

# CANA ULUAK ITCHUAQIYAQ

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

[cana@vt.edu](mailto:cana@vt.edu) | [itchuaqiyag.com](http://itchuaqiyag.com)

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

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### JOURNAL ARTICLES (ANONYMOUS, PEER REVIEWED)

Itchuaqiyag, C. U., & Frith, J. (forthcoming). 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*.

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.

- 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., 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.
- Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U., Edenfield, A. C., & Grant-Davie, K. (2021). Sex Work and Professional Risk Communication: Keeping Safe on the Streets. *Journal of Business and Technical Communication*, 36(1), 1-37. <https://doi.org/10.1177/105065192111044190>
- 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 Iłitqusiāt: 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](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.

## 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, Siमित, 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

Managing Editor, 2019-2021

*Technical Communication Quarterly*, Logan, UT

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

Instructor of Record, 2017-2021

Utah State University, Logan, UT

- » English 1010: Introduction to Academic Writing (face-to-face and online)
- » English 2010: Intermediate Writing: Research Writing in a Persuasive Mode
- » English 3410: Professional Writing Technologies

Graduate Teaching Assistant, 2016-2017

Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID

- » Communication 1101: Principles of Speech
- » Communication 2201: Introduction to Graphic Design

## INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

---

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-  
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

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 practices
- » Conducted interviews with Iñupiaq Elders and leaders regarding their personal history as well as tribal and village governance systems
- » Authored educational articles published in NANA's *Hunter* newsletter

## 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/>

## 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

ATTW Amplification Award, 2021

Association for Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW)

- » Competitive \$500 merit-based national award

Fellow, Future Faculty Diversity Program, 2020

Virginia Tech

- » Competitive merit-based faculty development program

ATTW Graduate Research Award, 2020

Association for Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW)

- » Competitive \$500 merit-based national research grant

Doctoral Student Researcher of the Year, 2020

Utah State University, Logan, UT

- » Department of English, Winner
- » College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Winner

CCCC Scholars for the Dream Travel Award, 2020

Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)

- » Competitive \$1,000 merit-based national award

AIGC Science Post Graduate Scholarship, 2019

American Indian Graduate Center, Albuquerque, NM

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

CPTSC Bedford/St. Martin's Diversity Scholarship, 2019

Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication (CPTSC)

- » Competitive \$750 merit-based national award

Graduate Research and Creative Opportunities Award, 2018

Utah State University, Logan, UT

- » Competitive \$1,000 award granted to fund graduate research

USUSA Graduate Enhancement Award, 2018

Utah State University, Logan, UT

- » Competitive \$4,000 service award

## 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.
- Ball, C., Cole, J. L., **Itchuaqiyaq, C. U.**, & Walton, R. (2022, Jan 9). After the Inclusivity Statement: Shit or Get Off the Pot. Panel presentation at the Modern Language Association National Conference, Washington, DC.
- Itchuaqiyaq, C. U.**, Hutchinson Campos, L., Cagle, L., Bloom-Pojar, R., & Gottschalk Druschke, C. (2021, Oct 22). Roundtable on Good Relations. Panel presentation at the Conference on Community Writing, 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.
- Itchuaqiyaq, C. U. (2021). *Inclusive Citation Practices: How to Ethically Engage with Scholarship in Literature Reviews*. Invited “Graduate Research Awards” presentation at the Association for Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, Online.
- Itchuaqiyaq, C. U. (2020). *Insider Parasite: Ethical Considerations for “Locals” in Decolonial Research Methods in Rhetoric*. Paper presentation at the Rhetoric Society of America National Conference, Portland, OR. [Conference cancelled]
- Itchuaqiyaq, C. U. (2020). *Respectful Practices: Centering Relationships and Local Knowledges in Decolonial Technical Communication Research and Advocacy*. Paper presentation at the Association for Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, Milwaukee, WI. [Conference cancelled]
- Itchuaqiyaq, C. U. (2020). *Ethical Considerations of “Fly-By” Citation Practices in Writing Studies and Technical Communication*. Paper presentation at the Conference of College Communication and Composition, Milwaukee, WI. [Conference cancelled]
- Itchuaqiyaq, 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.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2019, March). *Seeing What Isn't There: Inclusive Citation Practices*. Paper presentation at the Association of the Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, Pittsburgh, PA.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2018, October). *The Cost of Inclusion in the Classroom: 5 Minutes and \$20 Worth of Markers*. Roundtable presentation at the Association for Business Communication International Conference, Miami, FL.

## REGIONAL CONFERENCES

Whiting, D. Q., & **Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U.** (2020, October 6) *Mindful Advocacy and Understanding your Social Influence*. Workshop presentation at the 37<sup>th</sup> 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.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2018, February) *Reducing Risk and Victim-Blaming in Campus 'Timely Warning Notices' About Sexual Violence*. Panel presentation at the Utah Symposium on the Digital Humanities, Logan, UT.

## 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.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2022, May 19). *Community-Driven Research With/In My Own Inuit Community*. Emerging Voices keynote lecture, Computers and Writing Conference, 2022. East Carolina University.

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, Apr 14). *Inuit Narratives as Climate Change Data*. Ayers Lecture for the Inclusion Advocate Faculty Program: Butler University.

Itchuaqiyaaq, C. U. (2022, Apr 7). *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, Nov 5). *Securing and Ensuring Self-Advocacy and Self-Determination: A Guide for Ethical and Equitable Community Engagement in the Sciences*. Keynote and workshop: 500 Women Scientists.

- Itchuaqiyag, C. U. (2021, Oct 20). Decentering Whiteness in Antiracism Initiatives. Faculty Accelerator Webinar Series: University of Alaska, Fairbanks.  
<https://facdev.uaf.edu/decentering-whiteness/>
- Itchuaqiyag, C. U. (2021, June 9). Extracting Data from Arctic Indigenous Narratives: Inuit Stories as Resources in Understanding Climate Change. Workshop: Korean Polar Research Institute (KOPRI).
- Itchuaqiyag, C. U. (2021, April 16). Decentering Whiteness in Antiracism Initiatives. The Hermanns Lecture Series: The University of Texas at Arlington.
- Itchuaqiyag, C. U. (2021, March 10). 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., **Itchuaqiyag, C. U.**, & Hocutt, D. (2020, October 9). Antiracist and Social Justice Activism. *SIGDOC Conference 2020: Topic Discussions*. <http://sigdoc.acm.org/conference/2020/>
- Itchuaqiyag, C. U., Litts, B., Suárez, M. I., Taylor, C., & Glass, C. M. (2020, October 6). Citation as a Critical Practice. *Intersections on Inclusion: Critical Conversations about the Academy*.  
[https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/inter\\_inclusion/1](https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/inter_inclusion/1)

## AFFILIATIONS

---

- » Tribal member, Noorvik Native Community, Noorvik, Alaska
- » Association for the Rhetoric of Science, Technology, and Medicine (ARSTM)
- » Association of Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW)
- » Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication (CPTSC)
- » Special Interest Group (SIG) on the Design of Communication (SIGDOC)
- » Society for Technical Communication (STC)
- » Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC): American Indian Caucus
- » Arctic Research Consortium of the United States (ARCUS)

## SERVICE TO SCHOLARLY COMMUNITY

---

Facilitator – Community Engagement Workshops, 2022

Association for Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW)

- » Hosted session, “Works in Progress Studio”
- » Hosted session, “Reimagining Mentorship & Support in ATTW”

Selection Committee – Scholars for the Dream Travel Award, 2021.

Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)

- » Reviewed applications and determine awardees

Steering Committee Member, 2019-

Caleb Pungowiyi Scholars Program

- » Mentor undergraduate and graduate Alaska Native students



- » Develop strategies toward increasing Inuit-led conservation advocacy

Moderator (“Mod”), 2019-2020

nextGEN

- » Moderated an active listserv (650+ members) focused on graduate student support and advocacy with six coalitional members
- » Organized and contributed to graduate student activism

Co-facilitator, Implicit Bias Training, 2019

Utah State University, Logan, UT

- » Developed university-wide training program regarding implicit bias with USU EOE
- » Co-facilitated trainings for college deans and department chairs

Organizer, Teach in “Supreme Stakes: Understanding Sexual Violence,” October 2018

Utah State University, Logan, UT

- » Featured panelist for a [radio broadcast](#) on Utah Public Radio about the teach-in and the #metoo movement
- » Featured panelist for a [town-hall event](#) sponsored by Utah Public Radio about the teach-in and the #metoo movement

Volunteer Facilitator, “Timely Warning Notice” revision process, February 2018

Utah State University, Logan, UT

- » Coordinated creation of an interdepartmental stakeholder group
- » Reduced victim-blaming language in USU’s Timely Warning Notices
- » Increased cooperation between various campus stakeholders in reporting sexual harassment and violence on campus

## PRESS

---

Braegger, V. (Producer). (2022, April 26). More than Memos: Talkin Bout Tech Comm with Dr. **Cana Uluak Itchuaqiyag** [Video podcast]. Retrieved from <https://youtu.be/ycPffBlg9pM>

Flores, W. (Producer). (2021, July 2). Tell Me More: Episode 1 – **Cana Uluak Itchuaqiyag** [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <https://anchor.fm/tellme-more/episodes/Episode-1-Cana-Uluak-Itchuaqiyag-e13r0p5>

Sterenchuk, D., Estlund, T. (Producers). (2020, September 10). The Curiosity Hour: Episode 159 – **Cana Uluak Itchuaqiyag**, PhD candidate [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from [https://soundcloud.com/thecuriosityhourpodcast/s08-e159-cana\\_uluak\\_itchuaqiyag?in=thecuriosityhourpodcast/sets/complete-playlist-all-guests](https://soundcloud.com/thecuriosityhourpodcast/s08-e159-cana_uluak_itchuaqiyag?in=thecuriosityhourpodcast/sets/complete-playlist-all-guests)