

# University of Alaska Southeast Soundings

Faculty and Staff Newsletter

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Lt. Governor Fran Ulmer welcomed council members at Egan Library.

## Forum held on campus

**M**embers of the Pacific Northwest Regional Council of the President's Council on Sustainable Development held their opening meeting in Egan Library last week.

Lt. Governor **Fran Ulmer** welcomed the group and suggested a daily "stock market" report on how the country is doing on sustainability in education and the environment. Other speakers included State Senator **Robin Taylor**, Mayor **Dennis Egan**, the three co-chairs of the regional council and representatives from Sealaska corporation, ARCO Alaska, and federal agencies.

## Ketchikan hires new history faculty

**A** history faculty member with a specialty in frontier studies tackles the Last Frontier next academic year. **Mike-Dunning** taught at a Michigan community college and a state university last year. He has prior experience in classrooms from high schools to universities. He earned a doctorate in history from the University of Illinois-Urbana in 1995. Dunning taught at colleges in Arizona, Hawaii, and the Seattle area before taking jobs in Michigan. His research focus is the American West in the mid-1800s.

Dunning has experience teaching distance-delivery courses and has been active in local historical associations during his career. "His strengths are in being a generalist and in being very interested in local history," said **Fran Feinerman**, Ketchikan campus director.

## Borough OKs Ketchikan campus funding

Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly members unanimously approved continued funding for basic-skills and career training at the Ketchikan campus and boosted funding to The Learning Center and Ketchikan Career Center to cover small salary increases during late-May budget sessions.

The borough provides partial funding for the learning lab and the career education program. Funding from the borough in 1997-98 runs to nearly \$141,000. The campus's budget request was approved without dissent.

## Faculty Council News

**Cathy Connor** has been re-elected as the Juneau campus's At-Large representative to the Faculty Council. **Anna Salyer**, Library Faculty Chair, has been appointed to the Faculty Alliance work team, joining Council Chair **Lawrence Lee Oldaker** and Council chair-elect **Janet Dye** as representatives from the UAS campus.

## Candidate presentation

**David Olson**, a candidate for the Business Administration Management faculty position on the Juneau campus is arriving June 7. He will make his presentation at 10:00 a.m. in the Novatney Conference room on Monday, June 9.

## Halfon makes presentation

Sitka Associate Professor of Art **Linda Halfon** has completed in-service faculty training at two California community colleges. She visited El Camino Community College and San Bernadino Valley College to deliver presentations on interdisciplinary and cross-cultural approaches to the humanities, using her UAS course "Ways of Being/Ways of Seeing" as a model. Additionally, she made a presentation to students and faculty at El Camino entitled "Transformation: Land Shapes and Visual Forms."

## Taber moves to Africa for year

**Sherry Taber** is taking a leave of absence for nearly one year and will join her husband who is working in Africa. Taber, director of Library, Computing and Media Services, leaves UAS August first and returns in mid-July of '98. In the interim **Rita Dursi Johnson** will be acting librarian, **Michaeli Ciri** will be responsible for computing, and media services will report to Vice Chancellor **Robbie Stell**.

Taber's husband, John, has been regional contracting and grants officer for USAID in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, West Africa since 1994. Taber said, "I'm going to try to travel with him if he goes around West Africa and work on my French. Obviously I'll also check out the libraries." Taber describes the Ivory Coast as "a relatively stable country."

## Grants further nursing and paramedic programs

The UA Natural Resources Fund is providing \$5,000 in 1997-98 to help the Ketchikan campus work with UAA on a collaborative nursing program. The grant funds staff for the project. The fund is also contributing about \$4,000 to help Ketchikan campus's paramedic students complete clinical training in Seattle.

## Testing Center opens in library

Starting in August Juneau residents will be able to take a variety of national and professional exams in a newly designated testing center to be located in Egan Library. "It's a community service the university is offering," Dean of Faculty **John Pugh** said. An increased testing fee to help defray costs is being considered. Without having a supervised location to take tests, applicants would have to travel to Anchorage or Seattle. The tests include those applying to law or medical school, nursing programs, etc. and various engineering and board examinations.

## Glacier study conducted

Cathy Connor, Roman Motyka and students Melissa Palmer and Neil Huddleston spent May 19-25 camped out on the cliffs near the Le Conte Glacier terminus near Petersburg.

The Geology field class surveyed the changing positions of markers placed on the glacier with a helicopter. Preliminary results suggest that the ice is moving at about 1 meter down-glacier each hour. This results in frequent calving events and the upper portion of the fjord is quite choked with ice, Connor says. No boats or kayaks are able to access the terminus presently.

Connor said the students gained a knowledge of surveying and glaciology and helped to collect important information about the southernmost tidewater glacier in North America.

## Water bike rentals

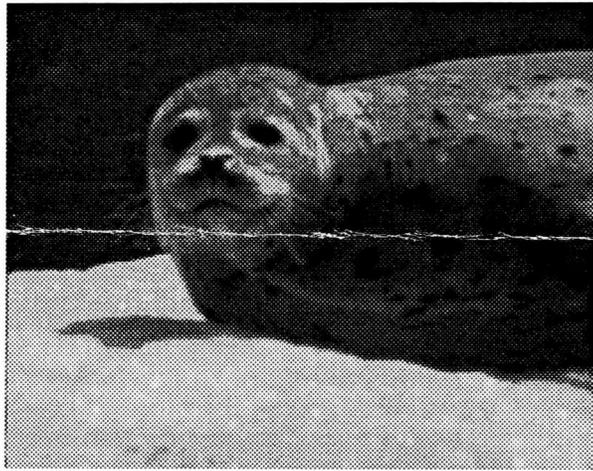
Hydro bikes for use on Auke Lake are available for rent during June through the Student Activities office. The rate is \$2 per hour per person for the two-person pedal boat and is open to students, faculty and staff. Call 465-6528.



## Housing space tightens

Student housing reports the family units on the Juneau campus are filled and there is a waiting list for fall semester. There are, however, about 20 rooms still open in the residence hall, and those wanting to live there should apply immediately.

University housing has been asked by the Juneau Convention and Visitors Bureau to help provide housing for the American Indian conference which will be held in Juneau June 8-11. The request came because local hotels and bed and breakfasts are filled. More than 80 reservations for space in the student residence hall have been made.



*Faculty and students will study seals during the summer.*

## Faculty/student summer research

Harbor seal populations have declined more than 80 percent in the western Gulf of Alaska, but UAS researcher Beth Mathews says the numbers seem stable in Southeast.

Since 1992, Mathews has taken UAS students to Glacier Bay National Park to conduct seal research. "The overall trend in Glacier Bay is stable or going up. That's reassuring."

Mathews and her students have done much of their research in Johns Hopkins Inlet where about two-thirds of the park's 6,000 to 7,000 seals pup and breed. "Harbor seals are the most abundant marine mammals in Glacier Bay," Mathews says. "So they can potentially serve as an indicator of the health of the ecosystem and a regional index of how harbor seals are doing in Southeast Alaska." Mathews is at the park, and her students will join her in August.

Brendan Kelly is also studying harbor seals with students, but his work is centered in the western Gulf where the declines have taken place. His students are at an island near Kodiak. In early July, Kelly said he and students will place satellite tags on about a dozen of the pups to help with research.

Kelly and other UAS students will study sea otters in Southeast this summer. Expanding sea otter populations throughout Southeast have a major effect on crab and clam populations. "We're trying to understand the big picture of what the system will look like after the sea otters have stabilized in an area," according to Kelly.

## Juneau Calendar

### Thursday, June 5

- Public poetry reading by Carole Oles: 7 p.m., Lake Room, Maurant Cafe

### Friday and Saturday, June 6-7

- President John McCardell of Middlebury College visits UAS

### Thursday, June 12

- Public poetry reading by John Haines: 7 p.m., Lake Room, Maurant Cafe

### Thursday and Friday, June 19-20

- Board of Regents meet in Dillingham

## Whalesong staffer hired

Aaron Spitzer is the new managing editor of the *Tundra Drums* in Bethel. Last semester Spitzer wrote stories and was production manager of the *Whalesong*.

## Bookstore sale

The Juneau bookstore will be closed June 26, 27 and 30 for inventory and will reopen July 1. There will be no transactions during the closure. There are p inventory sales. For example, discontinued 2" binders are on sale for \$2.00.

## Computer tips

Here's a way to conserve paper by printing only the cover memo from within Teamlinks Mail.

### Macintosh:

- Under the File pulldown menu, select Print Option.
- Select 'Cover Memo Only' and not 'All Text Attachments'.
- Click 'OK' to save your selection.
- From now on when you print a mail message, only the cover memo will be printed.
- If you wish to print an additional text attachment, select the attachment in the attachments windows (upper right window). Select 'Print Attachment' under the File menu.

### Windows 3.x/Windows95/

### WindowsNT:

- Open the mail message.
- In the attachments window, click on the text attachment you wish to print.
- Under the File pulldown menu, select 'Print Attachment'.



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

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