

## UAS Alumni & Friends Kicks off Fall with Innovative Programming

Juneau's Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff (APK) State Library, Archives, and Museum was the place to be on September 16, where UAS Alumni & Friends hosted the first public event at the newly remodeled facility. Over 150 attendees participated. UAS Alumni and Friends saw a 15% increase in membership. The event featured special viewings of the museum exhibits, food & drink, and live music.

Alumni President Lt. David Campbell shared the group's mission to serve as a vital connection between alumni and friends and the university, with a goal is to communicate and advocate for UAS, while fostering community, establishing relationships, and encouraging networking among alumni and friends. Campbell remarked, "Our organization exists because we believe in the power of higher education and lifelong learning – if you believe too, then we invite you join us."

Chancellor Rick Caulfield then introduced UAS faculty, staff, and leaders in the room, inviting guests to seek them out to find out what's going on with the University. He expressed a belief that "higher education can transform lives, make us better people, better employees, better citizens and

that makes for a better Alaska." Caulfield invited attendees to "be a part of something bigger" by joining the association.

President Jim Johnsen addressed the challenges faced by the University of Alaska system, but also pointed out the opportunities to finding efficient ways to meet the needs of the state. He emphasized that the university's mission is to inspire learning, and advance and disseminate knowledge through expert teaching, world-class research, and widespread public service. The final speaker was Fred Parady, Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development. Representing Governor Bill Walker, Parady recognized UA as being an important part of the solution, offering opportunities as Alaska faces difficult fiscal choices. Alumni President Campbell closed the remarks, stressing the message that there is strength in numbers.

## New Enrollment Initiatives at UAS

Under the direction of Vice Chancellor Joe Nelson, the Enrollment Management and Student Affairs office has been working to steadily increase enrollment at UAS campuses. A UAS team effort, the Finish College Alaska targets the nearly 100,000 Alaskans who have started but have yet to finish their college education. A dedicated website allows visitors to enter their contact information, enabling supportive advisors to contact them and develop a personalized plan for success. Online learning, credited for prior learning, and military work are among the topics highlighted with callers. In the next academic year, new financial opportunities for students are in the works. The Chancellor's Award for Housing is expected to attract high achieving students to fill campus housing. This award is intended for students who demonstrate academic achievement through Alaska Performance Scholarship top-tier qualifications and excellent scores on the SAT or ACT. For students coming to Alaska from outside, the equivalent GPA of 3.5 or higher will qualify a student to receive the award. Currently in development, the Promise Scholarship will use existing scholarship funds with broad intent to focus on the Chancellor's goals of attracting Alaskan students who meet minimum qualifications by granting \$2,500 to a high school students at each of the three Juneau secondary schools, one for Mt. Edgecumbe students, and two additional scholarships for any other Southeast Alaskan communities. Chancellor Rick Caulfield will soon be reaching out to superintendents, principals, guidance counselors, and teachers to publicize the new program, asking them to be on the lookout for young people who may not meet the requirements for traditional top-tier academic achievement, but have been proven to be good, steady students who work hard. The plan is to have the details in place so that scholarships can be offered to incoming freshmen in the academic year beginning in fall of 2017.



Supporters of UAS Alumni & Friends gather in the atrium of the APK State Library, Archives, and Museum.

## Community Partnership with World Affairs Council Brings Renowned Experts to Campus

The University of Alaska Southeast has long partnered with the Juneau World Affairs Council (JWAC) to host its annual forum every October. A member of the World Affairs Councils of America, JWAC's goal is to foster conversations and further understanding about international issues of economic, political, and social importance. The annual forum features field experts on the chosen theme, from all over the world, as guest lecturers, presenters, and panel participants. UAS has been hosting this event for JWAC since 2003. It is open to the community free of charge. Students are encouraged to attend.

The 2016 forum theme was "Human Migration and Refugees – Peril and Hope." The three-day conference kicked off on Thursday, October 20 with Dr. Nathalie Williams speaking about root causes of refugee flow in global and historical context. Williams is a published author, ethnographic researcher and faculty of the Jackson School of International Studies and the Department of Sociology at the University of Washington.

The event continued on Friday afternoon with Tiffany Basciano, J.D., of the International Law and Organizations program at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, addressing common responsibility in the protection of migrants and refugees in Europe. Featured as a speaker in the annual fall lecture series at UAS "Evening at Egan",

Dr. Jim Hollifield delivered his keynote on policy responses in the area of the global migration crisis. Hollifield is Professor of Political Science in International Political Economy for Southern Methodist University, a Global Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center, among other distinctions, and has been published widely on international political and economic issues. Because of his appearance as an Evening at Egan lecturer, Hollifield was broadcast on UATV and was accessible via streaming to anyone who chose to watch online.

The final day of the forum featured four more guest speakers, and ended with an engaging panel discussion. Attendees were treated to lectures from Dr. Pushpa Iyer of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies, Larry Yungk of the United Nations, German Consul General to the US Stefan Schlüter, and Dr. Rebecca Callahan of the University of Texas. Iyer's lecture focused on conflict studies, civil wars, and peacebuilding, while Yungk discussed protection of forcibly displaced people. Schlüter shared the challenges of Germany's policies on refugees, followed by final speaker Callahan sharing educational experiences of adolescent refugee immigrants.

Past themes of this annual event have included a wide variety of topics including the Politics of Water, relations with Mexico, Canada, China and other countries, global climate change, conflict resolution, and much more. Partnerships with organizations such as the Juneau World Affairs Council allow the University of Alaska Southeast to leverage the expertise of speakers featured at events like the annual World Affairs Forum to better serve the campus communities and Southeast Alaska as a whole.



*Featured Evening at Egan speaker  
Dr. James Hollifield*

## Generous Gifts Highlight Community Engagement

UAS Development Director Lynne Johnson and staff have continued to work hard at forwarding the goals for private giving UAS. Strong outreach by Chancellor Rick Caulfield and other senior leaders have contributed to these efforts.

Juneau resident MaryLou King recently donated \$20,000 to the Selena Peratrovich Memorial for Native Arts through her non-profit organization, the Taku Conservation Society. The gift will provide scholarships to cover tuition and fees for students enrolled in Northwest Coast Art classes. "I just think we should encourage any opportunity for people to learn these skills. Learning how to weave has been such a gift to me," says King.



*Donor Grace Schaible*

First National Bank of Alaska has pledged another \$25,000 for the current academic year to support the UAS Getting Ready for College program. The program educates students in grades 5

through 12 in rural Southeast Alaska and in western Alaska about a the positive lifetime economic impact of continuing education beyond high school. The program helps students prepare for success by providing resources and training to students and families, as well as local education professionals. Vice Chancellor Joe Nelson notes, "what many families don't understand is that preparing for college doesn't begin during a student's junior or senior year of high school - it begins when a student first sets foot in school, and it continues through middle school and high school. We want students to know that a college education is worth the effort and that help is available to them. We are thrilled to have a partner like FNBA help us get out this important message."

The newly-established Grace Schaible Endowment was created from the recent sale of the UAS property referred to as the Schaible House. The new endowment opened with over \$435,000 and will continue to fulfill the donor's expressed interest to support the educational mission of UAS and further its academic programs. Chancellor Emeritus John Pugh had envisioned using these resources to provide discrete housing options available for special guests to UAS. Chancellor Rick Caulfield notes that the funds will help with expenses including housing, related to visiting faculty, artists, Native elders, researchers and others who will enrich academic programming for students at UAS. The first visiting faculty will be Dr. Theresa John, an expert in indigenous languages based in Fairbanks, who will speak as part of the popular Evening at Egan fall lecture series.