



UA Regents Approve Budget Distribution

The University of Alaska Board of Regents approved the budget distribution for the fiscal year starting July 1, honored UA researchers dedicated to the International Polar Year and received numerous updates on university programs during its June 6 & 7 meeting in Fairbanks.

Regents and roughly 200 members of the UAF and Fairbanks community also attended a naming and dedication ceremony of the Natural Sciences Building on the UAF campus in honor of retiring provost Paul Reichardt, who taught and served in administrative positions at UAF for 35 years.

The Alaska Legislature recently approved a total of \$292.5 million in state general funds for the university's operating budget, up \$10 million compared to the current fiscal year but still \$1.6 million shy of meeting the

fixed-cost need in required retirement payments and \$16.3 million below the board's request. Federal funding, private donations, university receipts and other funding brings the total UA system operating budget to \$798.8 million for the new fiscal year, compared to \$774.1 million for the current year.

Board members agreed with a plan presented by UA President Mark Hamilton to squeeze \$2.5 million from across the system and reallocate it toward key workforce development programs that were part of the board's original request. Programs in allied health and public health, nursing, construction management, mining, geography and engineering-at the top of the board's "Preparing Alaskans for Jobs" category in the UA budget-all will benefit from the reallocation.

BOARD OF REGENTS

Chair

Mary K. Hughes (2002-2009)

Vice Chair

Cynthia Henry (2003-2011)

Secretary

Michael Snowden (2003-2009)

Treasurer

Carl Marrs (2005-2013)

Tim Brady (2005-2015)

Fuller Cowell (2007-2015)

William Andrews (2007-2009)

Erik Drygas (2007-2011)

Pat Jacobson (2007-2015)

Bob Martin (2005-2013)

Kirk Wickersham (2007-2015)

Board Office

*Jeannie Phillips
202 Butrovich Bldg.
P.O. Box 755300
907.450.8010
www.alaska.edu/bor
email: sybor@alaska.edu*

The University of Alaska Board of Regents is the governing body responsible for the university policy and management through the president. Regents are appointed by the governor for eight-year terms, subject to legislative confirmation. A student regent is appointed for two years from candidates nominated on each campus. (Regents' term of office shown in parentheses.)

RAHI Alumnus Speaks Out



Randall Yates of Ketchikan, an alumnus of the Rural Alaska Honors Institute, told members of the UA Board of Regents last week that RAHI helped turn his life around. The former troubled teen, who once faced difficulties at school and at home, is now 25 years old and finishing up a master's degree in resource economics from UAF. He'll head to law school at the University of California at Berkeley this August. Behind Yates are Chancellors John Pugh, UAS; Fran Ulmer, UAA; and Steve Jones, UAF. Photo by UA Staff ©2007 University of Alaska.

"These workforce programs are critical for the economic health of our state," Hamilton said. "While reallocations are difficult to do internally, they demonstrate a real commitment on the part of this university and the board, and a willingness to bet on the fact that state support will be forthcoming."

He emphasized that the reallocations are temporary. "The real problem will come in a year or two if we fail to receive the necessary state funding for continuing the programs," he said.

The board also approved spending the \$13.8 million received from the Legislature's capital budget on several projects, including maintenance, the purchase of Homer City Hall for an expansion of the Kachemak Bay Campus, planning money for a new UAA sports arena, and several other projects.

IPY Post Docs

Regents received an update from researchers involved in the International Polar Year, a two-year, multinational effort that focuses on scientific research affecting Earth's polar regions. The university recently hired 11 postdoctoral fellows throughout the system to focus largely on global climate change research, with funds provided by an-

nual gifts to UA by BP and ConocoPhillips. In addition, UAA's Institute of Social and Economic Research has a 12th polar year researcher funded separately through a federal grant focusing on social science issues related to global climate change. In addition to individual updates by many of the researchers during the board meeting, the board and members of the community also attended a public reception at the Museum of the North on Wednesday.

In other business

Regents approved total project cost increases for two projects-renovations to the Arctic Health Research Building on the UAF campus and the new Lena

Making Students Count



UA President Mark Hamilton presented the annual "Make Students Count" awards at the June board meeting. The recipients, pictured above from left are Mary Parsons, UAF; Mike Molnia, SW; Christopher Washko, UAS; President Hamilton; and Anissa Hauser, UAA. Each will receive a \$1,000 check and two domestic airline tickets. The Make Students Count recipients are nominated by fellow staff members for excellent service to students. **Photo by UA Staff ©2007 University of Alaska.**

to allow for sprinkler installation in the west wing, which until recently housed research animals, and additional renovations to the east wing than the earlier level of funding would have allowed. UAF will debt finance the additional renovations, bringing the total project cost to \$7.7 million.

Regents also heard updates on the geography program, crisis preparedness and several items of interest from Human Resources.

The meeting drew a healthy crowd, including many supporters of the Cooperative Extension Service at UAF.

Faculty Alliance Says "Thank You"



Faculty Alliance presented System Governance Executive Officer Pat Ivey with a plaque in recognition of her dedication to governance groups. Pictured above from left are outgoing Faculty Alliance Chair Shirish Patil, UAF associate professor of petroleum engineering; Ivey; and incoming Alliance Chair Bogdan Hoanca, UAA associate professor of computer information systems. UA President Mark Hamilton also presented a certificate of appreciation to Patil for his dedicated service in the past year as Faculty Alliance chair. **Photo by UA Staff ©2007 University of Alaska.**

Point fisheries facility in Juneau, part of UAF's School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences.

Due to a volatile construction market in Juneau, the Lena Point project requires an additional \$1.7 million than the funding level previously approved, bringing the new total project cost, including construction, equipment and furnishings, to \$26.2 million.

The Arctic Health renovations required an additional \$2 million

Future Board Meetings

September 18-19, 2007
Anchorage

November 6, 2007
Fairbanks