



Dear Board of Regents,

It's been an outstanding year at UAA. On May 4, UAA celebrated the 2,420 graduates of the Class of 2014. In all, UAA conferred 85 certificates, 652 associate degrees, 1,364 baccalaureate degrees, 13 post-baccalaureates, 88 graduate certificates, 312 master's degrees and two doctoral degrees. The 2,420 graduates of the Class of 2014 earned a total of 2,517 degrees or certificates.

This year, we conferred Honorary Doctor of Letters degrees on William and Karen Workman and Alex Hills. Faculty emeriti are Ping-Tung "P.T." Chang, Phyllis Fast, Lee Huskey, Stephen Langdon, Kim Peterson and Bart Quimby. Stan Vanover is staff emeritus.

It gave me great pleasure to announce Chancellor's Awards recognizing individuals and groups doing exemplary work at UAA the same week as Commencement. We will present the awards and a \$500 cash prizes during the Faculty Staff Convocation in August. Convocation provides another opportunity to thank the impressive faculty and staff at UAA (see back page for list of awardees).

We say goodbye to Kodiak College Director Barb Bolson this month. Under Director Bolson's leadership, Kodiak College enrollment increased 40 percent from 2010, the largest increase among all campuses. KoC faculty and staff also received a record seven NISOD Excellence Awards recognizing their service to students and support of the college mission. We thank Director Bolson for her tireless service and wish her the best on her retirement!

As we look forward to the opening of the Alaska Airlines Center Sept. 5, I am proud to report that boosted by NCAA Championship finishes in four sports in March, UAA has risen to a program-record No. 5 ranking in the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup standings, placing the Seawolves among the top 2 percent of all NCAA Division II programs.

Go Seawolves!

Best regards,

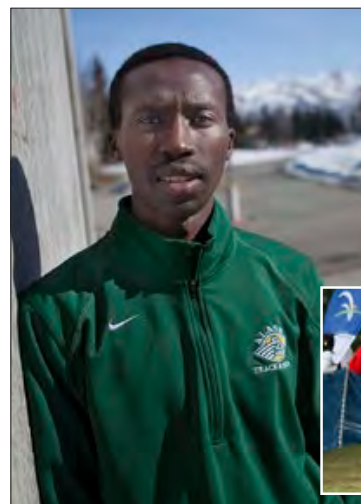


Tom Case, Chancellor

Michael Edmond Kituralria Ulroan, 2014 student commencement speaker, is the first ANSEP graduate to serve in this role.



Landry Signé, an associate professor of Political Science, and double Chancellor Awardee, received the Governor General of Canada's Award in recognition of outstanding and selfless contribution to his community and Canada.



A 12-time All-America winner and four-time national champion, senior Micah Chelimo became just the third student-athlete in 30 years to repeat as UAA's Bill MacKay Athlete of the Year.



UAA taking the lead



Student scholarship recipients shared the impact of their scholarships with donors at UAA's ninth annual Scholarship Celebration in April.



Northrim Bank contributed \$154,000 to the ISER Economic and Fiscal Model Fund and the UAA Small Business Development Center.



Kenai Peninsula College's partnership with Kenai Peninsula Borough School District brings high school juniors and seniors to KPC at a discounted rate.

2014 Chancellor's Awardees are:

Teaching Excellence

Tracey Burke, Associate Professor, School of Social Work; Rebeca Maseda, Assistant Professor, Languages Department (Spanish); Shawnalee Whitney, Associate Professor, Journalism & Communication Department and Landry Signé, Assistant Professor of Political Science.

Excellence in Academic Research-Creative Activity

Joshua Swift, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Clinical-Community Psychology, UAF-UAA Joint Ph.D Program; Landry Signé, Assistant Professor of Political Science.

Staff Excellence

Aisha Merced, Assistant to the Director, New Student Orientation.

Diversity Excellence

Marva Watson, Director, Office of Diversity and Compliance.

Promoting Student Achievement

Deborah Mole, Librarian/Professor, Library, Instruction & Reference Services; Lora Volden, University Registrar.

Community Engagement and Service

Deb Periman, Associate Professor, Legal Studies Coordinator, Justice; Arlene Schmuland, Head Archives and Special Collections, Associate Professor

Stewardship

Larry Foster, Professor of Mathematics (individual award in the area of sustainability); Student Affairs A Team (student assessments)—(small team award in the area of operational effectiveness); UAA Smoke-Free Task Force (large team award in the area of safety).

Of note....

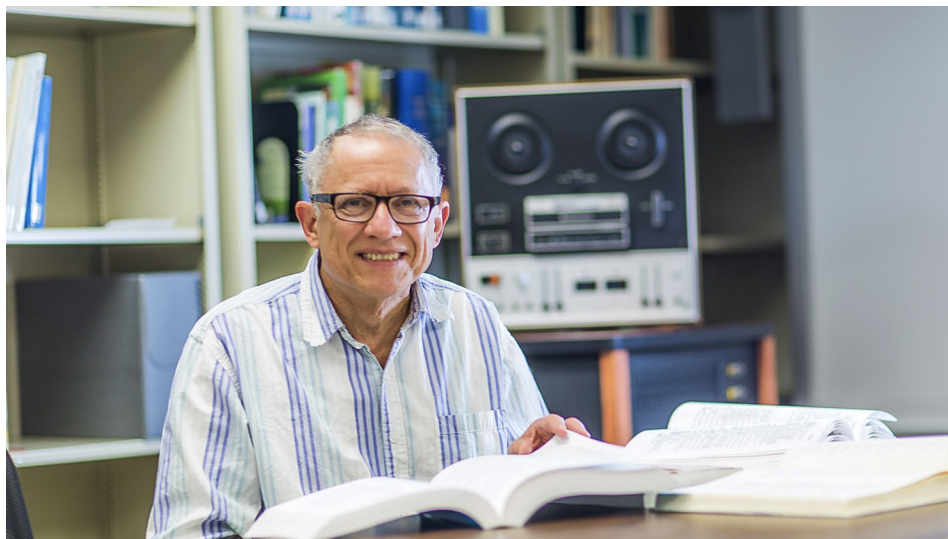
UAA German program claims seven Fulbright scholars to Germany and eight Congress-Bundestag recipients. Tom Honer and Angelica Remaley are the latest students in the UAA German program to be selected as Fulbright Scholars for 2014-2015. Both students are mentored by Natasa Masanovic, chair of the Languages Department and Professor of German.

UAA will host the 2015 U.S. Debate Championships. UAA's top debate team made it to the quarterfinals of the 2014 U.S. Championship and won the bid for next year's championship.

"No More at UAA" campaign drew more than 150 people to a panel discussion on domestic violence and sexual assault at the UAA/APU Consortium Library.

Mat-Su College students pursuing studies in health-related fields will benefit from the new Marie Narhi Shiesl Scholarship Fund. Don and Sherry Shiesl created the fund with an initial donation of more than \$28,000.

KPC's new Veterans Talent Grant Scholarship is providing innovative support to veteran students. KPC is reinvesting 3 percent of all KPC VA-funded credit hours into tuition waiver scholarships for veteran students. This will result in the awarding of 72 tuition-free credit hours to deserving veteran students for Academic Year 2014-15. This is the only program in the state and nation leveraging VA funds in this manner.



Lawrence Kaplan, director of the Alaska Native Language Center and a UAF linguist, received a Denali Award from the Alaska Federation of Natives for his work revitalizing Alaska Native languages. This is the highest honor given to a non-Native person by the AFN. Kaplan is known for his work with the Inupiaq Eskimo language, which is spoken in northern Alaska. He is presently compiling dictionaries of Inupiaq, including grammatical explanations for the language.

ACHIEVEMENTS

UAF's 92nd commencement ceremony was held in Fairbanks on May 11. Alaska Federation of Natives President Julie Kitka and Native leader Robert Nick received honorary doctor of laws degrees, and wildlife biologist Rod Boertje received an honorary doctor of science degree. Approximately 1,433 students received 1,521 certificates or degrees. Of those, 232 students received master's degrees and 49 received doctoral degrees.

A \$2.5 million gift from former Fairbanks residents Leonard and Marjorie Wright will support scholarships to provide up to four years of assistance to students in any degree program who demonstrate both merit and financial need. Marjorie Wright, who graduated from UAF in 1958, made the donation through her will. It's one of the largest individual donations in UAF's history.

The recipients of the 2014 Emil Usibelli Distinguished Teaching, Research and Service Awards were announced at a Fairbanks reception in May. Associate Professor of Philosophy and Humanities Joseph Thompson received the teaching award, Professor of Ecology and Ecosystems Roger Ruess received the research award and Research Professor of Soil Microbiology and Science Education Elena Sparrow received the service award.

The Rasmuson Fisheries Research Center board members selected six fellowship recipients for the 2014–15 academic year. This marks the 20th year the center has awarded fellowships to the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences students. This year's awards, totaling \$233,169, include tuition and a stipend to support graduate student research.

UAF students raised \$27,500 by connecting with more than 230 donors this spring as part of the biannual phonathon. This effort brings the total amount raised by student callers this academic year to more than \$75,000 from more than 600 donors.

A new process that purifies Alaska pollock liver oil has resulted in a commercially produced diet supplement. Alex Oliveira, associate professor with the Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program in the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, developed the molecular distillation process. American Marine Ingredients, a subsidiary of American Seafoods Co., adapted Oliveira's process and recently released the product, 54°North Omega-3 with vitamin D3 in capsule form.

IN PROGRESS

UAF's skyline is changing dramatically this summer as nearly 450 tons of steel have been put into place for the new engineering facility. The 260-foot crane rising above Tanana Loop added to the excitement as the building began to take shape.

The new Wood Center dining expansion opens mid-July. The addition will house a new dining area and kitchen, which connects to the existing food court on the second level and a new coffee shop on the ground floor.

Significant deferred maintenance and access improvements will take place in and around the Gruening Building May through August, including a roof replacement.

New stairs will be installed from the Taku parking lot to the Fine Arts Complex. These will replace the existing steep and sometimes slippery concrete walkway.

WHAT'S NEXT

Singer-songwriter Ari Hest will return to Fairbanks and is scheduled to perform June 6 at the Charles Davis Concert Hall.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony for NASA's new antenna, known as AS3, will take place June 26. The antenna was installed on the Fairbanks campus during the summer of 2013.

The Political Junkie roadshow with Neal Conan and Ken Rudin will take place on the Fairbanks campus this summer. The show, scheduled for July 11 in the Wood Center ballroom, features in-depth analysis of the key political races in Alaska and across the country.

While in Fairbanks, Conan, a former National Public Radio host and producer, will also teach a one-credit radio course, Sound and the Story: Evolution of Radio Journalism, July 7–10. The course may be taken as noncredit.

THROUGH THE LENS: RECENT IMAGES

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

June 2014



UAF admissions counselor Aaron Acevedo leads a group of high school juniors and seniors on a campus tour during the Discover UAF: Inside Out preview event in March. Nearly 45 students took advantage of on-the-spot admissions and were accepted to UAF at the event.

During such previews, prospective students and their parents have an opportunity to ask questions, get answers and learn about student life — from the inside out.

The next event is scheduled to take place June 27.



Photos, clockwise from left

Members of the Nanook swim team peer out the windows while touring one of the newest planes in the Alaska Airlines fleet, a Bombardier Q400 turboprop, which features a paint scheme highlighting the Alaska Nanooks and UAF.

A 260-foot crane hoists steel beams as the floors take shape at the construction site of the new engineering facility.



Theatre major Katrina Kuharich reflects upon her costume, which she wore in the Theatre UAF production of *Tartuffe*, during a fitting in the department's costume shop.

Students challenge themselves with suspension training as part of a group fitness class in the Student Recreation Center.



Chancellor's Report

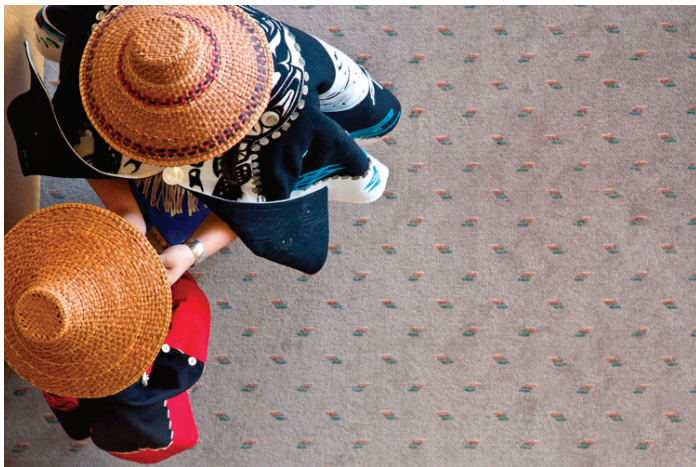
Chancellor John Pugh

uas.alaska.edu/chancellor
June 2014 Meeting

Alaska Native Languages Bill Passes Legislature

Dedication pays off when the Alaska Senate passed the measure on an 18-2 vote.

Supporters of a bill to make 20 Alaska Native languages official state languages organized a 15 hour sit-in protest at the Capitol on Sunday April 20. The group included UAS students, staff and faculty. Their dedication paid off when the Alaska Senate passed the measure on an 18-2 vote. It had passed the Alaska House 38-0. It now heads to Governor Sean Parnell for his signature. HB 216 would add the state's indigenous languages to a statute created by a 1998 voter initiative, which made English the official language of Alaska. While the bill is largely symbolic, Alaska Native languages program head Lance Twitchell said it's important to recognize all languages as equal.



Commencement 2014 Sees Record Number of Graduates, including Alaska Native graduates

History was made when the first four graduates of the Alaska Native Studies and Languages program walked across the stage.

A record 57 Alaska Natives graduated from a UAS campus this year; and history was made when the first four graduates of the Alaska Native Studies and Languages program walked across the stage at the May 4 commencement ceremony on the Juneau campus. They are Susie Lee Edwardson, Nae Brown, Roseanna Willard, and Konrad Frank. The program has taken off from just a few interested students to a full-fledged degree, with credit mostly due to an engaged student body who fought for the classes. Vice Chancellor Joe Nelson asked everyone in the audience at the Native graduation

celebration to keep the group of Native alumni growing and recruit young Native people to attend UAS. He said the new on-campus residence hall in Juneau is aimed at attracting and keeping more students, including Native students.

Outdoor Studies Spring Icefield Expedition

The Outdoor Studies mountaineering course climbed a number of peaks on the northwest fork of the Upper Taku Glacier on the Juneau Icefield and then skied back to town.

The group of seven, led by instructors Forest Wagner and Sammy Becker were on the peaks Snowdrift, Emperor, Princess, and Stroller White. They landed on the Icefield by ski plane on April 11 and returned to Juneau April 16 via the Mendenhall Glacier and West Glacier Trail after approximately 20 miles of skiing and hiking. The group found excellent powder, stable snow conditions, and amazing aurora borealis. The mountaineering course runs annually and is part of a constellation of skills and leadership courses offered through the University of Alaska Southeast Outdoor Studies Program, a one and four year degree granting Humanities program of the UAS Juneau campus.



ODS students camped at the summit of Emperor peak in April during a trek on the Juneau Icefield. From left to right, Hannah Vigue, Anna Gutsch, Nick Svinicki, Angelo Squires, Sammy Becker, Forest Wagner.



Associate Professor of Biology (and San Francisco Giant's fan!) Dave Tallmon and Cathy at her retirement party.

Connor Farewell

UAS Professor of Geology Cathy Connor is retiring after about 30 years at UAS. Connor has made a substantial contribution to the field in Southeast Alaska and engaged countless students in undergraduate research. A gathering was held in her honor during the Space Grant Symposium on the Juneau campus April 25.

Twenty-five Years of Fieldwork in Southern Southeast Alaska

On the Ketchikan campus April 8, Campus Director Priscilla Schulte along with faculty Martin Stanford and John Autry made a presentation on their 25 years of anthropology fieldwork in southern Southeast Alaska. Students in Schulte's Anthropology 289 / 493 classes accompanied by native elders have explored a variety of sites, including culturally modified trees, rock art, trappers' cabins and village sites.

Radzilowski on the Roaring Twenties

Ketchikan Associate Professor of History John Radzilowski presented a paper at the conference "The Roaring 20's in Poland: History, Literature, Culture and the Arts," sponsored by the University of Illinois, Chicago on April 7-8. "Orphans of the 'New Poland': Polish Americans, the Second Republic, and the Creation of a Diasporic Identity, 1919-1929," addressed how the negative experiences of re-emigration to Europe after World War I shaped a new ethnic identity among first and second generation Polish immigrants.

Jan Straley Publishes New Work

Sitka Associate Professor of Marine Biology Jan Straley is the lead author on a forthcoming publication in Endangered Species Research entitled, *Depredating sperm whales in the Gulf of Alaska: local habitat use and long distance movements across putative population boundaries*. The article can be viewed online at: www.int-res.com/journals/esr/esr-forthcoming



UAS Faculty Promote Minecraft in the Classroom

Course faculty say it could help engage students in science, technology, engineering and math.

A graduate education course is showing teachers from across the state how to implement the game Minecraft in their classes. Course faculty say it could help engage students in science, technology, engineering and math. Minecraft is a popular video game that allows you to build elaborate structures, gather resources and fly, among many other things. Some people call Minecraft virtual Legos. For engineering faculty Lori Sowa and her teaching team, Minecraft is also a way to get kids to think critically, collaborate and solve problems, which is why they've made Minecraft part of a graduate education course. Development of the course was supported by a pre-college grant from the Alaska Space Grant Program and a Mathematics and Science Partnership Grant from the Department of Education and Early Development. The goal is to help teachers brush up on science, technology, engineering and math content.



Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Symposium

Jessica Hambleton (Mentor: Heidi Pearson) presents her project: "Blood lead levels in Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) in Southeast Alaska by gender and capture location" at this year's Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Symposium, April 16 in the Glacier View Room. Jessica was one of several undergraduates to present their research on the Juneau campus.