

University of Alaska Southeast

Soundings

Faculty and Staff Newsletter

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UAS receives \$950,000 grant

Professional development in technology and content will be provided for Alaska teachers through a \$950,000 grant to the University of Alaska Southeast's Professional Education Center (PEC) for a collaborative project with the Alaska Department of Education.

The two-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education will help teachers earn an Educational Technology Endorsement from UAS and receive professional development through Internet delivered classes.

Part of the grant provides \$3,000 scholarships to 100 teachers in 50 of the 53 Alaska school districts so they can complete the new UAS Educational Technology Endorsement. The program consists of seven graduate level courses, with five delivered through the Internet. The teachers will spend one summer of the Juneau UAS campus taking classes.

Another part of the grant is for the Content Area Standards Initiative. Members of five professional teaching organizations will develop Internet-delivered courses specific to a content area.



Jonathan Anderson coordinated the Institute.

Managers at UAS Institute learn communications

A week-long communications institute on the Juneau campus attracted 36 students from half a dozen communities and 14 presenters.

"The point was how to learn to communicate better as a public manager," according to organizer Jonathan Anderson, "both in your organization and in the external environment as well. I think people were very happy with the institute and thought it was useful."

Students, many of whom were in the MPA, MBA, or CPM programs, learned and practiced interpersonal communications with government officials, the media, and employees. Presenters were scheduled for each lunch and included Commissioner of Education Bob Poe, UA President Mark Hamilton, Goldbelt CEO Joe Beedle, and JDHS Principal Ron Gleeson.

Ketchikan director on the job

Russ Poppen has started his duties as Ketchikan campus director. "I'm having the time of my life," he says.

Poppen, who most recently was director for the Lincoln County campus of Flathead Valley Community College in Montana, drove to Prince Rupert and took the ferry to Ketchikan. "I have a place to live I've settled in, but I haven't had much of a chance to play yet," Poppen said.

During his first two weeks on the job, Poppen has been meeting with interim director Mary Lou Madden, becoming acquainted with the University of Alaska system, and meeting with Ketchikan officials. He has attended Chamber, Rotary and other local group meetings and been interviewed on Ketchikan radio stations.

Poppen has also held a couple of faculty retreats. The retreats were an orientation, he said, to discuss issues, campus directions, and current projects.

Poppen plans on visiting Misty Fjords next month. He's putting off purchase of a boat for a year, but plans to hike and see the local Ketchikan sites as time permits. "There's a reason to live in Alaska, he says, "and it's not called a desk."

Sue Barlow honored by president

UA President Mark Hamilton selected Sue Barlow of the Sitka campus as one of the Make Students Count Award winners. Hamilton said, "It is a very high honor of which you should be proud. I am very proud of you. You are an outstanding example of the high level of service we wish for all our students."

Barlow works with distance education students from across the state. More than 400 were enrolled spring semester. Marilyn Knapp, who was one of those



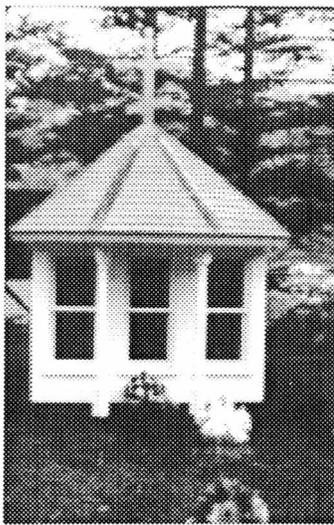
Sue Barlow

nominating Barlow, said, "Sue is very knowledgeable and student-oriented. She is often the first person on the phone that a student from a rural site has contact with."

Barlow helps distance students with everything from registration, to getting books, paying tuition, and sending supplies. The most unusual supplies she sends are for the labs associated with the anatomy and physiology class. She sends dead animals, such as frogs and pigs, and animal parts. Students complete the lab assignment and return dissections to Barlow. "Most people think a lab can only take place in a classroom setting," Barlow says. "We do labs wherever students are taking the class."

Sitka alum appointed

Theresa Schermerhorn, who earned her AA degree from the Sitka campus, has been named director of Human Resources at Dyersberg State Community College in Tennessee.



UAS Students rebuilt the grave house.

Grave house dedicated

Students in John Bowman's Hands-On Construction class spring semester rebuilt an old grave house from the Douglas Island Indian Cemetery. A blessing and dedication of the building was held on May 29. Dean of Faculty John Pugh and Associate Dean Gary Bowen took part in the ceremonies.

Bowman's research indicated the grave house was built before 1913 and rebuilt at least twice since

then. "This was one of the largest grave houses I found in the literature," Bowman said. "It measured about eight feet across and 12' long. The roof was eight sided, and the walls were six sided."

Egan Library news

Elise Tomlinson, an Alaskan receiving her Master's in Library Science from the University of Hawaii in July, will be joining the Egan Library staff on August 9 as librarian and assistant professor. Prior to attending library school, Tomlinson worked at the UAA Consortium Library and Anchorage Municipal Libraries.

Rita Johnson has accepted the position of Library Director for St. Andrew's Presbyterian College in Laurinburg, North Carolina. Her last day at UAS will be July 9. A campus potluck farewell party for Rita will be held on Friday, June 18 in the Lake Room from noon until 2 p.m.

Egan Library will host an exhibit of the United States Holocaust Museum. Varian Fry, Assignment: Rescue, 1940-1941 will be on display from late August through September and will be accompanied by a series of Saturday evening events open to the public. The exhibit chronicles the efforts of an American journalist working with the Emergency Rescue Committee to aid political and intellectual refugees escaping occupied France.

Food service training

Juneau campus food service employees attended an all day class May 25 on safe food handling. A representative of Sysco food wholesalers from Spokane taught the class for UAS staff and others from Mi Casa restaurant, Pizzeria Roma and a restaurant owner from Yakutat. A consultant was in Juneau this week to help redesign the fall menu offerings. Anyone with suggestions should call Tish Griffin at 465-6529.

Tim Woods has resigned as a food service cook. He will continue to do on-call work. Pat Vallejo, who has worked as weekend cook, will move to full-time day cook.

Student conference set

Proposals are being accepted through June 21 for the Alaska Student Affairs Conference. This year the conference, for student services personnel, will be held at UAA from July 28 - 30. For information contact Robert Sewell, 465-6359 or Pattie Adkisson, 465-6454.

June 11 party

The Juneau campus will host about 75 sailors from the USS Juneau during a summer picnic for all students, faculty and staff and their families June 11. The picnic, from 5 - 7 p.m. in the Maurant Courtyard, will include free BBQ, music (DJ and Teri Tibbett), volleyball, and at the university dock free waterbikes and the new UAS kayaks. The summer session picnic is part of Juneau's welcome for the crew of the USS Juneau that is in town June 11-14 and is co-sponsored by the USS Juneau and UAS student government.

Ketchikan staff helps with city-wide event

The Ketchikan Career Center sponsored an "Arts at Sea" open house in early May. It featured paintings, photos, barbershop music, drama and poetry as part of the community's annual Celebration of the Sea event. Steve Kinney said, "It was delightful. The Career Center looked like an art gallery. About 60 people attended the event which began with a Salmon Innovations reception."

Ketchikan students study on Prince of Wales

"We visited archaeological sites, such as fish traps, petroglyph sites and explored caves," Priscilla Schulte said of the week her students spent on Prince of Wales Island. The focus of the field trip was on how people use the land and resources and their relationship to place. "We studied uses from prehistoric to historic times," she said, "and we saw lots of bears too!"

Housing news

Juneau campus house is filled June 6-18. Housing guests include people associated with ARCTIC, Multi-media, Tlingit Language and Science Consortium groups.

Housing Manager Timi Hough attended the Association of College and University Housing Officers International board meeting in Vancouver, BC. She has been elected Alaska representative on the board. "It is a great opportunity to share and gain information with people outside of the state as well as fellow Alaskans."

JUNEAU CALENDAR

Monday, June 7, first day of second session summer classes.
Friday, June 11, summer session picnic with sailors from USS Juneau, 5 - 7 p.m. Maurant Courtyard.
Friday, June 18, Rita Johnson farewell party, noon, Lake Room.
Wednesday, June 23, Marshall Lind farewell party, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Hangar on the Wharf Ballroom

Students study LeConte Glacier

Juneau campus students spent a week in May at LeConte Glacier conducting velocity surveys and making observations of glacier calving. Preliminary results indicate daily surface ice velocities over three feet per hour at the terminus (between 8 and 25 meters per day) and about 50 noteworthy ice calving events daily at the terminus.

"This contrasts dramatically with the Mendenhall Glacier," according to Cathy Connor. "It had a surface ice velocity of about 1 meter per day during summer '98 and calves ice at the terminus at rates of about 1-2 large events per week."

Students Matthew Hanson, Kathy Heflin, Bryan Hitchcock, Autumn Lowrey, Rebecca Viray and Ben White participated in Geology 315 Glacier Surveying class taught by Roman Motyka and Cathy Connor.

UAS Environmental Sciences students Shannon Seifert and Bryan Hitchcock will continue to work with Motyka and a UAF grad student to conduct bi-hourly surveys of six markers placed at various elevations on the glacier surface.

Connor also said, "The calving season had begun and the fjord is ice choked from the present terminus down to about Thunder point. There are lots of harbor seals with pups and arctic terns to report."

Regents news

The Board or Regents meet in Fairbanks June 3-4. The agenda is available through the "agenda" link at <http://www.alaska.edu/ua/bor/>