

# University of Alaska Southeast Soundings

Faculty and Staff Newsletter

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## Accreditation evaluators praise UAS



Dr. Richard Dunn

"We could characterize (UAS) as a dynamic and student centered institution that's made significant qualitative accomplishments in the past decade," Dr. Richard Dunn told a UAS audience following the accreditation evaluator's visit Oct. 12 - 15.

Dunn, chair of the evaluation committee, praised faculty for their "clear commitments to the programs and instructional activities." He observed that students are confident and enthusiastic. "Many of us," Dunn said, "are envious of this sort of community. It is what is so often talked about and not often enough realized in higher education."

Evaluators listed seven commendations and four recommendations:

### Commendations:

- Excellent self-study
- Accomplishments in program assessment, cost reduction, and organizational streamlining
- Sustained efforts to improve the quality of the undergraduate academic experience
- Enthusiastic commitment to student learning that is evident throughout the institution
- The staffs in the Library, Computing and Media Services for developing a rich combination of traditional and electronic information resources to support tri-campus and distance education programs
- Distance learning initiatives and the attention given to individual students, student support, and curriculum quality
- Exceptional condition of the physical plant

### Recommendations:

- Examine the mission and vision statements in light of evolving conditions
- Examine procedures and communication practices to ensure that responsibility for curricular matters is properly vested and clearly articulated
- Address limited staffing strength in technical support areas
- Develop a strategically guided financial planning process

The evaluator's final report will be given to the Commission on Colleges at their December 4 meeting.

## Canadian poet Monday

Dr. Gary Geddes, described as "Canada's best political poet," makes a free presentation, at 7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 25, in the Student Activities Center. His topic is, "The Trojan Horse: A Canadian Poet's Notes on the Gradual Takeover of the United States."

Geddes has been appointed the second Distinguished Professor of Canadian Culture at Western Washington University. The teacher, critic, editor, and award-winning poet has been published worldwide and has received many literary awards. Geddes will speak in classes on Monday and guests are welcome in Sue Koester's class at 9:10 a.m., HB 205 and Don Cecil's class at 3:30 p.m. in HB 202.

## Health Fair Friday

The third annual UAS Health Fair for students, faculty and staff takes place Friday, Oct. 22, from 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. in the Lake Room. A blood draw for 25 different tests costs \$25 and requires 12 hours of fasting. Flu shots are \$10 and a prostate test costs \$30. Health information will also be available.

## Hypnotist Oct. 29

Frederick Winters will perform hypnotism at 7:30 p.m. at Centennial Hall, Oct. 29. The show opens with stories from UAS faculty. Tickets are \$6 student, \$12 general at Hearthside, UAS cashier and at the door. Limited seating.

## Juneau Halloween events

Banfield Hall hosts the 3rd annual Haunted Hall on Oct 30. for Juneau children starting at 6:30 p.m. Entry is a non-perishable food item. A Halloween Ball follows at the SAC from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. and is free to SAC members, \$3 for guests and faculty and staff. There will be food, a costume contest and prizes.

For the fourth year, faculty present "Stories on a Dark Night," 9 p.m. at the SAC on Thursday, Oct. 28. Halloween Bowling starts at 9 p.m. at Channel Bowl on Oct. 31. The bowling is free for students, faculty and staff.

## Student workers recognized

Student Staff Appreciation Day will be held Oct. 27. Coordinator Timi Hough says, "This is to recognize student workers and all they do for us." Free pop will be available in the Cafe and keychains will be given to student workers. Materials will be sent to supervisors to help recognize student employees.

## Ketchikan receives \$100,000 grant

The Ketchikan campus was one of 43 non-profit and governmental organizations across the country to receive matching funds for innovative uses of advanced networking technologies. Ketchikan received more than \$100,000 from the U.S. Commerce Department to create a distance learning network to connect remote areas in Southeast. Diana Thomas is

the project director.

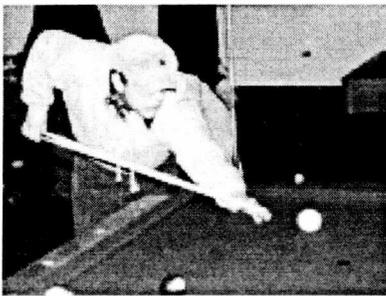
The network will allow UAS to offer classes that high schools cannot sustain because of low enrollment. In addition the network will extend the Ketchikan school and library catalogues to the schools and libraries on Annette and Prince of Wales Islands. UAS will focus on extending the business, health and maritime class offerings.

## Scholarship presented on stage

For the second year, Residential Mortgage and Vintage Business Park have conducted a "Get Smart" contest offering a \$1,000 UAS scholarship to the person whose name was drawn. Dawn Hunt won and was presented with her award on stage before the Second City comedy show at JDHS by Beth Galea of Residential Mortgage.

## GRE test Nov. 20

The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) will be offered on the Juneau campus Nov. 20 eliminating the need to travel out of town to take the test. This is a pencil and paper test. Contact Roya Ansari at the Learning Center for details, 465-6348.



A pool tournament at the SAC

## Activities Center opens

The Juneau campus opened the new Student Activities Center on Oct. 9 with a pool tournament and Hawaiian Dance. Over 175 students, faculty and staff attended.

## Investment advice

A representative of TIAA-CREF will be available for appointments with UAS employees Friday Nov. 5 in Novatney 108 to go over pension, optional retirement plan, or tax-deferred annuity investments. For an appointment time call (800) 842-2007.

## Health plan described

Two presentations on the changes to the university health care plan will be offered to Juneau campus employees. Statewide Director of Benefits Mike Humphrey and Blue Cross officials will be available Oct. 25, from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. in the Novatney conference room and Oct. 26 from 9 - 11 a.m. in the BRC conference room. The new UA 2000 health care plan goes into effect Jan. 1 for all classified, APT, and executive staff.

## Student campaign

The UA student governments in October are organizing a postcard campaign to support the university. Student Regent Josh Horst plans to take the post cards to the governor in early November.

## Faculty/staff news

**Marilyn Knapp.** Sitka history, who spent seven weeks in Peru and Ecuador, has had her curriculum sent to the Fulbright-Hays Commission Office in Ecuador, for publication. "The Ecology of People and Trees: Observations in Ecuador, Peru and Alaska" will be circulated in South American schools and published electronically on ERIC.

**Cathy Connor,** Juneau environmental science, will attend the national meeting of the Geological Society of America Oct. 23-28 to present a paper entitled: "Dynamic Tidewater Glacier Processes Introduce Undergraduates to Geoscience Field Research."

**Carol Hedlin** has been named acting director of Library and Technology Services replacing Sherry Taber who has resigned.

**Terry Dean,** Chancellor's Office, was named Volunteer of the Year for the Alaska MS Society.

## Juneau campus news

**Dance:** Collette Costa from Food Service brings her band from Pelican for a swing dance at the SAC Nov. 5. Lessons begin at 9 p.m. The dance runs from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. and is free to SAC members. A \$5 donation is requested from faculty, staff & guests.

**Concert:** John Palmes performs original music Friday, Oct. 22, at 7:30 p.m. in HB 113 with a \$5 admission at the door.

**Survey:** Eric McDowell of the McDowell Group will discuss the findings in the University of Alaska Student Retention and Market Survey with members the Student Retention Committee Wednesday (Oct. 27) at 3:30 p.m. in Egan 105.

**GPS:** A Global Positioning System User's Conference co-sponsored by UAS takes place Nov. 9 and 10 in the Lake Room. For information contact Carl Byers, 465-6616.

**Global Connections:** Topic is living in Tahiti by Cachet Garrett, 12:30 p.m. Friday (Oct. 22) in the Mourant Lounge. An Italian dinner is set for the Schaible House, Nov. 14. The French movie, "La Gloire de Mon Pere," will be shown Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. in HB 113.

**Bowling:** Free for students, faculty and staff, 9 p.m., Channel Bowl, Oct. 24.

**Games:** Student Activities has rented Surf Alaska for computer gaming from 8 - 10 p.m. Nov. 4.

**Training:** A Red Cross First Aid class for students will be offered Saturday, Oct. 23, starting at 9 a.m., \$10 registration, contact the Housing Lodge to register.

**Bookstore:** Spring book orders are past due. A 60-minute phone card is available to those filling out a survey in the Bookstore. There is a Halloween sale Oct. 29. The Bookstore Advisory Board meets Oct. 27 at 9 a.m. in the Mourant conference room.

## Juneau campus events

### Friday, Oct. 22

- Health Fair, 7:30-9:30 a.m. includes blood tests for \$25, Lake Room
- Potiuck, Academic Programs staff and faculty, noon. Soboleff Bldg
- Global Connections "Tahiti," 12:30 p.m. Mourant Lounge
- John Palmes concert, 7:30 p.m., HB 113, \$5 at the door

### Saturday, Oct. 23

- First aid training, 9 a.m., Lodge, call 790-2493.

### Sunday, Oct. 24

- Free bowling for students, faculty, staff 9 p.m., Channel Bowl.

### Monday, Oct. 25

- Canadian Poet Dr. Gary Geddes, 7 p.m. SAC.
- UA health plan explained, 1:30 p.m., Novatney conference room.

### Tuesday, Oct. 26

- UA health plan explained, 9 a.m., BRC conference room.

### Wednesday, Oct. 27,

- Student Staff Appreciation Day
- Bookstore Advisory Committee meeting, 9 a.m., Mourant conference room.
- Eric McDowell discusses the retention/marketing survey, 3:30 p.m., Library 105.

### Thursday, Oct. 28

- Stories on a Dark Night, 9 p.m., SAC.

### Friday, Oct. 29

- Halloween sale, bookstore.
- Hypnotist Frederick Winters, 7:30 p.m. Centennial Hall, tickets at cashier.

### Saturday, Oct. 30

- Banfield Hall haunted house children and public, 6:30 p.m.
- Halloween Ball, 9 p.m. SAC.

### Sunday, Oct. 31

- Halloween Bowling, free for UAS, 9 p.m., Channel Bowl.

### Thursday, Nov. 4

- Computer games, Surf Alaska, 8-10 p.m.

### Friday, Nov. 5

- TIAA-CREF representative in Novatney 108 all day, call (800) 842-2007.
- French movie, "La Gloire de Mon Pere," 7 p.m. HB 113
- Swing Dance, SAC, 9 p.m.

### Tuesday, Nov. 9

- Global Positioning user's conference, all day, Lake Room.

### Wednesday, Nov. 10

- Global Positioning user's conference, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lake Room.

### Saturday, Nov. 20

- GRE exam at Learning Center, call 465-6348.

## Sitka class

A two-day class on Grant Management will be offered by the Sitka Office of Continuing Education November 8-9. Anchorage attorney Cecilia (Pudge) Kleinkauf, will be the instructor, call 747-7762.