

soundings

April 2009

UAS Commencement Ceremonies

University of Alaska Southeast commencement ceremonies are set for the first week-end in May. As of April 21, 110 students have indicated they will participate in the ceremony.

Katie Hurley is the speaker for the Juneau ceremony. Hurley was the first woman to win a statewide election for Lieutenant Governor in 1978. She also served as the chief clerk of the Alaska Constitutional Convention and as

assistant to Governors Ernest Gruening and Bill Egan. Hurley is the 1995 recipient of an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from UAS.

At the Sunday May 3 ceremony in Juneau, Honorary Doctorate of Laws degrees will be conferred on Laraine Derr and Marlene Johnson. Derr is the current owner of Chez Alaska Cooking School and a community and civic volunteer. She is a former CEO

of the Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association, UAS School of Business Dean and Commissioner of Revenue.

Johnson is current Huna Heritage

Foundation board chair and former chairman of the Sealaska Corporation and the Rural Alaska Community Action program.

The student speaker is B.A. Social Science (emphasis: History) graduate Forest Kvasnikoff. Forest is a PITAAS scholarship

recipient and plans to teach in rural Alaska. Regents William Andrews (UAS '08) and Kent Fischer of Juneau will be in attendance.

The ceremony is at 2 p.m. at the Student Recreation Center. A "robe room" will be available an hour in advance for attending faculty. All are invited to a reception at the Mourant cafeteria immediately following the ceremony.



Submissions

If you have UAS faculty, staff, student or alumni news you'd like to see in the next issue of *Soundings*, please contact the Public & Media Relations Office:

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UAS is an AA/EQ employer and educational institution.

UAS Commencement 2009

Juneau

Sunday, May 3, 2009 at 2:00 P.M.

Charles Gamble Jr.-Donald Sperl Joint Use Facility
12300 Mendenhall Loop Road (UAS Rec Center)

Speaker: Katie Hurley, Alaska Statehood Pioneer

Honorary Doctorate of Laws: Laraine Derr & Marlene Johnson

Sitka

Friday, May 1, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.

Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive

Speaker: Scott McAdams, Sitka Mayor

Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters: Herman Kitka

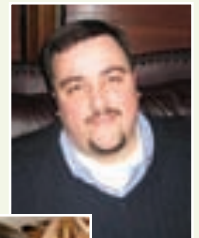
Ketchikan

Saturday, May 2, 2009 at 3:00 P.M.

Ted Ferry Civic Center, Venitia Way

Speaker: Diane Kaplan, Rasmuson Foundation President

Honorary Doctorate of Education: Christa Bruce Kotre



Sitka Campus Commencement Speaker Scott McAdams & Juneau Campus Student Speaker Forest Kvasnikoff

Commencement Send-off for Several Faculty

Several long serving Juneau campus faculty are retiring at the end of this academic year. They include Professor of Accounting Janet Dye, Communications professor Sue Koester, Education Technology Professor Jason Ohler (UA President's Professor of Educational Technology and Distance Learning, 2003 to 2008), Assistant Professor of Business Education Steve Hamilton and Assistant Professor of English (Director of Composition) Jo Devine Acres. Ohler is retiring after 24 years. He has a new book coming out this fall about digital citizenship, and will remain active in his field, including some work at UAS.

A dessert potluck is being held Friday April 24, 4-5 p.m. in the Soboleff Hallway in honor of Devine Acres and Koester.

All retiring faculty will be honored at the 2009 Commencement, May 3.

Communications Professor Sue Koester to Retire

by Sue Koester

Ed. note: Professor Susan Koester is retiring after 35 years teaching communications to Juneau college students. Here is Sue's recollection of the past three and half decades and what she'll be up to in "retirement":

Upon my arrival in Juneau in 1975 then Chancellor Russ Jones hired me to teach two courses: the basic communication course for Juneau Douglas Community College, and another, Women in US history, for Southeastern Senior College. He also asked me to serve as his administrative assistant. I took him up on his first two offers and declined the third opting instead to learn how to cross country ski and to help form a group of activist women working on women and children issues—a group that later became what we know as AWARE.

Within five years, I wrote a Women's Education Equity Act grant for a women's transition program, edited a very early version of Soundings, coordinated the college's jail program (called "Up and Out With Arts in the Prison" at which time I met Jane Terzis and Molly Smith), produced two home-birthed babies, and joined the faculty ranks as an assistant professor of speech communication.

A coherent communication program, a foundation for speaking and writing across the curriculum, and an endowed Perseverance Theatre-UAS partnership are products of my collaboration with the humanities faculty and supportive Juneau community. I've been fortunate to be selected to



teach in London, serve on the Northwest Consortium for Study Abroad (a program that a number of our students have taken advantage of) and work with colleagues to organize a number of regional humanities conferences. I also work with student events like the Scary Stories on a Dark Night and Winter Tea, serve on the Perseverance Theatre board, and still remain married to same great guy!

I look forward to returning to my roots—skiing and working with women and children—and continuing with a couple of my writing projects: a collection of short stories and poetry adapted for readers theatre, a one-act play about a fictitious meeting of three historical "troublemakers" (one of whom I'm distantly related to)—Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Kate Chopin, and Victoria Clafin Woodhull—and a book on values drawing upon my father's extensive correspondence with his family and his writing. I may teach a class or two and pursue additional training in somatics bodywork and, oh yes, travel a lot, draw a little, and always call Juneau my home!

Student Services Director Tish Griffin Satre Announces Retirement

by Tish Griffin Satre

Ed. note: After almost 24 years at UAS and its predecessor, UAJ, Tish Griffin Satre has announced her retirement, effective July 6, 2009. Reprinted here is her fond letter of farewell:

It is with great pride and affection for this university, for the students and for the wonderful colleagues that I have had the privilege to serve that I make this decision. It has been an incredible journey. I arrived as the Housing Manager in August of 1985 to open Student Housing though it was several weeks delayed for construction. We opened at the Super 8 hotel and rented family apartments in the area to begin our semester. Life at UAJ and then UAS has always been an adventure. I've had the opportunity to establish campus traditions and activities, plan and open new facilities, but most importantly, I've had the opportunity to serve the students. They have kept me motivated in the lean times and provided incredible inspiration when I thought times were tough. I've been here long enough to see the second generation enter college and thrive like their parents had done before them.

I've had the opportunity to represent UAS at Rotary, in the press, with my professional organizations and throughout the community. It has been a pleasure to have served the



institution in many ways...housing, activities, food service, recreation, wellness, student government, Whalesong, and in the old days the Children's Center, development and the bookstore. I've sat on accreditation steering committees, Chancellor's Cabinet, selected art in public places and have been the judicial officer for as long as I can remember. I've watched students become leaders in our institution and in our community and treasure the interactions with all of them and the unique qualities they have brought to our campus.

I brought Weird Al Yankovic, Los Lobos and Paula Poundstone, just to name a few, to Juneau and also supported lots of local talent. Whether it was establishing the Polar Bear Plunge, Winterfest, Turkey Bowling, and the Spring Formal or working on Tuxedo Junction it was always fun. It has given me special event expertise and has kept me young at heart.

I leave knowing I have the strongest staff in place, confidence in our student leaders and absolute belief that UAS makes a difference in our community and in the lives of our students. The faculty brought their gifts and talents to our institution and I want to tell them thank you. Thank you for giving that extra time to a student in need, thanks for teaching in a way that was culturally sensitive, thank you for trying to be educational when a student makes a mistake and we need to intervene together. You are the lifeblood of our institution and it has been a privilege to support the academic mission of the institution in my work. My staff are amazing. They are creative, loyal, capable and have their pulse on student life. It has been truly a privilege to work with them and I get so much credit because they are so wonderful. The Student Services Division has gone through many changes over the years. It was a joy to have my favorite boss return after being gone for seven years. I am confident in his leadership and in the future of our division.

UAS has seen me through some tough times personally with my long term issues with cancer. They have given me the leave I've needed and supported me through whatever I've needed as I've battled three primary cancers and 13 reoccurrences in the last 12 years. I am forever grateful to those that covered me, donated leave and had the understanding and compassion to support me during the hard times. You are forever in my heart.

As many of us in the administration are aging, I know that change is ahead...The next generation will be taking over soon as we "boomers" make way. I'm just planning to grab the brass ring early while I have my health and the energy to enjoy the change. I leave my areas well staffed with valuable folks to the institution, be sure to take advantage of them. They are our future!

It's been a grand journey. I now look forward to time on the boat, getting to those household projects that never seem to get done and quality time with the kids and the grandkids. My husband Tom and I plan to travel extensively but our home base will always be in Juneau. Thank you for the privilege of work that was meaningful and saw me through a

career of service in higher education. It has been a pleasure to serve.

Tish Griffin Satre's retirement party is the night of her last day at UAS, Monday July 6, 7-10 p.m at the Juneau Arts and Culture Center. "I'm throwing my own party and there will be a band," she said. The event is also a fundraiser for Cancer Connection.

Fertile Ground for Study



Elizabeth Kunibe

by Tom Moran, EPSCoR newsletter editor

For Elizabeth Kunibe, an X on a map marked a path to years of fruitful research. The EPSCoR-funded University of Alaska Southeast undergrad, on a field trip for a class called "Archeology of Glacier Bay," was navigating an island using a hand-drawn map from 1965 with an X that marked a garden site. Kunibe was surprised to discover that three-foot tall garden rows still stood on the spot. "I was just shocked that this garden was here," said, Kunibe, a nontraditional student who came to UAS after a career in theatrical set design. "I wrote my final class paper on gardening and potatoes, and started to realize that Tlingit people had been growing them around here for several hundred years."

The chance encounter led to an enduring interest in Tlingit gardening practices for Kunibe, a senior majoring in social science with an anthropology emphasis. First she discovered two varieties of Alaskan potatoes which the US Department of Agriculture officially classified as Native American potatoes – two of just five such varieties in the world. Then, with funding from a \$5,000 EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Cooperative Research) undergraduate grant, she began an exhaustive inquiry into historic and current Native gardens centered in Southeast Alaska. The project has involved research in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Palmer as well as visits to Sitka, Angoon, Haines, Klukwan, Skagway,

Whitehorse and Galena.

Kunibe said she's uncovered a rich but little-known history of gardening throughout Southeast. Residents of many villages would plant gardens of root vegetables — like rutabagas and parsnips — on islands on their way to fish camps, Kunibe said, then harvest them in the fall.

She said the gardens have mostly disappeared over the course of the last century for various reasons, chief among them the islands being parceled out by the U.S. Forest Service for homesteads and fox farms. Also, Tlingits in Sitka lost their island gardens in WWII when the government forbade private water travel. Tuberculosis outbreaks and other disruptions, combined with the increasing availability of imported food, also hastened the end of individual and community gardens.

"In 1952 they grew 4,000 pounds of potatoes in Angoon," Kunibe noted. "Today they don't have a garden." Kunibe's research has combined the study of archival documents with open forum discussions with villagers about their recollections of local garden practices. "A lot of people forgot about gardens, it got pushed back in their memories," she said. "It reminded them of a lot of lost history."

Kunibe is also looking at gardening in the present: some Tlingit communities are restarting communal gardens, mostly as an antidote to the poor nutritional value and troubling additives of much store-bought food. Angoon is reviving its garden, she said, and Klukwan has been planting a community garden for several years after almost a century without one. "The change is coming from within the communities," she said. "The people within these communities are brilliant and concerned with making dietary changes that contribute to people's health." Kunibe was able to expand her study to Galena after winning \$750 in an EPSCoR poster contest. She has since received a second EPSCoR grant, this one for over \$7,000, to further her research. Her primary goal is to continue her work with communities to foster information-sharing on gardening, and to study which potato varieties and cultivation practices are appropriate for different areas. "It's a great idea to have a garden, but people have them and they fail," she said. "So I'll be doing some comparison of varieties and precipitation levels to obtain potatoes suited to the environment."

UAS Anthropology and Social Science Present at New Mexico Conference

Elizabeth Kunibe and UAS faculty presented papers and held a session on the effects of climate change, resource development and hunting practices on subsistence food gathering at the annual Society for Applied Anthropology Meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico March 17 – 21, 2009.

From the Program:

UAS Session:

Examining Resilience and Vulnerability in Food Systems: Partnerships and Practice in Southeast Alaska

CHAIR: MONTEITH, Daniel (U Alaska SE)

SCHULTE, Priscilla (U Alaska SE) Partnerships in

Understanding the Uses of Natural Resources in Southeast Alaska

SIMON, Alexander (U Alaska SE) The Shallow vs. The Deep: Euro-American Hunting Cultural Traditions as a

Threat to Indigenous Peoples' Cultural Traditions

KUNIBE, Elizabeth (U Alaska SE) Alaska and the Yukon:

Food of Today, Tomorrow and 200 Years Ago

MONTEITH, Daniel (U Alaska SE) Tlingit Science:

Understanding and Predicting Availability of Resources in a Rapidly Changing World

Here is the abstract of Kunibe's presentation:

Alaska and the Yukon: Food of Today, Tomorrow and 200 Years Ago

Many Native People of the North are facing food shortages and health challenges due to rapid economic and ecological change. There are problems with the availability and harvesting of country and customary foods today. Land rights, pollution, and contaminants often times present insurmountable problems and threats to the health and well-being of people living in the North such as the Tlingit and Haida People. This work will examine how partnerships in Southeast Alaska and the Yukon may help overcome some of these obstacles.

For abstracts of the other UAS presentations, click on this link: www.sfaa.net/sfaa2009/SfAA2009Program.pdf. See page 84 for index of presenters and page numbers.

We Shall Remain PBS Film Series

The UAS Egan Library joins libraries nationwide to show the PBS series "American Experience: We Shall Remain" Monday nights April 13th through May 11th. "You can't understand America in the 21st century if you don't understand the Native experience," said Sharon Grimberg, series executive producer. The five-part series portrays different perspectives of Native peoples throughout America and their integral part in the shaping of the nation. The University of Alaska Southeast encourages participation from across the campus and Juneau community to watch this important series together. Broadcasts begin at 8pm and are followed by informal discussion.

May 18 at 8 p.m. a taped panel discussion about local issues brought up by the series is scheduled to be shown at the Egan Library. The production is by KTOO-TV.

Environmental Science Faculty in Norway



Dr. Heavner in the tunnel leading to the subglacial laboratory. The hike through the tunnel was approximately 2 miles.

Dr. Matt Heavner, Associate Professor of Physics in Juneau, participated in the Subglacial Processes Workshop sponsored by the Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate at Svartissen Glacier in Northern Norway. Dr. Heavner presented research based on his work with Drs. Eran Hood and Cathy Connor as well as Logan Berner (UAS alumni), Nick Korzen (UAS student), Marijke Habberman (UAS employee, now UAF graduate student), and many other UAS students. Dr. Heavner's presented his documentation in an unusual, albeit appropriate location, in a tunnel under 200 meters (600 feet) of glacier.

Heavner's presentation was on the research of using a sensor web to monitor englacial and subglacial water migration in Lemon Creek Glacier and Mendenhall Glacier.

The Svartissen glacier was used as a large hydroelectric power generation project involving a large tunnel drilled through the bedrock below the glacier. A subglacial laboratory was built at the top of the bedrock/bottom of the glacier and was the location for the workshop March 23-25, 2009.

UAS Outdoor Studies Director is Handy Wilderness Companion

According to a recent article in the *Fairbanks Daily News-Miner*, when you're on the longest backcountry ski race in Alaska, you might want to bring along ODS director Forest Wagner.

From: "Wilderness Race is a Grueling but Beautiful Grind," by Tim Mowry, published Thursday, April 2, 2009.

FAIRBANKS — As he skied 40 miles down the Nizina River, Ned Rozell tried to ignore the pain produced by a half-dollar-sized blister on his left foot. It was bleeding, he knew, because Rozell could see bloody fluid oozing from his boot.

"I was just trying not to think about it," he said. "I didn't want to camp again because I didn't want to deal with it the next day. I just wanted to get done and get out of those boots.

So Rozell kept skiing. The blister kept bleeding.

"You're just trying to eat up the miles and not let those things slow you down," he said. "That's the Classic."

That would be the Alaska Mountain Wilderness Ski Classic Ski Race, the longest unsupported backcountry ski race in Alaska.

Seven of the nine racers who started this year's 150-mile race from Nabesna to McCarthy through the Wrangell Mountains, including Rozell, finished.

Having completed the race on the same route twice before, the 46-year-old Fairbanks writer knew what he was getting into.

Traveling with fellow Fairbanksan Michael Gibson and former Fairbanks resident Forest Wagner — racers can race solo or in teams — it took the threesome six days, 14 hours to make it to McCarthy.

They were more than three days behind the winning team of Craig Barnard, Luke Mehl and John Pekar, who chose a shorter but more dangerous and technical route through the Wrangells.

This year's race presented the same sort of challenges every Classic does, Rozell said.

The blister came on day four of the race as he, Gibson and Wagner were sidehilling their way along a series of steep gullies through Skolai Pass. Rozell could feel the blister forming, but there wasn't anything he could do to prevent it.

"The sun was so intense that my foot got warm and was sweating," Rozell said. "It was on such a (steep) slope that you couldn't stop to adjust anything. You just have to keep going."

Frozen boots

It was on day five that he fell into Skolai Creek while crossing a narrow ice bridge along the side of a canyon wall. The water was only about a foot deep, so it wasn't like Rozell was in danger of drowning or getting swept away, but his ski boots got soaked before Wagner pulled him out of the creek. Rozell neglected to put them in his sleeping bag that night to keep them thawed out, and they were frozen solid the next morning.

"They froze so solid I couldn't get my feet into them," Rozell said.

It was Wagner who figured out how to solve problem.

"He took my boots and dunked them in the creek for a while until they thawed out in the 36-degree water and I could put my feet in them," Rozell said.

The fact that the boots were still soaking wet didn't really matter at that point. Rozell was wearing neoprene socks to keep his feet dry and his boots would have gotten wet soon enough anyway because the skiers had to cross open sections of the Nizina River a half dozen times later that day for the final 40 miles of the race.

"My feet just got wet a little early," Rozell said.

Neither was the ski pole that Rozell broke a couple days earlier a big deal. They were able to splint it with an extra piece of pole Wagner was carrying and three hose clamps

Gibson had, along with some duct tape, of course.

Total grind

By going over Presidents Chair pass, the three racers were able to avoid skiing down Skolai Creek and cut about 30 miles off the more traditional route favored by the rest of their Classic competitors.

“It was great to cut that out,” said Mehl, who took the Skolai route last year.

Coming down Skolai Creek was brutal, just like it always is, Rozell said.

“Going through Skolai Creek is like full-on mountaineering,” he said. “Going up those gullies is like trudging up Denali. It’s just a total grind.”

Without the help of Wagner, who was able to kick steps with his crampons into the hard, windblown snow, Rozell isn’t sure if he and Gibson could have made it up and down the steep slopes. Neither one was carrying a pair of crampons.

“That was the stress of the route,” Wagner said. “It was very precarious. We were all happy to be done with that.”

Change is Afoot at the Bill Ray Center

by Colby Shibler, Training Coordinator, Career Education

If you haven’t been to the Bill Ray Center (BRC) lately, there’s been a lot going on and some significant changes have been made in the building and programs. The changes at UAS’ “downtown hub” are in support of UAS’ mission to promote student achievements and faculty scholarship, lifelong learning opportunities, and quality academic programs.

After both the Administrative Services and the Professional Education Center relocated from BRC to the Auke Lake Campus last year, a significant amount of BRC space was opened up for the expansion of Career Education’s Health Sciences and Marine Transportation instructional programs and the relocation of UAF’s Cooperative Extension Service.

Cooperative Extension moved in to the 2nd floor of BRC in Spring 2008. In September 2008, Career Education worked with Facilities Services to remodel the vacated administrative spaces in the building into large classrooms to support increased instructional activities downtown. With that goal in mind, Career Education staff cleaned out piles and piles of old furniture, outdated electronics and obsolete teaching materials. Everything that could be was recycled or sent to state surplus rather than just tossed in an effort to make the cleanup as environmentally friendly as possible. After much effort several spaces were transformed from vacant offices into well-appointed classrooms.

Space that formerly housed the UAS Personnel Services staff on the 2nd floor was remodeled into a new 30+ seat, 1120 square foot, general assignment classroom in Room 208. In Room 110 several temporary office walls were

removed and new windows installed, revealing a large, 925 square foot classroom with great views. A storage and copier space in Room 150 is now a Certified Nurse Aide training lab. IT Services has been busy setting up “Smartcarts” and hooking up phone and data services all around the building, while white boards and projector screens were hung by Facilities Services staff. The Dean’s office of the School of Career Education has also been relocated to the BRC.

New Program Partnerships at BRC

The two biggest changes at the BRC are related to Career Education’s partnerships. They are the “Corporate Training Room” and the Marine Transportation regional initiative.

Corporate Training

Room 110, the “Corporate Training Room” is a classroom dedicated to corporate trainings in support of a new partnership between Career Education and UA Corporate Programs. All trainings set up through UA Corporate Programs will be scheduled through Colby Shibler, Program Coordinator in Career Education. Scheduling priority will be given to corporate training, though anyone is welcome to use the room depending on availability. The room may be scheduled for purposes other than corporate training through Room Scheduling at 796-6459.

Marine Transportation

There has always been a need for Marine Transportation classes in Juneau with the large population of commercial mariners as well as the boating public. Previously that need was met by traveling faculty from the Marine Transportation Department in Ketchikan or adjuncts from other locations. Since the Fall of 2007, a Juneau resident has been teaching those classes. Assistant Professor Neil Nickerson (shown in photo) is a licensed mariner with over 26 years of experience on the water as a Coast Guard Officer, towing Mate, Mate with the Alaska Marine Highway, surf guide and sailing charter Captain. Neil’s current class offerings include: 100 Ton Master/Operator of Uninspected Passenger Vessels, Upgrade to 200 Ton Master, Able Seaman, Basic Safety Training, Crowd and Crisis Management, and Rating Forming Part of a Navigation Watch. For more information about Marine Transportation classes being taught in Juneau call Neil Nickerson at 796-6153.

Ketchikan Wellness Challenge



A seven-week employee wellness challenge resulted in 116 lbs. of total weight loss for participating staff.

Invitations to Participate in Community Day on Campus and Seacoast Relay

by Tish Satre, Student Services:

Saturday May 23rd is Community Day at UAS-Juneau, a collaboration between Juneau Jazz and Classics, the Juneau Arts and Humanities Council and UAS. It is a festival of music and family fun. Non-profits with kid friendly activities are encouraged to set up tables at no cost. We also want to feature our UAS programs and activities. A big hit last year were live ceramics demos in the sunny courtyard. If you or your department would like to be involved (deadline to reserve May 8) please contact Nancy DeCherney, nancy@jahc.org at the JAHC to reserve your spot. Kid friendly attractions encouraged. There will be food and fun from 10am-4pm. If not a table, mark your calendars to bring your family. It's a great day on campus. Last year over 1500 visitors!! UAS Dining Services will have BBQ lunch and Ice Cream Bar and Admissions will be there too. How about you?

by Sherry Tamone, Biology Faculty:



I am organizing the 19th Annual Sea Coast Relay again and it will take place on May 23rd. It is a 5-person relay that starts at 9:00 am at the Lena Picnic area and ends at UAS during Community Day. This 23 mile relay follows a scenic coastal route

along Lena Loop Road and the Auke Recreation Area access road. This year the race will follow a course towards the Mendenhall Glacier where teams will turn around and run back towards the University, but not before experiencing the beauty of an out and back on the Kaxdigoowu Heen Dei (Mendenhall river trail). It is a fun event that can bring up to 150 people to the campus to take part in the campus activities. Registration forms are available at the Student Activities Center and from the Southeast Road Runners website (www.southeastroadrunners.org). If anyone would like some information, they can contact me at sltamone@uas.alaska.edu.

UAS Alum Spring Creek Correctional Employee of the Year

Article reprinted from Seward City News:

Dorothy Locke, Medical Records Manager, has been selected as Spring Creek Correctional Center's Employee of the Year for 2009.

Dorothy started with SCCC in June of 1988 shortly after the prison opened. She earned her degree in Health Information Management (HIM) from the University of Alaska Southeast in 1996 and graduated second in her class. In November 1996 she was certified as a Registered Health Information Technician by the American Health Information Management Association.

Dorothy's experience and training in disease coding, health care statistics, information systems, medical transcription, day-to-day management of personnel, policy and procedure development, along with her excellent organizational skills, help her respond to requests of medical and correctional staff in a professional and timely manner. She has stepped up and kept up with the constant demands of the growing population of prisoners that have increased two-fold since she started in '88. She taught classes for the University of Alaska Southeast in the HIM programs, giving students her perspective about alternative healthcare settings, and the specialty of correctional healthcare.

Dorothy is a tremendous asset to Spring Creek and the Alaska Department of Corrections. She is an outstanding, humane and compassionate person who is a bright light in what can be a bleak and negative environment. We thank Dorothy for bringing to Spring Creek the dedication and professionalism that we all strive to emulate. She will be an excellent ambassador for Spring Creek Correctional Center.

We will be honoring Dorothy at a luncheon on Thursday, May 28th at noon at the Peking Restaurant and everyone is welcome to join us in the celebration.

<http://sewardcitynews.com>

URL to article: <http://sewardcitynews.com/2009/04/08/spring-creeks-employee-asst-program>

Spring ENVS News

April 11 ten students in GEOL 301 Geomorphology travelled to Sitka and Kruzof Island to see the Edgecumbe Volcanic field. They learned about volcanic landscapes and coastal geomorphology away from glacier and uplift. Students included Kristi Asplund, Nick Korzen, David Leggitt, Patrick McCormick, Cliff Miller, Nat Nichols, Martin Pelke, Nicole Roberts, David Sauer, and Emily Sheehan.

Instructor Cathy Connor gave a public lecture in Sitka about local geology. The student's air travel and boat transport to Kruzof Island was funded by a grant from the Provost's office. Connor's travel was funded by Kitty LaBounty, UAS Sitka Campus faculty who annually organizes

this trip for her Sitka students.

Four ENVS students will present at the Geological Society of Alaska's Annual Tech Conference at UAF April 24th, 2009. www.alaskageology.org/techconference.html

Student travel is sponsored by a grant from Chancellor Pugh.

Student Presentation Topics:

Stephanie Ashley-UAS Carbon Footprint

Louie Hooch-Juneau Area Bedrock Weathering Rates

Ivy Smith and David Sauer-Mendenhall Lake's Changes 2007-2008: Bathymetry and Sedimentation

These students will be accompanied by ENVS faculty Member Cathy Connor who will be presenting on a Wrangell-St. Elias NP Cave Inventory Project.

In May, two other ENVS students will attend the American Water Resources Association National Meeting in Anchorage May 4-6, 2009. Student travel is sponsored by a grant from Chancellor Pugh. They will be accompanied by ENVS faculty Eran Hood who is one of the conference organizers.

Student Presentation Topics:

Nick Korzen- Changing Mendenhall Lake Bathymetry with Deglaciation

Nick Schlosstein - Impact of deglaciation on streamwater chemistry in Glacier Bay, Alaska

www.awra.org/meetings/Anchorage2009/travel.html

Icicle Seafoods gives university \$25,000

From the Juneau Empire, April 2, 2009:

JUNEAU - Career training and workforce development for Southeast Alaska is the motivation behind a recent \$25,000 gift to the University of Alaska Southeast from Icicle Seafoods, a seafood processing company founded in Petersburg in 1965 and currently one of the largest seafood processors in Alaska.

The gift from Icicle includes \$15,000 in funding support for the UAS Ketchikan Fisheries Technology Program, providing eight Leica CME microscopes with camera attachments for student use in laboratories, hatcheries and community-based training sessions. The Fisheries Technology Program prepares students for employment in a variety of fisheries occupations in Southeast Alaska with an emphasis on finish fish culture and salmon hatchery technologies. The program offers a Certificate in Fisheries Technology as well as an Associate of Applied Science degree.

Additionally, Icicle created two \$5,000 scholarship funds, both of which will give Petersburg students educational access to the high-demand job skills needed for starting their careers in Alaska.

The Icicle Seafoods Petersburg High School Scholarship provides scholarship assistance to Petersburg High School graduates or Petersburg residents with a GED who plan to attend the University of Alaska Southeast. The scholarships

are available to full or part-time students across all disciplines.

The Icicle Seafoods Career Education/Dual Enrollment Scholarship awards tuition and fees for Petersburg High School students who are enrolled in Career Education or dual enrollment classes at the University of Alaska Southeast.

Karen Mitchell Speaks at National Convention

English faculty Karen Mitchell presented a paper at the annual Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) in March. During the session, "Testing and Transgressing Borders: Defining Citizenship in Acts of Literacy and Rhetoric," Mitchell presented "What of the Partition [?]: Expanding Notions of Citizenship in Women's Multigenre Auto/Biography." The panel explored the ways in which literacy and rhetoric become important tropes to describe a person's relationship to the nation.

Each year the CCCC Convention draws college faculty members from around the world. They gather to hear award-winning keynote speakers, attend presentations by colleagues on the latest innovations in education, and network to gain knowledge of best practices in the field. The 2009 CCCC Convention was held March 11-14, 2009, in San Francisco, CA.

Marine Mammology Survey

by Beth Mathews, Asst. Professor of Biology



Photo: Emily Frederick, Marine Biology Student

The 3-day (April 7-9, 2009) marine mammal survey on the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's Research Vessel, *Medeia*, with my Marine Mammology (Biology 384) students went very well. We made it all the way down to Frederick Sound with the students systematically surveying along the way. We saw 15 humpback whales and paused to photographically identify and collect data on prey for 9 whales, including a yearling. We also had Dall's porpoise bow ride many times, observed and counted harbor seals (including 3 most-likely pregnant females) in Gambier Bay,

counted more than 1,000 Steller sea lions at 4 haulouts, and collected sea lion brand resight data for ADF&G biologists and humpback whale data for NMFS biologists. It was a rewarding trip with the students contributing and participating in several different projects and learning different data collection methods, as well as experiencing life on a research vessel. We especially enjoyed working with the Captain and crew of the Medeia (Capt. Russell Sandstrom, Bob Frampton, and Jim delaBruere) who run a top notch research vessel.

Perseverance Theatre- UAS Production

The Perseverance Theatre Second Stage is hosting a play featuring UAS Students April 23 – 26. “Marisol” is written by Jose Rivera and directed by Flordelino Lagundino. Winner of the 1993 Obie Award, it features Ishmael Hope, Sky Dunlap, Shadow Hotch, Laura Vera Constan, Milenka Curich, Frank Katasse, and Jerry Demmert.

**Thursday-Saturday, 7:30pm; Sunday 2pm.
All tickets pay-as-you-can.**

The play is an apocalyptic urban fantasy which urges society to “wake up” and somehow find a way to recover the long-lost and much-needed compassion for our fellow man, as this is the only way to save our world.

“...Rivera’s play is angry, fearsome, fantastic, and poetically frenzied, without surrendering either its sanity or its mordant sense of humor...It’s a cry from the poet’s heart.”

—Village Voice

Produced in conjunction with University of Alaska Southeast

UAS Students Do Well in Anchorage

by Kolene James

Each year I attend the Annual Statewide Oratory Competition with four student representatives from UAS, and each year I am in complete admiration of our students! Combining traditional knowledge with western education, students manage to knock down any communication barriers between Native and Non-Native entities, expressing from their hearts, the love and respect they have for their culture, providing fresh energy and solutions to the challenges that we face in our communities, State, and Country! The weekend of April 03 – 04, University of Alaska Anchorage hosted the 9th Annual Statewide Oratory Competition! With pride, UAS had student representation in the following four categories: Amanda Bremner for Native Language, Gloria Anderstrom for Oratory, Ishmael Hope for Storytelling, and Ralph Wolfe for Dramatic Declamation. What a compliment to all of the students’ teachers both traditional and contemporary! Our students were AMAZING!

Here’s how UAS placed:

Highest honor goes to the People’s Choice Award for Traditional Introductions, congratulations to both Amanda and Ralph for being nominated! Gloria placed second in Oratory, Ralph placed second in Dramatic Declamation and Special Topics, Ishmael placed first in Storytelling. Amanda placed first in Dramatic Declamation, second in Native Language, and third in Special Topics. Again the University of Alaska Southeast is honored to have had such wonderful representation! Gunalchéesh, Háw’aa, Doyk’shn to Ishmael, Amanda, Gloria, and Ralph!

We would like to recognize Sealaska, Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, Huna Heritage Foundation, Goldbelt, PITAAS program, UAS Student Government, the Chancellor’s fund, and the UAS-NRSC Foundation for contributing to our annual event making travel possible to the Statewide Oratory competition!! The students thank you for your continued investment in them!

UAS Events Now on Twitter

A new feature has been added to the UAS campus calendar. Daily events are now publishing to an RSS feed and this feed is also being brought into Twitter. Twitter is a service to communicate and stay connected through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: What are you doing? Students, faculty, staff and community can now follow UAS events for that day via twitter or by subscribing to the daily events RSS feed (both links below).

All calendars are published under the "Event Calendars" tab of the Site Index. (www.uas.alaska.edu/siteindex) If your department would like one, please contact the UAS Public and Media Relations Office.

Twitter UAS Events: http://twitter.com/uas_events

UAS RSS Feeds: Current feeds are available (to include UAS Events Today) from: <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/rss>

Third Annual Apprenticeship Fair at the TEC

by Colby Shibler, Career Education

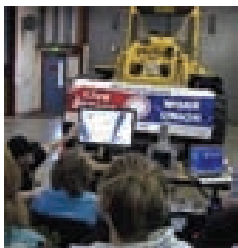
On March 18th and 19th, the School of Career Education hosted the third annual Juneau Construction Academy Apprenticeship Fair.

The event is designed to showcase opportunities for high quality jobs in the union trades and industry

for those seeking an alternative to a four year degree.

Representatives from six different unions and faculty from UAS Career Education were on hand to speak to nearly 900 high school and middle school students as well as the general public.





Each of the representatives brought some type of hands on display that really helped to engage the students and show them the nuts and bolts of their specific trade. The Operating Engineers 302 brought a heavy equipment simulator that allowed students to try their hand at digging a hole and loading a dump truck with an excavator. The Sheet Metal Workers Local 23 showed students how to use a box break and a representative from the IBEW Local 1547 showed students how fiber optic cable is spliced. Students really enjoyed taking a stab at drywall finishing with the representative from the Painters Local 1959. The Plumbers/Pipefitters Local 262 demonstrated how to cut and solder copper pipe while the Carpenters Local 2247 had students pounding nails and the Ironworkers 751/Piledrivers 2520 demonstrated welding. Career Education faculty were also there to promote the various A.A.S, Occupational Endorsement and Certificate programs in Automotive Technology, Diesel Technology, Construction Technology and Health Sciences.

The Juneau Construction Academy Apprenticeship Fair is presented by the Alaska Works Partnership, Alaska Apprenticeship and Training Coordinators Association with assistance from the Construction Education Foundation and the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Thanks to all those who made this event a success. Special thanks to Ed Flanagan of the Alaska Works Partnership for organizing this event. Thanks as well to the union representatives and UAS faculty who did a fantastic job capturing the attention of these young people and encouraging them to think about their futures. We'd also like to thank the school teachers and aids who took the time to bring their students.

Federal Ethnicity Reporting Change

*From: Tara L. Ferguson, PHR, Human Resources Analyst
University of Alaska Statewide*

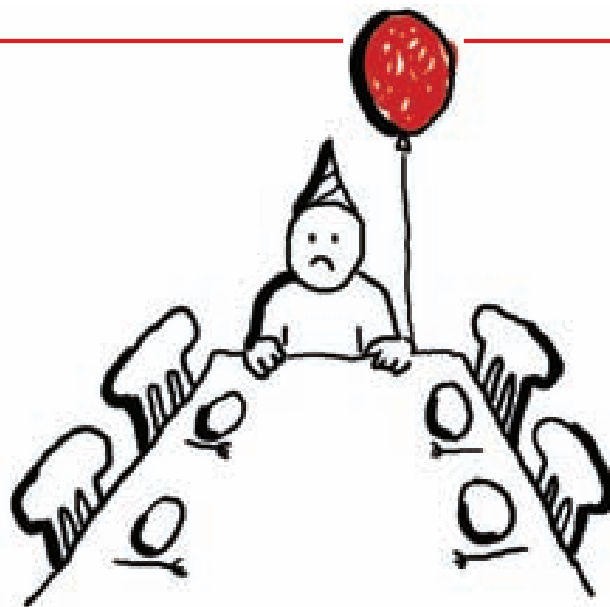
The U.S. Department of Education requires the University of Alaska to report information on the ethnicity and race of its employees on an annual basis. All institutions that receive any federal dollars, must report statistics on race and ethnicity according to the categories established in the 2000 census. The University of Alaska additionally asks those of Alaska Native ancestry to identify themselves in more detail. We do this in order to complete statistical reporting for state grants, as well as for funding from native corporations in the state that help their students afford a college education.

Due to these changes in federal data collection and reporting requirements, employers began using new reporting categories effective January 1, 2009. These new

requirements modify some of the ethnicity and race categories used in the past for federal reporting. The prior system, designated by the federal government, allowed only one option by which to categorize yourself. One of the benefits of this new schema is that it allows people to choose an ethnicity as defined by the U.S. government and then to choose one or many races. A person can choose as many races as they want from the list, as there are many people who fall into more than one category.

To ensure that current employee data is reported accurately, we are asking all current employees to review the ethnicity and race information presently on file. This information came from forms you completed at the time of hire. You can review this information online by going to <http://uaonline.alaska.edu> and also make any updates, if necessary. For detailed information and instructions, please refer to the following URL: www.alaska.edu/hr/docs/eeo_instructions.pdf

Please note that the information you provide will be used only for federal reporting purposes.



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