

CURRICULUM VITA

James W. La Belle, Sr.
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AREAS OF INTEREST AND SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE

Organizational development and management; Public policy and research; Community and rural development, board and executive management of Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) village and regional corporations; facilitator/trainer of group dynamics in strategic planning and development; strong communications and consulting skills; Alaska Native history, historical trauma, culture, values, elder issues and cross cultural bridging skills.

EDUCATION

University of Alaska Fairbanks, M.A. in Rural Development, 2006. Thesis Project Title: *Boarding School: Historical Trauma among Alaska's Native People.*

Alaska Methodist University (AMU). Bachelor of Arts, History 1973.

Anchorage Police Department, Cultural Diversity Training, 1997

Nine Star Enterprises, Inc., Teaching Effective Training Techniques, 1989.

United States Navy, Aviation Maintenance Administration, 1967-69

HONORS AND AWARDS

Who's who among Students in Colleges and Universities, 1972-73, Alaska Methodist University (AMU)

Founder and Incorporator of a Native regional nonprofit corporation called North Pacific Rim (now known as Chugachmiut, Incorporated) 30TH anniversary, 2004.

EMPLOYMENT

University of Alaska Anchorage, College of Arts and Sciences, Alaska Native Studies, Adjunct Faculty 2003 to present.

University of Alaska Anchorage, College of Health and Social Welfare, National Resource Center for American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Elders, Research Associate 2004 to present. Please see <http://elders.uaa.alaska.edu>.

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University of Alaska Fairbanks, Rural Human Services, Instructor, Nome Campus 1999, Adjunct Faculty 2004 – 2007 Anchorage.

State of Alaska, Department of Corrections, Office of the Commissioner, Rural Affairs Coordinator 1995 to 1999. Department of Community and Regional Affairs; Community Development Specialist and Local Government Specialist, 1988 to 1990.

- Department of Corrections: Rural Affairs Coordinator. Part of a management team providing best practices to incarcerated inmates and to protect the public. Performed liaison and cultural bridging activities between department representatives and incarcerated Alaska Native inmates, their families and organizations on a host of indigenous issues throughout the state.
 - Provided training on Alaska Native cultural values and communications to DOC probation/parole and correctional academies and its 13 pretrial and sentenced institutions; State Trooper Training Academy in Sitka, Alaska.
 - Represented the department at a State Supreme Court Fairness and Access Committee, looking at gender and minority bias issues in the state court system.
 - Department of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA): Local Government Specialist 1V. Worked with tribal, local and borough governments through impacts created by the Exxon/Valdez Oil Spill in Prince William Sound, Lower Cook Inlet and Kodiak Island communities.
 - Community Development Specialist. Worked with community and municipal organizations receiving Federal Department of Labor grants through the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) including compliance and budget reviews (audits).

Chugach Alaska Corporation, (CAC) Chairman of the Board 1991 to 1994, 1988/89. Vice President of Operations 1980 to 1985; Village Coordinator 1973 – 1975.

- Chairman – 1991 to 1994: 30 professional staff for an ANCSA regional corporation. 2,000 shareholders. Appointed Chairman of the Board after the company filed for protection under Chapter 11 in U.S. Bankruptcy Court. Tasked by the board to (1) Shut down operating companies, (2) Release previous management from their duties and responsibilities, and (3) Secure a new management team to develop a reorganization plan suitable to the board of directors, creditors and shareholders. The reorganization plan was approved in within 16 months, considered one of the fastest turnarounds for a large company in Alaska. In time, all creditors were paid and shareholders have been receiving dividends since 2000.

Employment, CAC, Continued

Vice President/Operations 1980 to 1985: Primary duties were to develop joint ventures in a variety of fields, including oil and gas contracting, rural HUD home construction and in electrical subcontracting. Examples of projects was a J/V with Morrison-Knudsen which provided a 5-year pipeline maintenance services contract to Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, industrial x-ray services to ARCO, Inc. and oil field services to ARCO, Inc. and British Petroleum.

- Became President of one J/V: Chugach Technical Services, Inc. (CTS) which held oil field maintenance contracts with ARCO at Prudhoe Bay and Kuparuk. Responsible for profit and loss; bid preparation and managing a professional office staff of 5 with some 50 field employees.
- Village Coordinator 1973 to 1975. Provided technical assistance to the five villages in the Chugach Region in becoming village corporations under ANCSA. It required assisting them with their articles of incorporation and bylaws; first annual shareholders meeting and election of their officers. Provided the leaders with initial orientation to the land selection processes.
- Initiated a request, which was granted, from the board of directors to establish a regional Native non-profit corporation to attend to the socio-economic and health needs of American Indian/Alaska Natives living in the seven communities of Prince William Sound/Lower Cook Inlet. Later, became an Incorporator and gave its first Name: North Pacific Rim (now known as Chugachmiut, Inc.)

Atlantic Richfield Corporation (ARCO), Employee Relations Representative (now known as Human Relations), spring 1978 to fall 1980. Played a role in ensuring the company was in compliance with the Equal Employment Opportunity laws, and

- Performed a variety of human relation functions from interviews, making salary offers, promotions, transfers and terminations for non-exempt exempt employees.
- Performed community outreach activities in rural Alaska communities on the North Slope and the Kenai Peninsula for prospective employment at Prudhoe Bay and Kuparuk.
- Managed a “Summer Hire” program for upper management that included Native and employees’ college students for work on the North Slope and off shore drill platforms in Cook Inlet.

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Port Graham Corporation, President/CEO, 1975 to 1978, an ANCSA village Corporation within the Chugach Region.

- Responsible for profit/loss; established a subsidiary to manage construction equipment, apartment and office leasing. Negotiated a multi-year, 30 million board foot timber sale with a Japanese Trading Company.
- Performed oversight of a subsidiary and professional office staff which included a logging manager.
- Annual budget preparation for approval by the board of directors.
- Worked with the board of directors and village elders in selecting over 100,000 acres of land granted under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) on the Kenai Peninsula.

United States Navy, Airman (E-3), January 1967 to June 1970 (Viet Nam Era), MOS: Aviation Maintenance Administration (AZ), 6TH fleet Sea Duty on the Aircraft Carrier Independence (CVA 62), Honorably Discharged.

CONSULTING

Co-facilitated a tourism feasibility study, location citing and recommendations for potential eco and recreational tourism sites within ANSCA lands selected by **Port Graham** (village) **Corporation**, 1987.

Contracted with **Exxon Corporation** to perform community liaison services within Prince William Sound, Lower Cook Inlet and Kodiak Island communities impacted by the Exxon/Valdez oil spill of 1989. Worked with leaders of tribal, municipal and borough governments, 1990.

Consulted with **ARCO, Marine, Inc.**, a subsidiary of Atlantic Richfield Corporation, to provide liaison services and assistance in development a “community response manual” of teams responding to mandatory oil spill drills required by OPA '90 and establish points of contacts within communities of Prince William Sound, summer 1994.

Contracted to perform technical assistance and training services for **Native American Management Services, Inc.** (NAMS) on behalf of rural communities requesting training in order to submit competitive grants. The grants funded were by a federal agency called Administration for Native Americans (ANA), 2001/2002. Examples of competitive grants: Language, economic development and planning.

Facilitated requested community services on behalf of **The Foraker Group** in the villages of Fort Yukon, Emmonak and Old Harbor in capacity building and empowerment of unique community needs and services, 2002/2003.

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Sub-contractor to **RJS & Associates** (client: **Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc.**). Provided required evaluation services of a special appropriation designated to Substance Abuse Mental Health Administration (SAMHA) grant apportioned to Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA), Copper River Native Association (CRNA), Kawerak, Incorporated and Maniliiq Incorporated. Reviewed case files, budgets and conducted client interviews at their regional headquarters, 2005.

PUBLICATIONS

“Practical Guidance for Developing Implementation Guidelines for Federal On-scene Coordinators to Protect Historic Properties during Emergency Response;” co-author, 2002. U.S. Department of Interior document.

“Boarding School: Historical Trauma among Alaska’s Native People,” 2005; National Resource Center for American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Elders. (Used in partial fulfillment towards an MA degree in Rural Development). Please see <http://elders.uaa.alaska.edu>.

“How to Lead a Community to Wellness from Boarding School Trauma,” 2006; National Resource Center for American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Elders. (In partial fulfillment towards an MA degree in Rural Development). Please see <http://elders.uaa.alaska.edu>.

“Health and Health Care of Alaska Native Elderly”: Ethnogeriatric Curriculum Module, co-author, unpublished manuscript, 2007.

EDITORIAL AND REVIEW ACTIVITIES

“Alaska Native Claims,” by Bob Arnold; Alaska Native Foundation, Textbook Review Committee, 1975.

TELEVISION

Public Broadcasting System (PBS), Channel 7, “Consider This,” with Rhonda McBride; taped interview on life in a federal government boarding school in the 1950’s as a Native child, 2003.

National Broadcast Corporation (NBC), KTUU, Channel Two News, “Legacy of Shame,” with Rhonda McBride (3-part series) on an Episcopal church-sponsored healing convocation by traveling back to Wrangell, Alaska with other indigenous elementary boarding school children, 2004.

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University of Alaska Anchorage, Channel 9, Distance Education Services, “Course: Sociology A452, “Violence in Intimate Relationships, episode #5, a description of traumatic abuses suffered by Alaska Native children attending Wrangell Institute in the mid 1950’s and early 1960’s, guest lecturer, Fall semester, 2007.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Alaska Native Studies; course development for AKNS A290, Selected Topics in Alaska Native Studies, “Community Development in Rural Alaska,” utilizing a text, “Creating Healthy Communities, The Process of Community Discovery, by Larry Dickerson, 2002.

Alaska Native Studies; Course development for AKNS A290, Selected Topics in Alaska Native Studies, “The Proposed Gas Pipeline: Implications for First Nations People.”

COURSES TAUGHT

Discipline: Alaska Native Studies

- Native Perspectives, AKNS A201, University of Alaska Anchorage, Fall Semesters 2003 – 06.
- History of ANCSA (Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act), AKNS A490, Fall 2003.
- Leadership in Contemporary Alaska Native Organizations, AKNS A290, University of Alaska Anchorage, Fall Semesters 2003 – 07, 2 credits
- Native Perspectives, AKNS A201, University of Alaska Anchorage, Spring Semesters, 2004,07 - 08
- ANCSA: A Historical Overview of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, AKNS A290, University of Alaska Anchorage, Spring Semester, 2004.
- Alaska Native Politics, AKNS A346, University of Alaska Anchorage, Spring Semesters, 2004 – 06.
- Community Development in Rural Alaska, AKNS 290 A290, University of Alaska Anchorage, Fall Semesters, 2004 – 07.
- Leadership in Contemporary Alaska Native Organizations, AKNS 290, University of Alaska Anchorage, Spring Semesters, 2005 – 08, 1 credit.
- Tribes, Nations & Peoples, AKNS A411, University of Alaska Anchorage, Spring Semesters, 2006 and 2008
- The Gas Pipeline: Implications for First Nations Peoples, AKNS A290, University of Alaska Anchorage, Spring Semester, 2007

Discipline: Rural Human Services

Lead Instructor, Cross-cultural Bridging Skills, RHS 110, University of Alaska Fairbanks, January 2004, Wasilla, Alaska, 1 credit

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Discipline: Rural Human Services, Continued:

Lead Instructor, Alaska Native Values and Principles, RHS 140, University of Alaska Fairbanks, January 2004, Wasilla, Alaska, 1 credit

Lead Instructor, Cross-cultural Bridging Skills, RHS 110, University of Alaska Fairbanks April 2007, Anchorage, Alaska, 1 credit

Lead Instructor, Alaska Native Values and Principles, RHS 140, University of Alaska Fairbanks, April 2007, Anchorage, Alaska, 1 credit.

Discipline: Sociology

- Instructor, Violence in Intimate Relationships, Sociology A452, University of Alaska Anchorage, Fall Semester, 2007. Distance Education Services.

PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

Co-lecturer, University of Alaska Anchorage, School of Social Work, Human Behavior and Diversity, SWK 643: Impacts of Racism and Trauma on Alaska Native Peoples, September, 2007.

Presenter, Alaska Village Initiatives (AVI) annual spring Small Business Conference and workshops; Topic: Community Development in Rural Alaska, February 2008.

Alaska Child Welfare Summit, April 2008, Keynote presenter, Understanding Historical Trauma in Alaska, Sponsored by Alaska Native Indian Child Welfare Association (ANICWA)

Presenter, 2008 Conference For Direct Support Staff, Creating Capacity for FULL LIVES, April 2008, a two-part discussion on Alaska Native Trauma and Communication and cultural Bridging Skills, sponsored by UAA's Center for Human Development.

Co-presenter, Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RURAL CAP), Rural Provider's Conference; theme: Healthy Families, Healthy Communities; Glenn Allen, Alaska, June 2008.

Presenter for the Institute of the North; a workshop on the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), a short history of how ANCSA (17) (d2) created the basis for withdrawal of 103 million acres of land; February, 2008.

Power Point presentations to the American Public Health Association (APHA), Administration on Aging (AOA) and various Title VI conferences on a host of Alaska Native and elder issues, 2005 – 08.

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Presentations and Lectures, Continued

Co-presenter on “Who are Alaska Natives,” before the Alaska Geriatric Education Center (AGEC), Sociology Department, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Alaska Anchorage, June 2006.

Co-presenter on “Promoting Best Practices in Elder Health and Long-Term Supports,” before the AGEC, Sociology Department, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Alaska Anchorage, June 2005.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Volunteer judge, Alaska Native Oratory Society, 2007; 2008 (prelims)

Fellow 2008, Engaging Controversy faculty development intensive (“Difficult Dialogs”), May 7-9 & 12-13, 2008.

Facilitator, “Let me Share with you: a Panel Discussion about Identity” at the UAA Campus Bookstore, sponsored by UAA’s Alaska Civil Rights Week Committee, January 2008.

Faculty member to the Coalition for Alaska Native Student Success (CANSS); supported by UAA’s Diversity Action Council, 2007-08.

CERTIFICATE OF TRAINING

Institutional Review Board (IRB): Training Certificate: The Protection of Human Research Subjects (2006)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (selected)

Board member, Bridge Builders of Anchorage; ‘99-current

Board member, Chugach Alaska Corporation; ‘75-77, ‘87-2004

Board member, Alaska Federation of Natives; ‘75-77, ‘88-89, ‘01-04

AFN Sobriety (Wellness) Movement; 98-03 (Chair)

Alaska State Supreme Court’s Fairness and access Committee, ‘97-98

Member, Governor’s Forestry Board, ‘84-85

Member, the Association of ANCSA CEO’S, 2001-04.

Certificate, for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research, 2006 (Belmont Report)

TRIBAL AFFILIATION – Inupiaq ancestry from Northwest Alaska (Kotzebue), an ANCSA Shareholder of Chugach Alaska Corporation, Inc. and an enrolled tribal member to The Native Village of Port Graham (a Suqpiq village).