



# Chancellor's Report

Chancellor Richard Caulfield

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September 2015 Meeting

## New UAS Sitka Campus Director

Dr. Paula Martin has been hired as Campus Director of the UAS Sitka Campus. Martin served as Assistant Director for Academic Affairs and Associate Professor at UAA's Kenai Peninsula College since 2008. Dr. Martin earned her PhD at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in entomology in 1993. She taught at Emory University, where she led its Human and Natural Ecology program. She then accepted an opportunity to create a new department, Environmental Science and Studies at Juniata College in Pennsylvania. This department grew rapidly, and Dr. Martin augmented her experience as full Professor by becoming Assistant Provost at Juniata. In a message to Sitka Campus staff, Martin expressed excitement about the opportunity, and stated that she expects to complete her move and take up her duties in Sitka beginning Oct. 5. She also commented: "At the moment it is a difficult time in Sitka due to the landslide, flood and loss of life, yet I read about the community pulling together to help each other as they can. This strong sense of community is another reason I am pleased to move to Sitka."



*Dr. Paula Martin*

## School of Education Creates a Symphonic Partnership

The community of Juneau is acquiring a new string quartet and the School of Education has four new Master of Arts in Teaching students thanks to a collaboration between Juneau Alaska Music Matters (JAMM), the University of Alaska Southeast (UAS), and the Juneau Symphony. The four scholarship recipients will help teach local student musicians while pursuing their M.A.T. with certification in K-12 Music. The members of the new string quartet-in-residence are Lindsay Clark (violin), Heidi O'Connor-Brook (violin), Sophia Butler (viola), and Ruth Hogle (cello). The quartet will conduct teaching internships at JAMM school sites and music classrooms within the Juneau School District and perform with the Juneau Symphony. Each member will receive a \$10,000 scholarship for their studies at UAS, funded by JAMM and the Juneau Symphony.

JAMM is an El Sistema-inspired program that uses the power of music and ensemble to help children reach their fullest potential as global citizens and contributing members of their community. JAMM now serves 500 students in three elementary schools in the Juneau School District. The Juneau Symphony will provide performance opportunities for the MAT students through its regular concerts as well as coaching opportunities within the Juneau Student Symphony. Over the summer the quartet participated in a two week intensive Basic Arts Institute where participants learned to apply brain research into classroom practice and experience how the visual, performing, media and cultural arts can increase student engagement and achievement.

## UAS Stars in UA Graduate Survey

The University of Alaska Southeast fared well in the latest survey of recent UAA, UAF and UAS alumni conducted by the McDowell group. Satisfaction with the overall academic experience was highest at UAS (90 percent), followed by UAF (88 percent) and UAA (81 percent). UAS and UAF alumni were more likely to be very satisfied with their overall academic experience, compared to UAA alumni (50, 49, and 34 percent respectively).

UAS received top ratings for net satisfaction in the category of personal growth as well, with 90 percent of UAS alumni reporting satisfaction. UAF followed with 88 percent, and UAA at 81 percent.

More than three-quarters of UAS alumni (76 percent) reported currently working in their chosen field of study compared to 69 percent of UAF and 65 percent of UAA alumni.

UAS alumni were also more likely to cite ability to work while going to school as very important (70 percent), compared to UAA and UAF (both 57 percent). The ability to take some/all classes online was also very important to UAS students (64 percent), compared to 41 percent of UAA alumni and 39 percent of UAF alumni.

Nearly nine out of ten UA alumni (84 percent) said their education prepared them well to think critically, including 40 percent giving a "well" rating and 44 percent giving a "very well" rating. UAA's "very well" rating was lower (39 percent) than UAF's and UAS' (50 percent for both).

UA contracted with the Juneau-based research firm to conduct a survey of UA alumni who had received any type of degree or certificate from UA in summer 2013, fall 2013, or spring 2014. This is the eighth such survey with previous surveys conducted annually 2006 to 2012. (No survey was conducted in 2013.) The survey sample included 1,277 respondents: 631 UAA alumni, 469 UAF alumni, and 164 UAS alumni. The survey was administered over the internet.

## First Ever Governor's Picnic

At least 1500 people joined Governor Bill Walker and Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott at the Governor's Picnic on a sunny Friday August 14 in the Maurant Courtyard. Walker and his wife Donna and Mallott and his wife Toni served up more than 1500 hot dogs and 300 pounds of salmon generously donated by Alaska Glacier Seafoods and Taku Smokeries. "We were thrilled to be hosting this non-partisan annual event and celebrate Juneau as Alaska's capital city," remarked Chancellor Rick Caulfield.

It was the first time the event was held on the UAS Auke Lake campus and may have kicked off a tradition. "Reports are that the Governor's Office would like UAS to be the regular venue for this community event," Caulfield wrote in a memo to staff and faculty. "I think that's an exciting idea—what better way to invite so many in the Juneau community, including our state's top political leaders, to experience and enjoy our campus. My sincere appreciation to all who worked to make this community engagement opportunity a huge success."

More than 200 volunteers helped put the event together, led by the Juneau Chamber of Commerce. "I have heard nothing but praise for



*Governor Bill Walker serves up salmon and hot dogs at the first such event ever held on the Juneau campus.*

the event,” said organizer and former Juneau mayor Bruce Botelho. “I’m particularly grateful for the effort that UAS and its staff put into making the campus an outstanding venue. I am so proud of the way everyone worked together to make this a memorable event for the governor and his administration. The governor’s picnic is such a great opportunity to connect state leadership with our community in a non-partisan way. It couldn’t have happened without you.”



*The Mourant Courtyard was packed with attendees at the Governor’s Picnic August 14*

## Human Resources Director Thrilled to Return to Southeast

New Director of Human Resources Dr. Gail Cheney began work at UAS August 10. Dr. Cheney comes to UAS with a strong background in Human Resources, excellent academic credentials and a strong connection to Southeast Alaska. Prior to accepting this position, she worked for Sealaska. Dr. Cheney first served in Bellevue as the Director of HR and Administration for Sealaska Environmental Services and later took the position as the Corporate Director of HR in Juneau. Prior to her career in HR, she worked as an adjunct



*Dr. Gail Cheney*

professor for the Muckleshoot First Peoples Program, assistance director for Antioch University, and a program Administrator for MIT. Her educational background includes a Bachelor of Science from MIT, and an MS in Management and a PhD in Leadership and Organizational Change from Antioch University. Dr. Cheney was born in nearby Kake and has expressed a great eagerness to work and contribute to the local region.

## AKLN: Advancing Partnerships with K-12

Alaska’s Learning Network (AKLN) begins its third year managed by UAS. Founded on giving all Alaska’s high school students equal access to Alaska Performance Scholarships, AKLN continues its critical work preparing them for college and careers. AKLN’s robust distance delivered courses are asynchronous with deadlines to ensure that students not only receive critical content knowledge, but also assist them in developing crucial study and time management skills. AKLN delivers courses that are developed and taught by highly qualified Alaskan teachers and by nationally certified APEX Virtual Learning School instructors. In addition to its regular core offerings, AKLN has Advanced Placement (AP), Honors, Career/Technical Education, and Credit Recovery classes. AKLN’s new credit by Examination Option targets students wanting to “test-out” of a course based on subject knowledge or experience. To ensure successful course completion, AKLN students are vigorously supported by its academic counselor, onsite supervisors, and course mentors.

UAS continues to staunchly support AKLN. It has devoted its resources to strengthen AKLN’s infrastructure and it continues to contribute substantially to its success. AKLN’s enrollment has steadily increased and its successful course completion rate reinforces our data that students greatly need onsite and academic support. AKLN students find themselves moving from learning in an isolated flat screen environment to a vibrant learning community. With equity at the heart of its work, the UAS and AKLN connection is proving to be highly effective in providing every high school student in Alaska the opportunity to become College and Career Ready.

*University of Alaska Southeast Mascot Spike Whale and Student Life Director Eric Scott help freshman Teresa Wellington-McGilton of Metlakatla move into the John Pugh Freshman Residence Hall on move-in day for the Fall 2015 Semester, August 26. More than 250 residential students are in Juneau campus housing this semester. They come from all over the US, foreign countries and around the state, including Anchorage, Fairbanks, Bethel, Valdez, southeast communities and rural villages.*

