

Nanook News

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UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA
Faculty-Staff Bulletin

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FLOOD CONTRIBUTIONS REACH \$42,000

Contributions to an emergency flood assistance fund for university students have reached almost \$42,000, according to the university's Office of Student Affairs.

The latest contribution to the fund, from which grants are made to students suffering financial hardship from losses during the August flood in Interior Alaska, was \$500 from the Juliette M. Atherton Trust in Honolulu.

From an enrollment of 500 students from flood-stricken Fairbanks and Nenana, 85 have applied for and received financial assistance from the emergency fund, according to Ida Greiner of the Office of Student Affairs.

Grants ranging from \$200 to \$600 were made to help students through the first and second semesters, Mrs. Greiner said. Approximately \$10,000 still remains in the grant fund and several financial aid applications were still pending.

Eleven foundations, organizations and individuals responded after appeals for contributions went out from the university last fall.

Donations came from the William Randolph Hearst Foundation, the Esso Education Foundation, the R.C. Baker Foundation, the Nicholas H. Noyes Jr. Foundation, the Kresge Foundation, the William Volker Fund, the Chugach Gem and Mineral Society of Anchorage, Dr. and Mrs. Terris Moore and Alexander A. Raisin.

VILLAGE FREEZER FACILITY UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Approval by the Economic Development Administration of a \$132,862 research and development grant to the Arctic Environmental Engineering Laboratory was announced by Dr. Charles E. Behlke, director of that research group. The project is directed toward the development of a freezer facility which would exploit the cold environment in conjunction with concentrated brine solutions to freeze and preserve walrus meat at the village of Savoonga, Alaska.

The project, which will have a three year duration, will be directed by Mr. Philip R. Johnson, research engineer with AEEL. Because the walrus migration occurs late in the spring, the walrus meat cannot presently be preserved through the summer. Mrs. Gladys Musgrove, Extension Home Economist at Nome, brought this problem to the attention of the Arctic Environmental Engineering Laboratory personnel who then developed the concept of the AEEL freezer.

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VILLAGE FREEZER (CONT.)

Mr. Johnson explained that the freezer would utilize concentrated brine solutions having freezing temperatures of approximately 20°. The brines will be frozen during the winter and will provide a cold source for freezing the walrus meat later in the spring when ambient temperatures are warmer. Though the immediate objective is that of preserving walrus meat, it is anticipated that the AEEL freezer concept will lead to the development of low cost food freezers for rural Alaskan areas when electricity is not readily available. This phase of the project will be supplemented by a study of improved meat handling methods to be carried on by the University's Cooperative Extension Service.

The approval of this project is a result of the combined efforts of Senator Gruening, the Alaska Federal Field Committee, the Alaska office of EDA, and the University of Alaska, Mr. Johnson stated.

ISEGR REPORT SHOWS DEPTH OF POVERTY IN FAIRBANKS

Almost 9,000 persons in the Fairbanks North Star Borough are living in poverty, according to a survey recently published by the University's Institute of Social, Economic and Government Research.

The report, entitled, "Fairbanks Community Survey: A Profile of Poverty", was sponsored by the area Community Action Agency with the support of the city and borough government to help establish priorities for youth and adult programs in the borough.

Dr. Frank Sessions, former head of the Psychology and Sociology Department of the university, designed and supervised the survey. John Rosen, of the university, constructed the 76-item questionnaire and directed actual data gathering.

The questionnaire was distributed to 322 householdheads on a scientific random basis and 296 questionnaires were returned completed. Dr. Sessions said that poverty in Fairbanks was "defined as an annual gross income level of \$4,500 or below for a family of four."

"This figure was based upon the national poverty level standard of \$3,000 per year, but took into consideration the higher cost of living in Fairbanks compared to the rest of the nation and of tax increases and inflation since 1962," Dr. Sessions explained.

The survey showed that the "average" Fairbanks North Star Borough household is composed of a family of four. The household head is 33.6 years of age, is male, has an annual income of \$7,800, holds a blue collar job and has better than a high school education. His racial background is Caucasian and he is Protestant.

"Minority racial groups comprise 41.2 per cent of the total borough household heads," Dr. Sessions said. "Indians, mainly Athabascans, account for almost 20 per cent, Negroes 15 per cent and Eskimos 5 per cent. "

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POVERTY REPORT (CONT.)

"According to the survey, a very high proportion of Indians and elderly persons in the Fairbanks area are among the abject poor. Eskimos tend to be less poor and Negroes are found in the lower middle class with incomes between \$7,500 and \$10,000 annually. Most of the poor are uneducated, unskilled and semi-skilled laborers who work on a part time, part year basis or who are unemployed. Many are illiterate or functionally illiterate."

The survey indicated that over one fourth of the borough's population can be classified as being among the poor and that approximately 12 per cent of the people of the borough live in abject poverty.

"The poor category includes 2,149 families with annual incomes of less than \$7,500," Dr. Sessions said. "There are 3,739 children under 17 in this category and 1,332 children under 7. Some 966 families are in the abject poor category with annual incomes of less than \$4,500 including 1,727 children under 17 and 606 children under 7."

The sociologist indicated that there was reason to be optimistic about improving the situation of the poverty-stricken in the borough.

"The survey shows that even though there are some sharp differences between the poor and the affluent, the poor in the Fairbanks area appear not to have many of the characteristics attributed to the poor in other regions," Sessions said.

"The data developed during the survey suggests that most poor people in the borough subscribe to cultural norms which would allow them to rise above the poverty level if given the opportunity. They do not view society and authority as an enemy; there is no widespread social disorganization; they recognize their deficient education and training and they aspire to a better life for their children."

Dr. Sessions pointed out that the results of the survey indicate that the adult poor in the borough are prepared to accept some responsibility to help themselves and that there is a need to establish several programs which would deal directly with the adult and youth population of the area.

Among the programs recommended in the report are: regular counseling sessions with professionally trained leaders; youth recreation programs; expanded child development programs; improvement of the borough transportation system; home economics training in basic nutrition, child care, home maintenance, etc., and adult classes in reading, writing, and basic communication.

NANOOKS ENCOURAGED BY WEEKEND SHOWING

Encouraged by their best all-around team play of the season in a pair of one-point losses over the weekend to Portland State College, the University of Alaska Nanooks are looking ahead to their third road trip of the season in mid-January.

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NANOOKS (CONT.)

The Nanooks will take a break for semester examinations this week and next and resume play January 19-20 against Central Washington State College in Ellensburg, Wash.

They'll wind up a three-game road trip January 22 with a single contest against St. Martin's College in Olympia, Wash.

Looking back at the 79-78 and 68-67 defeats the Polar Bears took in the series with Portland State, Coach Al Svenningson saw a bright note in the games, which extended the Nanooks' loss streak to 10 since the season began.

"We played much better than we have at any time this year," Svenningson said. "This is the first time we've played a good game on both offense and defense."

The coach added that with the return to form of center Scott Loll (he's scored 105 points for the last four games) and more point scoring by 6-6 Gary Schaefer (in double figures for the last three games), the Nanooks have more balance in their offense than before.

WILSON PRESIDENT OF ALASKA ENGLISH COUNCIL

Dr. James Wilson, head of the English Department at the University, has been named president of the Alaska English Council.

The council is comprised of Alaskans interested in the teaching of English and includes teachers, administrators, parents, students and librarians.

The council plans to hold an annual meeting at the same time the Western Alaska Teacher's Conference is held this spring.

Dr. Wilson came to Alaska from Central College in Pella, Ia. where he was head of the college's English Department. He received his bachelor of arts and master's degrees from the University of Tulsa and his doctorate from the University of Oklahoma.

Last summer, he participated in an English institute on the UA campus before taking his post as head of the English Department.

UA JOURNALISM SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED

Two \$400 journalism scholarships at the University of Alaska were announced this week by Dr. William R. Wood, president of the university, and UA's Department of Journalism.

The scholarships will be presented this spring to Alaskan students by the Upper Yukon Press Club, based in Juneau.

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JOURNALISM SCHOLARSHIPS (CONT.)

Ward Sims, chairman of the club's scholarship committee, said the grants will apply to those students interested in print or broadcast journalism, including photography and advertising."

The press club has asked the journalism department to recommend three prospective candidates for each scholarship, with need as well as academic record considered. The club will make the final selections.

\$100,000 CONTRACTS AWARDED TO MARINE SCIENCE

The Federal Water Pollution Control Administration has awarded three contracts totalling nearly \$100,000 to the University's Institute of Marine Science.

Dr. Donald W. Hood, director of the institute, announced the awards last week.

A contract to study nitrogen cycles in arctic lakes has been funded with approximately \$40,000. Dr. Vera Billaud, assistant professor of Marine Science, will conduct studies on a lake near the university campus. Winter effects under polluted and non-polluted conditions will be studied.

Some \$30,000 has been awarded for the study of eel grass in the Cold Bay area. The research will be conducted by Dr. John Goering and graduate student Peter McCroy.

A third project, funded for \$30,000, will support basic research into the levels of heavy mineral concentrations that might inhibit biological development.

Dr. Don K. Button, assistant professor of Marine Science, will conduct this research.

SHORT-TERM AURORA STUDY COMPLETED

One of the most intensive short-term scientific investigations ever attempted of the aurora borealis has been completed by the University's Geophysical Institute.

The investigation involved collection of data from the Institute's observing sites at Ester Dome, Fort Yukon and Tungsten, 250 miles northeast of Whitehorse, Northwest Territories, Canada, as well as from two large jet aircraft and a National Aeronautics and Space Administration satellite in orbit over the Pacific.

"These coordinated observations were aimed at gaining a better understanding of where in the earth's magnetosphere is the source of energetic particles responsible for causing the aurora," Keith Mather, director of the institute, explained.

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AURORA STUDY (CONT.)

"Over 50 people, including 11 from the Geophysical Institute, were directly involved. Many were in the flight crews of the jets."

The heavily-instrumented aircraft flew four missions from Elmendorf Air Force Base near Anchorage to Tungsten. After flying a holding pattern for several hours, the jets flew toward Fairbanks and then returned to Anchorage.

Under the direction of investigators Dr. T. Neil Davis and Prof. Albert Belon of the Institute, a television and all-sky camera system on the aircraft were operated to record aurora. Identical instruments were operated at Tungsten.

"A number of organizations cooperated with the Geophysical Institute in making the observations," Dr. Davis said.

"NASA cooperated by allowing the satellite to drift into a favorable orbit location so that its detectors could make measurements."

Dr. Neel W. Glass of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory was largely responsible for coordinating the effort, acting as the scientist-in-charge of the two jet aircraft, Dr. Davis explained. Other organizations involved were the U.S. Air Force, the Livermore Radiation Laboratory, and the Sandia Corporation.

"Operationally," Dr. Davis said, the observations appeared to be successful but it may be several months before analysis of the data can reveal the degree of scientific success achieved."

The Geophysical Institute's participation in the experiment was financed by a \$27,500 grant from the National Science Foundation.

POSTURE AND FITNESS COURSE OFFERED

An 8-week short course in posture and fitness for women will be offered by the department of Summer Sessions, Conferences and Short Courses, beginning January 15.

Classes will meet every Monday evening from 7-10 p.m. in the Patty Building on campus. The course will cover fundamental skills of posture, body development, techniques of walking and standing, and body carriage.

Registration fee for the course will be \$20. For additional information and pre-registration, please call ext. 7292.

ACTIVITY CALENDAR
January 11 - 18, 1968

Thursday, January 11

8:00 a.m. Semester Final Exams Begin
7:30 p.m. Winter Carnival Committee -- 205 SUB

Friday, January 12

7:00 p.m. ASUA movies: "The Loved One" & "Bunny Lake is Missing" -- Schaible
7:00 p.m. Vets Club -- SUB Lounge

Saturday, January 13

10:00 a.m. "Let Vietnam Live" Group -- SUB Lounge
7:00 p.m. ASUA movies: "The Loved One" & "Bunny Lake is Missing" -- Schaible
8:00 p.m. Baha'i Fireside Discussion -- Home Ec Lounge

Sunday, January 14

5:00 p.m. Student Senate -- Commons Lounge
7:00 p.m. ASUA movies: "The Loved One" & "Bunny Lake is Missing" -- Schaible

Tuesday, January 16

2:00 p.m. Traffic Committee -- 205 SUB
7:30 p.m. WHO'S WHO Committee -- 205 SUB
8:00 p.m. Film Group movie: "Il Posto" -- Schaible
9:00 p.m. College Life -- SUB Lounge

Wednesday, January 17

12:00 N End of Finals
5:30 & 8:00 Film Group movie: "Il Posto" -- Schaible