



Chancellor's Report



Dear Board of Regents,

This past weekend, UAA's women's basketball team finished a spectacular season with an overall record of 29-2. A last minute, one-point loss bumped them out of the NCAA Division II West Regional Championships, which were held at the Alaska Airlines Center (AAC). A crowd of nearly 3,500 people attended the UAA-Point Loma game.

UAA is preparing to host the U.S. Universities Debating Championships April 11–13. We expect 40–50 schools to field more than 100 teams. UAA will also host Oxford in the fourth-annual spring exhibition debate on April 30.

The search for a new dean for the College of Engineering (CO-Eng) continues to move forward. We expect finalists to make campus visits in late March and April. While in town, COEng dean candidates will meet with several constituent groups, as well as campus leadership.

On March 18, National "Kick Butts Day," UAA students hosted an ice cream social at which we announced our smoke/tobacco-free implementation day as Nov. 19, the date of the Great American Smokeout.

The Chancellor's Cabinet is holding several budget open forums for the UAA campus community to talk candidly and transparently about the fiscal challenges UAA is facing in the next few years. We have also launched a crowdsourcing tool on our website where members of the campus community can submit ideas on how to cut costs and improve efficiencies.

Finally, I'm pleased to share that UAA's safety incident rate is fantastically low. The emphasis we are placing on safety in the workplace is making a difference.

Best regards,

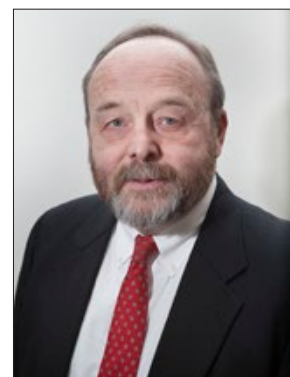
Tom Case

Tom Case, Chancellor

The Seawolves women's basketball team fought its way to the top spot in the NCAA Division II with a 17-game winning streak before a heartbreaking 64-63 loss to Point Loma at the West Regional Championships, in the Alaska Airlines Center. But there's an upside to keep in mind: The Seawolves ended their regular season with a 29-2 record—the best in UAA history.

UAA recently named Interim Provost Sam

Gingerich to the university's top academic administrative position for a two-year appointment. He brings more than 30 years of higher education experience to his new role as UAA's provost. Gingerich has worked as South Dakota University System's vice president for academic affairs, earned his Ph.D. in chemistry from Montana State University and worked as a professor and researcher prior to serving in his various senior leadership appointments.



University of Alaska Anchorage anthropology professor Sally Carrاهر helped coordinate the Northern Voices on Homelessness conference, which recently brought together homeless people, representatives of social service agencies and others who aim to combat homelessness in Alaska, to brainstorm solutions to the issue. Participants also joined in by teleconference from Kodiak, Juneau and Nome.

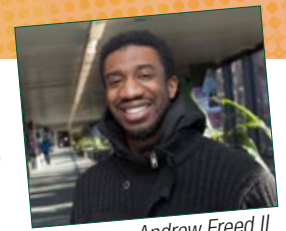


Nursejournal.org recently named UAA as No. 3 on its list of the 442 best nursing schools of the West. The schools were ranked according to quality, affordability, convenience, satisfaction and value. Visit nursejournal.org/articles/Americas-best-nursing-schools/.

UAA Shaping Alaska's Future

Student and faculty achievement and success

UAA's Diversity Action Council recently gave 2015 Spring Student Diversity Awards to Ana Azpilcueta, Tyler Ching, Jae Min Cho, Jaeyeon Cho, Maria Crouch, Andrew Freed II, Ashleigh Gaines, Steffanie La Torre, Liz Michael-Trumbull, Yasuhito Nakasato, Jordan Norquist, Nayade Perez, Edward Washington II and Kyle Worl.

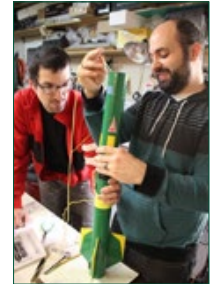


Andrew Freed II

The Arbor Day Foundation honored UAA with 2014 Tree Campus USA recognition for its commitment to effective urban forest management.

The National Association of Athletic Development Directors named UAA's Tlisa Northcutt as Fundraiser of the Year.

A UAA team will compete in April's NASA Student Launch Initiative in Huntsville, Ala. The annual initiative allows college students working in interdisciplinary teams to test their skills and knowledge in designing an autonomous robot arm and a rocket. The arm will lift a small payload into the rocket which will fly to an altitude of 3,000 feet.

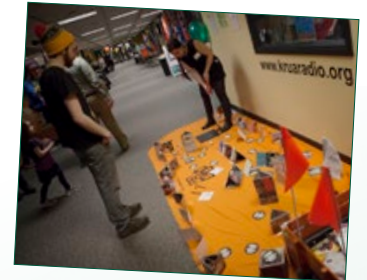


Men's and women's Seawolves ski team members took ninth place March 14 at the NCAA Skiing Championships at Lake Placid, N.Y., for their eighth straight top-10 result. Sean Alexander and Clement Molliet claimed All-America honors for their respective competition in the men's slalom and 20K classic.

Cody Thomas and Karolin Anders snared All-America honors at the 2015 NCAA Division II Indoor Track & Field Championships on March 14 in Birmingham, Ala. At the conclusion of the two-day event, the Seawolves had amassed a total of six All-America titles—women's distance medley relay competitors Haleigh Lloyd, Rosie Smith, Jessica Pahkala and Beatrice Decker won the other four—and bested five school records in just their third season participating in the indoor competition.

Public and private partnerships

More than 100 alumni and friends gathered at UAA's campus Feb. 26 to wield plastic putters in the Alumni ParTee: 9 in the Spine, an annual scholarship miniature golf fundraiser that introduces members of student clubs to potential mentors and employers and gives alumni an entertaining experience at their alma mater. This year, the event doubled in size, with 27 teams playing through two courses: one green, one gold.



First National Bank Alaska (FNBA) opened its newest branch in the UMed district on Feb. 18. During the ribbon-cutting ceremony, FNBA presented UAA with a \$44,000 donation for three programs: the Small Business Development Center, Alaska Business Plan Competition and Celebrity Chef Invitational.

UAA's annual Winterfest took place in late February, featuring a beard and moustache competition; Seawolves basketball, hockey, table tennis and gymnastics; lectures about art and advertising; Banff Mountain Film Festival; KRUA's 23rd birthday celebration; the Winter Design Project; Global Kitchen's food from different cultures; music from DJ Spencer Lee and Charles Bradley; a community-created sustainable art project made from recycled bottle caps and NCBI's social inclusion and equity student workshop.



Research supporting Alaska

The London School of Economics and Political Science currently features a piece by UAA sociology professor Chad R. Farrell, Ph.D., on *USAPP*, its daily blog about American politics and policy. Farrell's article summarizes his recent demographic research on the settlement patterns of the largest 17 immigrant groups in the United States.

Gabriel Garcia, Ph.D., faculty in the Department of Health Sciences, and Marny Rivera, Ph.D., Justice Center faculty, published an article titled "Is Race a Factor in Disparate Health Problems Associated with Violence Against Women?" in the current—Vol. 7, Issue 7 (2014)—issue of the *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*.

A recent *Science Nation* video, "The Arctic ground squirrel sheds light on circadian rhythms," highlights the research of physiological ecologist Cory Williams, postdoctoral fellow at UAA, and a team of scientists from UAA, UAF and Michigan State. There's also a Q-and-A with Williams posted alongside the video, which can be accessed at http://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/science_nation/arcticground squirrels.jsp. *Science Nation* is a video series commissioned by the National Science Foundation.



Alaska Dispatch News recently interviewed Professor Jason Brandeis, Legal Studies faculty in the UAA Justice Center, about conflict between federal and state law regarding marijuana use and employment. Brandeis teaches courses on American government, constitutional law and civil liberties.