



Dear Board of Regents,

We are keeping lines of communication open with faculty and staff as the legislative session begins and the governor's budget calls for a \$14.9 million general fund reduction to the University of Alaska system. This proposed cut, coupled with mandatory salary and benefit increases and strategic programmatic needs approved by our Planning and Budgeting Advisory Council, PBAC, could leave us with a FY15 budget gap of roughly \$7 million, which equates to about 7 percent of our general fund budget. Although this situation may change, we are directing major budget units—including colleges, community campuses and administrative departments—to take immediate steps to identify and implement temporary budget reductions.

This is a temporary fix and any FY15 budget adjustments will not be base cuts. We expect the results of our prioritization process, begun last May, to inform our FY16 budget decisions and any base budget cuts required. As we continue to move forward with the prioritization process this spring, our goals remain the same: to ensure strategic investment in the programs and services that most align with our mission, our strategic plan, Shaping Alaska's Future and the needs of our students and state. In order to remain a healthy, sustainable university for years to come, this will be essential.

I am pleased to report that as we look at ways to become more efficient and focused in our mission and use of resources, there is much to be proud of in our current day-to-day operations. Our Seawolf athletes are competing well, we are in the third year of Innovate Awards that show the rewards of collaborations across colleges and programs and we are planning for the opening of the Alaska Airlines Center in August. Now, more than ever, amazing stories are being written every day at UAA.

Tom Case
Tom Case



River of Bears

UAA's first full-dome wildlife documentary is scheduled to run at the Anchorage Museum of History and Art in the summer, after its campus run this spring.



Seawolf Athletes continue to excel

Hockey is on pace for their first winning season in over 20 years; men's basketball coach became UAA's winningest coach in program history; women's basketball is one of the top teams in NCAA West Region and Micah Chelimo set a GNAC record in the 3,000 meters.



Helping doctors teach

Premera Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alaska donated \$100,000 to fund training workshops for community physicians, making it easier for them to take WWAMI students into their practices and teach them.

UAA taking the lead



UAA Phonathon reaches \$1 million milestone

In their 10th year of reaching out to alumni to support UAA, student callers in the Phonathon have raised a cool \$1M!



Postcards Home

Legislative aides from UAA are sharing impressions of their semester of work in Alaska's capital and watching state government in action.



Words of Welcome

Signs are going up around campus bearing words of welcome for Alaska Native students, faculty and visitors in their own languages. It is part of an effort to provide a sense of community and belonging at UAA for indigenous Alaskans.

Faculty distinction

William Hensley, visiting distinguished professor in the College of Business and Public Policy received the Governor's Arts and Humanities Award for a lifetime of contributions to Alaskans. Eva Saulitis, English and Creative Writing faculty at Kenai Peninsula College's Kachemak Bay Campus, also received a Governor's Arts and Humanities Award.

Dr. Andre Rosay, Justice Center director, and **Dr. Marny Rivera**, Justice faculty, are co-conveners for Healthy Alaskans 2020 Strategy Workgroup, responsible for identifying strategies for reducing child maltreatment and rape among adolescent couples.

Community partnerships

UAA Justice Center and the Anchorage Police Department released "Officer Involved Shootings in Anchorage 1993-2013" as part of a cooperative effort to better understand officers' use of force in Anchorage.

Two UAA teams raised \$12,903 ("Psyched for a Cure" team raised \$9,423 and "Mixed Methods" raised \$3480) and helped elevate UAA as a top fundraising organization for the Polar Bear Plunge supporting the American Cancer Society.

UAA student headed to Sochi

Alpine skier and psychology major **Anna Berecz** will represent her native Hungary in alpine skiing at the Sochi 2014 Olympic Games in Russia. Anna competed in five events in the Vancouver 2010 Olympic games. This is her third season with the UAA alpine team.

Alumni distinction

Aaron Leggett, Special Exhibits Coordinator at the Anchorage Museum of History and Art and a UAA Anthropology graduate received a Governor's Award for Arts and Humanities for his role as co-curator of the recent Dena'ina exhibit.

Sustainability winners

North Hall took the prize (a S'Mores party and cool T-shirts) in a hotly contested recycling competition among residence halls.

Award-winning University Relations team

CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) silver award: Jamie Gonzales for Field Notes blog: greenandgold.uaa.alaska.edu/fieldnotes/

PRSA (Public Relations Society of America) Alaska Chapter Awards of Excellence/ Aurora Awards:

1st Place, Hometown U, Anchorage Daily News column: Kathleen McCoy

2nd Place, UAA Master Plan Blog: Lonnie Mansell, Kathleen McCoy, James Finger

2nd Place, Amazing Stories Branding Campaign: UAA and Spawn

Honorable Mention, The Howl Social Media Hub: Travis Michel, Catalina Myers, Spawn

Safety at UAA Exemplary

There were 13 recordable injuries in 2013, less than 50 percent from the 28 in 2012. Safety truly is everybody's business at UAA and it shows.