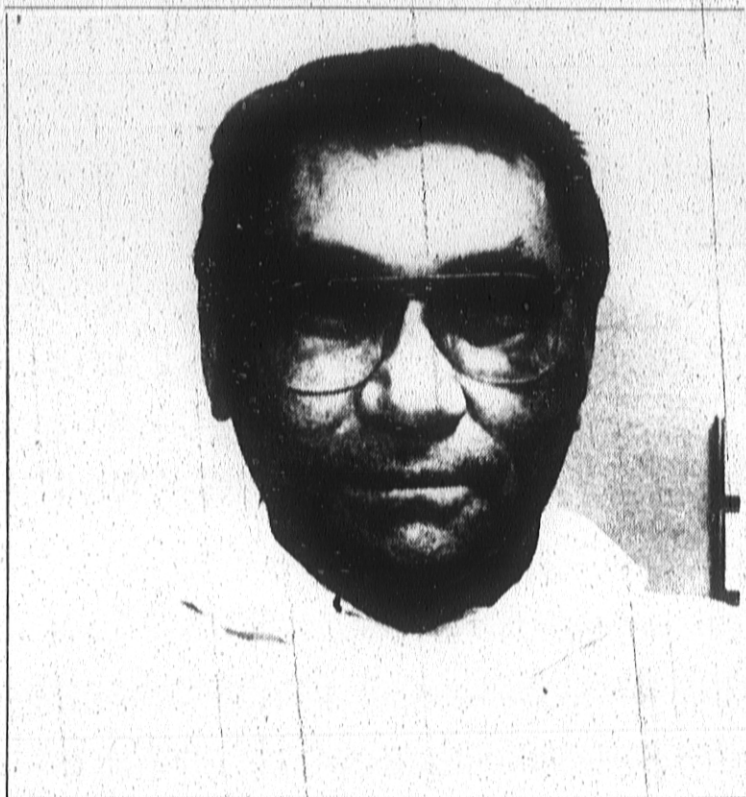


Haida leader, Greenland premier, Fairbanks educator, and Congressman to receive honorary doctorates



Greenland Premier Jonathan Motzfeldt

A Fairbanks educator, Greenland's premier, Alaska's congressional representative and a Haida leader will all receive honorary doctorates from the University of Alaska-Fairbanks during Commencement on May 12. The honorary doctorates recognize individual achievement.

Receiving the degrees will be Rosamond Weller, Jonathan Motzfeldt, Don Young and Robert Cogo.

Weller will receive an honorary doctor of humanities degree. Weller is a retired Fairbanks elementary school principal. She taught in Fairbanks for

37 years, beginning in 1934 and retiring in 1971 as principal of Hunter School. Before moving to Alaska, she taught for five years in rural Idaho elementary schools.

Originally Weller came to Alaska to join her brother and sister attending the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines, a predecessor of the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. She already had two years of college credits, which were sufficient to enable her to teach in Alaska during territorial days. Later, by attending summer sessions, Weller earned her bachelor's degree. In 1956, she

completed a master's degree. Weller School, off Chena Hot Springs Road near Fairbanks, is named in her honor.

Premier Jonathan Motzfeldt of Greenland will be awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree. Motzfeldt will also deliver the 1985 Commencement address.

He was born in Qagssimiut in southern Greenland in 1938. After attending college in Denmark, Motzfeldt graduated with a degree in divinity. He returned to Greenland as a clergyman. In 1977 he co-founded the Greenlandic Siumut Party and was elected its first chairman, a post he still holds.

Before the introduction of home rule in Greenland, Motzfeldt was vice chairman of the Greenland Provincial Council and a member of the Commission on Home Rule for Greenland. Greenland has since achieved home rule and Motzfeldt is premier of the home rule government.

Don Young will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. He is Alaska's member of the

U.S. House of Representatives. first came to the 49th State in 1959. He is a graduate of California Chico State College. He was born in 1933 in Meridian, Calif.

An elementary school teacher, and later a riverboat captain, Young also served in the U.S. Army. He entered the political arena in Fort Yukon, where he served as mayor and a member of the Fort Yukon Council. Elected to the Alaska House of Representatives in 1966, he was re-elected in 1968. Two years later, he was elected to the Alaska Senate.

Cogo is a Haida language expert and leader. Born in Klinkwan, Alaska, on March 19, 1906, Cogo moved to Craig in 1911. He graduated from Seattle's Broadway High School and attended Wilson Business School. After receiving his business certificate, he returned to Craig where he operated his own business for 30 years.

A lifetime member of the Alaska Native Brotherhood, Cogo has actively worked to advance Alaska's Native community. In 1972 he was elected presi-

dent of the Haida Society, a position he held until 1976. He has written several books and numerous other publications. Fluent in written and spoken Haida, Cogo spent 12 years refining the first complete Haida dictionary.

A veteran of the U.S. Army, Cogo served in the Aleutian campaign in 1943. Cogo will receive an honorary doctor of letters degree.

Honorary doctorates are presented by the university to recognize outstanding individual achievement in various fields. Traditionally, the University of Alaska-Fairbanks annually honors two or three of the state's longtime citizens for their contributions to Alaska. Although nominations are solicited from the university community, any private citizen can nominate someone. A campus committee reviews nominations and sends its recommendations to the chancellor for his consideration. The final decision is made by the University of Alaska Board of Regents.