

University of Alaska Southeast

Soundings

Faculty and Staff Newsletter

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Strike averted

Late Friday the statewide Office of Labor Relations issued the following statement: "The University and the ACCFT union have reached a tentative agreement for a new 3-year contract. Details of the tentative agreement are subject to approval by the union's membership and the University Board of Regents. Details of the agreement will be released when they are available. A strike has been averted."

Jim Johnson, UA director of labor relations, said this week the union membership will consider the contract over the next week and the Board of Regents will take it up during their Juneau meeting April 17-18. Contract details are expected to be available at that time.

First Faculty Dinner held

Professor Emeritus **Wally Olson** presented "An Irreverent History of UAS" at the kickoff Faculty Dinner series. Olson described the campus from "one building out the road" to the present, with anecdotes about early staff, name changes, early faculty, student housing, and athletics. Several long-term faculty members including **Pat Fitzgerald** and **Don Greenberg** contributed their own recollections. Chancellor **Marshall Lind** funded this first dinner.

The Faculty Dinner series is an opportunity to promote collegiality by creating a time and a place for faculty to gather and share their academic interests and intellectual pursuits. The next dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, May 7.

Chair-elect selected for Faculty Council

Eric Karolak, currently Ketchikan Campus Representative to the Faculty Council, has been elected the new chair-elect. He assumes his duties at Convocation. Other new council members include **Anna Salyer**, chair of the Library Faculty, and **Randy Stahl**, chair of the Science and Mathematics Faculty.

Accreditation news

While "Assess or Die" is really not the slogan for the UAS 1999 Accreditation evaluation, **Dave Marvel** highlighted the importance of assessment plans and data in a presentation at the Faculty Council's April 4 meeting. Marvel distributed the Standard and the Educational Policy on assessment to Council members. **Rita Dursi Johnson**, co-chair of the Accreditation Self Study Steering Committee, requested that faculties begin the process by reviewing mission statements for each certificate or degree program. This effort will be followed by hands-on workshops during convocation to identify assessment tools and data.

Ketchikan computer network

The Ketchikan campus is nearing completion of a computer networking project stretching across the city. A local area network among faculty and administrative offices in the Paul Building is expected to begin this month. Computing services and physical plant staff from Juneau helped prepare the LAN (Local Area Network) at the college's facility in Ketchikan's West End.

Next, LAN will be linked with the campus's Career Center two miles away. That project in May leads to connecting the cross-town LAN with the Ketchikan network server in the Ziegler Building — expected in June. Ketchikan campus's technical services staffer, **Don Nickich**, will finish the networking project.

The campus will put up its new Web site in mid-April as part of the networking project. The address is www.ketch.alaska.edu.

Insurance, leave and JEF on Staff Alliance agenda

The Juneau Staff Alliance will meet Thursday (April 17) at 9 a.m. in the Juneau business conference room. **Marie Scholle**, Alliance chair from Fairbanks will attend. Topics include the JEF appeal process, sick and annual leave, changes to employee insurance and more. "They're important issues," according to **Rita Bowen**, Juneau Staff Alliance president, "because they effect the pocketbook."

Bowen says employee benefits are changing because of rising costs. "People can either participate in the meeting, or take what's given to you."

Potential changes include increasing charges for dependents, eliminating vision coverage, increasing the employee share of supplemental expenses, and combining sick and annual leave.

Current UA benefits are listed on the Web at <http://info.alaska.edu/UA/benefits/index.html>

Sitka campus activities

The campus will participate in the Career Awareness Fair April 15 at the high school. More than one thousand students are expected to attend.

The Sitka Chamber of Commerce will meet on the campus on April 23 in celebration of Community College Month. Chamber members will hear about campus activities and tour the campus. The UAS Regional Council will meet on the campus after the Chamber lunch.

Director **Elaine Sunde** discusses distance learning at the Pacific Northwest Rural Work Force in Idaho in late April. Information officer **Kari Gabriel** attended the National Conference on Marketing and Public Relations in Albuquerque.

UAS art in Artabon '97

Nearly one third of the entries in Artabon '97 are from UAS. The juried exhibit, sponsored by the Juneau Audubon Society, is now in its 13th year. Organizer **Judy Shuler** said UAS students continue to make the show a success by their participation. Another organizer, **Kathy Weltzin**, said "The artists from the classes had a great deal of courage because this was a juried show. It's a credit to their risk taking." The exhibit continues through April 12 at Portfolio Arts Gallery, 210 Ferry Way.

Artwork by Juneau faculty included in the exhibit include **Alice Slattery Tersteeg** and **Dianne R. Anderson** who won the "People's Choice" award for a zinc etching on bluejean paper. Student **Karen Beason**, and former students **Karen Gilbank** and **Polly Dewey** each won Awards of Merit. Other UAS students or former students whose work is on display include **Suzanne Stoll**, **Stephanie Gillette**, **Patricia Hendry**, **Sue Deems**, **Leanne Pilcher**, and **Skip Henderson**.

Anderson has been selected as one of the featured artists for the Migratory Bird Festival May 9 in Homer. Anderson will show 20 works and attend the festival.

Juneau campus

Records and Registration will be closed for parts of two days for Banner training on April 16 from 9 a.m. to noon and April 18 from 1 to 4 p.m.

An Accounting open house will be held Friday (April 18) at the Bill Ray Center, room 152. The public has been invited to discuss the accounting program, the MBA and the addition of an accounting emphasis to the MBA.

Graduation caps and gowns have arrived and are ready for pick up. Fall book orders are due April 15 to bookstore manager **Linda Snyder**.

Egan Library will extend hours during the last two Saturdays of the semester. It will be open from 1 - 8 p.m. on April 26 and May 3.

The Visitor Industry Program is offering a spring cruise aboard Allen Marine's catamaran starting at 9:30 a.m. April 20. The 2 1/2 hour narrated cruise will take passengers along Shelter and Benjamin Islands and is a fundraising effort for VIP scholarships. Call 465-8770 for reservations.

About 150 JDHS students will be on campus Friday (April 11) taking part in Youth Involvement Day. The event is sponsored by the Youth Commission and Juneau Community Schools.

Summer class schedules have been mailed to about 15,000 post office boxes in Juneau. Registration begins April 21.

Visitor industry training

For the second year, UAS, Goldbelt and Tlingit Haida Central Council are working together to provide visitor industry training for Goldbelt shareholders. Nearly two dozen are taking the eight week class that concludes with graduation on May 5.

Last year 16 students took the class and all were offered jobs before graduation. Visitor Industry Program coordinator **Lorene Palmer** presented a visitor industry orientation during the first week. **Susan Favro** is coordinating the program.

"This has been a really good partnership to provide training opportunities for the program participants," Palmer said. "The university with its educational format and Goldbelt with its cultural resources both bring strengths to this program."

College Prep Day held

More than two dozen JDHS students spent part of the first day of their spring break on the Juneau campus. College Prep Day allows students to take placement exams and learn about campus programs, financial aid, housing and student services.

JDHS senior **Aaron Wanstall** said, "I'm enjoying the fact that they put this program together. It's an excellent idea to have this for high school students."

Senior **Alisha Heck** said she and her friends attended the College Prep Day to get the testing out of the way before summer.

Wanstall said he had expected to sleep in on the first day of spring break but was reminded about the College Prep Day by friends. "I came out here in the morning," he said. "I'm glad it's happening. Its worth it." Both Heck and Wanstall plan to attend UAS next fall.

Sea mammal studies

UAS students will be studying sea mammals in Alaska and Canadian waters this summer. They'll be working with **Brendan Kelly**, assistant professor of biology.

Kelly has left for the Canadian high Arctic to study ring seals. Several UAS students will meet him at Resolute Bay, after their spring classes are finished, to assist in the field work. Kelly and UAS students will also be involved in other summer marine mammal research including studying sea otter foraging behavior in Southeast, Walruses in Bristol Bay and declining harbor seal populations in the Gulf of Alaska.

Kelly joined the UAS campus at the start of spring semester. In addition to teaching he's working to involve students in research. "So far it's very promising," Kelly says. "We have some very bright and enthusiastic students. I think it's going to be a net asset to the research and the student's education."

Ketchikan staff

Babies in academic 1996-97 changed the payroll at the Ketchikan campus. BIS instructor **Melissa Karolak** returned to the computer lab in early April after a maternity leave with daughter **Katarina**. **Brenda Jepson** of the admission and records office is on leave after the birth of **Alexandra** in late March. **Charlene Carter** is filling in. Ketchikan campus student council president **Ivan Sultan** is also a new parent with the birth of son **Keanu** in March. Sultan is a student worker.

Archaeology week recognized

Priscilla Schulte and colleagues with the U.S. Forest Service spearheaded several Alaska Archaeology Week events in Ketchikan. They and members of the Native community commemorated the Civilian Conservation Corps totem pole restoration project of 1938-42. Schulte and USFS staff joined with humanities and education professionals for a session on heritage resource education and another for kids introducing fun archaeology concepts and hands-on activities.

Juneau Calender

Friday (April 11)

- Alumni dinner and auction, 6 p.m. Baranof Hotel.

Saturday (April 12)

- Basketball tournament, 11 a.m. student housing.
- Rape, Aggression, Defense (RAD) class, 6 p.m. housing lodge.

Sunday (April 13)

- Biology Club trip, 11:30 a.m. Pt. Louisa
- Fly casting, 1 p.m. Mourant lawn

Monday (April 14)

- Investment club, 1 p.m. Mourant conference room.
- Single parents "Coping with Financial Challenges," 7 p.m. Mourant conference room.

Tuesday (April 15)

- UAS Christian Fellowship, 9 p.m. Chapel by the Lake.

Wednesday (April 16)

- Film series, "Maborosi", 7 p.m. JDHS.
- Records and Registration closed 9 a.m. - Noon.

Thursday (April 17)

- Board of Regents meet in Juneau through 18th, Baranof Hotel
- Staff Alliance 9 a.m. Business conference room.

Friday (April 18)

- Records and Registration closed 1-4 p.m.
- Accounting open house, 4 - 6:30 p.m., Bill Ray Center, room 152.
- Student government, 5:30 p.m. Mourant conference room.
- Pt. Bridget overnight, van leaves campus at 2 p.m. Sign up in Student Activities.

Saturday (April 19)

- Magic club tournament, 11 a.m. Lake Room.
- Rape, Aggression, Defense (RAD) class, 6 p.m. housing lodge.
- Spring dance, 8:30 p.m. Hendrickson 113.

Sunday (April 20)

- VIP spring cruise, 9:30 a.m. Auke Bay departure.
- Family movie series, "Microcosmos," 2 p.m., JDHS.
- Biology Club Auke Lake sampling, 2 p.m. Anderson Building.

Monday (April 21)

- Summer session registration begins.

Tuesday (April 22)

- Global Connections tie dye party, outside Mourant.
- UAS Christian Fellowship, 9 p.m. Chapel by the Lake.

