

Vol. 18 • No. 1

University of Alaska Southeast Faculty and Staff Newsletter

## The School of Arts and Sciences Welcomes New Research Faculty

Dr. Alice Taff joins the Humanities faculty as Research Assistant Professor of Linguistics. Dr. Taff received her M.A. and Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Washington. She brings extensive experience with the linguistic study of indigenous languages and currently is working on a Deg Xinag Learner's Dictionary.



*Dr. Alice Taff*

Dr. Sonia Nagorski joins the Environmental Sciences program as Research Assistant Professor of Hydrology. Dr. Nagorski has her M.S. and Ph.D. in Geology from the University of Montana and comes to UAS from the Universite Joseph Fourier (Grenoble, France) where she did postdoctoral studies on mercury in ancient snow and ice cores.



*Dr. Sonia Nagorski*

Drs. Taff and Nagorski will add significantly to our growing research capacity and will be available to collaborate with UAS faculty and students on research and educational projects. Please make them feel welcome.

## Avalanche Awareness

**Saturday, January 15 at Eaglecrest Ski Area**

There will be educational displays in the Eaglecrest Ski Area main lodge, presentation about self-rescue, decision making, and avalanche rescue gear and avalanche rescue dog demonstration.

On-hill activity stations include: Beacon Searching, Probing & Shoveling and Backcountry Terrain & Route Finding. The on-hill activities are designed for participation; gear will be provided, but if you have your own gear bring it along.

A \$10 spaghetti dinner will follow the day's events. There will also be an avalanche awareness presentation, followed by live Bluegrass with Auke Bay Lonesome and door prizes including an Eaglecrest Season's pass. For more information call Sara Carter at 364-2692.

## Note Takers Needed

There may be students in your class (distance, web or local) who require your help in obtaining note-taking assistance due to a documented disability.

We are asking that each faculty member promote the idea of note taking assistance in each class by sharing the following information with your students:

Note takers will be paid \$25.00 per credit hour per class in which they provide notes to another student, payable at the end of the semester.

Note takers will be given all the materials they require to provide this commodity with very little effort on their part. They are only required to take their own notes in a bound notebook with carbonless paper. They will find these notebooks very satisfactory for their own use.

Note takers will be expected to have good attendance, and take thorough notes.

Note takers should contact Michele in the DSS office at 465-1298 if they are interested.

## Leave Use Deadline Feb. 4

Employees with more than 240 hours of annual leave must use their excess leave by February 4, 2005 so it won't be lost. Under university regulations, annual leave accrued but not used in excess of 240 hours will be forfeited at the end of the payroll processing for the pay period in which January 31 falls.

## Leave Cash-in Program Available

Don't forget about the leave cash-in option available to all non-union, benefits-eligible employees. There is no extra form to fill out and employees can request the cash-in at any time during the fiscal year. Eligible employees can cash in up to 40 hours of their annual leave per fiscal year as long as they have 40 hours remaining after the cash-in hours are deducted.

To claim the cash-in, employees need to simply use earnings code 515 (annual leave cash-in) on their timesheet under the "total hours" column.

## Exchange Students Succeed at UAS

Seventy-five percent of the exchange students who attended UAS last fall semester obtained a 3.0 GPA or higher. Marsha Squires would like to thank all faculty and staff who supported their efforts and assisted them with their academic success.

## New Hires

**Russell Kearney** has been hired as a media services technician on the Ketchikan campus.

**Colleen Scanlon** has been hired as an administrative assistant for Student Services on the Ketchikan campus.

**Nadine Trucano** has been hired as a personnel/payroll technician on the Juneau campus replacing Barbara Gillespie. She will begin work January 18.

**Barbara Gillespie** will begin a part-time position working with Clive Thomas and the Legislative Intern program.

## Sitka Fall Art Show

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UAS Sitka Campus hosted the Fall Art Show on December 15, featuring art from UAS students, the high schools, grade schools and some kindergarten classes. Visitors browsed the atrium and hallway artwork, and were also treated to video presentations showcasing the digital photography and film classes. Delicious cookies, fruit and veggies were a hit as well.

Sitka Campus is currently in the midst of its annual NW Coast Art Program. Classes being offered are NW Coast Design, Basketry, Wood Carving and Silver Carving. A potluck open to the entire town will be held Saturday, January 8, between the two weeks of coursework.

## Ketchikan Funding

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UAS Ketchikan has been funded for the one-time SB137 \$50K requested in FY05 for the Maritime program firefighting training request as well as a \$35K one-time FY05 funding for statewide CISCO distance-delivery planning, development and start-up.

Training Coordinator and Instructor John Fraley conducted on-location forklift training for 29 employees at the Alaska Ship and Drydock in Ketchikan, just before Christmas. The training took about eight hours and included instructional and hands on training. The participants' average score was over 90%.

## Faculty and Staff

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The prolific **Emily Wall** had two poems published in the Canadian journal *Jones Av*. The poems are titled "The city can be beautiful if" and "Living in the City."

**Ernestine Hayes** is going to be a speaker at the January 15 Women's Voices gathering at the Northern Light Church, an outgrowth of the October 2004 Women's Rally.

Ernestine is also serving on an Alaska Native Art needs assessment panel, affiliated with the Alaska Native Heritage Center. Preliminary activities are centered on identifying the existing framework and potential for development of Alaska Native cultural arts in all genres, both traditional and contemporary. Other panel members include **Phyllis Fast**, **Priscilla Hensley**, and **Velma Wallace**.

**Sherry Tamone** traveled to San Diego to present at the 2005 Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology. Her presentation is Ecdysteroids in Tanner crabs are Indicators of Molting Probability. Graduate student **Jamie Thomson** traveled with Sherry and is presenting a poster as well.

Environmental Science faculty **Cathy Connor**, **Matt Heavner**, **Eran Hood**, and **Sonia Nagorski** attended the Fall American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco from Dec. 13-17. One ENVIS student, **Moana Leirer**, attended the conference to present a poster with Cathy entitled "Radiocarbon Dates Link Marine Incursion and Neoglacial Ice Terminus Advance With Tlingit Ethnohistory and Archeology in Lower Glacier Bay." Matt presented four posters: "Methods used for Undergraduate Education at the University of Alaska Southeast Environmental Sciences Program," "SEAMONSTER: Applications and Challenges of Distributed Sensor Array to Southeast Alaska Science," "Ground based ISUAL validation with the Los Alamos Sferic Array," and "Field Instrumentation With Bricks: Wireless Networks Built From Tough, Cheap, Reliable Field Computers." Additionally, Matt chaired a session "Modeling of High-Altitude Discharges and Comparison with Measurements." Eran contributed to 5 presentations: "Terrestrial-aquatic Interactions in SE Alaska: Seasonal Stream Response to DOM and Nutrient Inputs From Wetlands and Salmon," "Carbon Storage in Wetland Soils and Export to Streams in Southeastern Alaska," "Characterization of Dissolved Organic Carbon Flushing in Three Small Watersheds, Oregon USA," and "High-mountain lakes as a hotspot of dissolved organic matter production in a changing climate," as well as the UAS Undergraduate methods poster with Matt. Eran also chaired a session "Ecohydrological Linkages: Physical Hydrology, Biogeochemistry, and Ecology." Sonia presented her work in a poster "Mercury Concentrations In A 200-year Snow/Ice Core Record from Mont Blanc."

**Mike Dunning** addressed the Juneau World Affairs Council on December 15th on "Parking Lots in Paradise: The Changing Nature of Cruise Ship Tourism". He was interviewed on the same subject earlier that day on KTOO public radio.

## December Employee Anniversaries

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Tia Anderson, 1 year; Jacque Christensen, 17 years; Russ Carson, 10 years; Nancy DeCherney, 4 years; Michael Doyle, 2 years; Sara Hagen, 18 years; Melanie Kabler, 4 years; Kevin Myers, 2 years; Joe Nell, 8 years; Eric Niewoehner, 2 years; Luther Riley, 14 years; Fred Sloan, 6 years.

## ELMO's World

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The Easy Login Maintenance Option (ELMO) is expanding to include all campus users. After Jan. 10th, self service log-in help will be available. The log-in service can be reached at [www.uas.alaska.edu/elmo](http://www.uas.alaska.edu/elmo).

New employees will need to visit ELMO in order to set an initial password, as the defaults are no longer set to your SSN. After that (and for all current account holders) passwords can be reset through ELMO, anytime, anywhere!