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For Immediate Release
February 12, 2010

UA Foundation awards migratory bird research grant



The University of Alaska Foundation announces Lila Tauzer as the recipient of the 2010 Angus Gavin Memorial Migratory Bird Research Grant.

Tauzer, a graduate student in ecology and remote sensing at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, received the \$15,000 award for her research proposal entitled “Habitat Change and Avian Communities as Indicators of Environmental Change at Creamer’s Refuge, Fairbanks, Alaska.”

The award is provided to support research on bird species found either permanently or seasonally in Alaska or its coastal waters, including their biology, general ecology and habitat relationships. With her award, Tauzer intends to establish a baseline in which to study habitat change in an interior Alaska boreal forest ecosystem and the consequences of this change on the avian community.

This grant was established in 1981 with a gift from the Atlantic Richfield Co. to honor the memory of Angus Gavin, an environmental advisor to ARCO. Gavin was hand-picked by ARCO Chairman Robert O. Anderson to observe, categorize and quantify the little known flora and fauna of Prudhoe Bay in 1969. Gavin was to draw conclusions, pro or con, about the impact of oil field development on the ecology of the North Slope and to recommend operational changes that would minimize or negate any adverse effects on the environment.

For more information, call Dory Straight at the UA Foundation, 907-450-8030.