



University of Alaska Southeast Faculty & Staff Newsletter

09-25-2014

Steinbeck and Ricketts scholar Dr. Katherine Rodger to visit Juneau October 7-10th

Rodger will visit UAS classes, participate in a community reception and present the lecture, "Discovering Science and Finding the Story: Steinbeck and Ricketts explore the Sea of Cortez and Alaska's Outer Shores" on Friday night as part of the Evening at Egan series.

Discovering Science and Finding the Story Steinbeck and Ricketts explore the Sea of Cortez and Alaska's Outer Shores October 10th, 7pm @ UAS Egan Library

In this presentation, Rodger discusses the interdisciplinary collaboration between scientist Ed Ricketts and writer John Steinbeck, who together created one of the seminal surveys and texts about the Gulf of California, Sea of Cortez. The men influenced each other--sharing their passions for scientific discovery and literary expression--over the span of their almost 20-year friendship. Though Ricketts spent years preparing for another collaborative endeavor in the "Outer Shores" of Alaska, their last project was left unfinished. The Log from the Sea of Cortez is the 2014 UAS One Campus One Book selection.

Copies of Rodger's two books *Renaissance Man of Cannery Row: The Life and Letters of Edward F. Ricketts* (U. Alabama P, 2002) and his collected essays, *Breaking Through: Essays, Journals, and Travelogues of Edward F. Ricketts* (U. California P, 2006) as well as Steinbeck and Ricketts' *The Log from the Sea of Cortez* will be available for purchase at the event.

Additional One Campus, One Book events and info can be found on the [OCOB website](#).

Press may contact: Jonas Lamb, jonas.lamb@uas.alaska.edu 796-6440 for more info

BIO:

Katie Rodger (UC Davis) has been teaching at UC Davis since 2002, and has been a lecturer in the University Writing Program since spring 2011. Her areas of interest include the intersections of science and writing, especially literature of the environment and the literature of the Pacific Ocean. For ten years, she researched the life and work of marine ecologist, Ed Ricketts, the model for John Steinbeck's "Doc" in *Cannery Row*. She published two volumes, a critical edition of Ricketts's letters, *Renaissance Man of Cannery Row: The Life and Letters of Edward F. Ricketts* (U. Alabama P, 2002) and his collected essays, *Breaking Through: Essays, Journals, and Travelogues of Edward F. Ricketts* (U. California P, 2006). Currently, Rodger is co-editing an encyclopedia of material culture, *All Things Steinbeck*, due to be published in 2014. Rodger received her Ph.D. from UC Davis, her M.A. from San Jose State University and her B.A. from UC San Diego.

UAS One Campus One Book 2014 Fall Events

Monday 10/6, 7pm UAS Rec Center

Ketchikan: A Fish Story (Film) and Your Sea Stories

Ketchikan's vibrant fishing community is featured in this short documentary, *A Fish Story* produced to engage visitors in the lifeblood of this small town. Suspense, action and comedy are melded to form the compelling story of deep-rooted traditions and a dream for future generations. Candid interviews highlight locals from every facet of the industry and give voice to the satisfaction and pride that a hard day's work can bring. Following the film audience members are invited to share their 5 minute story on a sea/water theme. Part of the One Campus One Book film series: *Sea Stories*

10/8-10/10

Katie Rodger to visit UAS-Juneau classes

Thursday 10/9, 3-5pm Location UAS Glacier View Room (221)

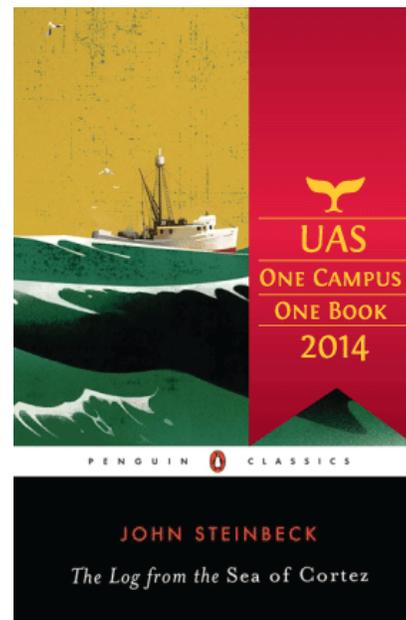
Reception for Katie Rodger

An informal opportunity for campus and community members to meet Katie Rodger. Hors d'oeuvres provided.

Friday 10/10, 7pm Egan Library

Discovering Science and Finding the Story:

Steinbeck and Ricketts explore the Sea of Cortez and Alaska's Outer Shores



Katie Rodger discusses the interdisciplinary collaboration between scientist Ed Ricketts and writer John Steinbeck, who together created one of the seminal surveys and texts about the Gulf of California, Sea of Cortez.

Saturday 10/11, 2pm Douglas Public Library

Cannery Row (Film)

Set in a seedy California town that once harbored a thriving fishing industry, a marine biologist and young runaway find themselves and romance amid an assortment of hapless characters. Based on the novel by John Steinbeck and originally released as motion picture in 1982. The marine biologist, Doc, is a fictional character based on Steinbeck's close friend, Ed Ricketts.

Monday 11/3, 7pm UAS Rec Center

Smokin' Fish (Film)

The film integrates story-lines of a modern Native Alaskan fish camp, a compelling personal journey, and dynamic vignettes of Tlingit history and culture - all told from a distinctly Native American perspective. Part of the One Campus One Book film series: Sea Stories.

09-24-2014

From the Chancellor

Welcome to the Fall 2014 Semester at UAS. It has been an amazing first few weeks with the opening of the new Freshmen Residence Hall on the Juneau campus and the orientation of all our new students to our campus and community.

The Juneau Campus Kick-Off was a great success with 30 community groups and 18 UAS student clubs participating. The first dance of the year, the Contra Techno Dance, had a record attendance of 120 individuals including close to 100 UAS students. In addition to successful student events and activities, the classes in both on-campus and e-learning programs have had a great start to the academic year.

Friday October 10th the Juneau campus will host a team of staff from the US Department of Education Office of Civil Rights. OCR representatives will conduct a compliance review of the university's handling of complaints and reports of sexual harassment, including sexual violence. Similar visits are taking place at UAF and UAA. **The OCR team wants to hear from students.** Please mark your calendars now – there will be focus groups for male and female students as well as open office hours in the Student Resource Center on Friday, October 10th. For more details, please see the [article by Student Resource Center Director Lori Klein in this issue of Soundings](#) or contact the Student Resource Center (Lower Level Mourant Building / 796-6000). To learn more about Title IX, visit the [UAS Sexual Misconduct-Title IX webpage](#).

The Sitka Campus initiated a new program to attract local high school graduates to the campus to begin their university programs. The program is named: Sitka Start. The cohort of nine students is off to a great start. In addition, the Board of Regents, at their meeting September 18-19, approved a new Certificate in Medical Assisting which will be delivered by the Sitka Campus but available at all three UAS campuses. Numerous health-care providers from the region spoke in favor of the certificate, citing significant demand. Medical assistants help deliver a broader range of health care services, such as delivering injections, taking medical histories and assisting with procedures.

The Ketchikan Campus received news that they will receive \$6.6 million in Title III funding over the next five years to renovate their career/technical buildings to better serve their marine transportation and multi-skilled worker students. The Ketchikan Campus has had great success in developing these marine industry related programs in partnership with the Alaska Marine Highway System, the U.S. Coast Guard, and Vigor Industries, the owner of the local shipyard.

Over the summer, the Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development unanimously approved the Education Leadership Program for Superintendents. It is an endorsement program which requires a year of graduate study. The program was designed in collaboration with practicing superintendents and educational leaders from across the state based upon national leadership standards

2014 marks the fifteenth year for the Evening at Egan Lecture Series and we've seen record numbers of Juneau community members in attendance. Upcoming events include presentations by One Campus One Book, the Empty Chair Project, the Juneau World Affairs Council forum on Mexico and Juneau campus faculty. The November 21 final event is a panel discussion on re-thinking racism in Juneau.

I want to thank each and every staff and faculty for their efforts to make this fall semester the best ever at UAS. Together, we can make an enormous difference in the success of our students in their programs as well as in their personal development. Thanks again for your dedication to the mission of UAS.

09-24-2014

UA Regents Approve Certificate in Medical Assisting for Southeast Alaska

The University of Alaska Board of Regents approved a new Medical Assistant Certificate program for the University of Alaska

Southeast (UAS) during its September meeting in Juneau. Health employers in the region—including PeaceHealth (Ketchikan), SEARHC, and Valley Medical Clinic in Juneau—testified in support of the proposal.

“We were very pleased to learn this program was selected even during a very difficult financial season for UAS,” said PeaceHealth’s Vice President for Ambulatory Services Michele Budd. “PeaceHealth is committed to supporting and enhancing this program and other medical education programs in any way possible for the benefit of communities throughout Southeast Alaska.” UAS expects the program to begin in Fall 2015.

PeaceHealth joined UAS in the early stages of developing the proposal in 2012 as part of an Innovation Program to provide better coordinated and preventative care in rural communities. Other employers subsequently expressed their support as the proposal was crafted under a grant from the Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB).

The university expects that the program will be implemented in line with national accreditation standards of the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) according to Lori Hart, health faculty member at the UAS Sitka Campus.

UAS Provost Rick Caulfield said the program aligns with the UA system’s *Shaping Alaska’s Future* initiative by meeting workforce needs in partnership with public and private entities. The program was developed in coordination with similar UA programs in Anchorage and Fairbanks. It will be housed administratively at the UAS Sitka Campus but most of the required courses will be available online.

Medical Assistants are an important part of any doctor’s office. They perform administrative and clinical tasks to support the work of physicians and other health professionals. Measuring patients’ vital signs, recording information in medical record keeping systems, and assisting in procedures are just a few of the many tasks they perform in the clinic setting.

09-24-2014

Arts and Sciences News

Mathematics student Andre Bunton won a Pi Mu Epsilon Award for his presentation on the Simultaneous Generation of a Basis B and a Corresponding B-CZDS at MathFest 2014 in Portland OR, August 6-8. He was one of about 270 undergraduates who gave presentations at this national mathematics conference. Andre was also announced as the recipient of the Ron Seater Mathematics Award at the UAS Mathematics Seminar on September 3 for his outstanding work at UAS.

Spanish faculty Andrea Dewees is planning a film series next month in conjunction with the Juneau World Affairs Council forum on Mexico (Oct.23-25). The series will feature a mix of new and classic Mexican films. Mark your calendars for the evenings of October 2, 9, and 16, and join us at the UAS Recreation Center at 6:00 p.m. for these screenings.

Dewees presented two workshops at the Alaskans for Language Acquisition conference in Seward September 19-21. Transitions: High School to University- level language study explores the various language study opportunities at the college level. She co-presented Sharing Spanish-language music in the classroom with Rosa Hohnstein of the Anchorage School District.

UAS graduate Jamie Bradshaw is helping to coordinate the Canadian Mountain Studies Initiative’s 2015 *Thinking Mountain’s Conference* in Jasper, Alberta May 5-8. Please help spread the word about this interdisciplinary conference to your outdoor loving students. [Visit the conference website.](#)

English faculty Ernestine Hayes was recently featured in The Arctic Journal as part of their Northern Profiles series. The article and a link to Ernestine’s Evening at Egan lecture “What Shall We Do with Our Histories” can be found at <http://arcticjournal.com/culture/1000/north-beckons>.

History faculty Robin Walz’s review of R. Bruce Elder’s book, *Dada, Surrealism, and the Cinematic Effect*, was recently published in the Canadian History Journal 24 (Autumn 2014).

09-24-2014

Mark Your Calendars: Office of Civil Rights to Visit Juneau Campus October 10th

By Lori Klein, Campus Conduct Administrator
796-6529 / lklein@uas.alaska.edu

On October 10th, the Juneau campus will host a team of staff from the US Department of Education Office of Civil Rights conducting a compliance review, examining the university’s handling of complaints and reports of sexual harassment, including sexual violence. Similar visits are taking place at UAF and UAA. The OCR team wants to hear from students.

In the last three years (2011-2014) there have been eight sexual harassment (including sexual assault) complaints at UAS. This includes reports from students, faculty and staff. Reports and complaints are investigated through the UAS Title IX office.

What is Title IX? Title IX is a basic civil right that applies to everyone. Some people connect it to equal opportunity for women in sports, but its true intent is to prohibit sex discrimination in all forms. Each campus has a Title IX coordinator to respond to reports. To learn more about Title IX, visit the [UAS Sexual Misconduct-Title IX webpage](#).

UAS and the Office of Civil Rights are still finalizing the details of their scheduled visit to the Juneau campus. Once complete, the schedule will be posted online and around campus. Mark your calendars now – focus groups for male and female students as well as open office hours will be available on Friday, October 10th. For more details, contact the Student Resource Center (Lower Level Mourant Building / 796-6000).

Recommended Reading

[Campus Sexual Violence a National Discussion/Alaska's Statewide Voice](#)



University of Alaska attorney Michael O'Brien leads a mandatory Title IX staff training in the Egan Lecture Hall on the Juneau campus.

09-24-2014

Evening at Egan in its 15th Season

Writers and natural sound documentarians Richard Nelson and Hank Lentfer shared sounds of Glacier Bay including wolves, birds and whales at a standing room only Evening at Egan at the Egan Library, September 12, 2014. Presentations by One Campus One Book, the Empty Chair Project, the Juneau World Affairs Council forum on Mexico and Juneau campus faculty round out the 15th annual season, which ends November 21 with a discussion on re-thinking racism in Juneau. Lectures take place 7 p.m. Friday nights at the Egan Lecture Hall or Library. They are also simulcast on UATV Cable Channel 11 or live via Flash streaming video. The full schedule can be found on the [Evening at Egan website](#).



09-24-2014

Board of Regents Action

JUNEAU—The University of Alaska Board of Regents unanimously approved a proposal to increase the UA Scholars Award by \$1,000, wrapping up a two-day meeting in the Capital City.

The UA Scholars Award, funded solely by the university through its land endowment, has not increased since it was created in 1999. The regents' action Friday increases the total award to \$12,000, up from \$11,000.

One other change to the Scholars program, also approved unanimously, will increase the minimum required credit load per academic year from 24 credits to 30 credits, beginning in the second year of the award. Research shows full-time students who take 30 credits a year are more successful than students who take a lighter load. The changes take effect with awards decided in spring 2015.

In other action, the board voted against a tuition increase proposed by the administration, after several hours of considerable debate. The 4 percent increase, an additional \$6-\$8 per credit charge for undergraduate courses, would have brought in an additional \$4 million systemwide in FY16.

The UA System currently faces an approximately \$26 million budget gap, following a cut from the state Legislature in addition to increased fixed costs. UA tuition plus fees are the second lowest in the nation among public baccalaureate institutions, according to the College Board. Only Wyoming's public institution charges less. Among the 15 western states, UA has the third lowest tuition rates when fees are not included.

Reasons for voting against the proposal were mixed. Several board members expressed concern with how the UA System prioritizes programs and develops its annual budget request. The vote was 4-7. Regents Tim Brady, Fuller Cowell, Mike Powers and Pat Jacobson voted in favor of the increase, citing the low regional and national figures and recent budget cuts. Regents Kirk Wickersham, Dale Anderson, Jo Heckman, Mary Hughes, Courtney Enright, Gloria O'Neill and Ken Fisher voted against the increase.

With the vote, the current tuition rates will remain in effect for the next academic year.

Regents also approved a new certificate in medical assisting at the University of Alaska Southeast. Numerous health-care providers from the region spoke in favor of the certificate, citing significant demand.

"The need for CMAs (certified medical assistants) is great. If I could hire 12 today, I would hire 12 today. My problem is I can't find 12 who are certified," said Sara Lang, nursing director for the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corp., or SEARHC.

Medical assistants help deliver a broader range of health care services, such as delivering injections, taking medical histories and assisting with procedures. Without certification, the assistant's services are more restricted, several health-care providers said.

In other matters, board members attended a reception and toured the new freshman housing complex at the Auke Lake campus. Students led regents and guests on a tour and spoke enthusiastically about the complex, which has a spectacular view of Mendenhall Glacier, the lake and surrounding mountains. "Frankly, I don't want to go home," joked Sammie Freeman, a freshman nursing student from Anchorage.

For more information: Kate Ripley, 907-460-1442 or klripley@alaska.edu

09-24-2014

2014 Biology Grad Accepts Job at Haines Raptor Center

Juneau campus alumna and [2014 Outstanding Graduate in Biology Samantha \(Sam\) Wilson](#) has accepted a staff position with the American Bald Eagle Foundation in Haines. Wilson began an internship with the foundation earlier this past summer. She will complete her internship in mid-November at the end of the annual Bald Eagle Festival and then begin her employment with the ABEF effective December 1st.

"Sam also has a good shot at breaking the all-time record for the most hours acquired by an intern in an internship," said Foundation Raptor Curator Dan A. Hart. "She is very excited about reaching that goal so I suspect she will make it barring any unforeseen events."



09-24-2014

Campus Construction Update

Back Loop Road Bus Pullout

Beginning Monday, September 29, Arete Construction will build a bus pullout for Capital Transit on the south side of the Back Loop Road just east of Auke Lake Way, between Auke Lake Way and the path to housing. Construction will take two to three weeks. Capital Transit will continue to stop, but on account of the construction will be pulling off the road east/downhill of the path to housing.

Pathway to Soboleff Building

The Contractor planned on paving the pathway last Friday. However, the asphalt plant broke down. It is now back up and running and they plan to pave the pathway this Friday. The Contractor will need to do some additional work after the paving, but we will have this pathway back open soon.

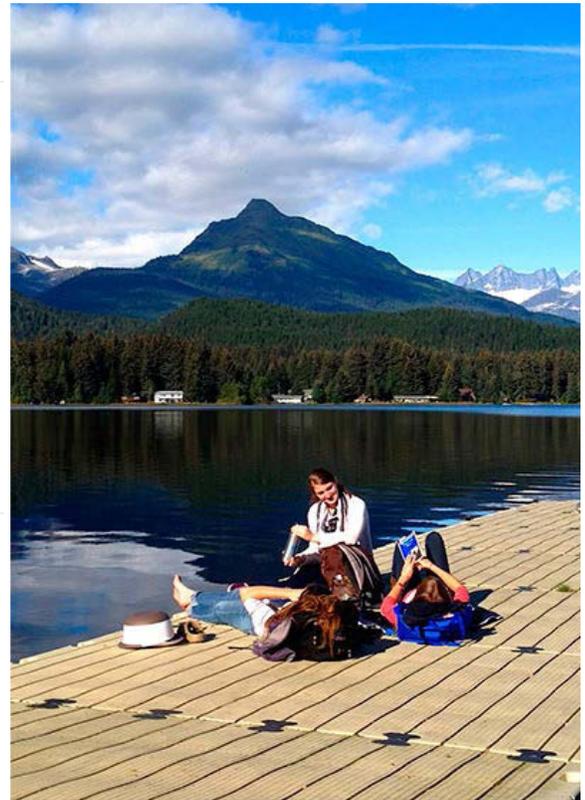
Please contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Ke Mell
Project Manager
Facilities Planning & Construction
796-6480

09-24-2014

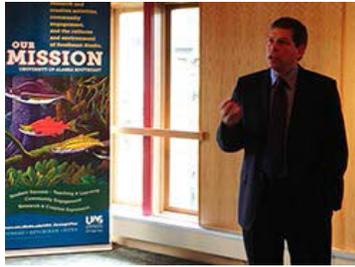
Sunny Last Days of Summer

Students enjoy studying on the Auke Lake dock behind the Provost's Office during the first full of week of the Fall Semester.



09-24-2014

Begich Visits Juneau Campus



Alaska Democratic Senator Mark Begich addresses a gathering put together by UAS Student Government. The group also hosted a talk by Bill Walker and Byron Mallott, who are running a bipartisan ticket against Republican Governor Sean Parnell. Election Day is November 4th.

09-24-2014

Congrats Joe and Crystal!



Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management & Student Affairs Joseph Nelson and 2012 Juneau campus graduate and [student commencement speaker Crystal Nelson](#) were married in Hawaii, September 21, 2014.