

THE ARCTIC TOGETHER

EPISODE SEVEN | SPRING 2025 PODCAST

SHOW NOTES & RESOURCE GUIDE

Centering Indigenous community voices, getting to the root of research, and what it means to be “Arctic Together” through sharing story

 Podcast Website

This Episode

Convergence Working Groups - Fostering Indigenous Led Research Early Career Co-leads Dr. Margaret Rudolf, Dr. Stanislav Saas Ksenofontov, Glaciologist Aurora Roth, and Dr. Dylan Blaskey



Navigating the New Arctic
Community Office



Photo By Ulyana Horodyskyj Pena

About

The *Arctic Together* podcast is a podcast series that centers Indigenous community voices, shares Navigating the New Arctic (NNA) community stories, and highlights different approaches to issues and solutions in Arctic-based research. The NNA-CO Community Extension Office at Alaska Pacific University is the content developer and host of the *Arctic Together* podcast, and aims to build awareness, partnerships, opportunities, and resources for collaboration. From local to international scales, to supporting the next generation of Arctic researchers, *Arctic Together* offers stories and wisdom towards a more holistic understanding of the Arctic.

This episode features the early career co-leads for the NNA-CO Convergence Working Group's *Fostering Indigenous Led Research*. Join us as we converse with Dr. Margaret Rudolf, glaciologist Aurora Roth, Dr. Dylan Blaskey, and Dr. Stanislav "Saas" Ksenofontov about their journeys in this group.



Produced by *Arctic Together* Co-Hosts
JAMES TEMTE AND JESSICA LEWIS-NICORI

NNA-CO Community Extension Office
Alaska Pacific University

Photo by Peter Ungar

SPECIAL FEATURE GUESTS

Dr. Margaret Rudolf



Margaret Rudolf is an Early Career Co-lead for the Fostering Indigenous-led Research Convergence Working Group. Her Inupiaq name is **Anamaq** and her family is originally from King Island, AK. She is currently a postdoctoral researcher at the International Arctic Research Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks. She fosters Indigenous-led research with her work on co-production of knowledge and Indigenous engagement in Arctic research.

Dylan Blaskey serves as an Early Career Co-Lead for the Fostering Indigenous-Led Research Convergence Working Group. His research explores the intersection of large-scale computational hydrology, climate change, and community resilience. For his dissertation, Dylan contributed to the Navigating the New Arctic's Arctic Rivers Project, which examined the holistic impacts of climate change on river systems across the Arctic through close collaboration with local communities.

Learn more about the Indigenous Advisory Council that guided the Arctic Rivers Project [here](#). A discussion on fostering stronger collaboration between communities and academia can be found [here](#).

Dr. Dylan Blaskey



SPECIAL FEATURE GUESTS

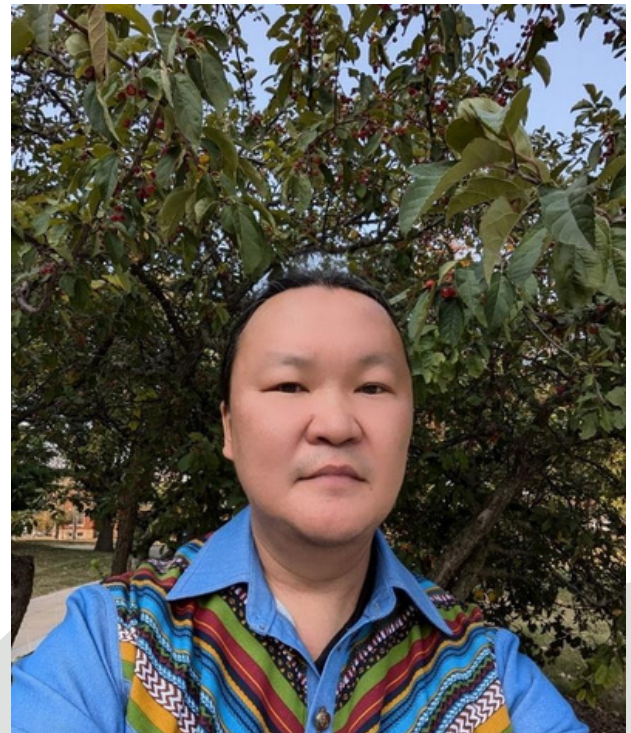
Glaciologist Aurora Roth



Aurora Roth is an Early Career Co-Lead for the Fostering Indigenous-Led Research Convergence Working Group. She is currently a PhD student at Scripps Institution of Oceanography and she was born and raised on Lower Tanana Dene lands and rivers in Alaska. Her research explores how our warming climate and increased melt from the Greenland Ice Sheet are impacting ocean and fjord ecosystems in Kalaallit Nunaat (Greenland). She and her advisor, Dr. Fiamma Straneo, have partnered with Greenland-based scientists, public school teachers, and a Greenlandic artist ([Maria Kreutzmann](#)) as they work to prioritize outcomes that align with the Greenland government's [National Research Strategy](#) and promote a culture shift for how foreign scientists work as guests in Kalaallit Nunaat.

Dr. Stanislav “Saas” Ksenofontov serves as an Early Career Co-Lead for the Fostering Indigenous-Led Research Convergence Working Group. He is an Indigenous Sakha social scientist from Sakha Republic in Northeastern Siberia. In his research, Stanislav aims to decolonize western science-based system of knowledge and to bring Indigenous ways of knowing and being. Dr. Ksenofontov holds a Ph.D. in human geography from the University of Zurich, Switzerland. Currently, he is a postdoctoral scholar at the ARCTICenter, University of Northern Iowa, USA where he examines the vulnerability of Arctic Indigenous social-ecological systems to global change drivers, namely climate change, industrial development, socio-political transformations. Other research interests include Arctic Indigenous sustainability, Arctic urbanization, Indigenous identities, Russian energy megaprojects. Other than research, Dr. Ksenofontov serves as a Fellowship Coordinator at the International Arctic Science Committee.

Dr. Stanislav “Saas” Ksenofontov



SHOW NOTES

Learn more about the NNA-CO Fostering Indigenous-led Research Convergence Working Group [here](#).

Margaret, Dylan, Aurora, and Saas share what it means to them to be part of the Fostering Indigenous-led Research Convergence Working Group. As early career researchers, their experiences prior to and with this group are helping to inform future Arctic research. Tune in and hear their unique stories, learn what it means for them to further Convergence Research, and what Fostering Indigenous-led Research holds for their futures.

From mapping rivers and they dynamic relationship of ice, the environment, and people, to co-production of knowledge and more!

Biography links to the Early Career Researchers housed in their respective organizations are below:

Margaret Rudolf: [International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks](#)

Dylan Blaskey: [Arctic Rivers at the University of Colorado Boulder](#)

Aurora Roth: [Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California San Diego](#)

Stanislav Ksenofontov: [Postdoctoral Scholar of Arctic, Remote and Cold Territories Interdisciplinary Center \(ARCTICenter\)](#)

TEK
Talks

TEK Talks with Margaret Rudolf and Anika Pinzner: this resource shares videos, resource links, and tips for furthering this type of work.



[Integrated Systems Hydrology Publications List with Dylan Blaskey](#)

Podcast Show Notes

Click the links below for more information & resources shared by guests.



Critique letters to the NNA program are found on the [Kawerak, Inc. Natural Resources](#) section, and the [Knowledge Sovereignty webpage](#). More resources like this are also available on the [NNA CAP Portal](#).



Bristol Bay Lunch and Learn: What glaciers gave to Bristol Bay with Glaciologist Aurora Roth. April 22, 2025. Join the Bristol Bay Campus's Lunch and Learn series and get a glimpse into Aurora's research and work! [YouTube Link](#)



University of Alaska Fairbanks Northwest Campus "[Shine a Light Speaker Series](#)": At UAF, we are growing into a socially just and caring institution of higher education. This ongoing speaker series, titled Shine a Light: Promoting Conversations on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, is designed to encourage understanding, build empathy and engage us in thinking critically about our worldviews.



[Arctic Rivers Project](#) that Dylan referenced. Arctic Rivers is a collaboration between University of Colorado Boulder and the United States Geological Survey, and has many partners, including the [Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council](#), the [Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals](#), and more.

Featured Music



From the artist
Byron Nicholai

Further Reading & Resources

Ksenofontov, S.S. & Petrov, A.N. "[Global Change Impacts on Indigenous Sustainability in Sakha Republic: A Synthesis of Knowledge](#)." *Sustainability*. 16(3). January 30, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su16031157>

Rudolf, M. "[Indigenous self-determination in co-production of knowledge](#)." Dissertation (Ph.D.) University of Alaska Fairbanks. 2023. <http://hdl.handle.net/11122/14967>

Fostering Indigenous-led Research Website: <https://sites.google.com/colorado.edu/nna-cwg/meet-the-cwgs/fostering-indigenous-led-research> Under "Announcements & Opportunities" is a link to notes from the 2024 NNA Annual Meeting

Blaskey, D. "The past and future of Alaskan river discharge, temperature, and ice." Dissertation (Ph.D.) University of Colorado at Boulder. 2024. [Link to article](#)

Rudolf, M.H.C., Trainor, S.F., O'Connor, J., Figus, E., & Hum, R. (2025). Factors in and perspective of achieving co-production of knowledge with Arctic Indigenous Peoples. *Community Science*, 4, e2023CSJ000074. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2023CSJ000074>

Photo by Kenneth A Hughes IV

“...We need to put people first. ...it comes down to a discussion. ... I’m constantly listening, most of the time people will tell you what they need.”

-Dylan Blaskey

“We prioritize our knowledge systems, bring our cultural perspectives, world views, epistemologies, and community needs.”

-Stanislov “Saas” Ksenofontov

“We’re in someone’s home, people hunt and fish here.”

-Aurora Roth about working in the ocean near Greenland

“Fostering Indigenous-led research is for Indigenous people, by Indigenous people, with Indigenous people.”

-Margaret Rudolf

The Navigating the New Arctic Community Office (NNA-CO) builds awareness, partnerships, opportunities, and resources for collaboration and equitable knowledge generation within, between, and beyond the research projects funded by the National Science Foundation’s NNA Initiative. The office builds capacity in early career researchers and provides unique opportunities to inspire and engage a wide audience toward a more holistic understanding of the Arctic—its natural environment, built environment, and diverse cultures and communities.

The NNA-CO is supported through a cooperative agreement (Award # 2040729) with the U.S. National Science Foundation.

For more information, visit nna-co.org.

Photo by Alexander Rivest