



Chancellor's

# REPORT

TO THE  
BOARD OF  
REGENTS

Dear Board of Regents,

In May, UAA celebrated commencements on its campuses, conferring 2,421 degrees on 2,315 graduates this academic year. In addition to Anchorage, I traveled to the Kenai River Campus and Kachemak Bay Campus of Kenai Peninsula College (KPC) for commencements. The strong ties between UAA and the Kenai Peninsula communities are evident in the level of participation and coverage of these graduation ceremonies.



Summer brings a number of projects including construction on the new 80,000-square-foot, four-story Engineering and Industry Building, the whole-house renovation of Beatrice McDonald Hall, phase two of the Allied Health Science renovation and construction of a new Alumni Relations Center at the Consortium Library. In addition, we continue to replace security systems at each of the UAA campus housing units and are preparing to get a modified MAC Housing renovation project under construction this summer.



UAA celebrated the final piece of steel hoisted into place on the Alaska Airlines Center May 10.

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The Health Campus Pedestrian Bridge is currently in design and will provide an enclosed pedestrian bridge across Providence Drive between the Health Sciences Building and new Engineering and Industry Building.

Later this summer, we will celebrate the completion of KPC's Housing and Career and Tech Center. We hope you will join us.

UAA's Facilities and Campus Services are going above and beyond to make certain that our campuses remain safe and secure as these projects progress.

Best Regards,

Tom Case, Chancellor



Rep. Don Young visited UAA, at the invitation of the vice provost for Research and Graduate Studies and dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Helena Wisniewski, and received a briefing on WWAMI, research and technology innovations, as well as the launch of UAA's first startup company, Zensor.

For the second year in a row, UAA has graduated two doctoral candidates in clinical-community psychology with a rural indigenous emphasis: Ruth Zuniga (left) and Tina Woods (right).



Prince William Sound Community College's new president, Dr. Jacob Ng (left), begins July 1.

## UAA moving forward

### Student achievements

**William Giedosh**, a Russian major, received a U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship to study in Russia this summer. Giedosh also received the scholarship last year.

Civil engineering majors **Ryan Bergerson** and **Alma Abaza** received the 2013 Dr. Alex Hills Engineering and Civic Engagement Award for their research on "Effects of Freeze-Thaw Cycles on Strength of Porous Concrete." Their faculty advisor is Osama Abaza, Department of Civil Engineering.

History major **Aaron Nickols'** senior seminar paper, "The Provisional Government and 1917: The Legitimacy Paradox" won the UAA/APU Consortium Library Prize.

### Faculty and staff taking leading roles

**Alison "Sunny" Mall**, assistant professor in UAA's College of Education, received the 2013 Selkregg Community Engagement and Service Learning Award for her project, "Engaging Secondary Mathematics Teachers in Teacher Mathematics for Social Justice."

**Dr. Kelly Shannon**, assistant professor in the Department of History, was elected to the nominating committee of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations.

The College of Business and Public Policy named **Todd Cherry**, an economist from Appalachian State University and a senior research fellow with the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research – Oslo, as the new Rasmuson Chair of Economics.

Justice Center faculty Professor **Deb Periman** and **Dr. Sharon Chamard**, have been invited to serve on the King Career Center Public Safety and Security Class Advisory Board. The board provides input on current trends, focus areas and potential new courses. Professor Periman is also part of the Collateral Consequences Work Group, tasked by Senators John Coghill, Fred Dyson, Johnny Ellis and Hollis French to reduce recidivism in Alaska.

### Program leadership

ANSEP made the list of Harvard's top 25 "Innovations in American Government." Student Affairs held an orientation to familiarize staff with all that the division does.

### Public square and civic engagement

UAA's History Department hosted Dr. Brad Simpson of Princeton University who spoke on the topic, "How Universal Are We? The Tortured U.S. Relationship with Human Rights."

### Publications

History Professor **Paul Dunscomb's** book "Japan's Siberian Intervention, 1918-1922: A Great Disobedience Against the People," published by Lexington Books in 2011, has been receiving positive reviews from several high-caliber Japanese studies journals.

### Development

Northrim Bank gave \$100,000 to the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER), bringing its total contribution to \$1M for the ongoing research initiative, Investing for Alaska's Future. Scott Goldsmith, professor emeritus of economics at ISER, directs the initiative.

Eleanor Wagner made an Alaska Society Level gift (\$100,000-\$499,999) to the Everette K. Wagner Endowed Scholarship. The scholarship to help working students achieve their goal of a four-year degree is named for the late Dr. Everette Wagner, a UAA alumnus.

## Prepping for college

UAA celebrated the successful first academic year for Alaska Middle College School at UAA's Chugiak-Eagle River campus with a ribbon cutting ceremony.



*Deena Paramo, superintendent of the Mat-Su Borough School District and Tom Case, UAA chancellor, cut the ribbon in front of the Alaska Middle College School housed at the Chugiak-Eagle River Campus.*

## UAA hosts ASD students at STEM learning event

UAA received a NASA Space Grant to host 135 K-12 students and 19 teachers from across the Anchorage School District at the ConocoPhillips Integrated Science Building to introduce new ways to educate students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



## Kodiak College becomes hub for community marine science education

A Kodiak College and Kodiak Island Borough Assembly partnership funds Assistant Professor of Marine Biology, Switgard Duesterloh, to teach college and K-12 students about marine science at the Kodiak Ocean Science Discovery Laboratory.

