Regents of the University of Alaska dealt with academic programs, new science facilities, and land sales when they met in Juneau in February.

The day prior to the meeting, the regents hosted a luncheon designed to acquaint legislators and staff members about university programs and services. In meeting with legislators, regents urged support for UA’s Fiscal Year 04 budget request of $224.7 million from the state general fund, up $13.6 million over last year’s appropriation.

The board approved six new academic programs, all of which are to begin this fall, at UAS:

- Certificate in Automotive Technology
- Certificate in Residential Building Science
- Bachelor of Arts in English
- Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences
- Bachelor of Science in Information Systems

Regents also renamed existing UAF’s School of Agriculture and Land Resources Management as the School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences. The new name, was requested by the school and earlier approved by the administration. “Our degree programs in Natural Resources Management address the sciences of plant, animal, and soil systems and their application to not only agricultural production, but also such areas as forest management, revegetation of disturbed lands and the management of public lands,” said school Dean Carol E. Lewis. The name of the Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station remains the same.

Regents approved the UAF Biological & Computational Sciences Facility design project in the amount of $1.5 million, and also approved the revised schematic design for the West Ridge Research Building at a total project cost not to exceed $16 million. The design and construction of the science facilities at UAF and UAA will be closely monitored by the adminis-
ration and the Board of Regents because of the high cost of the facilities, and because the money to build the facilities comes from a variety of federal, state and private sources.

The regents approved four different parcels of land for sale:

- About 125 acres of land in Seldovia will be sold to the Kenai Peninsula Borough which said it plans to use the land for a new landfill site.
- The 220-acre Bridge Creek parcel in Homer will be sold to the City of Homer.
- A 43.92-acre parcel of land located about three miles upriver from the Sterling Highway bridge and about 15 miles north of Ninilchik will be sold to a private bidder. There are no roads or utilities to the land, which is accessible only by boat.
- Approximately 1,225 acres of land at Carbon Mountain on the Gulf Coast of Alaska will be sold. The land is about 65 miles east of Cordova, 30 miles north of Cape Suckling, and just west of the Bering Glacier. Two parties have expressed interest, and the administration was authorized to proceed with the sale.

The Facilities and Land Management Committee reported that it had approved the revised cost for the University of Alaska Museum expansion. The total project cost was revised from $31 million to $32,750,000, and the name of the museum was changed from the University of Alaska Museum to the University of Alaska Museum of the North.

In other actions, the regents approved the UAS Campus master plan, passed a Resolution of Appreciation for former Regent Byron Mallott, okayed a revised meeting schedule that runs through 2004, and approved the 2003 Land Management Development Plan.

Mission Statement:

"The University of Alaska inspires learning, and advances and disseminates knowledge through teaching, research, and public service, emphasizing the North and its diverse peoples."

Regents' Policy 10.01.01