

# CANA ULUAK ITCHUAQIYaq

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

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Cana Uluak Itchuaqiy aq (she/they) is an Iñupiaq scholar and a tribal member of the Noorvik Native Community in Northwest Alaska. As an assistant professor of technical and scientific communication and the founding director of the Center for Sustainable Engagement in the Arctic at Virginia Tech, Cana draws on her academic background in the humanities and environmental sciences to advance culturally appropriate, capacity-driven, and justice-oriented service and research across human, social, physical, environmental, and data sciences. Her work focuses on developing effective methods, protocols, partnerships, and programs that empower marginalized communities to pursue community-driven and community-led research.

Currently, Cana is the academic project lead of two Inuit-led, co-produced, transdisciplinary projects:

- The Rematriation Project: Developing capacity for and access to digital archiving and database creation 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.
- The Iñupiatun Language Access & Sovereignty Project: Leveraging computational linguistics, natural language processing, and machine learning to document and improve access to the critically endangered Iñupiatun language, along with data from historical resources and texts.

## EDUCATION

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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

## PUBLICATIONS

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### JOURNAL ARTICLES (ANONYMOUS, PEER REVIEWED)

Long, K., **It chuaqiy aq, C. U.**, Lindgren, C. A., Ogier, A., Boyd, L. A., It chuaqiy aq, D. P., & Yunes, E. (2025). Reimagining Archives in the Age of Automation: A Decolonial and Relational Approach. *Technical Communication Quarterly*, 1–17.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/10572252.2025.2490506>

» Written with two Inuit community partners

- Yunes, E., **Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U.**, & Long, K. (in press). Building Capacity for Community Digital Archiving in Northwest Alaska. *Archives and Records*.
- Lindgren, C. A., Yunes, E., & **Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U.** (2024). Technical Communication's Fight Against Extractive Large Language Modeling by Applying FAIR and CARE Principles of Data. *Journal of Business and Technical Communication*, 39(1), 11-25. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10506519241280587>
- Yunes, E., **Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U.**, & Long, K. (2023). THE REMATRIATION PROJECT: Building Capacity for Community Digital Archiving in Northwest Alaska. *iPRES 2023*.
- Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., Lindgren, C., & Kramer, C. Q. (2023). Decolonizing Community-Engaged Research: Designing CER with Cultural Humility as a Foundational Value. *Communication Design Quarterly*, 11(3), 12-20. <https://cdq.sigdoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/CDQ-Volume-11-Issue-3-1.pdf>
- » Written with an Inuit community partner
  - » **Selected for the 2025 Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) award in the category of Best Article on Philosophy or Theory of Technical or Scientific Communication.**
- Gonzales, L., **Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U.**, Kramer, C., Lindgren, C., Cooley, S. N., Richards, D. P., Rose, E., & Sharp-Hoskins, K. (2022, July). UX in/as political renegotiation. In *2022 IEEE International Professional Communication Conference (ProComm)* (pp. 453-455). IEEE.
- Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., Gottschalk-Druschke, C., Cagle, L., & Bloom-Pojar, R. (2022). To Community with Care: Enacting Positive Barriers to Access as Good Relations. *Community Literacy Journal*, 17(1), 94-116. <https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/communityliteracy/vol17/iss1/>
- » **Selected for Outstanding Article Award for the 2023 Conference on Community Writing**
- Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., & Frith, J. (2022). Citational Practices as a Site of Resistance and Radical Pedagogy: Positioning the Multiply Marginalized and Underrepresented (MMU) Scholar Database as an Infrastructural Intervention. *Communication Design Quarterly*, 10(3), 10-19.
- Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., Edenfield, A. C., & Grant-Davie, K. (2022). Sex Work and Professional Risk Communication: Keeping Safe on the Streets. *Journal of Business and Technical Communication*, 36(1), 1-37. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10506519211044190>
- Itchuaqiyaaq, 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., & 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.**

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>

» **Selected for the 2023 Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) award in the category of Best Article on Philosophy or Theory of Technical or Scientific Communication.**

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., Ranade, N., & Walton, R. (2021). Theory to Query: Developing a Corpus-Analysis Method Using Computer Programming and Human Analysis. *Technical Communication* 68(3), 7-28.

### BOOK CHAPTERS (ANONYMOUS, PEER REVIEWED)

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (in press). Citational Checkup for an Antiracist, Justice-Oriented Field. In N. N. Jones, L. Gonzales, A. M. Haas, & M. F. Williams (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook on Technical & Professional Communication*. Routledge.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2025). Researching Ethically. In D. Ross (Ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Ethics in Technical and Professional Communication*. Routledge, pp. 258-268.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2023). When the Sound is Frozen: Extracting Climate Data from Inuit Narratives. In S. Williams (Ed.), *Technical Communication for Environmental Action*. SUNY Press, pp. 19-38.

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 Iłitqusiat: 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.

» **Selected for 2023 CCCC Technical and Scientific Communication Award in the category of Best Original Collection of Essays in Technical or Scientific Communication.**

### FEDERAL REPORTS (PEER REVIEWED)

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. (2023). *National Climate Assessment 5, Alaska Chapter*. United States Global Change Research Program, pp. 1-65. Retrieved at [https://nca2023.globalchange.gov/downloads/NCA5\\_Ch29\\_Alaska.pdf](https://nca2023.globalchange.gov/downloads/NCA5_Ch29_Alaska.pdf)

### PUBLISHED REPORTS

Veazey, P., Hapke, H., Arruda, G. M., Bennett, M., Huemmerich, 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, pp. 1-31. Retrieved at [https://www.arcus.org/files/publication/33258/2022\\_arcus\\_interdisciplinary\\_research\\_committee\\_report.pdf](https://www.arcus.org/files/publication/33258/2022_arcus_interdisciplinary_research_committee_report.pdf)

## BOOK REVIEWS

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2019). Review of Technical Communication After the Social Justice Turn: Building Coalitions for Action. *Communication Design Quarterly*, 7(3), 35-36.

## SELECT TEACHING AND SCHOLARLY EXPERIENCE

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Founding Director, 2024-

Center for Sustainable Engagement in the Arctic (CSEA)

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

- » Develop CSEA mission, vision, procedures, charter
- » Develop campus, community, and funder engagement plans
- » Supervise 2 PhD-level Graduate Research Assistants

Assistant Professor of Technical and Scientific Communication, 2021-

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

- » English 2364: Writing and Social Justice
- » English 3764: Intro to Technical Communication (online, asynchronous)
- » English 4824: Science Writing
  - Community-engaged, service-learning course: Partnered with tribal partners in Kotzebue, Alaska
- » English 5624: Cultural Rhetorics (graduate course)
- » 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
- » English 6514: Studies in Rhetoric, Field Methods (graduate course)

Co-Lead, Research Priority Team 7: Technology, Infrastructure, Logistics, and Services, 2024-

International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), Borgir, Iceland

- » International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP IV) Process, 2024-2026

Non-federal co-lead, Participatory Research and Indigenous Leadership in Research team, 2023 -

Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC), Washington, DC

- » Two-year, renewable, selected appointment (renewed for 2025-27)
- » Assist IARPC in fulfilling the objectives outlined in the Arctic Research Plan 2022-2026

Member, Editorial Board, 2022 –

*Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy*

Member, Editorial Board, 2021 –

*Communication Design Quarterly*

Member, Steering Committee, 2019 –  
Caleb Scholars Program, Nome, AK

## SELECT INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

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Director of Community and Communications 2024-  
Respectful Research LLC | RespectfulResearch.com

- » Develop online trainings and materials to promote respectful and equitable research practices
- » Develop communication systems and strategies to grow impact and reach

Technical Communication Consultant, NANA Natural Resources 2021  
NANA Regional Corporation, Kotzebue, AK

- » Evaluate communication between NANA Natural Resources and local stakeholders for efficacy and equity
- » Develop culturally and locally sensitive communication strategies for rural Alaska Native communities

Technical Communication Consultant, Caleb Scholars Program 2020-2023  
Kawerak, Inc., Nome, AK

- » Strategic planning and programmatic development for prestigious fellowship program benefitting Alaska Native students aimed to increase Inuit-led conservation advocacy
- » Create professional writing products, such as grant applications and training materials, to assist with programmatic goals

## SELECT AWARDS AND HONORS

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Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) award in the category of **Best Article on Philosophy or Theory of Technical or Scientific Communication**

- » 2023: 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>
- » 2025: Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., Lindgren, C., & Kramer, C. Q. (2023). Decolonizing Community-Engaged Research: Designing CER with Cultural Humility as a Foundational Value. *Communication Design Quarterly*, 11(3), 12-20

Invitation to present to White House officials, 27 & 28 August 2024  
Kotzebue, Alaska

- » Special invitation by U.S. Arctic Research Program Commissioner Liz Cravalho to escort 4 officials from the White House Office of Science Technology Policy (OSTP) during their 2-day visit to Kotzebue, Alaska
- » Gave 1-hour presentation to White House OSTP officials about my research and the development of a new center at Virginia Tech—the Center for Sustainable Engagement in the Arctic

Invitation to the White House, 14 Nov 2023  
Washington, DC

- » Special invitation to the White House event celebrating the release of the National Climate Assessment 5 (NCA5)
- » Selected to represent the NCA5, Alaska Chapter team

Invitation to the Wilson Center / US Arctic Research Commission Event, 15 Feb 2023  
Washington, DC

- » Special invitation to the Wilson Center / US Arctic Research Commission Event celebrating the release of the “Report on the Goals and Objectives for Arctic Research 2023-2024” to the President and Congress

Juneteenth Scholars Program, 2022-23  
Virginia Tech

- » 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

- » Fellowship to support scholars who are working on issues related to socially just science communication

## **SELECT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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### **NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES**

Kramer, C.Q., Itchuaqiyaaq, C.U. (2024, Oct 17). *Blanket Toss: Cooperating for Community Strength*. Arctic Circle Assembly. Reykjavik, Iceland.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., Lindgren, C., Ogier, A., and Crosby, D. P. (2024, Apr 11). *Supporting Indigenous Data Sovereignty through Community-led Partnerships: The Rematriation Project*. U.S. Indigenous Data Sovereignty Summit: Building Action to Power. U.S. Indigenous Data Sovereignty Network Summit. Tucson, AZ.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., Garcia, H. M., Glenn, R. T., & Brattland, C. (2024, Mar 27). Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Capacity Sharing. Plenary panel at the Arctic Observing Summit, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., Badhe, R., & Brattland, C. (2024, Mar 27). Equity in Arctic Observing: Identify Systemic Hurdles and Approaches to Achieving Equity in International Arctic Observing Efforts. Keynote plenary session at the Arctic Observing Summit, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., Kramer, C. Q. (2024, Mar 6). Equitable Arctic Research: Intention and Action. Keynote presentation at the Navigating the New Arctic Annual Community Meeting, Washington, DC.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., Kramer, C. Q. (2024, Mar 6). Equitable Arctic Research: Cultural Humility. Workshop presentation at the Navigating the New Arctic Annual Community Meeting, Washington, DC.

- Itchuaqiyag, C. U., Schultz, M. T. (2023, Nov 4). Alaska'mi inuit pillugit ilisimatusarnerit imminut attuumassuteqanngitsut marluk /Two Examples of Equitable Arctic Research with Alaskan Inuit Communities. Paper presentation at the Greenland Science Week international conference, Sisimiut, Greenland.
- Itchuaqiyag, C. U., Long, K., & Yunes, E. (2023, Sept 19-23). The Rematriation Project: Building capacity for community digital archiving in Northwest Alaska. Paper presentation at the iPRES 2023 Conference, Champaign-Urbana, IL. <https://hdl.handle.net/2142/121108>
- Yunes, E., Kramer, C. Q., **Itchuaqiyag, C. U.**, Lindgren, C. A., Long, K. (2023, Feb 24). The Rematriation Project: Developing a collaborative, equitable, Indigenous-first digital archive design process. Panel presentation at the 2023 Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW), Vienna, Austria.
- Itchuaqiyag, C. U. (2023, Feb 16). Recognizing Science: Antiracist (& Decolonial) Science Communication. Paper presentation at the Conference of College Communication and Composition (CCCC), Chicago, IL.
- Gonzales, L., **Itchuaqiyag, 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.