

# s o u n d i n g s

University of Alaska Southeast Faculty & Staff Newsletter

"I'm thrilled to death to be coming back to UAS" — Bruce Gifford

## Bruce Gifford to Return as Vice Chancellor, Satre Acting Vice Chancellor

Richard Dent has resigned as Vice Chancellor of Student Services and Enrollment Management. Director of Student Services Tish Griffin Satre is serving as acting Vice Chancellor. Former Dean of Students and Enrollment Management Bruce Gifford is set to fill the job permanently July 1, 2008.

Gifford's employment history with the University of Alaska Southeast began in 1982 as Director of Student Services and Public Relations for Ketchikan Community College. From 1988 to 1999 he served as Regional Director of Student Services and from 1999-2001 as Dean of Students and Enrollment Management. Gifford returns to UAS after two years as Vice President of Student Services at Pueblo (Colorado) Community College and five years in the same position as well as Athletic Director at North Idaho College in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Griffin-Satre started at UA Juneau in 1985 and came here from the University of Washington to open Student Housing in its first year. In 1988 she was named Assistant Director for Student Services. Griffin-Satre has worked for UAS on Auxiliary Services, Food Service, Childcare, Bookstore, Campus Judicial, Student

Government, Whalesong, Recreation and Activities and as chair of Tuxedo Junction until it "retired" in 2006. "The best part of my UAS experience has been working with such exceptional colleagues that are so committed to student success. I have enjoyed being a part of the campus facility growth in Housing and Recreation and starting many campus traditions from the Polar Bear Plunge to the Banff Film Festival," said Griffin-Satre. "This institution is near and dear to my heart and the opportunity to take the reins in Student Services culminates a long term commitment and dedication to serving the students, faculty and staff at UAS."

"We are fortunate Ms. Griffin-Satre has accepted the responsibilities of Acting Vice Chancellor," said Chancellor John Pugh. "Her leadership will allow UAS to continue excellent services to students and provide a smooth transition."

Gifford visited UAS March 3 and 4 and met with several offices and committees on campus. "I am thrilled to death to be coming back to UAS," said Gifford.

*Students got into Auke Creek with biology faculty David Tallmon and UAS IPY post-doc Andrew Whiteley to capture freshwater sculpins. The goal of this ongoing project is to understand rapid adaptation of species to habitats influenced by global warming.*



### Tallmon to Give Talk at UC Santa Barbara

UAS Biology faculty Dave Tallmon will give a talk and participate in a working group on Genetic Monitoring at the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis at UC Santa Barbara, California on March 10. Tallmon's talk will focus on available software to monitor genetic changes in wild marine populations.

"Genetic monitoring has the potential to become a valuable tool for resource managers in the management and conservation of populations," writes Tallmon. "Rapid

recent advances in molecular genetic techniques now make it relatively easy and inexpensive to quantify temporal changes in the genetics of populations over tens or even hundreds of years. However, it is currently unknown under what circumstances genetic monitoring would provide valuable information or what genetic data are required for effective genetic monitoring. We propose a working group that will address these issues in order to provide guidance for resource managers and policy makers. We're trying to develop a general framework for monitoring any species anywhere in the world. The workgroup includes participants from Sweden, Denmark, France, and across the US.

## Heavner in DC in January

Matt Heavner, UAS Juneau Assistant Professor of Physics, travelled to Washington, DC to participate in the Federation of Earth Science Information Partnership Winter Meeting held January 9-10, 2008, "The Changing Climate: Making Earth Science Relevant Again in Light of Global Warming."

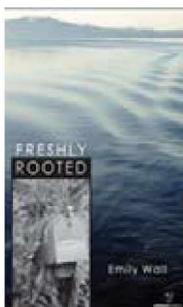
Dr. Heavner presented a poster and demonstration of "The SEAMONSTER (Southeast Alaska Monitoring Network for Science Telecommunications Education and Research) Sensor Web: Lessons and Opportunities after One Year."

The poster utilizes Google Earth software to show the Lemon Creek watershed and how SEAMONSTER weather stations and water quality monitoring indicate how watersheds in Southeast Alaska are responding to melting of the Juneau Ice Sheet due to climate change. The goal is to learn how changing water quality conditions may impact aspects of the food chain such as salmon spawning.

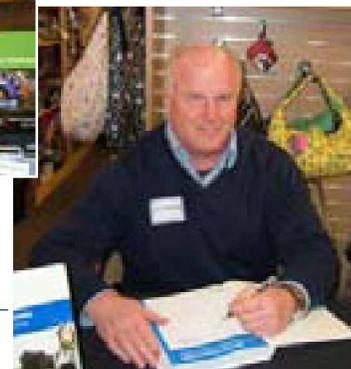
Weather station instrumentation checks meteorological conditions on the glacier and i.e. glacier lake outbursts and floods that may impact water quality downstream. Water quality checks are for turbidity, pH and dissolved nutrients in Lemon Creek.

## UAS Faculty-Writer Wall in NYC

In early February UAS English faculty Emily Wall gave a reading from her new book, *Freshly Rooted* at the Bowery Club in Greenwich Village, New York City. While in NYC Wall also attended the Association of Writer's and Writing Programs Conference. Reading at the Bowery Club was significant for Wall. "That club is a landmark in Greenwich Village and it was such an amazing experience to be reading in a place so many other wonderful poets have read," she said. She adds, "AWP is the flagship conference for all creative writers; this year 7,000 of us attended and the sessions were vibrant and enriching."



Authors Tony Martin (left) and Rick McDonald (below).



## UAS Bookstore Event Success

The first Faculty Author Reading and Reception took place on Friday, February 29, 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Bookstore Manager Sara Hagen organized the event featuring two authors from the English department of the School of Arts and Sciences. The English faculty were Emily Wall, author of *Freshly Rooted*, a book of poems that follow her struggle to navigate the new country of marriage and to speak the new language of self in a land of reinvention and Ernestine Hayes, author of *Blonde Indian*, about life as Alaska Native growing up in Juneau, living in California and returning home after many years. *Blonde Indian* is winner of the 2007 American Book Award. A reading by Hayes and Wall was well attended.

Automotive technology program director Tony Martin and author of the textbook *Hybrid and Alternative Fuel Vehicles* and Ketchikan faculty Rick McDonald author of the textbook *Network Fundamentals CCNA Exploration Companion Guide* (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.) were on hand to sign their books along with Hayes and Wall. Martin and McDonald's were their second published books. New books from both are in the works. "The author reading and reception at the UAS bookstore was a great success, with standing room only during the author readings. I look forward to holding similar events for published faculty in the future!" said Hagen.

## EDGE Science Symposium March 27-30

Nineteen Alaska science students in grades 6-12 who participated in the 2007-2008 Experiential Discoveries in Geoscience Education (EDGE) program and 10 of their teacher mentors will converge on the UAS campus March 27-30 for an EDGE Science Symposium. Students will present their own GIS-based research projects in a poster session format on Friday, March 28 for judging by UAS Natural Sciences faculty, ENVIS, MATH and BIOL students, and local scientists. EDGE high school students

will next bring their projects to Juneau-Douglas HS on Saturday to compete in the Southeast Alaska Regional Science fair for berths in the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair in Atlanta, Georgia in May, 2008.

Students and teachers will travel from the Kuskokwim Delta villages of Kwigillingok and Kongiganak, from the foothills of the Brooks Range in Huslia, from the interior in Delta, from the Matanuska Valley, and from Juneau to participate. The EDGE Project is primarily funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation to Natural Sciences Dept. faculty Cathy Connor and UAF Geophysical Institute professor Anupma Prakash. [www.edge.alaska.edu/about.html](http://www.edge.alaska.edu/about.html).

Connor and Prakash have published the article, "Experiential Discoveries in Geoscience Education: The EDGE Program in Alaska" in the *Journal of Geoscience Education*, v. 56, n.2, March 2008, p. 179-186.



## UAS Staff Featured for First Friday, March 7

UAS staff and students are featured in art and literary events for the March 2008 First Friday in downtown Juneau. Oil paintings by Library Assistant Beatrice Franklin are part of a three woman show at the Juneau Arts and Culture Center. Franklin discovered painting when she took a UAS art course

in 2005. She says a UAS art history course led her to painting. "I think that landscapes give me the most opportunity to be intuitive and inventive," writes Franklin. "I try for mood, movement and sincerity." The JAHC exhibit also features the work of former students and professional artists Alexis Rippe and Magil Pratt, who is the spouse of UAS Math faculty Chris Hay-Jahans. "I'm drawn by a desire to capture in paint something that catches my eye, whether it's a color, combination of colors, the play of light and shadow, or a particular scene," said Pratt. According to the Juneau Arts and Humanities website ([www.jahc.org](http://www.jahc.org)), "The artists are presenting landscapes and still lifes in oil, pastel, colored pencil, and oil pastel in a variety of styles. The works have been created within the last 3 years and previously not been shown in Juneau."

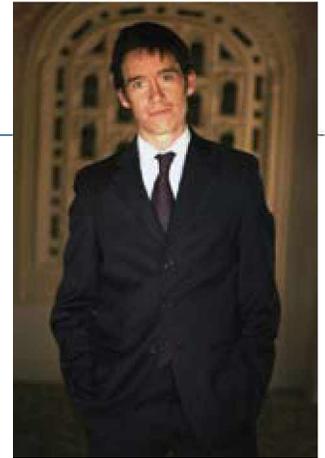
"Painting, for me, is a journey through the interaction of light and color, says Rippe. Using these elements, I try to present snippets of life as they are revealed on the stage of life." The trio have been students of UAS Art faculty Jane Terzis, Alice Tersteeg and David Woodie. Opening reception is Friday, March 7 at the new Juneau Arts and Culture Center (former Armory Building) from 4:30-7 p.m.

UAS Marketing and Public Relations Director Katie Bausler will read some of her personal works in progress including poetry at a First Friday Literary event at the Downtown Public Library at 7 p.m., Friday March 7. Most of the writing was completed

for courses taken at UAS for a Masters Degree in English from Middlebury College. "I find myself working through significant life events and capturing special moments through writing," said Bausler. "I look forward to sharing my writing and engaging attendees in a dialogue about the writing process." Bausler considers former UAS faculty Alexis Easley a mentor. Easley now teaches English at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota.

## Acclaimed Mid-East Diplomat Lecture

Author-Diplomat Rory Stewart delivered a riveting talk to a packed Egan Library audience the evening of Saturday, March 1. The 38-year-old hails from a long legacy of British Mid-East diplomats. Stewart discussed the disconnect between the goal of building democracies in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the ancient tribal traditions and rivalries that exist in those places. He flew direct to Juneau from Kabul, Afghanistan, where he is the Chief Executive of the Turquoise Mountain Foundation, which is investing in the regeneration of the historic commercial centre of Kabul, providing basic services, saving historic buildings and constructing a new bazaar and galleries for traditional craft businesses. Stewart was awarded the Order of the British Empire and named a Fellow of the Carr Centre at Harvard University in 2004.



Rory Stewart

At the UAS event, Stewart also discussed his latest book, *The Prince of Marshes*, about his year negotiating hostage releases as the appointed deputy governor of two provinces in southern Iraq. Stewart's book on his walk across Afghanistan, *The Places in Between* was named one of the *New York Times* Ten Best Books of 2006. Stewart visited UAS Professor Robin Walz's World History Friday morning at the Egan Lecture Hall where he gave a thoughtful talk that inspired good questions from students.

His visit was organized by UAS environmental science faculty Eran Hood and presented by the University of Alaska Southeast and the UA Geography program with funding from BP and Conoco Phillips.

## Medical Experiments on SE Natives Critique presented at UAS Ketchikan

A critique of BSG tuberculosis experiments on Southeast Alaska natives was presented at UAS Ketchikan February 28. The presentation at the library by Eleanor Hadden was an ethnohistoric account of a medical experiment on Native North Americans 1935-38. Research continued until 1998 on the BCG vaccine. Hadden asked whether there was informed consent in the original experiment or follow-up. She also presented a short history of informed consent and why it is required and necessary. Study related issues were critiqued from a decolonizing research methodology perspective.

## **UAS Ketchikan: “In Celebration of Women” Readers’ Theatre**

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The University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan Campus Library in conjunction with First City Toastmasters is pleased to present a Readers’ Theatre, “In Celebration of Women,” on Friday, March 7 at 6:00pm at the UASK Campus Library (2600 Seventh Avenue). The event features an original production written and arranged by Gerry Knasiak. Ms. Knasiak has taken famous and not-so-famous quotes about women by men and women from a wide variety of eras and pieced them together into a lively, funny and entertaining production. Ms. Knasiak will narrate. Performers include Jomarie Alba, Alex Sullivan, Clare Bennett, Bonnie Paddock, Sharli Hayter, David Wiechelmann and Jeff Fitzwater. The reading will be followed with refreshments and discussion.

The University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan Campus Library celebrates and promotes Women’s History Month each year with public events ranging from film screenings to featured speakers to presentations like the one offered this year. Books by women about women are also on display all month at the library. The event is free and open to the public. If you would like more information, please call 228-4567.