

University of Alaska Southeast Soundings

Faculty and Staff Newsletter

Vol. 12, No. 1 • January 15, 1999

Civil Rights Day

No classes will be held on Monday, Jan. 18, Alaska Civil Rights day at the direction of the Board of Regents. It is, however, a regular workday for faculty and staff and a daylong mandatory training program will be held on the Juneau campus. Chancellor **Marshall Lind** said, "In keeping with the spirit of this day, I wanted to provide a way for all of us to learn more about these important issues."

The program begins at 8:30 a.m. in Hendrickson 113. Topics will include sexual harassment, civil rights, cultural diversity, disability and employment, and students with disabilities. Coffee and snacks will be provided. Lunch will be on your own.



Sandy Harbanuk holds rescued owl.

Owl recovered

When Egan Library staff heard a thump against a widow they went outside to check. They found a small owl in the snow unable to fly and being attacked by a raven. The owl was taken inside in a box and the Juneau Raptor Center was called. **Sandy Harbanuk** said the bird was a saw-whet owl. She took the bird for further observation and it was released in the woods behind Egan Library Sunday evening.

Harbanuk said the Raptor Center receives 10 or 12 injured owls each year. While the saw-whet is common in the Juneau area, it is usually active only at night.

Finalists selected for Ketchikan director

The three finalists for campus director will visit the Ketchikan and Juneau campuses next week.

Otha Hawkins will visit Ketchikan Jan. 18 and Juneau Jan. 19. Hawkins has been the department head for Industrial Management at Alamance Community College in Graham, NC since 1990. He has one master's degree in business administration, another in liberal studies, and is six months away from a doctorate in business administration. He has also worked in several businesses as a planner, quality control manager and supervisor.

Russell Poppen will visit Ketchikan Jan. 19 and Juneau Jan. 20. Poppen has been director of Lincoln County Campus in Wyoming since 1997 and director of the Casper College student employment program since 1990. He has also been director of the Casper College Career Information Center, supervised student services, academic service, physical plant and grant operations. Poppen has a master's of education degree from Montana State University and has partially completed doctoral studies in adult leadership.

John Wahl will visit Ketchikan Jan. 20 and Juneau Jan. 21. Wahl was academic dean for the Davenport, Iowa campus of the American Institute of Commerce from 1996 to 1998. He was campus dean/executive director of Iowa Western Community College in Clarinda from 1990-95 and served as director of admissions at South Georgia College in Douglas, GA from 1987-1990. Wahl has a Ph.D. in administration of higher education from the University of Florida.

While on the Ketchikan campus, the candidates will meet with the Advisory Board, faculty, staff, interim director **Mary Lou Madden**, the school superintendent, high school principal, and local media. They will also tour the campus and community.

While in Juneau, the candidates will meet with Chancellor **Marshall Lind**, the chancellor's cabinet, **John Pugh**, **Sherry Taber**, **Carol Griffin**, **Gary Bowen** and **Bruce Gifford**.

Sunde's retirement party

Campus and community members attended a retirement party for **Elaine Sunde** Jan. 12 in Sitka. Speakers at the dinner included **Bob Gorder** of the Public Safety Academy who presented her with a plaque; **John Holst**, superintendent of schools; **David Meekhof**, president of Sheldon Jackson College and **Marshall Lind**, UAS chancellor.

Sunde, who announced her retirement last fall after serving as campus director since 1991, plans to travel with her family and then return to Sitka where she will likely work on special university projects. **Kathie Etulain** is serving as interim director. In addition to Lind, **John Pugh** and **Carol Griffin** from the Juneau campus attended the retirement dinner.

Staff officers elected

The Staff Alliance has elected new officers. They are **Tish Griffin**, president; **Sheri Gray**, vice president; **Elizabeth Hoffman**, secretary; and **Mona Yarnell**, member at large.



Amy Carroll and Karen Cummins sort contributions for the Glory Hole.

Holiday giving

For the 14th year, **Karen Cummins** coordinated Juneau campus contributions of toys, food, and clothing to the Glory Hole before the holiday break. Two university vans were filled with donated items. "It was definitely a university effort," Cummins said.

She was assisted by students **Matt Deats**, **Michelle Wheeler**, and **Michelle Hinckley** and staff members **Mona Yarnell**, **Amy Carroll**, **Jennifer Williams** and **Roxy Felkl**.

Sitka wellness conference

The 4th annual Women and Wellness Conference, organized by the Sitka campus, will be held Jan. 15 and 16. It focuses on positive skill building sessions to help women reduce stress, increase wellness, and lead a well-balanced life.

Faculty news

Beth Mathews gave birth to an 8 lb., 2 oz. baby on Oct. 25. She says, "He is a healthy, bright-eyed boy with his dad's (**Jim Taggart**) blond hair."

Linda Halfon married **David Southwell** on Dec. 30 and now uses the name Linda Southwell.

Physical Plant projects

During the holiday closure, Physical Plant staff worked on several campus projects. In the Hendrickson Building on the Juneau campus, the folding wall in 205/206 was replaced with a permanent wall to eliminate noise problems between the rooms. The large worktables were removed in 204 to create a multipurpose classroom, and new carpet was placed in the hall and room 215.

Crews also cleared snow during the holiday in case emergency vehicles needed access. **Bob Green** praised their work. "I really appreciate their willingness to come out in the wee hours of the morning to get the campus ready for registration and to give up some of their holiday time so we could get some of these nice improvements done before the semester starts."

Other holiday work included installing new carpeting in the second floor of the Ziegler Building on the Ketchikan campus and moving library stacks to meet ADA standards. In Juneau a contractor worked on the new steps to the housing lodge and an enclosure around the lodge desk area.



Lori Exferd talks to new students.

Student orientation

A new approach to new student orientation took place at the start of spring semester on the Juneau campus. New students, transfer students, and returning adult students were invited to separate orientations. "We weren't getting a lot of transfer and adult students at regular orientation," **Lori Exferd** said. "All the evaluations came out great. They appreciated the shortness of the program."

Tax deductions for loans

Beginning in 1998, students may be able to deduct up to \$1,000 for interest paid on a qualified student loan. This applies to loan interest payments due and paid after 1997. Specific information is included in the tax booklet.

Students visit Ecuador

For the second year **Rick Bellagh** took students on a trip over the holiday break. Last year they went to Mexico, and this year they visited Ecuador. The group of 20 students plus instructors **Magu Appella** and his wife **Alex** left on Dec. 16 and returned on Jan. 10. "It was awesome. I want to go back," student **Annette Nelson-Wright** said of the trip.

The UAS group was in Quito for a week and spent Christmas at an orphanage. Students spent a day helping prepare gifts for the children, took part in the celebration with Santa Claus, and sang songs. "About eight of our students came up afterwards and told me it was the best Christmas of their lives," Bellagh said. "Many had tears in their eyes."

Students also visited a town near the edge of the jungle and explored the coast. The three credit class, "Language and Culture of Ecuador," included daily language classes and time to "see and compare cultures." After returning to Juneau, students must write two papers and take part in a community education project. Bellagh plans another trip next year and is hoping changing U.S. policy will allow a visit to Cuba.

New e-mail addresses

E-mail sent to the old address at acad1.alaska.edu will be delivered to your new account on a temporary basis, however the computer center requests users inform others of your new address which is username@uas.alaska.edu (jnsrf@uas.alaska.edu)

Staff and faculty may also use first name dot last name @uas.alaska.edu (mary.smith@uas.alaska.edu). Call Computer Services with questions, 465-6552.

Biology seminars begin

"Effects of Human Visitors on the Behavior of Harbor Seals" is the topic of the semester's first weekly biological seminar. **Tania Lewis** and **Cadie Buckley** will report results of research at McBride and Johns Hopkins Glaciers in Glacier Bay National Park. The brown bag seminar is open to the public and begins at noon in Anderson 221 on Jan. 19.

New web site features

The 1999-2000 UA scholarship application is on the UAS web site. The form, which can be used at any UA campus, may be printed off the Web, filled out and returned by mail. They are due March 1. The form is at www.uas.alaska.edu/uas/student_services/FinAid.shtml

Students can now register to vote in Alaska by accessing the new link on the UAS web site at www.uas.alaska.edu/uas/students/students.shtml

Faculty searches underway

UAS is conducting searches for several positions. Phone interviews are being conducted with applicants for biology and environmental science positions. Other searches are underway for faculty in statistics, English, and business. Applications will close at the end of February for a general reference librarian.

Technology forums set

The popular exchanges about use of technology in classes continue. Some of the best student videos from the past seven years will be shown Jan. 22 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in Egan 104. A student panel will discuss Polis Feb. 2 at noon in the Lake Room. Physics students will make technology presentation on Feb. 12 at

JUNEAU CALENDAR

Sunday, Jan. 17

- Family Film Series, "Lassie," 2 p.m., JDHS.

Monday, Jan. 18,

- Alaska Civil Rights Day, no classes, but regular work day for faculty/staff; mandatory training program beginning at 8:30 a.m. in Hendrickson 113.
- UAS alumni meeting, 5:15 p.m., Lake Rm.

Tuesday, Jan. 19,

- Ketchikan campus director candidate Otha Hawkins on campus.
- Biological Seminar, "Harbor Seals," noon, Anderson 221.

Wednesday, Jan. 20

- Ketchikan campus director candidate Russell Poppen on campus.
- International film, "Fireworks," 7 p.m., JDHS.

Thursday, Jan. 21

- Ketchikan campus director candidate John Wahl on campus.

Friday, Jan. 22

- Technology Forum, "Student Videos", 3:30 p.m. Egan 104.
- Latin Night, DJ dance, Baranof Hotel.

Monday, Jan. 25

Last day to drop class or change to audit.

Tuesday, Jan. 26

- Last day to return spring '99 textbooks with receipt.

Wednesday, Jan. 27

- Women's Open Forum Series, "Women and Our Relationship to Food," 7 p.m. Lake Room.

1 p.m. in HB 105. The technology forums are organized by TLTR.

Tuition rates proposed

The Board of Regents will consider tuition at their February meeting. The only expected increase will be an inflation adjustment in Academic Year (AY) 2000 and 2001. The adjustment would increase the current \$73/credit lower division tuition to \$75 in AY2000 and \$77 in AY2001. Upper division tuition would increase from \$81 to \$84, then \$87.

Governance groups wanting to make recommendations should contact **Jim Lynch**, vice president for finance and planning, at 474-7448 or at snjfl@orca.alaska.edu

Mileage reimbursement

The IRS recently announced that the mileage reimbursement rate would drop from 32.5 cents to 31 cents per mile effective April 1. Statewide controller **Randy Weaver** requests use of this rate for any travel after April 1.

Juneau student activities

Student events scheduled through January include films, open gyms, Glacier Cinema discount night, snowshoeing at Eaglecrest, bowling, and a 3-on-3 basketball tourney. Events are coordinated by Student Activities. Applications are available at the Student Activities Office.

If you have UAS faculty, staff, or student news for Soundings, call 465-6530. The University of Alaska Southeast is an AA/EQ educational institution.