



Chancellor's

REPORT

TO THE
BOARD OF
REGENTS

Dear Board of Regents,

In May, UAA celebrated commencements on its campuses, conferring 2,421 degrees on 2,315 graduates this academic year. In addition to Anchorage, I traveled to the Kenai River Campus and Kachemak Bay Campus of Kenai Peninsula College (KPC) for commencements. The strong ties between UAA and the Kenai Peninsula communities are evident in the level of participation and coverage of these graduation ceremonies.

Summer brings a number of projects including construction on the new 80,000-square-foot, four-story Engineering and Industry Building, the whole-house renovation of Beatrice McDonald Hall, phase

two of the Allied Health Science renovation and construction of a new Alumni Relations Center at the Consortium Library. In addition, we continue to replace security systems at each of the UAA campus housing units

and are preparing to get a modified MAC Housing renovation project under construction this summer.

The Health Campus Pedestrian Bridge is currently in design and will provide an enclosed pedestrian bridge across Providence Drive between the Health Sciences Building and new Engineering and Industry Building.

Later this summer, we will celebrate the completion of KPC's Housing and Career and Tech Center. We hope you will join us.

UAA's Facilities and Campus Services are going above and beyond to make certain that our campuses remain safe and secure as these projects progress.

Best Regards,

Tom Case

Tom Case, Chancellor



UAA celebrated the final piece of steel hoisted into place on the Alaska Airlines Center May 10.



Rep. Don Young visited UAA, at the invitation of the vice provost for Research and Graduate Studies and dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Helena Wisniewski, and received a briefing on WWAMI, research and technology innovations, as well as the launch of UAA's first startup company, Zensor.

For the second year in a row, UAA has graduated two doctoral candidates in clinical-community psychology with a rural indigenous emphasis: Ruth Zuniga (left) and Tina Woods (right).



Prince William Sound Community College's new president, Dr. Jacob Ng (left), begins July 1.

AMAZING STORIES BEING WRITTEN EVERY DAY.

UAA moving forward

Student achievements

William Giedosh, a Russian major, received a U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship to study in Russia this summer. Giedosh also received the scholarship last year.

Civil engineering majors **Ryan Bergerson** and **Alma Abaza** received the 2013 Dr. Alex Hills Engineering and Civic Engagement Award for their research on "Effects of Freeze-Thaw Cycles on Strength of Porous Concrete." Their faculty advisor is Osama Abaza, Department of Civil Engineering.

History major **Aaron Nickols'** senior seminar paper, "The Provisional Government and 1917: The Legitimacy Paradox" won the UAA/APU Consortium Library Prize.

Faculty and staff taking leading roles

Alison "Sunny" Mall, assistant professor in UAA's College of Education, received the 2013 Selkregg Community Engagement and Service Learning Award for her project, "Engaging Secondary Mathematics Teachers in Teacher Mathematics for Social Justice."

Dr. Kelly Shannon, assistant professor in the Department of History, was elected to the nominating committee of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations.

The College of Business and Public Policy named **Todd Cherry**, an economist from Appalachian State University and a senior research fellow with the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research – Oslo, as the new Rasmuson Chair of Economics.

Justice Center faculty Professor **Deb Periman** and **Dr. Sharon Chamard**, have been invited to serve on the King Career Center Public Safety and Security Class Advisory Board. The board provides input on current trends, focus areas and potential new courses. Professor Periman is also part of the Collateral Consequences Work Group, tasked by Senators John Coghill, Fred Dyson, Johnny Ellis and Hollis French to reduce recidivism in Alaska.

Program leadership

ANSEP made the list of Harvard's top 25 "Innovations in American Government." Student Affairs held an orientation to familiarize staff with all that the division does.

Public square and civic engagement

UAA's History Department hosted Dr. Brad Simpson of Princeton University who spoke on the topic, "How Universal Are We? The Tortured U.S. Relationship with Human Rights."

Publications

History Professor **Paul Dunscomb's** book "Japan's Siberian Intervention, 1918-1922: A Great Disobedience Against the People," published by Lexington Books in 2011, has been receiving positive reviews from several high-caliber Japanese studies journals.

Development

Northrim Bank gave \$100,000 to the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER), bringing its total contribution to \$1M for the ongoing research initiative, Investing for Alaska's Future. Scott Goldsmith, professor emeritus of economics at ISER, directs the initiative.

Eleanor Wagner made an Alaska Society Level gift (\$100,000-\$499,999) to the Everette K. Wagner Endowed Scholarship. The scholarship to help working students achieve their goal of a four-year degree is named for the late Dr. Everette Wagner, a UAA alumnus.

Prepping for college

UAA celebrated the successful first academic year for Alaska Middle College School at UAA's Chugiak-Eagle River campus with a ribbon cutting ceremony.



Deena Paramo, superintendent of the Mat-Su Borough School District and Tom Case, UAA chancellor, cut the ribbon in front of the Alaska Middle College School housed at the Chugiak-Eagle River Campus.

UAA hosts ASD students at STEM learning event

UAA received a NASA Space Grant to host 135 K-12 students and 19 teachers from across the Anchorage School District at the ConocoPhillips Integrated Science Building to introduce new ways to educate students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



Kodiak College becomes hub for community marine science education

A Kodiak College and Kodiak Island Borough Assembly partnership funds Assistant Professor of Marine Biology, Switgard Duesterloh, to teach college and K-12 students about marine science at the Kodiak Ocean Science Discovery Laboratory.





Bente Heller claimed UAF's first NCAA championship in swimming, winning the title in the women's 100-meter backstroke. Heller, a junior from Hamburg, Germany, also tied for third in the 100-meter freestyle and seventh in the 200 free; she is now a nine-time All-American. The team named her the 2012 – 2013 MVP and gave her the Attitude Award.

ACHIEVEMENTS

UAF held seven commencement ceremonies this spring, at the main campus in Fairbanks, the Bristol Bay Campus in Dillingham, Chukchi Campus in Kotzebue, Kuskokwim Campus in Bethel, Northwest Campus in Nome, and at Interior-Aleutians Campus learning centers in Circle and Tok. Approximately 1,274 students received 1,360 certificates or degrees at the 91st commencement ceremonies, including 52 doctoral degrees, a new record.

The Alaska Volcano Observatory marked its 25th anniversary in April. A cooperative program of the U.S. Geological Survey, the UAF Geophysical Institute, and the Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys, AVO monitors and studies Alaska's volcanoes. Observations and warnings from AVO have improved global understanding of how volcanoes work.

Georgeson Botanical Garden Director Pat Holloway was a speaker at the International Peony Summit held in April in Luoyang, China. Top peony researchers from Italy, Israel, China and other countries were among the presenters. She also visited Henan University of Science and Technology, powerhouse for the peony industry in Luoyang, where she discussed research and industry development and potential cooperative research opportunities.

Alaska 4-H leader Barbara Hoedel received the 4-H Salute to Excellence Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer award, the fourth time in five years the award has gone to an Alaskan. A certified therapeutic riding instructor, she recruits 4-H volunteers and their horses to offer a riding program for special-needs children. Hoedel, who lives in Kodiak, has been a 4-H volunteer for 34 years.

This year's Usibelli Award recipients are Jonathan Rosenberg, professor of political science, for teaching; Jeffrey Freymueller, professor of geophysics, Geophysical Institute, for research; and Catherine Cahill, associate professor, International Arctic Research Center, for service. The Emil Usibelli Distinguished Teaching, Research and Public Service Awards are UAF's most prestigious. These three \$10,000 awards are presented to individuals who display extraordinary excellence in teaching, research and service.

IN PROGRESS

Groundbreaking ceremonies took place March 30 for the Wood Center expansion and the new College of Engineering and Mines building. The 34,000-square-foot, \$30.7 million Wood Center expansion project is being financed by a private partner who will lease the building back to the university. The project is slated for completion in fall 2014. The new, 120,000-square-foot engineering building will provide modern classroom and laboratory space for engineering-related academic and research programs. The 2013 Alaska Legislature allocated \$15 million for the project, which should be enough to keep construction moving through the next season.

WHAT'S NEXT

The UA Museum of the North opened "Denali Legacy: 100 Years on the Mountain" May 18. To tell the story of the first ascent of North America's tallest mountain, museum staff tracked down and borrowed diaries of all four climbers who made it to the top in 1913 — the first time they've all been together in the same place in a century. The exhibit runs through Jan. 25, 2014.

Summer Sessions is sponsoring Discover Alaska, a lecture series on Wednesday evenings through Aug. 14 in the new Margaret Murie building auditorium. Lecture subjects are extremely diverse, ranging from glaciology and the aurora to poetry and 25 years of cartooning in Alaska.

The Institute of Arctic Biology celebrates 50 years Aug. 22 – 23 with academic seminars, social gatherings and building tours. IAB was founded in 1963 by the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska with Laurence Irving, a pioneer in the field of comparative physiology, as the founding director.

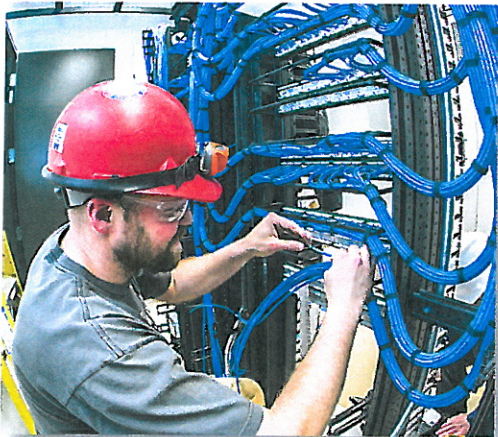
THROUGH THE LENS: RECENT IMAGES

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

June 2013



Anna Liljedahl, research assistant professor with UAF's International Arctic Research Center and Institute of Northern Engineering, works with Will Wright, of the Delta Soil and Water Conservation District, to collect snow samples from the surface of Jarvis Glacier, about 45 miles south of Delta Junction. They are investigating future streamflow, as bridges and road networks can be affected by floods, and how climate change may affect surface wetness in the lowlands.



Photos, clockwise from left

The Murie Building, nearing completion, gets its communications infrastructure installed a couple of months before it opens.

Art major Ian Wilkinson poses by one of his ceramic pieces in the UAF Fine Arts gallery. His BFA thesis project, *Spheres of Influence*, raised more than \$18,000 for the Fairbanks Food Bank through the sale of his 1,200 bowls.

Chemistry Professor Tom Green serves up fresh balloons during this year's Science Potpourri in the Reichardt Building.

The first reindeer calf of the year, born on March 30, stands beside his mom at the UAF Experimental Farm. UAF photo by JR Ancheta.



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Chancellor's Report

Chancellor John Pugh

uas.alaska.edu/chancellor
June 2013 Meeting



Student Speaker Forest Haven advised fellow graduates to use their education to help make the world a better place through community building. Left side L-R: Commencement Speaker Charles Northrip, Regent Fuller Cowell, Chancellor John Pugh. Right side L-R: UA President Patrick Gamble, UAS Provost Rick Caulfield. Photo by Klaus Stolpe, Juneau Empire.

UAS Commencement 2013

UAS awarded close to 700 degrees, occupational endorsements and certificates at 2013 commencement ceremonies in Juneau, Ketchikan and Sitka May 3-5. The student speaker at the Juneau ceremony was Forest Haven, recipient of the Outstanding Graduate in Social Science award. The EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) undergraduate research grant recipient was extensively involved in archaeological fieldwork around southern Southeast Alaska and presented professional academic research papers. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Anthropology. Honorary Doctorate of Laws recipient Charles Northrip gave the Juneau commencement address. Northrip managed Alaska's first public radio and TV stations, served as the first executive director of the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission, directed Alaska's first satellite communications experiments, managed Juneau's KTOO FM and TV, and directed the Juneau Economic Development Council. Currently, he is Chief of Party for the Education Development Center's Sudan Radio Service (SRS), based in Nairobi, Kenya. University of Alaska President Patrick Gamble gave closing remarks at the Juneau ceremony. About 21 graduates participated in a Native graduation ceremony prior to the regular ceremony in the Egan Library on the Juneau campus. The Sitka ceremony joined two University of Alaska campuses, as some Sitka graduates participated from the University of Alaska Anchorage via video conference. Roger Schmidt, the executive director of the Sitka Fine Arts Camp, was commencement speaker. This year's Ketchikan commencement speaker was Elizabeth Nelson, Artistic Director for First City Players and 2012 Distinguished Woman of the Year.



UAS alumna and Tlingit elder Marie Olsen hugs UAF Ph.D. recipient Keri Eggleston. Photo by Klaus Stolpe, Juneau Empire.



Alex Botelho climbing on the north face of Rhino Peak.



Summit of Rhino Peak, clockwise from lower right: Forest Wagner, Anitra Winkler, Alex Botelho, Sammy Becker, Sara Gering.

Sun Blessed ODS Local Glacier Trek

On Friday, April 19th, the Outdoor Studies mountaineering course, ODS 222, climbed and skied Snowdrift Peak and on Saturday, April 20th, climbed and skied Rhino Peak, on the Juneau Icefield. The group of ten, led by Assistant Professor of Outdoor Studies Forest Wagner, was dropped on the upper Taku by Ward Air and skied home, descending off the Juneau Icefield to the north branch of the Mendenhall Glacier. The group walked out West Glacier Trail at 3:30 pm, Tuesday, April 23rd.

Summer Math Research Experience

Mathematics faculty member Andrzej Piotrowski was awarded a grant from Mathematical Association of America to conduct a summer research experience for five UAS undergraduate students: Andre Bunton, Nicole Jacobs, Samantha Jenkins, Charles McKenry Jr., and Louis Scott. The project, entitled National Research Experience for Undergraduates Program at UAS: Diagonalizable Linear Operators and Polynomial Zeros, will run from May 13–June 21 on the Juneau campus.

Goldbelt-SOE Partnership

Goldbelt Heritage Foundation partnered with the School of Education to co-sponsor a course this spring for students from all three Juneau School District high schools. The focus of the "Investigating Traditional Ecological Knowledge" class is to apply the strengths of the local community to promote cultural awareness and science literacy through place-based education. The spring course was created as an extension of Goldbelt Heritage Foundation's "Aan Yátx'u Sáani Deiyí: Path to Excellence" summer academies for the study of math and science through the context of local culture. The course encourages students to take into consideration the dynamic landscape of Southeast Alaska as they develop an understanding of the interconnectedness of nature, respect for life, western science methodology, Tlingit migration and language, and social roles and responsibilities. The intention is to pay tribute to the legacy of the Kwaans of the Southeast region and to allow students to discover the holistic thought processes that helped people thrive in Southeast Alaska.

Federal Grant for Natural Sounds Recording

Library of natural sounds recorded within Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve.

The U.S. National Park Service announced a \$54,451 discretionary cooperative agreement grant to the University of Alaska Southeast to produce an interactive library of natural sounds recorded within GBNPP (Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve), including the biological and physical environment, as well as sounds produced by visitors and other human activities. The objectives include producing an archive of natural acoustics recorded during the summers of 2013 and 2014. Recordings will be either single species or phenomena or mingled sounds of natural communities.

Undergrad Presents at Conference

Outstanding graduate in Mathematics Eric Keller traveled to Salem, Oregon and attended the Pacific Northwest Section Meeting of the MAA (Mathematical Association of America) April 12–13, thanks to funds from the Arts & Sciences Department. Eric presented his mathematics senior project on "Measuring Resilience: The Use of System Properties in Ecosystem Management".

Vess Presents Panel at Conference

Sociology faculty member Lora Vess attended the March 2013 annual meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association in Reno, Nevada, where she presented on a panel on "Graduate School: Choosing the Right Program and Creating a Successful Application." She served on the program committee for the conference, organizing all environmental sociology panels, and presiding over the panel, "Emerging Research in Environmental Sociology."

Walz Presents Paper in France

Professor of History Robin Walz was in Limoges, France May 29th to present a paper titled "Panorama de la pègre: Une arrière-pensée de l'avant-garde" at the Fantômas Symposium (Colloque Fantômas) of international scholars at the University of Limoges.