

David M. Hopkins

David Hopkins was a visionary scientist whose 57-year-long professional career knew no disciplinary boundaries. His passion for the Seward Peninsula, Alaska, Beringia, and the Arctic took his research into fields as diverse as bedrock geology, marine geology, paleontology, limnology, hydrology, ecology, archeology, and paleoclimatology. His creative and interdisciplinary scholarship revolutionized perceptions of the Bering Land Bridge as a migration corridor and laid the groundwork for paleoecological reconstructions of the Beringian subcontinent. His collaborations with Russian scientists throughout the Cold War led to new discoveries in terrestrial and marine geology across the Bering Strait. After retiring from the U.S. Geological Survey, Hopkins taught at the University of Alaska Fairbanks where he mentored a generation of graduate students.