Dear Keni,

I am a 1987 (MBA) and 1988 (MPA) graduate of UAS. In my job as the Deputy Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Revenue I have the pleasure of employing a large number of UAS graduates and persons who have benefitted from taking specific career related courses at UAS. It is easy for me to appreciate the value of maintaining a quality university here in Southeast Alaska.

In these trying economic times, organizations such as the UAS Alumni and Friends provide an important support link for UAS and its students. This year a number of endowments will not be able to pay for the scholarships that they provide in normal times. As an organization we intend to focus on raising money for scholarships to help bridge these times. Whether you are an alumnus or a friend of UAS I would encourage you to become involved. If you look at the events that we sponsor -- golf tournaments, wine tasting, etc. -- you can see that there is plenty of opportunity for fun.

Sincerely,

Jerry Burnett, President
UAS Alumni & Friends Association

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The Annual Spring Dinner & Auction was held April 3rd in the Egan Library on the Auke Lake Campus.

The auction serves as the primary fund raising event for the Association. This year, the board dedicated all net proceeds to providing student scholarships.

Notable items for auction this year included a Holland America Lines 7 Day
Cruise for 2 to the Caribbean or Mexico, two tickets on Alaska Airlines and 7 days’ stay in a condo in Maui.

Those wishing to make a donation to the Alumni scholarship fund can do so by visiting www.uas.alaska.edu/alumni.

Ketchikan's Rainbird Trail

The University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan is raising funds to support trail improvements to the Ketchikan Rainbird Trailhead, located directly behind the Ketchikan Campus.

Ketchikan's Rainbird Trail, named for the mythical "Rainbird" said to inhabit the local rainforest, has played a rich role in the town's history: the area on the ridge above the town was originally explored by prospectors in the late 1800's and the trail provided access to the Schoenbar Mine that operated from 1900-1910 - some of the tunnels of which were later used as community shelters during air raid drills during World War II and accessed by the Rainbird Trail. In 2004, a 2/3-mile section of the trail along the high Schoenbar ridge, with spectacular views of the city and Tongass Narrows, was renovated through a combination of one-time state and municipal funding. The Schoenbar portion rises steeply from each trailhead stairway (300+ steps) along the Third Avenue Bypass, making the trail inaccessible to novice hikers or people with disabilities.

UAS' Rainbird Trail Improvement Project will renovate the original overgrown section of the trail, starting from the UAS Ketchikan parking lot by the campus library to the recently constructed Schoenbar section. The focal point of the new trail section will be the new alternative access point at the UAS Trailhead that gently slopes up the ridge. Connecting the two sections will complete the trail and provide improved access for educational and recreational opportunities. UAS' improvement project will add .5 miles to the existing improved Schoenbar section. This improvement will connect to the existing improved trail.

With over 900,000 visitors each summer, the City of Ketchikan estimates that more than 25,000 people enjoy the Rainbird Trail annually. Improving the trailhead will provide easy access to an ideal outdoor laboratory for geology, biology, GIS/GPS and other natural science students just a few steps from campus. The new trailhead for the UAS section would be close to the local high school and elementary schools which will provide younger students with outdoor educational activities right in their backyard. And, unlike the existing Schoenbar section of the trail, the new UAS Section will be accessible via public transportation on the municipal bus line.

In Your Own Words

A U to Match Our Mountains

by Jim and Mary Lou King

If Alaska's Governor and Legislators want to do something of permanent worldwide significance, they can put one or two billion dollars into the University Foundation to eliminate tuition, endow faculty and enhance...
infrastructure - this year. And do it again next year.

With 16 campuses at the top of the Pacific Rim, midway between the population centers of Asia and America and on the edge of the Arctic, Alaska’s University has a setting and opportunity unequaled anywhere in the world. What a place to realize the legendary “meeting” of east and west.

A major aspect must be building up the smaller campuses so they attract students from all over to study the wonderful natural history and cultural heritage of Beringia. This would ensure a continuing economy in those regions. States such as Texas, North Carolina, and Massachusetts have found big universities attract a rainbow of other beneficial businesses.

As the multinational corporations use up and lose interest in Alaska’s natural resources, as has happened in the past, what will be left? A premier University providing affordable education and research in all fields could dominate Alaska’s economy on and on into the future. This is where the ideas, inventions, arts, organizations and businesses will come from. A huge endowment could ensure that happens. Why not get ready for the future now?

Paranoia will say this is the wrong time. Wisdom says do it now. History will remember you and your posterity will be forever grateful. Our rapidly maturing University is ready to blossom into a leadership position among the top world institutions. Alaskans need it - the world needs it - we have the money - why not get on with it?

*In Your Own Words* is a forum for supporters of the University of Alaska Southeast to express your views. If you would like to submit an article, please send it to alumni@uas.alaska.edu.

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Get Paid to Make a Gift to the U

Did you know that making a planned gift to the University of Alaska Foundation can put cash in your pocket? Purchasing a Charitable Gift Annuity from the University of Alaska Foundation for as little as $25,000 can result in a great gift to assist any program at UAA/UAS/UAF you choose and provide you with annual payments until you die. Not only will you get a tax deduction for the gift you make but also a portion of the payments the Foundation makes to you are tax free income!

Call (907)796-6416 today to learn how you can take advantage of the gift that pays you back in real cash.

**Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships**

**Opportunity for UAS Graduates**

The Rotary Foundation’s oldest and best-known program was founded in 1947. Since then, nearly 38,000 men and women from about 100 nations have studied abroad under its auspices. Today it is the world’s largest privately funded international scholarships program.

The purpose of the Ambassadorial Scholarships program is to further international understanding and friendly relations among people of different countries and geographical areas. The program sponsors several types of scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students as well as for qualified professionals pursuing vocational studies. While abroad, scholars serve as goodwill ambassadors to the host country and give presentations about their homelands to Rotary clubs and other groups. Upon returning home, scholars share with Rotarians and others the experiences that led to a greater understanding of their host country.

Interested applicants can contact Yuliya V Ivanova, ivanova@L2GConsult.org. Yuliya is a Chair of International Service Committee, Juneau Rotary Club (http://www.juneaurotary.org/)