dr. Nadine C. Fabbi**, Managing Director, [Canadian Studies Center](#), [Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies](#), [University of Washington](#) – Dr. Fabbi has served as Managing Director of Canadian Studies for almost 20 years and as Co-chair of the Korea Maritime Institute-UW agreement since its inception in 2014. She founded and serves as editor for *Arctic and International Relations Series*, a policy publication in the Jackson School that will feature a special issue on Unangaġ: Maritime People in a Modern World (based on this workshop); serves on the editorial board for the *American Review of Canadian Studies*; and serves as co-editor for the *International Journal of Canadian Studies*. Dr. Fabbi's research focuses on Arctic Indigenous influence in domestic and international relations. It has been published in *One Arctic: The Arctic Council and Circumpolar Governance* (2017); *American Review of Canadian Studies* (2017); *Handbook of the Politics of the Arctic* (2015); and *Arctic Yearbook 2012*.

**Dr. Virginia Hatfield**, Executive Director, [Museum of the Aleutians](#) – Dr. Hatfield has worked in the field of archaeology for over 22 years. The Museum of the Aleutians collects, preserves, and shares the human history of Unalaska and the Aleutian Islands Region by promoting public awareness of the rich cultural legacy of the people of the Aleutian Islands; utilizing its collections for educational purposes through exhibits, publications, and research; and facilitating cooperation with other museums and institutions for research and education.

**Mayor Frank Kelty**, [City of Unalaska](#) – Mayor Kelty has lived in Unalaska for over 45 years. He worked for 30 years in the Alaska seafood industry with two shore-based companies, and as Natural Resource Analyst for the City of Unalaska. Mr. Kelty is currently serving his fifth term as Mayor. For the last 30 years, Unalaska's economy has been based primarily on commercial fishing, seafood processing, fleet services, and marine transportation. The Port of Dutch Harbor is the only deep draft, ice-free port from Unimak Pass west to Adak and north to the headwaters of the Bering Straits. The port has been designated a "Port of Refuge" and provides year-round protection for disabled or distressed vessels as well as ground/warehouse storage and transshipment opportunities for the thousands of vessels that fish or transit the waters surrounding the Aleutian Islands.

**Jeehye Kim**, Researcher, Polar Policy Research Center, [Korea Maritime Institute](#), Busan, Republic of Korea – For more than three decades since its establishment in 1984, the Korea Maritime Institute (KMI) has committed to research for the development of shipping, ports, marine, and fisheries industries.

**Dr. Min Su Kim**, Head, Polar Policy Research Center, [Korea Maritime Institute](#), Busan, Republic of Korea.

**Liza Mack**, Interim Executive Director, [Aleut International Association](#) – Ms. Mack is Aleut, born and raised in the Aleutians and has over 20 years experience working in and around Native organizations and communities. She is a PhD Candidate in the Indigenous Studies Program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF). Her dissertation research focuses on natural resource management, knowledge transfer, and engagement of Native communities in the regulatory process, and how that may or may not affect the Native Cultures of Alaska. She has an Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts from the University of Alaska, Sitka, a BA and MSc. in Anthropology from Idaho State University, and has been an adjunct professor at UAF, teaching Native Cultures of Alaska and Intro to Unangam Tunuu. Ms. Mack's work is focused on cultural revitalization and community involvement in the regulatory process. She possesses knowledge of Alaska Native Cultures and is familiar with the local, regional, state, federal, and international board processes that take place in Alaska and the Circumpolar North. She values the importance of engaging Native people in these settings. In July 2017, her experience and dedication to community led to her appointment as the Interim Executive Director of Aleut International Association, one of the six Permanent Participants to the Arctic Council.

**Dr. Joanne Muzak** is an experienced editor, writing consultant, and project manager. Based in Montréal, Québec, Joanne works with diverse clients from around the world on all kinds of writing projects, at every stage in the process. Her recent clients include Arctic and Inuit researchers, Indigenous artists and activists, Canadian academic presses, a Seattle architect, a Russian memoirist, and local non-profit organizations. She has worked with Dr. Nadine Fabbi, and her colleagues and students at the University of Washington, on the *Arctic and International Relations Series* since its launch in 2015. Joanne holds a PhD in English and Cultural Studies from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

**Chris Price**, Environmental Director, Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska. Chris Price has been working for the Qawalangin Tribe since July 2015 as the Environmental Coordinator. He is overseeing the development of the current environmental program. He is focused on creating a Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the tribe. He also wants to see the tribe develop a subsistence division where salmon, halibut and crab are harvested for the benefit of the tribe and the elders under state, federal, and traditional guidelines. Solid waste management and recycling are needed here in Unalaska, so Chris is working on ways to build capacity and infrastructure in addressing the waste stream. Contaminated lands and water from WW2 are still affecting the tribe and surrounding sites are being addressed for clean up under the NALEMP program and the Brownfields program. Chris is excited to be a part of alternative energy planning, design and future implementation here in Unalaska.

**Denise M. Rankin**, Property and Leasing Manager, [Ounalashka Corporation](#). The Alaska Native Village corporation for Unalaska, Alaska, formed in 1973 under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. Incorporated with an original 269 Unangan shareholders, OC's shareholder base now represents about 492 original shareholders and original shareholders' descendants. Ounalashka Corporation is a profit corporation. Its business is land leasing and development. Ms. Rankin has served 19 years at the Ounalashka Corporation as their Property and Leasing Manager.

**Tom Robinson**, President, [Qawalangin Tribal Council of Unalaska](#) – The mission of the Qawalangin Tribe is to keep alive the cultural traditions of the Indigenous people and to maintain the environmental stewardship of their traditional lands. Each year, the tribe hosts a culture camp that is designed to bring Unangan Elders, Unangan mentors, and Western science biologists together with younger generations in order to teach traditional subsistence ways and to encourage cultural and environmental stewardship. Mr. Robinson works as an entrepreneur, and after managing fisheries on several fishing vessels, he has acquired a boat of his own. His experience includes Unalaska Native Fishermen Association (UNFA) Member, Aleutian Islands Risk Assessment Committee, Aleut Representative of Alaska Tribal Budget Committee, Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska President, and Alaska Representative of EPA National Tribal Operations Committee.

**Sharon Svarny-Livingston**, Independent Alternative Medicine Professional – Ms. Svarny-Livingston currently serves as a director of the Iliuliuk Family and Health Services and has her own blog, [Unalaska from My Point of View](#). After having successfully completed work on the Alaska Initiative for StoryCorps, she decided to dedicate herself to all things subsistence.

**Blaine and Catina Shaishnikoff**, Aleutian Greens. The Shashnikoff's grew up in Unalaska. In early 2017 they started a hydroponic growing system in two sea cans (units) to supply the community with its locally-grown produce. Each unit is capable of producing 450 heads of lettuce weekly as well as a wide range of other leafy greens, such as kale. Aleutian Greens is a partnership with the Aleutian Housing Authority, a non-profit with the primary goal of providing affordable housing. Given the climate of Unalaska, fresh produce is difficult to come by—it takes two weeks for produce to arrive from Seattle.

**World War II Museum, National Park Service** – Known to historians as the "Forgotten War," the Aleutian Campaign began on June 3, 1942, when Japanese planes bombed Unalaska and Amaknak Islands. Tens of thousands of troops mobilized to the Aleutians to defend the backdoor to the United States. The Unanga from nine other villages were relocated to substandard cannery and mining buildings in Southeast Alaska by the federal government, their homes and villages vandalized by U.S. troops, their beloved churches neglected, and their archeological sites looted for recreation. Of the 880 Unanga who were removed or captured, nearly 100 died.



**PHOTO ALBUM**  
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Hosts, chairs and sponsors, Unalaska, and Youth Representatives for the Qawalangin Tribe.

