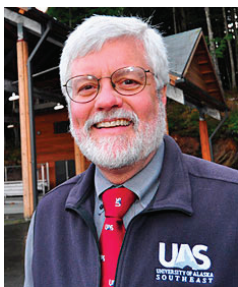


Chancellor John Pugh Announces May 2015 Retirement



Chancellor John Pugh

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University of Alaska Southeast Chancellor John Pugh has announced his retirement, set for May 29, 2015. Since August 1999 Pugh has been at the helm of the state public university with campuses in Juneau, Ketchikan and Sitka. The announcement marks the completion of a 28-year career at UAS that began in 1987, including service as the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and the Dean of Faculty.

"I have enjoyed being a part of a dynamic, growing institution over the years," said Pugh. "My public service career spans 45 years with the U.S. Air Force, the State of Alaska, and the University of Alaska. I have had the pleasure of working with many excellent administrators, professional staff, and faculty throughout my career. However, UAS Chancellor is the best position I have held. I strongly believe in the importance of higher education to the future of Alaska. It has been an honor to be a part of the building of the University of Alaska system."

Pugh has also served on statewide and regional task forces, commissions, and boards. "All in all, I feel that together with my dedicated colleagues I have accomplished much."

Many significant changes have occurred under Chancellor Pugh's leadership, including major building projects such as the Egan Classroom Wing, Recreation Facility and recently completed Freshman Residence Hall on the Juneau campus. He is most proud of the quality academic and workforce programs developed during his tenure.

In a memo to employees, Pugh thanked staff and faculty for their service and encouraged them "to stay engaged and work together with the administration to provide a smooth transition in UAS leadership."

"John Pugh is an Alaska higher education landmark and a tireless UA leader for the Juneau, Sitka and Ketchikan campuses. We will be challenged to find another chancellor with the same love for his university community of students, faculty and staff," said UA President Pat Gamble .

Gamble anticipates a successful transition to a new UAS Chancellor. He is discussing with Pugh and members of the UAS community the next steps in finding a successor.

After his retirement in May, Pugh looks forward to visiting extended family, traveling with his wife Margaret and spending more time with their granddaughters.

The *Juneau Empire* published a front page article with some of Chancellor Pugh's reflections on his many years at UAS in the Wednesday, October 29 edition.

Alaska Native Languages Bill Signed at AFN

Despite the new law, Twitchell said the fight for Native rights and equality is far from over.

Thursday, October 23, about 200 people crammed into a small conference room at the Dena'ina Center to witness the Alaska Native Languages bill signing ceremony at the 2014 Alaska Federation of Natives conference in Anchorage. Alaska Native languages program head X'unei Lance Twitchell praised the work of Sitka representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins and other lawmakers and stakeholders who advocated for recognition of the 20 Native languages as official languages of the State of Alaska. "We do this for our grandchildren, we do this for our ancestors," said Twitchell. Twitchell was active in the effort to push the recognition bill through the Legislature. He and other supporters, included many students, staged a sit-in at the state capitol during the most recent legislative session. In the end, after 15 hours, the group was victorious. Despite the new law, Twitchell said the fight for Native rights and equality is far from over.



X'unei Lance Twitchell addresses the crowd at the Alaska Native Languages recognition bill signing ceremony in Anchorage, October 23, 2014.

Filipina Receives Meritorious Service Award

Under Strickler's leadership, the Filipino Community has enhanced its scholarship program.

As part of October's Filipino-American History Month, Filipino Community Inc. (FCI) held a celebration at the Filipino Community Center to commend Honorary Consul General Jennifer Gomez Strickler. Strickler is the first person to hold the position as Alaska's Honorary Consul General of the Republic of the Philippines. She was appointed in 2013 and honored by the State Legislature. Chancellor John Pugh presented Strickler with the UAS Meritorious Service Award for her dedication to strengthening relations between Filipinos and the state of Alaska. Under Strickler's leadership, the Filipino Community has enhanced its scholarship program.

Nominated for the award by the President of FCI, Strickler has worked as consul for the Republic of the Philippines in Alaska since 2002. Between 2005 and 2012, she served three terms as President of the Filipino Community Inc. She lobbied for state funding to re-establish the Alaska Office of Citizenship Assistance after funding collapsed in 2007. The FCI was then honored to host the Consulate on Wings, bringing consulate services to Southeast Alaska. Under her leadership, FCI was awarded the 2012 Filipino-American History Achievement Award for Community Service.

Juneau Police Substation on Juneau Campus

The Juneau Police Department is opening a substation on the Juneau campus next to Spike's Café between the Egan Classroom Wing and the Egan Library. Juneau Police Lt. David Campbell says JPD will use it when necessary but will not maintain regular hours. At the end of June, UAS ended a contract with Goldbelt Security Services to monitor security cameras and perform rounds at student housing. Those responsibilities now go to Residence Life staff. The cost savings went toward improving security camera coverage. The agreement between the City and Borough of Juneau and UAS doesn't require any exchange of funds. It's a zero cost item for the city. The university is dedicating the room, parking space, phone line and furniture.



Juneau Police Lieutenant David Campbell chats about the new substation with staff at Spike's Café' on the Juneau campus.

UAS Part of \$8.1 Million Grant to Fund Mining Workforce Training

The University of Alaska Fairbanks will lead a new project to enhance mining workforce training throughout the state. The project, funded by an \$8.1 million federal Department of Labor grant, will include partners at the University of Alaska Southeast, the University of Alaska Anchorage Prince William Sound Community College and the UA Mining and Petroleum Training Service. "The pay in the mining industry averages \$100,000 per year. Yet, many jobs, such as mill operators, underground miners and mine mechanics, are difficult to fill because of lack of training opportunities in the state," said Rajive Ganguli, a UAF mining engineering professor and the principal investigator on the grant. At UAS, the project will help upgrade facilities in the mine mechanic program there, as well as increase staffing in the mine training and power technology program.

Sea Grant Selection

A coastal resilience project initiated by Assistant Professor of Marine Biology Carolyn Bergstrom has been selected for funding by Alaska Sea Grant funding through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The project "Resilience of Estuarine Groundfish Communities to Future Changes in Glacial Effluent" will include UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences colleague Anne Beaudreau.

Twitchell Speaks on Language Revitalization

Assistant Professor of Alaska Native Languages X'unei Lance Twitchell was an invited lecturer at the 2014 Building Tribal Nations Symposium at the University of Wyoming on October 13. He gave the presentation, "Reshaping Standards: Alaska Native Language Revitalization Efforts."

Math Faculty Presents at Biomathematics Conference

Math faculty Christopher Hay-Jahans presented a talk entitled "Headwater Stream Temperatures: A Conceptual deconstruction and Biological Implications" at the seventh International Symposium on Biomathematics and Ecology: Education and Research in Claremont, California last month. The talk relates to research collaboration with the US Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station.

UAS Faculty Co-Read Poem at Arts Event



English faculty Emily Wall read poems at a recent opening of Juneau poet Sarah Isto's poetry and calligraphy exhibit at the Juneau Arts and Culture Center. Wall read along with current state poet laureate Nora Marks Dauenhauer and Alaska Native Languages program head Lance Twitchell, who read some of the poetry of the late Richard Dauenhauer. For one poem, Wall read the English and Twitchell read the Tlingit parts of the poem.