#### **CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE**

Dear Board of Regents,

We have a great deal to celebrate this year at UAA, including the 50th anniversary of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) and the 40th anniversary of WWAMI, our collaborative school of medical education between Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, Idaho



Seawolf Sports Arena on Sept. 9, and this fall we are also celebrating the opening of our new Health Sciences Building, which came in on time and on budget. A grand opening event will be held on Oct. 7.



The breadth and quality of the accomplishments of our students, faculty and staff are truly inspiring. This summer I've been so impressed by how UAA opens its classrooms and facilities to elementary, middle and high school students from around the state. Our Della Keats/ **UDOC** program offers a six-week residential curriculum incorporating college and pre-med/pre-nursing classwork for talented and motivated junior and high school students from underrepresented groups who are interested in health sciences. Senator Mark Begich spent time with middle





school students from around the state as they completed a summer program motivating them to enter science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.

As we kick off the athletic season at UAA, I'm pleased to report that both cross-country running squads are ranked in the U.S. Track & Field Cross Country Coaches Association preseason poll, released on Aug. 24. The women's team entered the poll at No. 5, while the men's team sits at No. 12. Looks like it will be another great year for the Seawolves!

UAA is alive with activity and excitement as we begin this new semester. I'm energized by the enthusiasm on campus, and I'm confident we'll have an enjoyable and productive year at UAA.

Sincerely,

Tom Case. Chancellor

#### STUDENT SUCCESS

- Two new recruits for UAA's women's basketball team played in the World Games this summer. **Gritt Rider**, recruited as a point guard, played for Denmark. **Miriam Seale**, recruited as center, played for Trinidad & Tobago.
- Languages major Amber Vanderpool and International Studies major Cortney Corbet have been awarded the UAA Kibrik and Bergelson Study or Research in Russia Scholarship.
- Jeurgen (Luke) Klotz, a UAA languages major, received the 2011 Japan Student Services Organization scholarship for a year of study in Japan.
- Vivian Faith Prescott of Sitka and Kodiak, Heather Lende of Haines and Joan Wilson of Anchorage were awarded the Jason Wenger Award for Literary Excellence for their individual graduate theses and creative work.

• Eight UAA track & field athletes received U.S. Track & Field Cross Country Coaches Association All-Academic status recognizing that they've maintained a 3.25 cumulative grade point average and have met an NCAA automatic or provisional qualifying mark in an individual or relay event.

#### **PROGRAM SUCCESS**

- UAA was named to the 2010 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the only university in Alaska on the list.
- The National Endowment for the Arts featured Alaska Quarterly Review and Ron Spatz, dean of the UAA Honors College, on ART WORKS—the official blog of the



National Endowment for the Arts.

• UAA is among 21 colleges and universities receiving funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to assist in preventing suicide and enhancing mental health services for students in crisis. The funds—\$306,000—are to go toward training programs and seminars for students and campus personnel as well as promoting the National Suicide Prevention lifeline.

- A cohort of I5 UAA physician assistant students—"Class I" celebrated the completion of their studies on Thursday, Aug. 18, at the Wendy Williamson Auditorium.
- The Center for Alaska Education Policy Research (CAEPR) in the College of Business and Public Policy was approved by President Gamble as a Center. This new center will begin its important work this fall.

#### **FACULTY AND STAFF SUCCESS**

- Faculty members **Bogdan Hoanca** and Kenrick Mock received a patent for "Methods and Systems for Multiple Factor Authentication Using Gaze Tracking and Iris Scanning." The patent is about a new way to authenticate identity on computers, using eye-related information instead of entering a password.
- Renee Carter-Chapman, UAA senior vice provost, won the 2011 Edith R. Bullock Prize for Excellence.
- J. Ellen McKay,

faculty member, received the Construction Woman of the Year Award from the Alaska Chapter of the National Association of Women in Construction.

• LuAnn Piccard, of Project Management, received funding from the Governor's Office to complete a State

of Alaska Election Process Review.

• Dr. Natasa Masanovic, associate professor of German, received the American Association for Teachers of German (AATG/ Alaska Chapter) 2011 Duden Award for her



work in German instruction.

#### **RESEARCH NEWS**

- ISER's **Gunnar Knapp** and **Toby** Schwoerer, along with ENRI's Dan Rinella, are completing an analysis of the economic significance of the Bristol Bay commercial fisheries for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The total award to UAA researchers is \$167K.
- UAA closed FYII with 324 awards totaling slightly more than \$52M. In addition, during the first three weeks of FY12, UAA received 12 awards totaling \$704K in the areas of research, public service and instruction. Last year UAA received 308 awards and contracts totaling \$55M.
- UAA recently hired Dr. Helena S. Wisniewski as its new Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Studies. Wisniewski comes to UAA with an incredible breadth of experience, having worked for the federal government, in higher education and in private industry.

#### **COMMUNITY CAMPUS NEWS**

#### **Prince William Sound Community College**

PWSCC-Copper Basin Campus staff presented "Distant Delivery in Rural Alaska'' at EduLearn11 in Barcelona, Spain, an international conference on education and new technologies.

#### **Kodiak College**

Kodiak College is partnering with Kodiak Maritime Museum in a \$300K state-funded grant to refurbish a vintage fishing trawler on campus. The project coincides with construction of the "Kodiak Room" in the Kodiak

College Library. The room will house documents, art and historical artifacts related to fishing, seafood processing and oral histories by island residents.

#### Mat-Su College

Mat-Su College held its first art festival this summer. Instructors taught visual artsrelated workshops for participants ranging in age from high school to senior citizens.







### Chancellor's Report

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

September 2011



Iron workers stand ready to place the final steel beam in the Life Sciences Facility topping-out ceremony Aug. 12. The beam, painted in UAF's colors, is adorned with the U.S. and Alaska flags, signatures of the crew and a tree meant to bring good luck and future growth.

#### **Achievements**

**Educators at the Geophysical Institute** developed the Alaska K-12 Science Curricular Initiative, a free online science education resource for Alaska teachers. The program helps bring cutting-edge Alaska research to K-12 classrooms.

An extremely rare fossil discovered in Southeast Alaska was identified by research staff at the UA Museum of the North as a prehistoric marine reptile called a thalattosaur. The fossil was shipped to the museum, where the earth sciences team will remove the surrounding rock until the remains are exposed.

**Scientists at the Institute of Arctic Biology** have successfully induced hibernation in small mammals, showing how the process is initiated. Understanding the neuroprotective qualities of hibernating animals may help lead to development of a drug or therapy to save people's lives after a stroke or heart attack.

**UAF conducted a major disaster response exercise** on campus in July. The event involved responders from organizations throughout the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Additional crisis practice exercises are planned in coming months.

**The chancellor's convocation speech** focused on preparing for the university's 2017 centennial, and on institutional planning efforts such as the research plan, campus master plan and enrollment plan, and how those plans contribute to shaping the UAF of tomorrow.

**Alaska Sea Grant research** increased survival of hatchery-born red king crab larvae, proving that hatcheries can produce a sufficient number of crab for experimental purposes, and that the techniques may be scaled up to produce larger numbers.

**A Cooperative Extension agent** taught a weeklong GPS/GIS class in Quinhagak during July in collaboration with Alaska Sea Grant's Marine Advisory Program. Participants learned how to use GPS and GIS software to map river channels to help reduce the number of barges that get stuck each summer.

**Kinross Fort Knox announced a \$1 million gift** to support graduate student research in mining engineering at UAF. The engineering research endowment will allow UAF to provide advanced training for mining engineers by establishing a steady source of research funding.

#### **In Progress**

The Fishery Industrial Technology Center is reorganizing to be more closely aligned with the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences. The Kodiak-based center will continue to serve as a research and training hub for the Alaska seafood industry, and will have a stronger public outreach and formal education focus.

**Nine evaluators** from the Northwest Association of Colleges and Universities will visit UAF community campuses the last week of September and the Fairbanks campus Oct. 3 – 5. The team will meet with faculty, staff, students, deans, directors, administrators and governance leaders to evaluate UAF for reaffirmation of institutional accreditation. The evaluators, each of whom has been assigned a UAF theme to evaluate, will announce their findings Oct. 5 at the end of their visit.

**Outdoor recreation options** on campus are expanding with the addition of an outdoor climbing wall and a snowboarding terrain park. The climbing wall, near the Student Recreation Center, offers more than 30 vertical feet of climbing area for instruction and recreation. Land contouring for the Nanook Terrain snowboarding park, south of the Butrovich Building, began this summer, but most of the major features are still under development. These improvements will enhance the quality of student life on campus.

#### What's Next

Nanook Hall of Fame inductees in ceremonies Sept. 24 will be Alan Cardwell (swimming), Kelly Mansfield (rifle), Steve Moria (hockey), Brad Oleson (basketball), Anne Berit (Nilsen) Smith (skiing) and the 1993 – 1994 rifle team — the first UAF team to win an NCAA championship. The awards ceremony is one of the events during the 2011 UAF Alumni Association Reunion Sept. 22 – 24. The current list of inductees into the Nanook Hall of Fame now stands at 21.

### through the lens: recent images

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

September 2011



#### Bobbing for veggies

was just part of the fun at the Alaska Agriculture Appreciation Day Aug.11 at the Matanuska Experiment Farm in Palmer. The UAF facility hosted hundreds of guests for the annual open house. Visitors toured the farm and research facilities. learned about Alaska agriculture, played games, and took home prizes and fresh produce from local farmers. Photo courtesy of the School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences.









#### Photos, clockwise from left

**Ben Cobb** plays two horns at the same time while participating in the UAF Community Marching Band during the Fairbanks Golden Days parade.

Adjunct faculty member Michael Golub keeps an eye on Stephen Bishop as he rewires a circuit board during Golub's electric car conversion class this summer.

High school students from throughout Alaska gathered on the Fairbanks campus in July for Business Week, sponsored by the School of Management and the Alaska Chamber of Commerce.

#### Firefighter candidates

in the Community and Technical College's sevenweek summer fire academy complete drills at the University Fire Department's University Avenue facility.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. UAF is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution. Produced by UAF Marketing and Communications. UAF photos by Todd Paris except where noted.

uas.alaska.edu/chancellor September 2011 Meeting



# Motor Age Publishes 20th Technical Feature by UAS Faculty Automotive Technology Program Head

Tony Martin's technical feature article on Volkswagen's TDI Diesel Technology is his twentieth published in *Motor Age* since he started writing for the magazine in 2006. The article is the cover story for the September 2011 issue.

### **Krein Gives Keynote at Summer Conference**

Associate Professor of Philosophy and Academic Director of Outdoor Studies Kevin Krein gave a keynote presentation at the "Sport and the Environment: Philosophical Dimensions" conference June 22-25 2011 at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish Nova Scotia, Canada. The conference was sponsored by the North American Association for the Philosophy of Sport. Krein attended the International Association for the Philosophy of Sport conference in Rome, Italy in 2010.

Krein's talk, "Nature, Sport and Wilderness Experience" is based on his thesis that the goal of nature sports such as skiing and surfing is not to experience an ecological or spiritual connection with nature but to interact with nature in a specific way dictated by the sport itself. "Wilderness experiences are primarily about experiencing nature, while nature sports are about particular kinds of skillful interaction with features of the natural world," Krein writes. "You're playing a game with the natural world," he said.

## **UAS Site for Forest Service Lab Underway**

A groundbreaking ceremony was held to mark the beginning of construction for the Pacific Northwest Research Station's Juneau Forestry Sciences Laboratory on Thursday, August 25.



UAS alumni and Tlingit elder Marie Olsen (middle), Chancellor John Pugh (right) and Paul Brewster of the US Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station, (left) help break ground August 25, 2011 for a new Forestry Sciences Laboratory. Photo by Ryan Cortes.

The building will also host the Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center, of which UAS is a collaborative partner. The facility and parking lot are being constructed on the Auke Lake campus adjacent to the walking path to the Back Loop Road. The two-story, 11,000-square-foot building is projected to cost \$8.3 million. It was designed by MRV Architects of Juneau and will be constructed by Dawson Construction Inc.

Planning for a new Forest Service research laboratory in Juneau began in the early 1980s. It is scheduled for completion in 12-18 months.

"After a thorough evaluation," says Paul Brewster, Assistant Director for the Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station, "a recommendation to build on Forest Service land adjacent to the University of Alaska Southeast campus was selected as the best long-term alternative. While there has been a long history of strong relationships between UAS and the Forest Service, construction of a new lab adjacent to campus can only increase the potential for a highly collaborative environment among Forest Service research scientists and UAS university faculty and students."

The Juneau Lab was previously housed in leased office space for about 15 years. A safety audit of the space identified several health and safety issues as well as poorly functioning laboratory space.

The new building will house scientists from the station; State and Private Forestry, U.S. Forest Service; and staff from the Alaska Coastal Rain Forest Center.

The PNW Research Station is headquartered in Portland, Oregon. It has 11 laboratories and research centers in Alaska, Oregon, and Washington and about 425 employees.

### Science News: From Biology and Marine Biology

The 2011 Research Undergraduate Exchange program started June 1st and ended on August 7th. Ten students from all over the USA were mentored by UAS faculty and agency researchers and conducted research in the field and laboratory on subjects as diverse as algae reproduction, bear behavior, salmon populations, bat and otter diets, starry flounder, red king crab and glacier fed streams.

Sherry Tamone, Professor of Biology spent three weeks on the Bering Sea working with NOAA researchers during the bottom trawl survey. She collected samples that will support undergraduate research in her laboratory during the 2011 and 2012 academic year. Dr. Tamone gave a presentation at the 2011 Annual Crustacean Society Meeting held in Honolulu, HI (June 5-8, 2011). Her presentation concerned the importance of considering male snow crab reproductive physiology in the management of this commercial species.

Associate Professor of Biology David Tallmon spoke at the "Bering Sea Crab Science Symposium IV" Aug 24th, 2011 at the Leif Erickson Hotel, Seattle, WA. Dr. Tallmon was also invited to speak at the "Nature and Nurture: Local Adaptation, Life History Diversity, and Salmonid Conservation Symposium" at the 2011 American Fisheries Society Meeting Seattle, WA Sept 4-8, 2011. Dr. Tallmon will teach at an International Course on Genetic Data Analysis "Recent Approaches for Estimation of Population Size, Structure, Gene flow, Landscape Genetics & Selection Detection", Sept 27-30, 2011 at Flathead Lake Biological Station, University of Montana.

### **Hood Assists with Glacier Lake Outburst Incident**

# The incident released about 37 million cubic meters of water, enough to fill almost 15,000 Olympic sized swimming pools.

UAS Environmental Science faculty and department chair Eran Hood flew onto the Mendenhall Glacier July 21, 2011 with representatives from the National Weather Service and the City of Juneau Emergency Management Team to find the source of a glacier lake outburst flood from the Mendenhall Glacier. The incident released about 37 million cubic meters of water, enough to fill almost 15,000 Olympic sized swimming pools. The team assessed the potential for further increased flows in the Mendenhall River, and surveyed the flooding impacts along the river. Hood was praised for his expertise and assistance to staff In a letter to Chancellor Pugh from the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center. Hood's aerial photos can be viewed on the UAS Photo Gallery on the UAS home page.

## **Humanities Faculty News: Sara Ray and Nina Chordas**

The Ecological Other: Bodies, Nature, and Exclusion in American Culture by Assistant Professor of English Sarah Ray is scheduled for publication in 2013. Ray recently signed a book contract with University of Arizona Press for her dissertation.

Associate Professor of English and Humanities Department Chair English Dr. Nina Chordas has been officially certified by the American Translators Association (ATA) as a Translator from Russian to English.

#### **DOA Grants Awarded to UAS**

# Over \$365,000 to carry out education, applied research, and related community development programs.

The Alaska Congressional Delegation recently announced two U.S. Department of Agriculture grants to UAS campuses in Sitka and Ketchikan. The "Connecting Pacific Pathways through Research, Education and Experience in the Sciences" program received \$167,147. The program is overseen by whale researcher and UAS Sitka Assistant Professor of Marine Biology Jan Straley.

The Ketchikan Fish Tech program received \$198,024 for creating and expanding fisheries and aquaculture educational pathways in Alaska. The grants are for programs that promote and strengthen the ability of Alaska Native-Serving Institutions and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions to carry out education, applied research, and related community development programs.

### **School of Education Receives** \$2.1 Million

### PITAAS to continue its leadership role in teacher education

The School of Education has secured \$2.1 million in new Alaska Native teacher education funding. Dean Deborah Lo and Education faculty received the exciting news that the UAS grant proposal for PITAAS (Preparing Indigenous Teachers and Administrators) was awarded by the United States Department of Education. This is a three-year grant that allows UAS to continue its leadership role in teacher education, partnering with the Sealaska Heritage Institute.