

UAS Mourns the Loss of Jody Watson

Paul Empson, who was Jody Watson's supervisor, and his entire office asked to express sincere gratitude to everyone who has shared support and prayers with the passing of Jody. "The past two weeks would have been much harder to endure without the support of our University community," said Paul.



Jody, 25, was a student in the Bachelors of Liberal Arts program and an employee of the bookstore since 2003. She came to Alaska from Washington and started her academic career at UAS Ketchikan, transferring to Juneau in '03 and earning her Associate of Arts in May of '04. She was on track to graduate with a Bachelors of Liberal Arts at the end of the spring semester.

Jody was in a fatal car accident on Brotherhood Bridge on the evening of Wed., Aug. 31. The University community held a memorial service at the Chapel by the Lake on the following Tuesday, which was attended by Jody's family.

Jeffery Johnston, New Sitka Director

Dr. Jeffrey Johnston, has been selected as Director of the Sitka campus. Dr. Johnston joins UAS from St. George's University in Grenada, West Indies, where he was a professor and Associate Dean of Basic Sciences. His doctoral degree is from Colorado State University.



Jeffrey's educational preparation includes fisheries, animal sciences, nutrition education and flight instructor. At St. George's, he served as department chair for educational services and as Associate Dean. He has also worked with a variety of traditional and non-traditional students.

Distance education is high on Johnston's priority list, which fits in well with the goals and focus of Sitka campus, as does his extensive work in the health and nutrition fields.

Dr. Johnston is not new to Alaska. He spent several years at Eielson Air Force Base where he was an instructor/evaluator pilot. He and his wife Linda are eagerly looking forward to moving to Sitka in mid-September.

Jackie Tagaban Hired as Manager of Student Support Services

The Student Support Services (SSS) program provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, and serves to motivate students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary education. The goal of SSS is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants and facilitate the process of transition from one level of higher education to the next. Jackie is a Tlingit woman from the Kaagwantaan of Sitka, Eagle moiety. Her Tlingit name is Woosh Dax du Tlaa which means "mother who leads a large group of people." Jackie earned her undergraduate degree in Education from Idaho and her master's in Early Childhood Education at UAS. She has spent the last 18 years working for Head Start in several positions including Teacher, Education Coordinator, Assistant Manager and Program Manager. She has also been an adjunct instructor and advisor in the Early Childhood program at UAS for many years. She is active in the community and serves on the Board of Director's for Perseverance Theater, Community Advisory Board for KTOO, Advisory Board for Arts For Kids, and is active member of the Baha'i Faith. She and her husband Al have two children, Austin age 13 and Sierra age 11. Trio office phone number is 796-6325.

NSF Grant for Geoscience Education

Cathy Connor was recently awarded \$285,215 from the National Science Foundation for a Geoscience Education grant with co-PI Dr Anupma Prakash Associate Professor in Dept Geology and Geophysics at UAF. The grant will be used to provide Earth Science, GIS summer field, GIS lab courses, fall online classes, and a spring symposium just before our High School science fair in early March for 15 teachers and their students. It is aimed at Alaska, especially Southeast secondary science teachers and their students, to help them complete projects and develop earth science and GIS computer mapping skills to enter projects in the Southeast Regional Science Fair. Grant will run through 2008.

UAS Conversations

Hosted by Provost Roberta Stell

When: Thursday, September 22, 2005

Topic: High Demand Jobs: How does Alaska's future workforce needs impact UAS

Where: Juneau, Glacier View Room: 1:15-2 p.m. Sitka and Ketchikan will be on video conference.

Teaching Visual and ‘Hands-On’ Material at a Distance.

Mollie Kabler, Robin Garnick, Marnie Chapman, Ruthie Baird-Grutter, Leslie Gordon, Carole Knuth, Maureen O’Halloran and Susie Feero from Sitka Campus attended the 21st Annual Conference on Distance Teaching & Learning in Madison, Wisconsin August 2nd - 5th. Maureen O’Halloran and Susie Feero presented “Teaching Visual and ‘Hands-On’ Material at a Distance.”

Designers and faculty collaborated to produce visual and hands-on learning experiences that matched course objectives and the learning styles of a diverse student population. Specific examples from a variety of courses were provided, and discussion included the design process, technical support and infrastructure requirements, practical tips, and lessons learned.

The FY-06 Appropriations Act as signed by the President and enacted on August 2 includes \$4 million for eight small, university-based Public Water System Technical Assistance Centers. The Alaska Training/Technical Assistance Center (ATTAC) at the UAS Sitka campus is one of the eight centers funded through the US Environmental Protection Agency Office of Water. ATTAC staff are: Tim Anderson, director; Jim McCauley, trainer; and Nicole Duclos, program coordinator. This will be ATTACs eighth year of funding.

Physics from a Fish Box?



Photo by Susie Feero

Maureen O’Halloran just sent out the lab kits for her Physics 102 course. The unusual container for the lab equipment was dictated by the size of the materials she is using to teach the physics concepts for the course. With a Ph.D. in physics, and extensive experience with distance education and web design (Maureen is also an Instructional Designer), she was uniquely qualified to develop a web version of this Physics course. With the support of a Title III grant, Maureen has been developing the course since January. Students are excited about the opportunity to take another lab science course by distance and the course filled almost immediately and has a waiting list.

PEC receives 3-Years of Funding

The Professional Education Center has received another 3-year round of funding under the Alaska Native Education Program for the Preparing Indigenous Teachers for Alaska Schools (PITAS) program at the University of Alaska Southeast.

To date, PITAS has certified six teachers and provided scholarships to more than 100 Alaska Native students at UAS.

The new grant will allow the program to build upon its continuing successes (in recruitment, summer bridge programming, UAS scholarship, and Cultural Infusion), and expand to serve students in Early Childhood Education and Alaska Native educators who are pursuing a principal certificate through the UAA Education Leadership Program.

For more information contact Joe Nelson, Program Manager, at 796-6057, jinjn@uas.alaska.edu.

The Students They Are Exchangin’

Once again, UAS has a fine group of exchange students on campus. They come to us from Germany, New Hampshire, Florida, Arizona, Oklahoma, Colorado, New York, Indiana, and Wisconsin. Their degree programs vary from Business Administration to Marine Biology, English to Outdoor Recreation, and Mathematics to Art.

A large group of our own UAS students have also ventured to New Mexico, Virginia, South Dakota, Oregon, Massachusetts, Vermont, Maine, Hawaii, California, Kentucky, Fiji, Australia, Germany, Scotland, and Latvia. Thank you for supporting their academic adventure!

Faculty and Staff

Emily Wall’s poems “Great Blue” and “Living in the City” will be published in the Canadian journal *Room of One’s Own*.

Jan Straley will be presenting at the American Fisheries Society meeting in Anchorage on 15 September. Sperm whale and long-lining fishery interactions funded by NPRB.

Seven students have just completed the three core courses in the Community Wellness Advocate Training Program. **Kimberly Davis, Helen Gregorio, Christa Lott, Mary McDowell, Roween Reeves, Laurinda Vlasoff** and **Elizabeth Lind** are to be congratulated for their excellent work. The students are dispersed throughout the state.

Tony Martin attended the ATech/AIPC Invitational Workshop in Belterra, Indiana in June 2005. The primary purpose was 20 hours of automotive electronics training. Tony and partner **Keith Mains** also won the troubleshooting contest, which was held at the end of the conference.

Jan Criswell and **Steve Henrikson**, UAS adjunct instructors both in Northwest Coast Native Art and Art History, were awarded a \$100,000 commission to create a mural for the remodeled atrium at Juneau Douglas High School as part of the City and Borough One Percent for Art Program.

Jane Terzis, Assistant Professor of Art, is one of 50 Alaskan artists who have been invited to exhibit work in one of the first exhibitions for the newly expanded Museum of the North at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The exhibition is titled, “A New Sense of Wonder,” curator **Kesler Woodward**. The exhibition will run from December 3 to May, 2006.

August Anniversaries

Jonathan Anderson, 7 years; Judy Andree, 14 years; Jamie Autrey, 4 years; Denise Blankenship, 27 years; Brian Blitz, 5 years; Jerry Berkey, 3 years; Mike Boyer, 3 years; Steve Brandow, 5 years; Jane Breinig, 9 years; Marjorie Byrd, 1 year; Marnie Chapman, 11 years; Heather Conway, 1 year; Glen Craig, 10 years; Karen Cummins, 20 years; Mike Dunning, 8 years; Jo Devine-Acres, 15 years; Janet Dye, 12 years; Eve Dillingham, 4 years; Thomas Duke, 2; Nicole Duclos, 6 years; Brian Edmonds, 1 year; Kathy Etulain, 27 years; Tim Ewest, 2 years; Jon Fabian, 2; Susan Feero, 11 years; Virgil Fredenberg, 2 years; Rita Fuller, 7 years; Robin Garnick, 3 years; Wally Gleeson, 26 years; Marquam George, 4 years; Tish Griffin Satre, 20 years; Wayne Haas, 2 years; Tom Harman, 3 years; David Harper, 3 years; Lisa Hoferkamp, 4 years; Steve Hamilton, 5 years; Christopher Hay-Jahans, 3 years; Barbara Hegel, 3 years; Matt Heavner, 2 years; David Harper, 3 years; Ernestine Hayes, 1 year; Eran Hood, 3 years; Wayne Houtcooper, 3 years; Patrick Hughes, 6 years; Teresa Holt, 19 years; Ron Hulstein, 3 years; Brenda Hurley, 12 years; Yulia Ivanova, 1 year; Vickie Johnson, 3 years; Kimberley Jensen, 6 years; Dave Klein, 9 years; Kevin Krein, 7 years; Carol Liberty, 13 years; Joseph Liddle, 9 years; Jeff Lofthus, 4 years; Tony Martin, 4 years; Bruce Marvel, 10 years; Kirk McAllister, 10 years; Richard McDonald, 2 years; Elizabeth McKenzie, 7 years; Patrick Moore, 3 years; Dale Miller, 3 years; Dan Monteith, 6 years; Ginnie Mulle, 11 years; David Noon, 3 years; Vicki Orazem, 4 years; Kenneth Parks, 3 years; Allen Puckett, 6 years; Tim Powers, 9 years; Jean Richey, 2 years; Ann Ropp, 1 year; Jenifer Sandonato, 2 years; Priscilla Schulte, 25 years; Ron Seater, 21 years; Robert Sewell, 11 years; Linda Smith, 2 years; Katy Spangler, 22 years; Mark Speece, 1 year; Julie Staveland, 1 year; Mike Stekoll, 27 years; Dave Tallmon, 1 year; Sherry Tamone, 6 years; Jeff Tappe, 1 year; Mary-Claire Tarlow, 15 years; Jane Terzis, 3 years; Elise Tomlinson, 10 years; Julie Vigil, 5 years; Robin Walz, 8 years; Rosemary Walling, 1 year; Ray Watkins, 27 years; Joel Webb, 2 years; Rosita Worl, 11 years; Mona Yarnall, 11 years;

New hires (faculty):

Virginie Duverger, assistant professor of French.
Kimberley Kotlarov, assistant professor of CIOS.

New hires (staff)

Edwin Knuth, research technician.

ITS Factoid

The ITS Helpdesk experienced their busiest semester fall 2004. The first day of instruction, September 7th, they received 222 calls and the following day 210 calls. ITS will report on the calls received fall 2005 in the next Soundings.