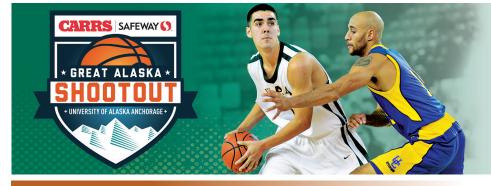
# **LAA** Chancellor's Report

#### December 2013



#### Dear Board of Regents,

Prioritization continues at the Anchorage campus, with faculty and staff-led teams working with colleagues to address concerns and keep the process moving. This important initiative will provide valuable information to help focus our efforts on serving the needs of our students and communities.

The Office of Student Affairs is undertaking a comprehensive campaign to help students register for spring 2014 by contacting more than 3,000 students and training staff and faculty to assist students. The office also organized Fall Preview Day for prospective students. More than 500 participants (57 percent more than last year) learned about UAA. More than 10 area schools bused students to the UAA event, including the Alaska Military Youth Academy, Bartlett, Service, Eagle River, South, Kenai, Nikiski, Soldotna, Skyview and Seward. We will keep you posted on results.

Seawolf athletes are having a spectacular year as we welcome Keith Hackett, UAA's new athletic director. Our cross country teams swept the individual and team titles at the Great Northwest Athletic Conference Championships. This marks the fourth consecutive sweep of the team titles and is the fifth consecutive title for the women's team, extending their GNAC record. Both teams head to NCAA Div. II Championships Nov. 23.

After 10 games played, the Seawolves hockey team is 5-4-1, the best record since 2008. Seawolves are 4-0-0 at home, winning their own Kendall Hockey Classic for the third time, with victories over defending NCAA runner-up Quinnipiac and Air Force.

With one week left in the regular season, UAA volleyball is still in contention for the GNAC title and its fourth playoff berth in five years, sporting a 19-9 overall record.

Both UAA basketball teams are off to fast starts. The Seawolf men are 5-1 and ranked No. 21 in the country thanks to a victory over No. 5 Minnesota State and a sweep of its own AT&T Jamboree in early November. The women's squad nearly knocked off Div. I Kansas State in a road exhibition game and has dominated its three fellow Div. II opponents by 29 points or more.



l invite you to join us at the games! Best regards,

> our Case Tom Case

UAA hosts the 36th Annual Great Alaska Shootout. Along with host Seawolves, the women's field includes Georgetown, Nicholls State and UC Riverside. Seawolf men will host visiting squads from Denver, Green Bay, Harvard, Indiana State, Pepperdine, Texas Christian and Tulsa.



UAA celebrated Alaska Native and Native American Heritage Month in November.



Andrew Romerdahl, UAA alumnus and general manager at Pacific Tower Properties, is the first College of Business and Public Policy Weidner Chair.



UAA proclaimed a Smoke Free Day on Nov. 21 in support of the American Cancer Society's national Great American Smokeout campaign and UAA's Smoke-Free Task Force.

## AMAZING STORIES BEING WRITTEN

### **UAA moving forward**



About 25 students, faculty and staff participated in the annual Nighttime Safety Walk in October. They tested emergency phones, noted lights out and missing signage — all of which are being addressed.



Alumni and students gathered for the ceremonial groundbreaking of the new Alumni Center, which will be housed in the Social Sciences Building, slated to open in 2014.



The Green & Gold Bike Share Program, a student-led initiative funded by UAA's Green Fee, kicked off with a "Bike Build-a-Thon."

#### Faculty and staff taking leading roles

Nancy Jane Shelby, Ph.D., professor and director of the Alaska WWAMI School of Medical Education, has been named to the Louis L. Kralick, M.D. Alaska WWAMI Professorship. Dr. Shelby will serve as the Kralick Professor for a term of three years.



Nancy Jane Shelby, Ph.D.

**Landry Signé Ph.D.**, the newest professor in UAA's Political Science Department, received Stanford University's 2013 Recognition

Award. Dr. Signé is a Banting Fellow at Stanford University's Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law.

Ryan-Jasen Anders Henne, M.Ed., is UAA's new director of the Department of Residence Life.

**Michael Hawfield**, Kachemak Bay Campus associate professor of history and political science, received the President's Award from the Alaska Historical Society.

**Terri Cowart**, Kenai River Campus Learning Center adult basic education instructor, received the Alaska Adult Education Association's Educator Award.

#### **Student excellence**

**Kyle Demientieff-Worl**, a junior pursuing a degree in anthropology with a minor in Alaska Native studies, received the Roger Lang Youth Leadership award from the Alaska Federation of Natives.

#### **Program excellence**

The College of Business and Public Policy celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Rasmuson Chair.

The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities has approved the proposed Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering at UAA.

The Center for Research and Alaska Native Education, led by Paul Ongtooguk, assistant professor of education, opened in the College of Education in September.

#### Alumni excellence

UAA alum Aaron Leggett co-curated "The Dena'ina Way of Living" exhibit at the Anchorage Museum, which runs through Jan. 1.

The Green and Gold Gala, the most successful ever, raised nearly \$100,000 and honored Sophie Minich '89, Susan LaBelle '84 and Stephen Trimble '08.

#### **Grant partnership**

UAA is partnering with 12 other universities on a \$20.3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to create a research network that will expand partner universities' capacity to put clinical research into practice to address health problems.

The University of Alaska Center for Economic Development was awarded a \$200,000 Rural Cooperative Development Grant and \$70,000 in funding through a Rural Business Opportunity Grant.

#### **Research supporting Alaska communities**

ISER has partnered with community stakeholders to create a single portal for researchers and the public to access Alaska's energy data at the Alaska Energy Data Gateway.

The September 2013 issue of the Alaska Justice Statistical Analysis Center Fact Sheet presents data on arrests for drug offenses made by Alaska police agencies for the period 2000 through 2011.