

s o u n d i n g s

University of Alaska Southeast Faculty & Staff Newsletter

A unique collaboration between the
University and Perseverance Theatre

Connie Boochever Endowment for the Arts

A new arts endowment is established at UAS, thanks to a generous donation from Judge Robert Boochever. Boochever was on the Alaska Supreme Court from 1972-80 and served as Chief Justice from 1975-78. He was appointed by President Jimmy Carter to the 9th Circuit Court in 1980. The Connie Boochever Endowment for Arts was established in honor of his late wife, Lois Colleen "Connie" Boochever for her extraordinary contribution to the Arts in Alaska during her lifetime.

In the mid-1960s, Connie worked to establish the State Arts Council. She served as a governor's appointee on the Council for 11 years. She also served as vice-chairman of the Board of the National Assembly of State Art Agencies; helped secure the Kimball organ for the capitol building in Juneau and was instrumental in securing passage by the Alaska legislature of the One Percent for Art. She was active in securing the Artists in School program and was a prime mover in restoring and developing the Last Chance Basin historical mining buildings. Boochever was instrumental in starting the Juneau Arts & Humanities Council and was a founding member of the Juneau Douglas Little Theatre as well as serving on a number of other community boards.

The purpose of this fund is to provide financial support to the Arts and Theater programs at the University of Alaska Southeast. Expenditures from this fund may include special program support and equipment grants, student scholarships, performance underwriting and the sponsoring of guest performances and cultural arts events on campus. Students applying for the scholarship must be pursuing a minor in theatre and follow the established scholarship application process for the University of Alaska.

UAS partners with Perseverance Theatre to offer courses in acting and directing as well as internships. A recent Perseverance second stage production was directed by a UAS student and



featured two UAS students in lead roles. Daughter Ann Boochever said, "The collaboration between the University of Alaska Southeast and Juneau's Perseverance Theater is unique. Few universities in the nation can provide a program in theater that includes actual training with a professional theater company. Expanding the drama program should help UAS attract more students."

The Connie Boochever fund has a balance of roughly \$300,000, with more than \$35,000 currently available to be awarded. Judge Boochever donated an additional \$100,000 to a campaign to upgrade a trail around Auke Lake. "It is fitting that a portion of the money go to the new Auke Lake Trail. My dad used to fly fish on Auke Lake. When he was Head of the Juneau Planning Commission he worked on the Site Selection Committee that chose Auke Lake as the site of the new Southeastern branch of the University of Alaska," said Ann Boochever.



The Great Land Loses a Great One

A pillar of Alaska's young history passed on December 12, 2007. Tom Stewart, better known as Judge Stewart in Juneau, was the chief organizer of the Alaska Constitutional Convention. "Without him it wouldn't have happened," said long time friend and fellow constitutional delegate George Rogers.

Tom Stewart received his Honorary Doctorate of Laws, University of Alaska Southeast in 1992. George Rogers received an Honorary Doctorate of Economics, University of Alaska Anchorage in 1986.

Stewart earned a Silver Star for his role in liberating Italy from the Nazis during World War 2. Upon return from the war, his vision was to learn Russian and find a way to improve relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. "It was not the Americans; it was the Russians that beat the Germans, beginning at the Battle of Stalingrad when they wiped out the third German army. And I decided that in my lifetime Russia was going to be the foreign entity that we had to deal with," said Stewart in a public television interview in May, 2007.

He earned a Masters Degree in Russian studies at the Peterborough School of Advanced International Studies in New Hampshire and then spent the summer of 1947 in neighboring Vermont in a Russian language program at Middlebury College.

But a political paranoia of the time shifted Stewart's dream. "I wanted to work with the Russians," he recalled. "But because of McCarthyism I couldn't get a job even though I had a pretty complete educational background."

Rogers remembers when Stewart had renowned Soviet dissident Alexander Solzhenitsyn over for tea in the Juneau home Stewart's father built in the early 1900's. Rogers and wife Jean were there for the occasion. "Solzhenitsyn said until the Russians come back to Mother Russia, it [cooperation between the two countries] wouldn't work." Rogers remembers. Stewart realized his dream was impossible. "He said we can achieve a brave new world here."

"His mission was to see Alaska become a state and the route was the constitution," said Rogers. "He got the idea to draft up a constitution. Then we could show other states we were ready to become a state."

Stewart put everything he had into the task. "I spent six weeks of my own time and my own funds," Stewart told a UAS Evening at Egan audience commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Constitutional Convention. He travelled to Hawaii to witness their efforts at statehood and pored over documents at academic institutions including the Universities of Chicago and Washington

as well as Princeton, Harvard and Yale, seeking a "how-to" guide on writing a constitution.

Stewart organized and served as secretary of the 1955 Constitutional Convention and pushed for it to be held at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Rogers said Stewart's preparation was "magnificent. We called it creating Alaska."

Stewart may be best remembered as a founding father of Alaska, but he had many other accomplishments in his almost 89 years (he would have turned 89 January 1, 2008). He is also remembered as a loving father and stepfather. Tom and wife Jane raised six children. He is the first Alaskan to graduate Yale Law School. He served Alaska as a Territorial legislator, one of the first state senators and Superior Court judge.

As a U.S. Army captain in the legendary 10th Mountain Division, Stewart earned his Silver Star when his unit was attempting to cross the Po River in the Apennine Mountains. Stewart was atop a dike, keeping a look out for the safety of his men. "The shell bursts of deflected anti-aircraft fire took place about every minute and a half. So in that lull I ran on the top of the dike and then anticipating that the shells were going to come, I hit the ground and the shrapnel spit in around me," he recalled in the public television interview.

This past August, Stewart brought along his children and grandchildren to a reunion in Denver, Colorado of his old war buddies. He was one of the troops that endured some of the harshest winter training possible in the mountains of Camp Hale, Colorado. It was the last reunion organized by the living veterans of the 10th Mountain Division in World War Two.

On November 11, 2005 as he regaled a UAS Evening at Egan audience with his stories of birthing the state of Alaska, Stewart wore a blazer with the insignia of crossed ski shaped swords of the 10th Mountain Division.

Faculty and Staff News

Lawrence Lee Oldaker, emeritus professor of education, presented a paper entitled, "Privacy Claims in Schools and Universities," at the recent annual convention of the Education Law Association in San Diego, California. The presentation explored constitutional, statutory, and common law privacy claims involving schools, universities, employees, and students.

Associate Professor of History **Robin Walz** is featured in a new documentary short, "The Fugitive and the Pursuer: Vidocq" for the 20th Century Fox "Cinema Classics Collection" DVD (2007) re-issuue of two Hollywood versions of *Les Misérables* (1935, 1952). Walz well describes the influence of the legendary Vidocq on the character of Jean Valjean. On February 12 Walz will be at the University of Maryland, College Park to give a talk entitled "Elegant and Not So Elegant Criminals" on popular anti-heroes in mass French culture. His visit is sponsored by the college department of French and Italian and the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures.

Assistant Professor of Hydrology, ENVS Program Coordinator **Eran Hood** will be at the University of Nebraska February 27 as part of its Spring Water Lecture Series (Recovery Implementation Program). He will give a talk titled "Glaciers, Salmon, and Wetlands: The Hydrology and Biogeochemistry of Coastal Temperate Rainforest Streams in Southeast Alaska".

History Professor Heads to France

Robin Walz is selected by AHA International's - Northwest Council on Study Abroad (NCSA) to participate in the Angers, France program this fall semester, 2008. Robin proposed a course on "Anjou under the Occupation" which explores les années noires of the Nazi Occupation of Western France during WWII. Along with readings and seminar discussions in French and English, essays, films, formal and informal conversations with locals, and journaling, Robin has included relevant course excursions to several historical museums in Nantes and Paris. The main objectives of the course are to offer his students a better understanding of the history of the Nazi Occupation while developing sensitivity to the difficult dimensions of legacy and memories of the Occupation today.

Students interested in participating in this AHA-NCSA program may visit with Marsha Squires in the Academic Exchange office to obtain application details.

Juneau English Faculty Presents Paper at Modern Language Association Conference

UAS Assistant Professor of English Nina Chordas presented a paper on the poetry of Andrew Marvell at the annual Modern Language Association (MLA) conference.



UAS Assistant Professor of English Nina Chordas presented a paper on the poetry of Andrew Marvell at the annual Modern Language Association (MLA) conference in Chicago, held December 27-30, 2007. Her paper was titled, *The Marvell in La Maravilla: Marvell's Poetry as Conceptual Frame in Alfredo Vea's Interlingual Novel*.

Chordas' paper was presented as part of a panel dealing with allusion in the poetry of Marvell, a 17th-century English poet, or allusions to Marvell and his poetry in other works. She discussed *La Maravilla*, a novel by contemporary American author Alfredo Vea, and the extensive use it makes of Marvell's poetry.

Chordas said, "My main point was that, although it's not necessary for a reader of this novel to be familiar with Marvell, readers who are familiar with his poetry will have a richer experience by picking up on subtexts that are not available otherwise. Borrowing from linguistic terminology, I refer to Marvell's poetry in Vea's text as a "conceptual frame," carrying its own connotations within the larger context of the book." In addition, in a novel considered "interlingual" because it intersperses Spanish and other languages with English, she argues that Marvell's poetry functions almost as another language similarly interspersed.

In 2007 Dr. Chordas also served the first of 3 years as a nationally elected member of the MLA Delegate Assembly.

UAS Ketchikan Faculty Publishes Second Cisco Networking Textbook

University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan Assistant Professor of Computer Networking Rick McDonald has co-authored *Network Fundamentals: CCNA Exploration Companion Guide*, published in October 2007.

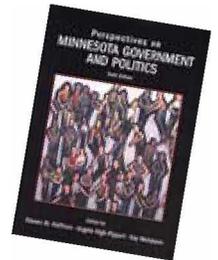
CCNA stands for Certified Cisco Networking Associate which is the industry certification for networking professionals awarded by Cisco® Networking Academy®, the educational arm of Cisco Systems. This text is McDonald's second published book.

This book is part of the Cisco Networking Academy Series from Cisco Press®. *Network Fundamentals, CCNA Exploration Companion Guide* is the official supplemental textbook for the *Network Fundamentals* course in the Cisco® Networking Academy® CCNA® Exploration curriculum. The book reinforces the material in online courses to help students focus on important concepts and organize study time for exams.

McDonald and UAS Ketchikan networking student Sarah Strickling were recently honored by the Cisco Networking Academy in Washington DC for their achievements in the program.

Ketchikan History Faculty Publishes Articles in National Periodicals

John Radzilowski, assistant professor of history, Ketchikan, recently published two articles. "Fecund Newcomers or Dying Ethnics? Demographic Approaches to the History of Polish and Italian Immigrants and their Children in the United States, 1880 to 1980" appears in the latest issue of *Journal of American Ethnic History* (Fall 2007). "A History of Minnesota Politics," covers the political history of Minnesota as it begins its 150th year of statehood and appears in *Perspectives on Minnesota Government and Politics*, 6th edition, released in late 2007 by Pearson Custom Publishers.



Speece is first UAS Faculty to Win Caven Professorship

The University of Alaska Foundation is proud to announce Mark Speece, Associate Professor of Marketing at the University of Alaska Southeast, as the recipient of the Harold T. Caven Professorship.

The two-year professorship includes a \$20,000 award. This award is intended to enable Speece to perform activities and projects designed to enhance the field of business and finance at UA beyond those associated with his faculty assignments. Speece's proposed activities include researching customer needs for small and medium enterprises as well as examining financial e-services for rural Alaska.

Speece received his bachelor's degree in Eastern studies from

the University of Nebraska. He earned his master's degree and a PhD in Middle East economic geography from the University of Arizona. Speece also received a PhD in marketing from the University of Washington. He has been on staff at the University of Alaska Southeast since 2004.

This professorship was established in 1974 with a gift from Mrs. Loretta Caven, widow of Harold T. Caven. Dr. Caven was a longtime Alaskan who first came to the state in 1943. He served as a Director and as a Vice President of the First National Bank of Anchorage.

Marine Biology Faculty to Judge Ocean Science Bowl

Sherry Tamone, Associate Professor of Marine Biology will be a Science Judge at the Alaska Tsunami Ocean Sciences Bowl from February 8-10 in Seward, Alaska. High schools from around the state prepare students for this state marine science competition. The winners will go on to compete in the larger National Ocean Science Bowl which for the first time will be held in Alaska in April 2008.

UAS ENVS: From the City by the Bay to the City by the Channel

UAS Environmental Science faculty, students, and staff participated in the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco Dec 10-14, 2007. Presenters included Cathy Connor, Eran Hood, Matt Heavner, Sonia Nagorski, Marijke Habermann, Logan Berner, and Jason Fellman. Topics included Changing Mendenhall Lake bathymetry, Mercury concentrations in Juneau Wetlands, providing virtual access to a glaciated watershed, changes in dissolved organic matter in coastal temperate watersheds, and integration of research and K-20 teaching. Similar presentations were made at the American Water Resources Association in Juneau Jan 28-31, 2008 at Centennial Hall.

The presentation titles and abstracts can be found at:
http://robfatland.net/seamonster/index.php?title=2007_Fall_AGU

New Assistant Professor of Business Administration

Robert "Bob" Starbard recently accepted the position of Assistant Professor of Business Administration. Bob was previously the Administrative Manager for the School of Management, a position he held for three years after joining the Dean's office staff in fall of 2004. Bob grew up in Hoonah, completed his undergraduate studies at California State Sacramento and holds two MBA degrees from American InterContinental University, one with a concentration in human resources and another in finance/accounting. Bob is also pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy in Education with a concentration in Higher Education Leadership through Northcentral University. Bob taught for UAS as an adjunct faculty member in the department for over a year before deciding to apply for the faculty position to pursue his



love of teaching on a full-time basis. As part of his new role, Bob will be coordinating the School's new Associate of Business degree (AB) program initiative.

New Admin. Assist. Amber King

The School of Career Education welcomes Amber King, our new Administrative Assistant. Amber joined our team in November 2007. She holds an Associate of Arts degree obtained from the Art Institute of Seattle where she inspired her creative passions of the culinary variety but also a greater understanding and intrigue of business, marketing, and design aspects. As a lifelong Southeast Alaskan resident, she spent her youth commercial fishing Alaskan waters. Amber is an avid skier, hiker, and love outdoor adventure with my family. Amber seeks to further the economic diversity, education opportunities in Southeast, promote independent travel and responsible economic development in the region she loves. Her goals for the future include furthering her education, raising a family and continuing her volunteer work. When you see Amber, please give her a big UAS welcome!

New Hires

Katie Bausler, Marketing and Public Relations Director

Lisa Bogert, academic coordinator, TRIO Grant.

Cleta Elefritz, financial aid technician.

John Fehring, assistant professor of Art.

Kelly Jensen, grant coordinator, Arts & Sciences.

Puanani Maunu, project manager, Facilities Services.

Tom Pennington, assistant professor of Education.

Priya Samuel, fiscal technician, Grants & Contracts.

Amanda Triplett, student services technician, Records & Registration.

Faculty Excellence Awards Open for Applications

Faculty Excellence Awards sponsored by UAS Faculty Senate/Provost Stell is open for applications for excellence in service, teaching, research. Winners in each category receive \$1,000 cash and an additional \$500 toward your Wilson fund travel.

Applications must be submitted by March 1.

Employee Anniversaries: Dec-Jan

Russ Carson, 14 years; Michael Doyle, 6 years; Sara Hagen, 22 years; Christopher Hoyt, 4 years; Joe Nell, 12 years; Barney Norwick, 16 years; Luther Riley, 18 years; Emily Wall, 3 years. Ramir Andes, 14 years; Nina Chordas, 6 years; Cathy Connor, 16 years; Clint Crellin, 1 year; Marilyn Durocher, 2 years; Ginny Eckert, 8 years; Beatrice Franklin, 11 years; Jim Gage, 16 years; Robin Gilcrist, 1 year; Lynne Johnson, 8 years; Sue Koester, 32 years; Steve Laing, 2 years; Laura May, 1 year; Kay McCarthy, 9; Peter Munro, 3 years; Leanne Pilcher, 6 years; Kimberly Schulte, 5 years; Marianne Stillner, 8 years; Mark Thompson, 5 years.