

# University of Alaska Southeast

# SOUNDINGS

Faculty and Staff Newsletter

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## Sitka designated EPA Training Center

The Sitka campus has received a \$400,000 EPA award to establish the Alaska Water Training/Technology Assistance Center. The purpose of the Center is to help the state provide clean drinking water and appropriate waste disposal in all rural communities by the year 2005. The Center will be directed by Dr. John Carnegie from the Sitka campus.

Sitka is one of five new centers being established by the EPA throughout the U. S. It will create a competent technical work force for utility operations, provide current operators with technical information and training resources, increase the capacity of rural communities to plan and manage water utilities, and help develop new water sources and alternative technologies.

Center also will establish outreach training sites at four rural UA campuses, including Nome, Dillingham, Bethel, and Kodiak, as well as at Ilisagvik College at Barrow.

The Center builds on the rural sanitation programs developed at the Sitka campus over the past three years and draws upon the campus' expertise in providing distance education and training.

## UAS golf tourney Saturday

Golfers may win a 1998 Dodge Avenger, a Bahama cruise, a trip to Germany or a set of Maxfli irons for getting a hole-in-one on a designated hole during the 5th annual UAS Open Golf Tournament, Saturday (Aug. 1) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mendenhall golf course. Other prizes include an Alaska Airline roundtrip ticket in this Alumni Association event. Participants should call for tee times before the close of business Friday at the Mendenhall golf course, 789-1221. The cost is \$25 per person. All proceeds go for UAS scholarships.



Students study in Berner's Bay.

## Coastal Science students enthusiastic

"I'm having a great time," Jeff Birek says of the UAS Coastal Science institute he and 15 other high school students are now attending on the Juneau campus. The participants learned of the Institute through a brochure mailed to high school students in several states.

Many said they decided to attend the Institute because it was a chance to see Alaska. "I got letters from other programs like this," Jamey Jefferson of Santa Maria, California said, "but they're all in California and Oregon. This is Alaska!"

The students helicoptered to the glacier, kayaked, and camped at Point Bridget on the first four days of the week long Institute. "I liked the kayaking best," Katie Van Leeuwen of Michigan said, "because it's dealing with the ocean and that's what I'm interested in." She plans to study marine biology.

Monica MacLellan from San Jose has planned to attend a private school in the Bay Area, but after a few days at the Institute, she says she's now considering UAS.

Faculty members Cathy Connor, Randy Stahl and Brendan Kelly are providing instruction along with Juneau campus students and local experts.

## UAS programs accredited

The Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges has accredited two new UAS programs: the bachelor degree in environmental science on the Juneau campus and the certificate and associate degree programs in environmental technology on the Sitka campus. Executive Director Sandra Elman wrote, "I am pleased to report that the accreditation of the University of Alaska Southeast has been reaffirmed on the basis of the recent focused interim report and evaluation visit."

## National convention begins on Juneau campus

More than 130 professional papers on education will be presented during the 52nd annual conference of the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration to be held on the UAS Juneau campus Aug. 4-8. The educational leaders consider themes related to diversity, social justice and caring. All meetings are open to the public. A resource fair will be held each day in Egan 102. Opening ceremonies are Wednesday (Aug. 5) at 8:30 a.m. in Egan Library.

Coordinator Lawrence Lee Oldaker says about 250 participants and their families are expected. Many will stay in student housing and eat on campus. Oldaker submitted a bid from UAS to the national group two years ago. "At one time there were nine other contestants seeking to have the 1998 conference on their campus," Oldaker said.



Summer work includes painting crosswalks.

## Juneau campus summer work

Curbs and landscaping on the lake side of the Soboleff Building are some of the summer projects on the Juneau campus being done by the physical plant staff. Other projects include painting crosswalks, planting, and placing flower boxes. In addition, Bob Green said the Anderson Building lab remodel is well underway.

Physical plant staff have also saved the campus money. Russ Carson and temporary employee Jake Peterson painted Egan Library. "The library was one of the projects on our list," Green said, "and Russ said he was interested in doing it. He did a heck of a job." Green said the money saved by using staff "allow us to fund other work on the building." Other library projects, included Carson and Ron Korpela replacing high ceiling lights and replacing a battery bank with a generator that will also save money over the years according to Green.

## New alumni officers

Ruth Danner has been elected president and John Lepore is vice president of the UAS Alumni Association. Chris Phillips, who served two terms as president, is now a member of the board.

"Chris has done a lot to rev up our organization and get us headed in the right direction," Danner said. "Now we've got to keep up the momentum and see how far we can take it. We're looking forward to another great year of supporting quality education in Alaska and continued opportunities for alumni."

Under Phillip's direction, Danner said, alumni membership increased to over 10 times its size in two years; fund-raisers hit record earnings levels; and the alumni association was able to increase funding available for the scholarship endowment by 50%.

## Coast Guard works at MTC

Each summer for a number of years the US Coast Guard has requested training classes at the Marine Tech Center for the Buoy Tender Round-Up in July. Gary Bowen says this year instruction was offered in stern drives, outboard motors, CFC refrigeration and emergency medical. About 25 Coast Guard members took part. Classes were taught by adjunct faculty members Phil McRee, Wally McDonald, and Bill Brandner.

## Garden Club scholarships awarded

The Juneau Garden Club uses the proceeds of their annual plant sale to fund scholarships. This year the club funded \$1,000 scholarships to Juneau campus students Emily Walker and Maureen Tighe. In addition to the applicant's academic achievement, the Garden Club also considers whether their long term goals involve plants or horticulture. Both recipients are biology majors.

Overall, there were 210 applicants for scholarships according to Barbara Carlson Burnett. More than \$280,000 was awarded to 152 potential students.

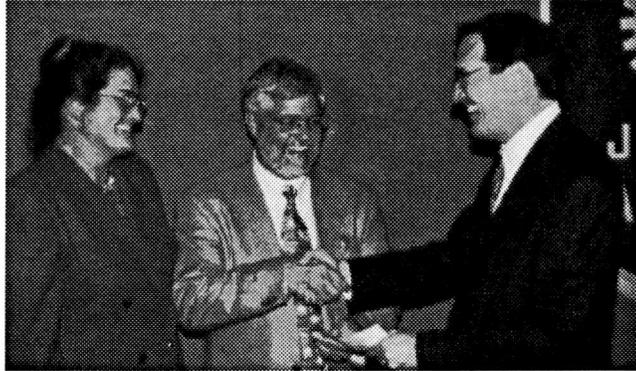
## Regents assigned committees

BOR President Michael Burns has formed the FY99 committee assignments. Committee chairs are Chancy Croft, Planning and Development, Audit; Sharon Gagnon, Academic and Student Affairs; Joe Henri, Finance, Facilities, and Land Management; Joe Thomas, Human Resources; Michael Burns, Labor Relations; and Lew Williams, Jr. Nominating. Some chairs will change in February when regent's terms expire.

## Web site visits

More than 15,000 "hits" were recorded at the UAS web site during a recent week according to Mike Ciri. A hit is any request for a page or a graphical element. "Of more interest, our web site was accessed from 1,523 different computers over the past week. These computers are located all over the world."

Ciri said there were over 2,000 requests for the "Home Page." Other pages and the number of hits include: Distance Learning Opportunities, 483; Degrees, 419; Juneau Campus, 296; Admissions Index, 193; UAS Directory, 133; photo tour, 133; Southeast Facts, 111; Fall 98 schedule, 108; and catalog, 73.



Wendy Redman and John Pugh accept the check from Peter McHugh of Holland America Line Westours in Juneau last week.

## Holland America grant

UAS has received \$30,000 from Holland America Line Westours. The grant will support summer classes in Northwest Coast art, match grants to aid students in field projects and other environmental science studies. The UAS grant is part of a \$200,000 educational donation to UA from Holland America.



Workers install art at Banfield Hall.

## Housing art installed

Stained glass art has been installed in the entry way of Banfield Hall on the Juneau campus. The art was created by Vivienne McConnel who won the art in public places competition. The diagonal colors look to many like a stylized Southeast rainfall. McConnel calls the work, Sky Dance, and said the original concept came from northern lights. She said, "The design is something everyone's mind can play with." McConnel praised the cooperation she received from Mike Greene.

## Explorations '98 published

Nearly 800 submissions were received for the 17th edition of Explorations '98, the UAS literary magazine. Editor Art Petersen said, "Once again Alaskans and a fair share of UAS students made the table of contents and honorable mention lists. Submissions are received from around the world and are 'blind juried.'" Petersen said changes for next year include increased prize money and a new category of Alaska Native literature.

## JUNEAU CALENDAR

Sat., Aug. 1

- UAS golf tournament, 9 a.m., Mendenhall course, call for tee times before Friday evening, 789-1221.

Sun., Aug. 2

- Latin Rhythms, 8 p.m.-1 a.m., Perouse house, cover charge goes to UAS Spanish club.

Tues., Aug. 4

- National Council of Professor Educational Administration begin national convention.

Wed., Aug. 5

- NCPA welcome, 8:30 a.m. Egan Library.

## Sitka campus news

A Carl Perkins Postsecondary Education grant has been awarded to the Sitka campus to develop a curriculum in aluminum design and fabrication. The project is a part of a larger Sitka initiative entitled "The Work of the Village," which focuses on employment opportunities and skills needed in small communities and rural regions of Alaska.

Brochures for the 6th annual Care of the Elderly Conference are now available. The theme of this year's conference, to be held September 17-19, is "Finding a Balance: Ethics in a Climate of Shrinking Resources."

## Faculty and staff

Randy Stahl, chemistry, Juneau, received a \$20,000 grant from the National Marine Fisheries Service to conduct water quality studies on Duck Creek between now and October. In part he will be studying which plants help remove iron from the water.

Marilyn Knapp and Mike Dunning have reviews in the most recent issue of Alaska History. Dunning also will chair a session at the Alaska Environmental History Conference Aug. 1-4 in Anchorage, and he has donated copies of his elementary education activities book, Good Apple and Wonderful Word Games, to UAS libraries in Juneau and Ketchikan. The book is in its 9th printing. His social studies activity book is now at the publisher.

Beth Mathews is conducting a study in Glacier Bay to determine the effect of vessel distance on harbor seals at haulouts. The goal of the study is to provide information to reduce disturbances and is similar to one she conducted on Steller sea lions last summer.

Diane Anzivino, Sitka executive secretary, and Tom Climo were married in Sitka on July 11th. New England family and friends attend and a Juneau bag-piper piped traditional Scottish wedding music.

