



Dear Board of Regents,

UAA is now accredited as a full doctoral-granting institution. This means UAA is able to fully offer and strategically develop doctoral programs. New programs will go through the regular curriculum process, which includes approval through the Regents and NWCCU.

This year, UAA is also moving to two commencement ceremonies a year: one in December and one in May. Our first December commencement will take place in the new Alaska Airlines Center (AAC).

The last two regular-season men's and women's basketball games to be played in the Wells Fargo Sports Complex were amazing. Kyle Fossman was named a GNAC Player of the Week for his 40-point effort that included a record 12 three-pointers in one game (breaking both UAA and GNAC records). Both teams won their matchups and went on to compete in the GNAC tournament.

UAA's Planning and Budget Advisory Council (PBAC) set up a budget analysis subcommittee to help major budget units identify costs-saving and revenue-producing measures. The subcommittee has reviewed ideas for usefulness, practicality and other elements, such as size of savings, and, in March, recommended 15 top ideas for consideration. Major budget units are now considering how to best implement the measures to achieve a targeted 7 percent savings—the budget gap anticipated if the Legislature passes Gov. Parnell's 2015 budget proposal. Permanent base reductions will be identified as part of the FY16 budget process, using the prioritization results, which will be available later this summer.

Progress continues on the Alaska Airlines Center. We plan to open the AAC on time in August, with the grand opening scheduled for the beginning of September. We hope you will join us for the festivities.

Best regards,



Tom Case, Chancellor

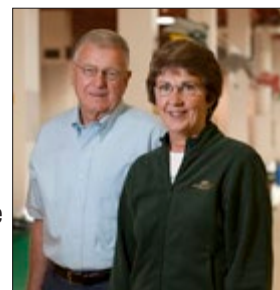


Seawolf women are NCAA bound, earning an at-large bid to the 2014 West Regional Championship.



UAA's first Winter Design Project involved nearly 300 faculty, staff, students and community partners.

Longtime Seawolf supporters Tom and Vicki Packer committed \$500,000 to the Building Futures Fund in support of UAA Athletics. In recognition of this generous gift, the main gathering space in the AAC will be named the Packer Family Pavilion.



UAA qualified a full 12-athlete team to the 61st NCC Skiing Championships and finished eighth, capturing its seventh-straight top-10 result.



# UAA taking the lead



UAA students in BIO 490 (neuroanatomy and neurophysiology) and their professor, Caroline Wilson, organized the third annual Alaska Brain Bee to increase interest of high school students in neuroscience.



**Harry Need**  
Master of Public  
Administration '13



**Amanda Metivier**  
Bachelor of Social  
Work '08, Master of  
Social Work '12

A dozen UAA alumni were named to the "Top Forty Under 40" by the Alaska Journal of Commerce.

UAA's Smoke-Free Task Force organized the Fresh Air Challenge and recommends UAA consider adopting a comprehensive smoke-free policy accompanied by a year spent educating the UAA community.



## Faculty Distinction

James Muller, UAA Professor of Political Science, has been selected by the National Association of Scholars to be the president of the Alaska Association of Scholars for next year.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski recently released her 21st "Veteran Spotlight" installment and featured Jane Fuerstenau, Kenai Peninsula College's associate professor of library science, who served in the U.S. Navy for five years as a jet mechanic and then served the U.S. in the reserves.

## Staff Distinction

Maria Bonifacio, associate director of Residence Life, received the public service award from the American College Personnel Association's standing committee for LGBTQAI awareness, for the creation of SafeZone on campus.

"1964: Artifacts of Good Friday," paintings by Ted Kincaid, a practicing artist who works as an electronic media specialist in University Advancement, were featured in the Arc Gallery at the Consortium Library in February.

## Student Excellence

Ryan Bergerson, a Civil Engineering major minoring in German, received the 2014-2015 Congress-Bundestag Scholarship. Mr. Bergerson is UAA's eighth recipient of this prestigious scholarship, which provides for a year of study and internship in Germany. Natasa Masanovic, chair of the Department of Languages and associate professor and coordinator of German, is Mr. Bergerson's faculty mentor both for his German language studies and the Congress-Bundestag Scholarship.

## Research Excellence

Investigators in the Center for Behavioral Health Research and Services Center received a three-year \$943,000 federal grant to implement a training program for students in health profession programs, to conduct routine substance-and alcohol-abuse screening with their patients.

UAA's permafrost research program in Northwest Greenland, led by Fulbright Arctic Chair Jeff Welker and colleagues from the University of California Irvine, was highlighted in a recent issue of *Nature Climate Change*.

## Publications

The Fall 2013/Winter 2014 issue of the *Alaska Justice Forum* includes articles on collateral consequences of criminal convictions and the relationship between unemployment and domestic violence, among others.

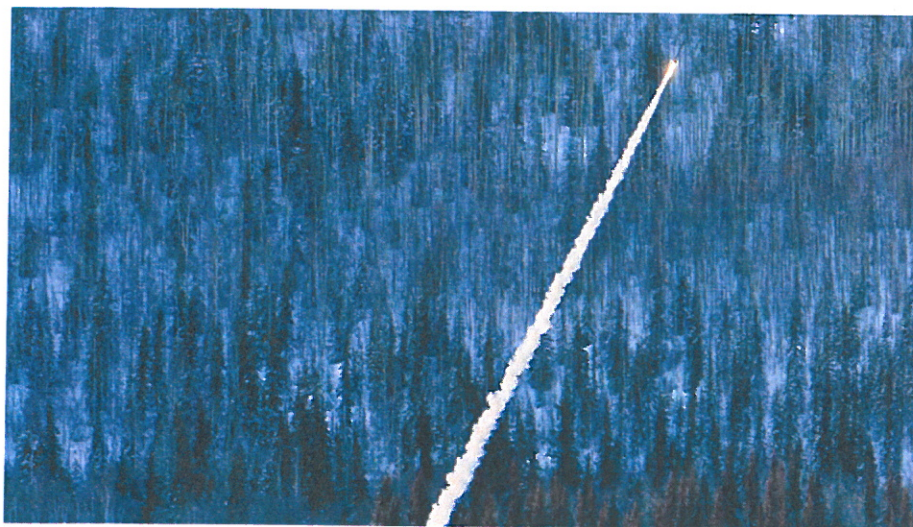
Professor Ryan Fortson, J.D., Justice faculty, has written "*A College Student's Guide to Landlord/Tenant Relations in Alaska*" to help UAA students as they get ready to start college or transition out of university housing and are looking to rent an apartment.

## Public Square & Community Partnerships

The Seawolf hockey team, coaches and staff teamed with St. Baldrick's Foundation to raise almost \$45,000 for children's cancer research.

UAA/APU Books of the Year brought NPR's Brooke Gladstone to Alaska for a number of public events, including a book signing and public lecture on her book, *The Influencing Machine*.





**A team of Geophysical Institute researchers launched a 10-foot carbon-fiber rocket** on a seven-minute flight from Poker Flat Research Range north of Fairbanks in February. They fired the rocket to test its capabilities as a low-cost vehicle for space physicists and other scientists who send missions through the aurora. (Photo courtesy Mark Conde.)

## ACHIEVEMENTS

**UAF has partnered with UAS Iceland to expand unmanned aircraft operations** in Iceland in early 2014. The collaboration with UAS Iceland, via UAF's Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration, will support arctic science, including glacier studies, volcano monitoring, marine mammal research and environmental observations. The agreement also has the potential to support mapping efforts and search and rescue missions. UAF's program dedicated to unmanned aircraft systems has grown to a team of 18 people and more than 160 aircraft since it was established in the early 2000s.

**A newly appointed UAF Disability Committee** is expected to make recommendations for actions UAF can take to improve accessibility, increase enrollment, expand employment and enhance retention for people with disabilities. In the past few years, UAF has focused on making campuses more accessible. An accessibility study of buildings was completed; all outside sidewalks were surveyed for compliance with standards; workers were hired to clear ramps; and the chancellor's residence was upgraded to improve access.

**The UAF Alternative Spring Break team** scheduled a trip to Talamanca, Costa Rica, in March to work on education, conservation and public health issues. The trip, organized by the UAF Leadership, Involvement and Volunteer Experience program, gives students a chance to do hands-on service projects in other communities.

**The UAF Cooperative Extension Service and the Marine Advisory Program** hosted a four-part workshop on starting and operating a specialty food business. The series was offered in Fairbanks and Kodiak and by videoconference in Palmer, Anchorage, Soldotna, Juneau and Petersburg. The workshop was geared to people interested in selling specialty foods at farmers markets and other events, wholesale or through food trucks.

**UAF recently recognized more than 100 low-income, first-generation and disabled students** who are succeeding in college during an awards presentation and reception. The event is one of many held nationwide to recognize the accomplishments of students via their participation in TRiO programs, which are designed to help students from poor and working families successfully enter and complete college.

## IN PROGRESS

**UAF is developing its first Sustainability Master Plan.** UAF already performs well on measures of sustainability and has had several successful initiatives, including more than 40 student proposals covering everything from solar panel installations to the community garden and Sustainable Village student housing complex. UAF has a gold rating in the nationally recognized Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System created by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

**UAF Athletics is accepting nominations for the Nanook Hall of Fame Class of 2014.** Up to four inductees will be declared and honored as the seventh class of the Nanook Hall of Fame at the induction event on Saturday, Sept. 27.

## WHAT'S NEXT

**UAF will conduct its 92nd graduation** with ceremonies in Fairbanks and community campuses. The Fairbanks ceremony will take place at the Carlson Center in Fairbanks on Sunday, May 11.

**Two wilderness science education expeditions** will be offered this summer as part of the Girls on Ice program. Girls on Ice Alaska is designed specifically for girls ages 15 to 18 from Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. It runs from June 20 to July 1. The Girls on Ice North Cascades expedition is geared toward girls ages 15 to 18 from all over the world. This expedition runs from July 28 to Aug. 8. The tuition-free program is supported through small grants, gifts from individuals, the National Science Foundation and the Alaska Climate Science Center.

**Summer construction is ramping up** with most of the work in the Fairbanks campus core. Projects include the Wood Center Dining Expansion, continued work on the Engineering Building and work in and around the Gruening Building, including a roof replacement.



# THROUGH THE LENS: RECENT IMAGES

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

April 2014



**The Chancellor's Gala raised more than \$90,000** to benefit the UAF Music Department, which will host the 2014 Alaska International Piano-e-Competition, and the *With All Your Heart* campaign for Fairbanks Memorial Hospital's Harry and Sally Porter Heart Center.

Attendees were treated to a performance by Eduard Zilberkant, president's professor of music and chair of the UAF Music Department. (UAF photo by JR Ancheta)



*Photos, clockwise from left*

**Alaska Gov. Sean Parnell** meets with students from UAF Associate Professor Mike Davis' rural development leadership seminar during their week-long workshop in Juneau.

**Tripp Collier, one of the project managers for this year's student ice arch**, works with other students and a volunteer from GHEMM Co. to raise the first of four buttresses used in the creative design.

**Fisheries major Christy Howard** inspects one of the immature king crabs being kept for study at UAF's Lena Point facility near Juneau.

**Tamara Swenson** peers inside a *Tarbosaurus* skull replica during a Life in the Age of Dinosaurs class tour of the UA Museum of the North's normally unseen lower level. (UAF photo by JR Ancheta)



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# Chancellor's Report

Chancellor John Pugh

uas.alaska.edu/chancellor  
April 2014 Meeting

## TINA'A Art Auction

**UAS was one of many sponsors of a Sealaska Heritage Institute art auction at Centennial Hall February 1.**

The Tina'a Art Auction of traditional Southeast Alaska Native art raised more than \$300,000 for a new Walter Soboleff Center under construction on Front Street in downtown Juneau. The sponsorship was in line with an MOA between UAS and SHI which outlines ways to provide educational opportunities for students, faculty, and staff. "We had faculty with art in the auction and students who were managing the event, working on the fashion show, and providing support the evening of the event. It was an incredible demonstration of the partnership we have developed with SHI," wrote Chancellor John Pugh. Tina'a means copper shield which represents wealth and trade in Tlingit.



*UAS Tlingit student Will Geiger (L) assisted with the auction.*

## NWCCU Accreditation Reaffirmed

UAS has received notice that its regional accreditation has been reaffirmed by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). In notifying Chancellor John Pugh of reaccreditation, NWCCU President Dr. Sandra Elman commended UAS for effective integration of its mission and core themes throughout the institution. Chancellor Pugh expressed appreciation to the Commission for its action and emphasized that UAS will continue to focus on high quality education that leads to student completion and success. UAS received notification of its reaccreditation following preparation of a report focusing on its resources and capacities in meeting its mission. The Chancellor expressed appreciation to UAS faculty and staff who helped prepare the report and who regularly provide quality instruction and advising.

## UA Legislative Affairs Conference

**Forty students from all over Alaska participated in the annual UA Legislative Affairs conference February 1-4, 2014.**



*Students met with legislators and the office of Governor Sean Parnell. This year's theme was "Helping Build Alaska's Future". Here they are with Governor Parnell.*

## Alaska Native Studies Conference March 14-17 at UAS

Growing Our Own: Indigenous Research, Scholars, & Education was the theme of the second annual Alaska Native Studies Conference held on the UAS Juneau campus March 14-17. The Alaska Native Studies Council and the University of Alaska hosted the event focusing on Alaska Native Studies research and activism of the past, present, and future. Keynote speakers were Dr. Jo-Ann Archibald, Associate Dean for Indigenous Education, University of British Columbia Vancouver and Dr. Malia Villegas, Director of Research Policy, National Congress of American Indians. Archibald's book, *Indigenous Storywork: Education the Heart, Mind, Body, and Spirit*, uses the metaphor of Indigenous basket weaving to introduce readers to Indigenous ways of understanding knowledge. Dr. Villegas has a strong network across the Indigenous Pacific and is a leader in community-based participatory research and involved in major policy in the areas of Indigenous methodologies and research.

The Alaska Native Studies Council promotes a deeper and more sustained commitment to integrating Indigenous perspectives into a variety of educational settings. The mission is to identify, develop, and implement Native-focused curricula, to promote and publish Alaska Native-related research and pedagogical strategies, to reshape the University of Alaska into an Alaska Native serving institution, and to develop a strategic plan to attain these goals. Last year's conference at UAA saw presentations by some of the foremost scholars in Alaska Native Studies and Languages.

## Klein and Cortes Garner Industry Honors

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### Please join us in congratulating UAS Web Coordinator Dave Klein and Ryan Cortes.

Klein's work on the streaming/on demand content for the Tlingit Conversations website won a top Gold Award in the Education Digital Marketing Awards competition. The annual contest is held by the *Higher Education Marketing Report*. The site is for the Tlingit Conversation Documentation Project, 2007-2013 Alaska Languages Program, where in a project team of UAS Tlingit faculty and students and fluent Tlingit elders produced subtitled videos for language learners.

Student photographer Ryan Cortes also picked up an award in the same competition. His web video, *A Climber's Journey to Mathematics* featuring UAS alum and Learning Center testing supervisor Gabe Wechter earned a Merit award.

## A Ketchikan Campus Partnership

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### The group toured SSEATEC's new dormitory in Ketchikan and discussed potential shared use of facilities.



John Brown, SSEATEC Education Director (Southern Southeast Alaska Technical Education Center), and Camille Booth, KIC (Ketchikan Indian Community) Education Director recently met with Provost Rick Caulfield and UAS Ketchikan Campus Director Priscilla Schulte. A partnership agreement with KIC and SSEATEC in offering aligned career and technical education programs. The group toured SSEATEC's new dormitory in Ketchikan and discussed potential shared use of facilities.

## School of Management Faculty Wins UA Professorship

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Assistant professor of accounting Julie Hamilton is the recipient of the University of Alaska Foundation 2014 Harold T. Caven Professorship. The two-year professorship includes a \$20,000 award. Hamilton plans to use the award to provide real-life experiences in tax preparation to her accounting students. Hamilton will teach

her students community tax preparation services skills through the Internal Revenue Service's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites. UAS students taking a higher-level class on income taxes are required to complete VITA training. They can gain practicum credits for their work at the Juneau site or any remote VITA site. Hamilton has 25 years of experience in the accounting field, including preparing tax returns.

## InVIGORating Shipbuilding Workforce

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In late 2013, Vigor Alaska teamed up the Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB) and the UAS Ketchikan campus to create an industry-led training program. Vigor Industrial is a privately-held shipbuilding and repair company based in Portland, Oregon investing in training workers for the American shipbuilding industry. Vigor worked with UAS to modify the existing math curriculum to meet the most pressing skills needs at the shipyard, to provide the flexibility to adapt to changing workforce needs, and to allow workers to advance in specific vocational skills. The first class January 28-February 19 focused on basic shop math skills. The next level of classes began February 25 and builds on the basic math foundation to teach skills including welding, blueprint reading, basic refrigeration (a key component of systems on vessels, including catcher-processor fishing boats), and introduction to marine electrical systems. UAS faculty teach blueprint reading and refrigeration, while Vigor workers teach welding and introduction to marine electrical systems. The classroom portions of the classes will be taught at the UAS-Ketchikan Campus and those requiring hands-on practice will take place at the Ketchikan Shipyard. The program was launched with the help of a \$54,000 grant from the AWIB designed to support efforts and upgrade knowledge and skills of industrial workers supporting the oil and gas sector in Ketchikan and Southeast Alaska.

## UAS Engaged in Transboundary Forest Science and Management Dialogue

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UAS, the Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center (ACRC), and the USFS Pacific Northwest Research Station are joining with the British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and the Hakai Network for Coastal People, Ecosystems and Management at Simon Fraser University in a series of cross-boundary research meetings. The first meetings were held in Juneau in 2011 and 2012 to provide a forum for coordination and integration of data and scientific work across the north coastal temperate rainforest. February 27-28 a subset of participants met at Simon Fraser University to discuss the research plan of the Bog Forest Program at the Hakai Institute, and how this can be tied in with similar work in Southeast Alaska. In addition to Canadian, UAS, ACRC, and the USFS scientists, participants include the Nature Conservancy, the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Stanford University, Oregon State University, and the University of Washington.