

On The Move

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UNIVERSITY of ALASKA
STATEWIDE



University Health Care Costs Rise Sharply; No Sign They'll Drop

The University of Alaska has caught up with national trends in total and escalating health care costs, and that's not good news.

While the rest of the nation was experiencing significant cost increases; for health care coverage in FY00, the UA experience remained relatively steady, said Janet Jacobs, the university's executive director for Human Resources. "We now have dramatic increases that show no sign of stopping."

Jacobs said the four primary cost drivers and their relative impact on cost increases are:

- + Increased staff** - more employees and their dependents on the plan plus **increased average number of claims per participant** - higher use (48%)
- + Increased average cost per claim** - inflation in costs for medical and related services (24%)

- + High claims** - Claims over \$50,000 (28%)

In FY01 high claims primarily impacted the Traditional Plan which applies to UA employees who are members of a collective bargaining unit.

Non-represented university employees are in the UA2000 Plan, and if high claims are deducted from the UA2000 plan, the plan achieves its original objectives for cost containment, Jacobs said. "This is good to know," she added, "but it doesn't change the numbers at the bottom of the page."

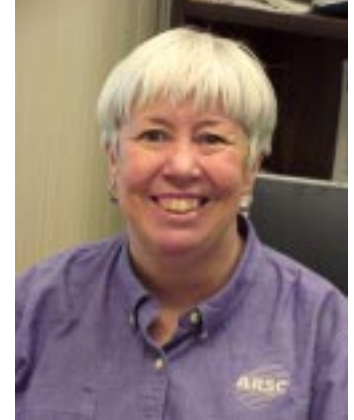
The graph shows summary numbers for FY98 through FY01, and FY02 data projections based on ten months of data. FY03 figures are projected.

Here are some quick comparisons between FY00 and FY01:

- + Average inpatient expense per enrollee increased 54.3%.**
- + Medical expenses per enrollee increased 20.3%.**



The HAT lab recently installed new computer desks which make it easier to view the computer monitors and also watch the instructor's presentation.



ARSC's Horner-Miller Heads International Cray Group

The Arctic Region Supercomputing Center is proud to announce the election of Associate Director Barbara Horner-Miller as president of the Cray User Group (CUG). CUG, an independent, volunteer-organized corporation of international organizations that own or use Cray and SGI computer systems, is a distinguished organization within the high performance computing industry. Members include academia, industry and government agencies. Arctic Region Supercomputing staff have been participating in CUG since the center was formed.

Horner-Miller formerly served on the CUG program committee for several years, as treasurer for four years and as Regional Director of Americas for the past year.

"Barbara Horner-Miller's involvement in this organization is exemplary of the dedication ARSC staff have to the field of high-performance computing," said ARSC Director Frank Williams. "Her extra commitment allows ARSC to continue building a reputation as a top-notch provider of supercomputing resources and original research."

We're Not Alone

"If I didn't see it, I wouldn't believe it. A full one-fifth of the retirement system's liability is medical! Of the \$4.6 billion dollars set aside to pay retirement benefits, almost one billion dollars are for the retiree medical plan. That, my friends, is a lot of money."

-- Guy Bell,
TRS Administrator, Alaska
Teachers' Retirement
System

Element	FY 98	FY99	FY00	FY01	Projected FY02	Projected FY03	Projected FY02 increase	Projected FY03 increase
HEADCOUNT								
Covered Employees	3271	3232	3326	3591	3915	4182	9.02%	6.82%
Total Plan Participants	8000	8,060	8,135	8,655	9,395	9,571	8.55%	1.87%
COSTS								
Total Claims Costs	17,872,579	17,380,180	17,656,200	21,328,712	25,981,378	29,500,000	21.81%	13.54%
Total Costs*	18,864,210	18,538,265	18,907,331	22,854,248	27,822,893	31,588,912	21.74%	13.54%
RECOVERIES**	1,510,761	1,411,472	1,354,659	1,223,437	1,225,780	3,587,584	0.19%	192.68%
Net Cost	17,353,449	17,126,793	17,552,672	21,630,811	26,597,113	28,001,328	22.96%	5.28%
UA defined contribution per employee	4972	5121	5275	5433	5596	5764	3.00%	3.00%
CLAIMS								
Avg. cost per employee	5,464	5,378	5,309	5,939	6,636	7,054	11.73%	6.29%
Avg. cost per participant	2,234	2,156	2,170	2,464	2,765	3,082	12.22%	11.45%

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UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

Transitions



Dr. Brendan Kelly

Marine Biology Prof Heads Faculty Alliance

Dr. Brendan Kelly, associate professor of marine biology at UAS with a joint appointment with the UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, has accepted the position of Faculty Alliance chair. His term of office will begin July 1, 2002, and continue until June 30, 2003.

Dr. Kelly earned his master's degree at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and his Ph.D. at Purdue University.



Michelle Combellick

Michelle Combellick is the new coordinator for the Office of Dr. Craig Dorman, vice president for research. She was formerly an administrative assistant at the Institute of Arctic Biology at UAF.

Elizabeth Martinson, who has been a research technician for Institutional Research, assumed her new duties as the EPSCoR Research Associate on May 6. Elizabeth has been with the university for seven months.

UA Honors Four for Outstanding Service to Students

Four staff employees of the University of Alaska have won the university's 2002 "Make Students Count" awards for their outstanding service to students.

University President Mark R. Hamilton, who started the awards in 1999 to recognize staff who have provided outstanding service to students from anywhere in the UA system, will present the awards on Tuesday, June 11, at the Board of Regents' meeting on the Fairbanks campus.

This year's winners are **Cindy Marshall** of UAA, **Tonya Trabant** of UAF, **Roxy Felkl** of UAS, and **Janet Johnson** of Statewide Programs and Services.

Cindy Marshall has worked for UAA for many years. She has served as student advocate in the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Services, administrative assistant in the Student Development Department, administrative coordinator for the student union programs and services, and she currently serves as the student affairs manager for the UAA division of Student Affairs.

Tonya Trabant is the senior career counselor at the UAF Fairbanks campus. She is known and respected around campus for her dedication and enthusiasm in assisting students. That enthusiasm also earned her the Associated Students of UAF Outstanding Staff Person of the Year Award and the Dean's Award for Outstanding Student Service Employee. Trabant also works with business and industry, and coordinates several employment fairs, successfully bringing students and potential employers together.

Roxy Felkl, administrative assistant for Student Activities and Housing on the UAS Juneau campus for the past nine years, is well respected on her campus. She came to UAS at half the salary she was earning at BP because she saw the university as a place where she

could make a difference in people's lives. Her involvement in student life includes clubs, activities, student housing and community interaction.

Janet Johnson is the senior lead analyst programmer for the Banner Student Information System. The university's ability to develop and deploy a wide array of electronic student services has been successful in large part because of Janet's dedication to students throughout the system. She is relied upon for on-line registration, transcripts, grades, the fee payment gateway, and the UA-wide distributed education gateway, among other Banner user services. She has worked on the student information system for 27 years.

"All four of these outstanding employees were nominated by faculty, fellow staffers and students," Hamilton said. "They do the kind of outstanding work that inspires students and enables the university to make good on its promises to constantly improve services for all its students. It's a pleasure for me to honor them."

For Sale or Trade

Send your items for sale or trade by e-mail to:
bob.miller@alaska.edu

From Matthew Miranda x5455
Same laptop, new low price. Gateway Solo 9550, 1.13 Ghz Pentium 3, 512 mb Ram, 30 Gb hard drive, Geforce 2 32 mb Cd-RW/DVD drive, extra internal 20 Gb hard drive, extra Li-Ion battery (6 hours life) \$1900 obo

From Jim Johnsen, 474-3637 (evenings) or 474-7391 (days):
1999 VW Passat, V6, 2.8 liter, 190 hp. Front wheel drive, heated leather seats, sunroof, AC, Cruise, ABS, Alloy wheels, Tiptronic transmission. One owner, excellent condition, 36,000 miles, new tires. \$20,000 obo.

From Betty Studebaker 479-4925
Like New - 2 Herman Miller Task Chairs, Dove Grey color, tall, pneumatic stool with full

foot ring, seat and foot ring have height adjustment. A great deal at \$250 for pair.

From Alesia Willey at 457-1699:
Suzuki GZ250 Street Bike \$2,000 obo.

From Janet Jacobs 457-5790:
Honda FR700 Rototiller. Very good condition, starts easy, works well. \$700.

From Barb Stockwell 474-6498:
1999 Royce Union Comp 1 Freestyle BMX Bike Chrome color \$75 obo

From Collin Lichtenberger, 474-5411:
Two tickets to Hawaii leaving July 8th returning July 21st. Price for both is \$750.

From Sarah M. Rittgers, 474-6280:
Responsible college student looking for a housesitting position. Experienced with references. E-mail Sarah, ara7michelle@hotmail.com

From David Bunzow 479-2692:
1992 Mazda B-2200 2WD winterized P/U Truck, black with camper shell and pass thru windows, 84K miles; 4 new tires; 2 new rear studed tires. All major maintenance and repair records available. Very reliable vehicle in pretty good condition! Emissions sticker good to 1/04. Asking \$2,950.

From Stephanie Held, 474-5069:
1999 Pontiac Grand Am, white, 4 door, 28K miles, power windows/locks, Am/Fm, cassette, 6 disc CD changer, Astro auto start, new Blizzak winter tires! Well taken care of, \$10,900 obo.

From Brandi Berg, 474-7606:
Looking for a used kitchen propane range, prefer the color almond.

On the Move is Online

Go to: www.alaska.edu/opa/onthemove. **Deadline** for the next issue is Monday, June 17th by the end of the day.