

Dear Board of Regents,

We are fast-tracking a Chancellor's Task Force on Alumni Relations to help develop a plan for building basic alumni engagement with measurable deliverables over the next 3–5 years. The Task Force and its mission are the result of nationally recognized consultant Dan White's review, report and recommendations on how UAA can best leverage alumni support commensurate with our ever-growing needs and opportunities as a university. I am pleased to report that targeted community and university leaders have accepted my invitation to participate and the charge to deliver a final report of findings and recommendations by May 2012.

Recruitments are moving forward for dean vacancies in the College of Health, College of Arts and Sciences, School of Engineering and College of Education. With Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Mike Driscoll's recent promotion to president at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, we will also soon launch a national search for our next provost.



*A UAA delegation attended the 6th Confucius Institute Conference in Beijing and explored opportunities for students and faculty at 7 Chinese universities.*

We continue to provide extensive programming celebrating diversity within our community with Alaska Civil Rights Month and Black History Month through January and February respectively.

Join us for resource fairs, nationally prominent speakers, panel discussions, interactive programming, music, theatre and don't miss our awesome Seawolf athletes in action!

Best Regards,

*Tom Case*  
Tom Case, Chancellor



**The first cohort of UAA-Creighton's** online doctoral program for occupational therapy graduated five Alaskans in December.

The Alaska Sports Hall of Fame established a new award, the Pride of Alaska, and named **UAA's Women's Basketball** program the **first winner** of the award.



UAA ranks among the top 5 percent of all D-II institutions and received a school-record 13th place in the Learfield Sports Director's Cup standings. This marks the third time in program history—all in the past three seasons—that all three of UAA's fall sports have earned NCAA finishes in the same year.

**Promoting Innovation:** UAA professors **Kenrick Mock and Bogdan Hoanca** became the first to be inducted into UAA's new "Patent Wall" for the patent they earned for their sign-on computer security authentication process, and 13 researchers were awarded seed money to advance their work during the first INNOVATE Research Awards.



## UAA ...

**Faculty, staff and students take leading roles:** Honors College student Brian Franklin has been accepted to Harvard Business School's MBA Program.

Journalism and Public Communications senior Heather Aronno earned second place in the William Randolph Hearst Foundation's annual Journalism Awards Program's Radio Competition.

Fifteen UAA Environment and Natural Resources Institute (ENRI) faculty fellows, research scientists and graduate student researchers provided 22 presentations at the American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting 2011—the largest conference of Earth and space scientists from around the world.

Kenai Peninsula College (KPC) director Gary J. Turner was named the 2012 Person of the Year by the Soldotna Chamber of Commerce.

Student caller Shaquanna Hall brought in the largest gift to date from the UAA phonathon program, \$10,000.

**Stay on Track campaign:** Fifty-four students at Mat-Su College have made the Stay on TRACK promise to complete 30 credits a year, choose a major, see an advisor and finish their degree in four years. Anchorage campus professors Kathi Trawver and Robert McCoy received incentive plan money for connecting students with the Stay on Track campaign.

**Institutional leadership:** UAA is one of only five institutions nationwide selected to participate in the RAILS (Rubric Assessment of Information Literacy Skills) project during the 2011-2012 academic year.

### Grants, research and public policy benefiting Alaskans:

Center for Behavioral Health Research and Services received \$145,000 to serve as the evaluator for the Home Again project, a partnership between the Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. and Anchorage Community Mental Health Services, Inc. and funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Dr. André Rosay, Justice Center director, will discuss Justice Center research, including the ongoing Alaska Victimization Survey, as keynote speaker for the Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee Crime Summit in January.

**Breaking enrollment records:** For the first time in its 48-year history, KPC's enrollment in one semester exceeded 3,000 headcount (academic and non-credit) with 3,002 students enrolled fall 2011.

**National prominence:** The Two-Year College English Association of the National Council of the Teachers of English named KPC the winner of the 2012 Diana Hacker TYC Award for Outstanding Programs.

Prince William Sound Community College adjunct faculty member Katrina Church-Chmielowski received the Distinguished Service Award from the National School Boards Association.

**Recent development news...** ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc. submitted a \$2.2M pledge payment for the ConocoPhillips Arctic Science and Engineering Endowment.

Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) received \$300,000 from Udelhoven Oil Field System Services, Inc., \$34,000 from ExxonMobil Corporation, and \$25,000 from Wells Fargo. Alyeska Pipeline Service provided \$35,000 to support ANSEP's 2012 banquet and contributed \$10,000 to support the Alaska Native Program Scholarships at KPC. Udelhoven also contributed \$200,000 toward the Herb Schroeder Chair.

Northrim Bank donated \$125,000 in honor of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) 50th Anniversary Celebration and gave an additional \$7,500 to the Eagle River campus.

The Council of Alaska Producers pledged \$110,000 to support a visiting professor of public policy. This is their second pledge of this size toward this program since 2010.

A single anonymous donor contributed \$100,000: \$50,000 for the Planetarium, \$25,000 for Opportunities for Lifelong Education Programs (OLE!) and \$25,000 to the Cooperative Extension Program.

First National Bank Alaska gave \$53,000 to support scholarships for the CBPP Communities in Schools Program, ISER 50th Anniversary Celebration, Dental Assisting Clinic, the Institute of Social and Economic Research and the UAA Journalism Internship Program.

Flint Hills Resources, LLC contributed \$40,000 toward the Experimental Economics Laboratory.

LifeMed Alaska, LLC contributed \$30,000 to Excellence in Health Science Simulation. Alaska Kidney Foundation has pledged a grant for over \$30,000 to support UAA School of Nursing scholarships.

## New scholarships and professorship established

- ◆ Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors donated \$26,000 to establish the Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors Endowed Scholarship.
- ◆ The Lynch family made a memorial donation to establish the Kathy Lynn Lynch Scholarship in Nursing.
- ◆ Family and friends of John Gay have made generous contributions to establish the John Russell Gay Memorial Science Scholarship.
- ◆ A legacy gift from Dixie L. Light will establish the Dixie Light Endowed Scholarship to promote the completion of a baccalaureate degree in Nursing by registered nurses who are residents and licensed to practice in Alaska.
- ◆ Dr. Louis Kralick donated \$40,000 to establish the Louis L. Kralick, M.D. Alaska WWAMI Professorship in Biomedical Science.

**Icicle Seafoods, Inc.** contributed \$300,000 to promote fishing industry and seafood market research and career development, bringing Icicle's total donations to over \$1M.



**Geomatics students** will be able to conduct 3-D image analysis in a new state-of-the-art lab with the help of trainers from DAT/EM Systems International and their donation of 16 licenses of their SUMMIT Evolution professional software valued at \$312,000.

## Pick.Click.Give.

UAA is promoting the **ExxonMobil Pick.Click.Give.** matching gift through its community campus markets and radio advertisements in the Anchorage market.





Stefan Weingarth opens a valve on the oil field wellhead at the Community and Technical College's process technology facility. The wellhead is part of a BP donation worth almost \$4 million, and is the only working model in an Alaska classroom.

## Achievements

**Scientists from the Geophysical Institute** helped the U.S. Coast Guard guide a Russian fuel tanker through the frozen Bering Sea toward Nome. Specialists analyzed the thickness of pressure ridges in the ice outside the harbor and deployed an unmanned drone flying overhead to send images of the sea ice to researchers onshore.

**KUAC TV celebrated four decades** of broadcasting public television. UA President William R. Wood provided an introduction to the inaugural program Dec. 22, 1971. Forty years later, KUAC TV continues to serve Alaskans, now with four channels of programming, including the Create and World networks, and UATV, which features educational content.

**The National Science Foundation** awarded \$16.3 million to the Institute of Arctic Biology's Toolik Field Station, a major site for national and international research in the North American Arctic since 1975. The five-year agreement will enable the station to improve support to the hundreds of scientists and students who work and conduct research at the station each year.

**The UA Museum of the North** accepted a collection of almost 26,000 archaeological items dating back to 500 A.D. The items were excavated near Point Barrow nearly 60 years ago. The Birnirk collection is owned by the U.S. Navy and was housed for decades at Harvard's Peabody Museum. Besides adding to the Museum of the North's collection, the donation represents a research bonanza for future graduate students.

**The Center for Alaska Native Health Research** received \$1.4 million to support rural Southwestern Alaska Yup'ik communities in suicide and substance abuse prevention efforts. The award will supplement a CANHR research program exploring how Alaska Native people use ancestral knowledge and cultural traditions to promote well-being in their families.

**The School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences and the Cooperative Extension Service** sponsored a sustainable livestock conference in Anchorage last fall. Producers, retailers, scientists, policymakers and students considered ways Alaskans can produce a greater share of the red meat consumed in the state, and how the university can support sustainable agriculture through research and education.

## In Progress

**The University of Alaska Museum of the North's** new special exhibit, "Leggy! Live Spiders and Their Relatives," features diverse members of the phylum Arthropoda, creatures known for their many legs and many relatives. These creatures are the most numerous and adaptable on the planet, says museum entomology curator Derek Sikes. "Leggy!" will be on display in the special exhibits gallery at the museum until May 5.

**For two decades, the Science For Alaska** lecture series, coordinated by the Geophysical Institute outreach office, has brought the latest in scientific research to Alaskans via public lectures in Fairbanks, Anchorage and Juneau. The 2012 lecture topics include unmanned aircraft, reindeer, earthquakes and more. The series continues through March 6.

**Alaska Sea Grant** Marine Advisory Program agent Gay Sheffield, based in Nome, is among the scientists in the field trying to understand the unusual deaths of ringed seals and other marine mammals in Alaska's arctic and Bering Straits regions. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration declared the recent deaths an unusual mortality event, triggering a focused, expert investigation into the cause.

## What's Next

**The Famous for Fifteen Minutes** Playwright Festival takes place Feb. 18. Original works by beginning playwrights from the UAF community will be presented by the Student Drama Association and Theatre UAF.

**The 39th Annual Festival of Native Arts** happens March 1 – 3. *Walking with Our Ancestors* is the theme for this year's festival, which is entirely organized by UAF students. Festival of Native Arts student coordinator Sarah Walker received a fall 2011 Exceptional Student Employee Award from UAF Career Services.

# through the lens: recent images

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

February 2012



**As part of ongoing maintenance projects,** Facilities Services replaced the old floor in the Wood Center Carol Brown Ballroom with red oak, which will last much longer than the previous flooring.

In other maintenance work this winter, Facilities Services updated the heating system in the Irving II building to more reliable electronic controls, making it easier to keep the building at appropriate temperatures year-round.



**Photos, clockwise from left**

**Alaska Center for Energy and Power** Director Gwen Holdmann stands next to one of the doors into ACEP's new research facility on the Fairbanks campus.

**Fireworks light up the sky** above West Ridge during the annual New Year's Eve Sparktacular.

**Chancellor Rogers and Carol Lewis,** dean of the School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences, open the school's new \$5.325 million teaching and research greenhouse in November.

**Fairbanksans** Jeffrey and Jo Zuckerman and their family donated to UAF a 50-acre parcel of land near Fairbanks in honor of their daughter Bianca, a 2010 UAF alumna.



*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.*

Chancellor Brian Rogers • [uaf.chancellor@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf.chancellor@alaska.edu) • [www.uaf.edu/chancellor/](http://www.uaf.edu/chancellor/)





# Chancellor's Report

Chancellor John Pugh

uas.alaska.edu/chancellor  
February 2012 Meeting

## Carol Griffin Celebrates 30 Years at UAS

*By Mallory Millay*

UAS Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services and long time employee Carol Griffin retired after serving UAS for more than 30 years.

"I've been here so long I can hardly remember not being here," Griffin joked.

Griffin has seen UAS grow from a four building campus with administrative offices in the Auke Bay Post Office building, to the beautiful, successful campus it is today.

Starting at UAS in the early 1980's as a part time instructor of American Government became a cornerstone in developing the UAS distance education program as Director of Outreach Education and Service.

"It was kind of the beginning of distance education as we know it now," Griffin explained of the program in its early stages. "I fell right into it and really loved it. I sent people from Juneau all over Southeast Alaska. The first time I [traveled in Southeast] I was terrified because I was out of my element, on a float plane, and it was raining and snowing, but I really loved it."

Preferring to work behind the scenes, Griffin found her calling working in personnel, later becoming the Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services in 1999.

"I always wanted to be a person who helped other people make the best decisions," Griffin explained. "In all my career plans, I had planned to be the kind of person who was a staffer, [who] helped other people do what they needed to do."

Retiring UAS Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services Carol Griffin reminisces about her three decades at UAS at a recent open house at Administrative Services offices.

The first person in her family to get a college education, receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree from Lewis-Clark State University and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Idaho, Griffin understands the value of education and has been dedicated to seeing UAS thrive as an educational institution.

"People all thought alike," Griffin said of her experience growing up in her small hometown. "So when I got on a university campus, it changed the way I saw the world because I could see room for other things [besides] what I learned as a young person. That was a really wonderful opportunity for me, [and it makes me] feel so committed to education."

Griffin believes that UAS is becoming a thriving educational institution, led by dedicated people like Chancellor John Pugh, who have their eye to the future.

"John Pugh is a visionary man and he really has a vision of this institution," Griffin said of the Chancellor's plans for UAS. "About four years ago he began to articulate his vision that this campus, in order to grow and be sustainable, needs to have a thousand full time students --freshmen through seniors-- who are here to sit in the seats



*Carol Griffin during celebration gathering. Ryan Cortes, photo.*

and participate in the dialogue that occurs between students and faculty to help build that community to sustain this organization," she said. "I think we're now beginning to shape the building block with more freshmen and better retention."

"Chancellor Pugh, as a leader, is looking beyond the time period he would be here, looking into the future and planning for the future," Griffin said.

With confidence that the institution is moving in the direction of success, Griffin can look back at the life and career she has had at UAS, and enjoy the changes that retirement will bring.

"I've had [a] lot of opportunities here," she said. "I can't say enough about what a wonderful thing it's been as a career to progress through an organization; to know and understand the organization. I think we're really changing and I'm so thrilled about it because we're really becoming what I would consider the university we want to be."

UAS has provided Griffin with more than just a career, but opportunities, experiences, and friendships she will deeply miss. In a letter to colleagues, Griffin wrote that UAS changes lives. "UAS is more than a place, far beyond a destination --it must be measured by transformed lives; it is a co-mingling of hearts and minds of those who work here and those who learn here."

"I will be sad because I'm leaving friends and colleagues," Griffin said. "But I'm not leaving without a passion for this place because it has been so good to me."

"It will be different," Griffin agreed about retirement. "But I'm excited because it's a new adventure."

Griffin moved to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho to be closer to her family and spend time with her grandchildren.

## A New Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services

---

With Carol Griffin's retirement, former Associate Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services Jim Danielson became the new Vice Chancellor overseeing the Bookstore, Budget, Grants and Contracts; Business and Finance and the Personnel Office. Danielson officially took the new position January 1, 2012.

## Strategic and Assessment Plan

---

A new publication highlighting UAS' approved Strategic and Assessment Plan 2010-2017 is in circulation. The bright and colorful booklet includes UAS' new mission statement focusing on student learning and its four core themes: student success, teaching and learning, community engagement, research and creative expression. See the publication at [http://www.uas.alaska.edu/UAS\\_StrategicPlan/docs/strategic-plan-public\\_10-17.pdf](http://www.uas.alaska.edu/UAS_StrategicPlan/docs/strategic-plan-public_10-17.pdf)

## Mine Training Simulator

---

A world-class underground mine training simulator has arrived at the UAS Center for Mine Training in Juneau. The simulator was purchased from a firm in South Africa and will contribute to mine safety and workforce development training offered by UAS in partnership with MAPTS—the UA Mining and Petroleum Training Service. A roll-out and demonstration of the new simulator is planned.

## New Additions to Southeast Conference

---

UAS Mine Training Director Mike Bell has been named to the board of the Southeast Conference. Recent B.A. Communications graduate Arielle Parker has been hired as the Southeast Conference Administrator. Southeast Conference is a regional, nonprofit corporation that advances the collective interests of the people, communities, and businesses in southeast Alaska.

## Nursing Program Graduation

---

Formal pinning ceremonies for 13 graduates of the University of Alaska Anchorage Associate Degree Nursing Program were held in Juneau and Ketchikan on Saturday, December 17, 2011. Graduates received their Associate of Applied Science in Nursing degree. The students spent two years training in clinical settings in Juneau, Ketchikan and Anchorage. Graduates are now able to sit for the national licensing exam (NCLEX-RN), and practice as registered nurses.

## Fish Tech Program to be Offered Via e-Learning to Prince William Sound College

---

The UAS Fishery Technology Program based at the Ketchikan Campus and Prince William Sound Community College recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding to offer the Fish Tech program in the region via e-Learning. The Fish Tech program also has an MOU with SFOS' Fishery bachelors program and is working on one with the UAF Bristol Bay Campus.

## UAS Campus Master Planning

---

UAS Campus Master Planning is in process. The firm of Perkins and Will is the primary consultant. Facilities Director Keith Gerken is spearheading the effort with input planned from all schools and campuses. Initial meetings with Perkins and Will may take place as early as February, with a goal of finalizing the plan in Fall 2012.

## New Agreement Implementing Institutional Animal Care and Use Requirements.

---

UAS has a new umbrella agreement in place with UAF to ensure compliance with federal regulations on Institutional Animal Care and Use (IUCUC). This collaborative arrangement allows UAS faculty involved with research to comply fully with IUCUC requirements and benefit from interaction with research support offered through UAF.

## Tamone and Students Present East to West

---

Professor of Biology Sherry Tamone and her graduate student Molly Fox-Zaleski attended the Alaska Marine Science Symposium January 16-17 in Anchorage. Molly presented her graduate work on reproductive indices of male snow crab *Chionoecetes opilio*.

Tamone traveled to the annual Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology in Charleston, South Carolina earlier this month to present a poster on crab physiology research conducted in collaboration with two UAS undergraduates, Tyler Linderoth and Eric Keller. The results of their study, titled "The effect of eyestalk neurohormones on circulating glucose and trehalose in two species of cold water oregonid crabs", have some interesting implications for cold-water adaptation.

## Neely and Student Present Papers

---

English faculty Sol Neely attended the 127th annual convention of the Modern Languages Association, where he presented a paper titled "Trickster Reads Midrash: Theories Toward an Ontology of Story" and participated in a panel discussion focused on Pacific Rim concerns. His paper was well received and it prompted an invitation to present at a conference on the philosopher Emmanuel Levinas in Paris, France this fall. James Kelleher, a student of Sol Neely, had a paper "Pixels and Ethics: Contemporary Gaming as Procedural Allegory" accepted for the Pacific Rim Conference on Literature and Rhetoric. The conference will be held March 9-10 at U.A.A.