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In this research fellowship Albert analyzes the so-called ‘grammatical focus’ in Kolyma Yukaghir (Yukaghiric; Russia) vis-à-vis the nominal case system and the verbal paradigms in the language. While current descriptions have listed the different forms linked to ‘focused’ and ‘non-focused’ morphology, the functions associated with each sign are less clear and do not specify in what social and pragmatic contexts speakers may choose to use them. This research is part of his doctoral dissertation on the morphosyntax of the two extant Yukaghiric languages using corpus methods, and psycholinguistic experiments in the field.

Albert is a PhD student at UC Santa Barbara specializing in language documentation and computational and corpus methodologies for Indigenous and under-resourced languages. He collaborates with the Yukaghir community in Northeastern Siberia and with the Mixtec diaspora community in California’s Central Coast.