


**Dear Board of Regents,**

The Stay On Track "Finish in Four" campaign is taking off at UAA with 14.6 percent (303) more students enrolled in 15 or more credits spring semester 2012 than in spring 2011. We continue to improve advising and serving the many segments of our student population.

We are responding to the growth of active duty military and veteran students (1,850, the most ever) with a new Military and Veteran Student Task Force and a quarterly Military & Veteran Community Services newsletter. The taskforce is inventorying programs and making recommendation for improvement, while the newsletter connects our students with current services.

UAA leadership, including deans, campus directors, administrative leads, and cabinet met for a facilitated retreat as part of a process to provide a mid-course calibration of UAA's Strategic Plan 2017. The process continues with a facilitated retreat planned for April to include student, faculty and staff governance groups.

UAA College of Business and Public Policy, University of Alaska Center for Economic Development and UAF School of Management are partnering in Lemonade Day!  The event provides K-12 students the opportunity to learn how to build and operate their own business.

This Regents' meeting will be Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Mike Driscoll's last for UAA. Please join me in thanking Mike for his excellent leadership and service. We wish him continued success as president of the University of Indiana of Pennsylvania.

Best Regards,

*Tom Case*

Tom Case, Chancellor

Photo: Andy Wilhelm



As we prepare to break ground on a new sports arena, Seawolf athletes continue to break records with **Seawolf women** winning the NCAA Division II West Regional Basketball Championship and entering the NCAA D-II Elite Eight for the third time in five seasons. Tournament MVP **Hanna Johanson** has become the winningest woman in Seawolf history. Track and Field has already qualified eight athletes for the national meet and UAA skiers finished 5th in the nation.



**BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.**

provided a \$1M gift to the UAA School of Engineering to establish the BP Asset Integrity and Corrosion Lab, scheduled to open in fall 2012. The lab is the first in the state and will be both a teaching lab and also provide testing services to industry.



L-R: Orson Smith, Interim Dean, UAA School of Engineering; Matt Cullin, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, UAA School of Engineering; John Mingé, President, BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.; Tom Case, Chancellor, UAA

**The Alaska Native American Business Enterprise Center** (AK NABEC) officially opened on the UAA campus on February 21. AK NABEC, funded by the Minority Business Development Agency and partners with the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development, is working with the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development. We look forward to the increased opportunity for UAA faculty, students, programs and research to better serve the economic development of our state.

## UAA ...

### Faculty, staff and students take leading roles:

Environment and Natural Resources Institute Director Jeff Welker was awarded the Fulbright Distinguished US Arctic Chair in Norway for next year.

UAA professor Paul Johnson is the new University of Alaska Harold T. Caven Professor of Business.

Wes Lundburg, dean of instruction, is interim president of Prince William Sound Community College.

Drs. Lil Alessa and Andrew Klisky received two grants from the National Science Foundation: a prestigious Dynamics of Coupled Natural Systems award for \$1.5M and a national workshop award.

Scott Goldsmith received an Alaska Meritorious Health Service Award from the Alaska Public Health Association.

Rhonda Johnson, professor of public health, is the new regional co-director of the Regional Collaborations Program (RCP). RCP stimulates translational research collaborations across the five state WWAMI regions.

Mechanical engineering student Kaelin Ellis has been accepted to the prestigious Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP) at the University of Michigan (UM). Upon completion and acceptance at UM, SROP guarantees a five-year Ph.D. fellowship at UM.

Caitlin Cheely and William Giedosh received the Department of State 2012 Critical Languages Scholarship in Russian. Ben Woodland won UAA's first Critical Languages Scholarship in Turkish.

Stephanie Peterkin, a RRANN student in our prenursing Cingumaq group, is Miss Fur Rendezvous Queen 2012! She will also be in the July Fourth parade and at the Alaska State Fair this year.

Phillip Miller, KPC construction project manager, has become one of just 49 people in the world and only the second in Alaska to earn the Educational Facilities Professional certification credential.

Sunny Mall, assistant professor of secondary education in the College of Education, is the recipient of the Alaska Journal of Commerce's 2012 'Top Forty Under 40' awards.

### Grants, research and public policy benefitting Alaskans:

The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault awarded the UAA Justice Center \$350K in grant funding to continue measuring violence against women in Alaska in the Alaska Victimization Survey.

Significant awards in research include \$228K to Dr. Richard Brown II, a post-doctoral research fellow in the Institute of Circumpolar Health Studies, and \$167K awarded to Dr. Diane King, from the National Institutes of Health to support her work with diabetes. Contracts in public service and instruction were also awarded to Dr. Richard Kieffer-O'Donnell (\$324K), Dr. Elizabeth Sirles (\$215K) and Dr. Jacqueline Pflaum (\$371K).

The Institute for Circumpolar Health Studies received \$375K through the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to evaluate the impact of Alaska Housing First programs in relation to alcohol dependence, overall health and cost effectiveness.

### Public square and collaborations:

Kenai Peninsula College's Kenai River Campus held its 6th annual Community Health Fair attracting more than 300 participants to the 30 health exhibitors on campus.

### Development:

Icicle Seafoods Inc. contributed \$300K to benefit programs within the University of Alaska system that focus on the fishing industry, bringing Icicle Seafoods' accumulative donations to over \$1M.

Chugach Alaska Corporation donated \$100K to support Excellence in Alaska Native Business and Public Policy.

PWSCC held the 20th annual student scholarship fundraiser attended by over 200 people and raising \$33K in student scholarships, bringing the total to more than half a million dollars in the last 20 years.

The Estate of Elizabeth Tower made a stock donation valued at over \$188,000 to support the Elizabeth Tower Endowment for Canadian Studies.

ExxonMobil Production Company donated \$100,000 to ANSEP; ASRC Energy Services, Inc. made a \$100,000 pledge payment to support the Herbert P. Schroeder Chair of ANSEP.

### University Relations award:

UAA's University Relations team received a Bronze CASE award for its I AM UAA campaign.

### In the first eight months of FY12 UAA received nearly 90% of the total awards for all of FY11.

- ◆ FY12 year-to-date: 246 awards totaling \$31,675,853
- ◆ FY11 UAA received 315 awards totaling \$35,456,394

UAA received these awards in the areas of Research (Applied and Basic), Public Service, Instruction, Academic Support, Student Services, Institutional Support, and Scholarship/Fellowship. Total awards do not reflect monies received in support of Student Financial Aid.



The Eyak Corporation made several major gifts totaling \$200,000, much of which will benefit PWSCC and Alaskan Native student success, as well as the Last Frontier Theatre Conference.



Anchorage campus snow team logged over 3,000 man and equipment hours this year dealing with more than 100 inches of snow.



UAA's Aviation Technology Division received the UFA ATTower ATC Training Simulator. UAA is one of 33 approved CTI Air Traffic Control schools and was the 5th school approved in the nation.