

### **Professor Courtney Carothers, Ph.D – Biography September 2019**

Courtney Carothers is a Professor of Fisheries in the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She holds a Ph.D. and an M.A. in environmental anthropology from the University of Washington and an A.B. in Biology and Society from Cornell University. Her research explores how fishery systems are being remade by enclosure and privatization processes. She also partners with Indigenous communities to understand social and cultural dimensions of knowledge systems, climate change, subsistence livelihoods, and decolonizing research. Her work focuses on human-environment relationships, cultural values, equity, and well-being. Her research has been reported in over 50 publications and 100 professional presentations, and featured in venues such as Science, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, the New York Times, and the U.S. Senate. She has served on a number of boards and working groups, including: the SEARCH (Study of Environmental Arctic Change) Science Steering Committee, the North Pacific Research Board Science Panel, the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund Expert Panel, the Social Wellbeing Indicators for Marine Management working group, Lenfest's Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management Task Force, and The Salmon Project board of directors.

### **Jonathan Samuelson – Biography September 2019**

Jonathan Samuelson is Yup'ik and Athabascan from the Kuskokwim River communities of Bethel, Georgetown, and McGrath. He currently works for Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission and has been appointed by his tribal council to represent them on the Commission since its formation. Jonathan also serves on the Environmental Committee for the Native Village of Georgetown and is a member of the Indigenizing Salmon Management project team headed by the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Jonathan gathers with his family every summer in Georgetown to harvest and put away fish.

### **2019 Salmon Symposium Keynote Abstract: *Indigenizing Salmon Science and Management***

This project is centered in Indigenous cosmologies and methodologies to better understand the ways in which Alaska Native people steward salmon, the values connected to salmon stewardship, and ideas for improving current management practices and systems. Indigenous people have stewarded Alaska lands and waters for thousands of years, yet have been largely excluded from science and management systems. Our collaboratively developed objectives explore Indigenous values, knowledge, and governance of salmon in Alaska and the adaptation of these systems over time. We assess current salmon science and management systems and inequities from Indigenous perspectives, and provide recommendations for ways to better incorporate Indigenous peoples, values, knowledge, management, and governance mechanisms into current systems. We adopt Indigenous research frameworks and methodologies that uphold cultural knowledge and remake research relationships. Indigenous methodologies of talking circle dialogues and multi-generational interviews co-led by Indigenous students in their home communities are the building block methods of our project. By better documenting Indigenous cosmologies, values, practices, and knowledge around salmon, we hope to elevate an understanding of the deep cultural and spiritual connections that Indigenous peoples across Alaska have with salmon. We hope that the process of creating safe spaces for dialogue about historical and current inequities in the salmon science and management systems will be healing and transformative. We hope this project and related efforts will facilitate larger system change in our state, so that Indigenous peoples, values, practices, and knowledge are better included in salmon science and management systems for the betterment of all peoples, as well as the salmon and the ecosystems on which they depend.