

CANA ULUAK ITCHUAQIYAQ

KAY - nuh / OOH - loke / itch - AWE - key - yuck

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Cana Uluak Itchuaqiyag (she/they) is an Iñupiaq scholar and tribal member of the Noorvik Native Community in NW Alaska. As an assistant professor of professional & technical writing at Virginia Tech, Cana's research combines her academic background in the humanities and environmental sciences to support culturally appropriate and capacity-driven environmental justice work. She develops effective methods, protocols, partnerships, and programs that support capacity building in marginalized communities toward community-driven and community-led environmental justice action. Currently, she is the academic project lead of the Rematriation Project, an Inuit-led, co-produced project that aims to create capacity for and access to digital archiving related to Inuit cultural, tribal, and scientific knowledges and history to assist tribal communities in developing localized, culturally appropriate approaches and solutions to their own self-determined needs, such as climate change.

EDUCATION

PhD, Technical Communication and Rhetoric. May 2021
Utah State University, Logan, UT

Master of Arts, Communication, Media, and Persuasion. May 2017
Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID

Bachelor of Liberal Arts, Environmental Studies. May 2006
Harvard Extension School, Cambridge, MA

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES (ANONYMOUS, PEER REVIEWED)

Itchuaqiyag, C. U., Gottschalk Druschke, C., Cagle, L., & Bloom-Pojar, R. (forthcoming). To Community with Care: Enacting Positive Barriers to Access as Good Relations. *Community Literacy Journal*.

Itchuaqiyag, C. U., & Matheson, B. (2021). Decolonizing Decoloniality: Considering the (Mis)use of Decolonial Frameworks in TPC Scholarship. *Communication Design Quarterly*, 9(1), 20-31. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3437000.3437002>

» **Selected for Parlor Press's "Best of Journals in Rhetoric and Composition 2022" collection.**

Itchuaqiyag, C. U., & Matheson, B. (2021). Decolonial Dinners: Ethical Consideration of Decolonial Metaphors in TPC Scholarship. *Technical Communication Quarterly*, 30(3), 298-310. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10572252.2021.1930180>

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., Walton, R. (2021). Reviewer as Activist: Understanding Academic Review Through Conocimiento. *Rhetoric Review*, (40)4, 378-394.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/07350198.2021.1963040>

BOOK CHAPTERS (ANONYMOUS, PEER REVIEWED)

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (forthcoming). When the Sound is Frozen: Extracting Climate Data from Inuit Narratives. In S. Williams (Ed.), *Technical Communication for Environmental Action*. SUNY Press.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2022). The Woman Who Tricked the Machine: Challenging the Neutrality of Defaults and Building Coalitions for Marginalized Scholars. In M. J. Faris & S. Holmes (Eds.), *Re-Programmable Rhetoric: Critical Making Theories and Methods in Digital Rhetoric and Composition*. Utah State University Press, pp. 75-91.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2021). Iñupiat Iñitqusiatic: An Indigenist Ethics Approach for Working with Marginalized Knowledges in Technical Communication. In R. Walton & G. Agboka (Eds.), *Equipping Technical Communicators for Social Justice Work: Theories, Methodologies, and Pedagogies*. Utah State University Press, pp. 33-48.

FEDERAL ASSESSMENTS (PEER REVIEWED)

Strawhacker, C., Huntington, H. P., Falke, J., Ward, E. M., Behnken, L. Curry, T. N., Herrmann, A. C., **Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U.**, Littell, J. S., Logerwell, E. A., Meeker, D., Overbeck, J. R., Peter, D. L., Pincus, R., Quintyne, A. A., Trainor, S. F., Yoder, S. A. (forthcoming). *National Climate Assessment 5, Alaska Chapter*. United States Global Change Research Program.

PUBLISHED REPORTS

Veazey, P., Hapke, H., Arruda, G. M., Bennett, M., Huemrich, K. F., **Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U.**, Jeffries, M., Raymond-Yakoubian, J., Webley, P., Weinberg, E., Wylie, C., Wiggins, H., & Myers, B. (2022). *Understanding and overcoming collaborative Arctic research challenges*. Arctic Research Consortium of the United States.
https://www.arcus.org/files/publication/33258/2022_arcus_interdisciplinary_research_committee_report.pdf

SELECT TEACHING AND SCHOLARLY EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor of Professional and Technical Writing, 2021-
Virginia Polytechnic and State University, Blacksburg, VA

- » English 2364: Writing and Social Justice
- » English 4824: Science Writing
 - Community-engaged, service-learning course: Partnered with Northwest Arctic Native Association (NANA) Natural Resources in Kotzebue, Alaska
- » English 5674: Rhetoric of Science, Technology, and Medicine (graduate course)

- Community-engaged, service-learning course: Partnered with Maniilaq Association Social Medicine Program, Siamit, and Aqqaluk Trust in Kotzebue, Alaska

Member (Elected), Board of Directors, 2022 –

Arctic Research Consortium of the United States ([ARCUS](#)), Fairbanks, AK

- » Advocate for Indigenous communities in Arctic research planning
- » Assess and make recommendations for issues related to Arctic research and ARCUS

Member, Special Committee on Interdisciplinary Research, 2021- 2022

Arctic Research Consortium of the United States ([ARCUS](#)), Fairbanks, AK

- » Assess strategies and make recommendations related to growing interdisciplinary research collaborations in the Arctic
- » Advocate for Indigenous communities in Arctic research planning

Member, Board of Directors, 2019-

[Caleb Scholars Program](#)

- » Mentor undergraduate and graduate Alaska Native students
- » Develop strategies toward increasing Inuit-led conservation advocacy

Managing Editor, 2019-2021

Technical Communication Quarterly, Logan, UT

- » Managed production-related tasks: reviews, copyediting, queries

SELECT INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Technical Communication Consultant, NANA Natural Resources 2021-

NANA Regional Corporation, Kotzebue, AK

- » Develop culturally and locally sensitive communication strategies for rural Alaska Native communities

Technical Communication Consultant, Caleb Scholars Program 2020-

Kawerak, Inc., Nome, AK

- » Strategic planning and programmatic development for prestigious fellowship program benefitting Alaska Native students aimed to increase Inuit-led conservation advocacy

Ethnographer, Graphic Designer, Technical Writer 2008-2013

NANA Regional Corporation, Kotzebue, AK

- » Co-authored cultural and historical compendium for the Northwest Arctic Native Association (NANA) in NW Alaska that highlighted the use of the traditional Iñupiat value system in tribal business and decision-making practices

DELEGATE INVITATIONS

Arctic Horizon Scan 2022 Workshop, September 2022

Oxford University Polar Forum

- » Selected as a delegate to participate in a 3-day workshop refining research questions for polar research
- » <https://www.polar.ox.ac.uk/horizon/>

SELECT AWARDS AND HONORS

Grants supporting “The Rematriation Project,” 2021-2022

- » Ocean Conservancy, \$25,000
- » Trust for Mutual Understanding, \$32,750
- » Wiburforce Foundation, \$5,000
- » NorthLight Foundation, \$10,000
- » Virginia Tech Libraries, \$5,000

Juneteenth Scholars Program, 2022-23

Virginia Tech

- » Competitive \$5,000 merit-based fellowship for scholars advancing VT’s commitment to advancing scholarship regarding emancipation, social movements, structural oppression, and institutional racism

Liminal Fellows Award, 2022

Liminal Creations

- » \$5,000 fellowship to support scholars who are working on issues related to socially just science communication

AIGC Science Post Graduate Scholarship, 2019

American Indian Graduate Center, Albuquerque, NM

- » Competitive \$20,000 merit-based national scholarship to fund graduate STEM research

SELECT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Gonzales, L., **Itchuaqiyaq, C. U.**, Kramer, C., Lindgren, C., Cooley, S. N., Richards, D. P., Rose, E., & Sharp-Hoskins, K. (2022, Jul 17). [UX in/as political renegotiation](#). Panel presentation at the 2022 IEEE International Professional Communication Conference (ProComm), Limerick, Ireland.

Hsu, J., Pettus, M., Rabbi, S., Cortez, J., Del Hierro, V., García, R., Green, D., & **Itchuaqiyaq, C. U.** (2022, Mar 12). Perspectives on Coalition Building: Conversations on Antiracist Work as Non-Black POC Teachers, Scholars, and Co-Conspirators. Panel presentation sponsored by the NCTE/CCCC Black Caucus at the Conference of College Communication and Composition, Online.

Itchuaqiyaq, C. U., Matheson, B. (2021). *Respectful and Responsible Use of Frameworks and Methodologies*. Panel presentation at the Association for Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, Online.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2019, March). *Denormalizing the Colonized Classroom: Considering Kairos when Using POC Body Rhetoric to Disrupt Assumptions of Power*. Paper presentation at the Conference on College Communication and Composition, Pittsburgh, PA.

REGIONAL CONFERENCES

Whiting, D. Q., & **Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U.** (2020, October 6) *Mindful Advocacy and Understanding your Social Influence*. Workshop presentation at the 37th Annual First Alaskans Institute Elders and Youth Conference, Online.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2019, October) *Decentering Whiteness: Radical Inclusion in Teaching and Research*. Panel presentation at the Utah State University Inclusive Excellence Symposium, Logan, UT.

SELECT INVITED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2022, May 18). Extracting Data from Arctic Indigenous Narratives: Inuit Stories as Resources in Understanding Climate Change. Workshop and keynote lecture, Technical Communication and Rhetoric PhD May Seminar: Texas Tech.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2022, May 12). Securing and Ensuring Self-Advocacy and Self-Determination: A Guide by Inuit for Respectful Community Engagement. Workshop: University of Connecticut, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Department.

Kramer, C., **Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U.** (2022, May 12). Equitable Research Partnerships with Alaska Native Communities. Lecture: Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium's Alaska Indigenous Research Program.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2022, 14 Apr). Inuit Narratives as Climate Change Data. Ayers Lecture for the Inclusion Advocate Faculty Program: Butler University.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2022, 7 Apr). An Inuk in the Institution: Centering Clanwork and Community as a Matter of Course. Public lecture and faculty workshop: University of Alaska, Anchorage.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2021, 20 Oct). Decentering Whiteness in Antiracism Initiatives. Faculty Accelerator Webinar Series: University of Alaska, Fairbanks.
<https://facdev.uaf.edu/decentering-whiteness/>

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2021, 9 June). Extracting Data from Arctic Indigenous Narratives: Inuit Stories as Resources in Understanding Climate Change. Workshop: Korean Polar Research Institute (KOPRI).

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2021, 10 March). Inuit Communities and Climate Change: Navigating a New Arctic. Center for Refugee, Migrant, and Displacement Studies Speaker Series, On Displacement: Virginia Tech.

Aguilar, G. L., McKoy, T., Walls, D. & O'Keefe, W., Harper, K., Reynoso, E., **Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U.**, & Hocutt, D. (2020, October 9). Antiracist and Social Justice Activism. *SIGDOC Conference 2020: Topic Discussions*. <http://sigdoc.acm.org/conference/2020/>