

# Soundings

December 6, 1996

University of Alaska Southeast Staff and Faculty Newsletter

## Derr named Citizen of the Year

**Laraine Derr** has been named Citizen of the Year by the Juneau Chamber of Commerce. The announcement was made at the chamber's annual meeting Thursday and came as a surprise to Derr. "They started going through the person's accomplishments," Derr said. "Halfway through I realized it was me and I poked Romer in the arm. He said, Who is it?"

Derr, who is the assistant to the dean of the School of Business and Public Administration, was honored for a variety of community efforts including serving the on city's Police Station Task Force, fund raising including helping to send the high school drill team to Japan, working on costumes for high school plays, and work with the UAS Alumni Association.

## Regents meet with Yukon College officials

More than 50 Yukon Territory professionals hold advanced degrees from UAS. The degrees are a result of joint educational ventures between UAS and Yukon College. The UA Board of Regents heard about the cooperation at their November meeting from Yukon College President **Sally Ross** and **Aaron Sinkpiel**, dean of arts and sciences.

Between 1991 and 1994 UAS offered a program leading to a MPA, and between 1993 and 1996, an ME degree was available to Yukon students. UAS Dean **John Pugh** said the board was impressed with the 85 to 90 percent success rate of the programs. He hopes to use the same model for other joint programs between the two schools, including a BLA program with Yukon College in the fall of 1997 and a BBA program in the fall of 1998.

## Students show art in Gallery Walk

UAS students will exhibit their art during Juneau's 16th annual Gallery Walk, Friday (Dec. 6) from 4 to 8:30 p.m. at the Davis Log Cabin at 3rd and Seward St. Among the work displayed will be drawings, paintings, etchings, relief prints, batiks, silkscreen prints and a variety of 3D work created this year.

## VIP appointment

**Lorene Palmer**, of the UAS Visitor Industry Program, was appointed president of the Alaska Tourism Education Council at the October Alaska Visitors Association convention. The Council is made up of Alaska educators in the tourism industry. Their goal is to increase awareness among visitor industry businesses and potential students about visitor industry training and education programs.

## Finals week stress relievers

A series of activities leading up to and including finals week are scheduled on the Juneau campus.

**Friday:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. massages, Mourant student lounge; 4-8:30 p.m. Downtown Gallery Walk.

**Saturday:** Leadership workshop, 10 a.m. Mourant Conference Room; noon to 3 p.m., Marine Tech Center student/staff BBQ.

**Sunday:** "Primal Fear" suspense movie shown at Student Housing Lodge, 9 p.m.

**Monday:** Massages, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Mourant Student Lounge; free hot pretzels and soda, Mourant Cafe.

**Tuesday:** Free pretzels and coffee/tea for students, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Mourant Cafe; free facials for students, 3-5 p.m., Mourant Student Lounge

**Wednesday:** Chancellor's holiday party, 3-5 p.m., Mourant Lake room.

## Juneau's Teacher of the Year

**Neala Pierce**, who was selected as Juneau's Teacher of the Year, has been taking classes at UAS while teaching in the school district. "Whatever interested me, whatever I needed, I took," the Gastineau elementary teacher said.

Pierce said she's attended UAS summer academies and taken classes in language arts, math and computers on the Juneau campus. Pierce also said even when not taking classes, she learns from other teachers who talk about their classes during faculty lounge conversations.

Pierce received her degree from Western Washington University and has taught for 25 years in Juneau. She also praised the UAS School of Education for being willing to listen to classroom teachers in regards to preparing future teachers.

*Holiday Reception*

## Wednesday, December 11

The chancellor's and Alumni Association's holiday reception will be held in the Lake Room of the Mourant Cafe Wednesday, December 11, between 3 and 5 p.m. Alumni, faculty, students, and staff are invited to this traditional UAS gathering. Refreshments will be served.

## Ketchikan Sister city students

Students from Kanayama, Japan wanting to take classes on the Ketchikan campus will be able to pay in-state tuition rates. The financial break is part of the sister city agreement recently signed between Ketchikan and Kanayama officials.

## AIDS awareness on Ketchikan

The Ketchikan campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa is promoting AIDS awareness. The national honor society group is sponsoring a public presentation by Shanti of Juneau on December 6. Ketchikan members are also cooperating with local health professionals on an HIV/AIDS Awareness Task Force and are becoming involved with Shanti's efforts to start peer training on AIDS in Ketchikan.

## Direct deposit of paychecks

For the payday after the New Years Holiday (1-3-97) payroll checks will be mailed from Fairbanks. UAS Administrative Services wants to encourage as many employees as possible to take advantage of the automatic/direct deposit option. Those wanting to set up an account with an out of state institution or an institution which is not currently on the UAS list, should send a request to the payroll department and they will attempt to add the institution. The financial institution must be a member of the Automated Clearing House (ACH) network in order for a direct deposit to be established.

## Cross country ski rentals

Student government on the Juneau campus is renting cross country skis, poles and boots. Students may make reservations any time. Faculty and staff may rent equipment on an "as available basis" and for weekend use may rent them Friday between 2 and 3 p.m. Daily rentals are \$2, and weekend rentals are \$5. A \$75 deposit is also required.

## Bookstore sale

The Juneau Bookstore annual "12 days before Christmas break sale" begins Monday, Dec. 9 and features a 20% off sale in a different department every day they are open until Christmas. Check the store for details. Used book buy back begins Tuesday, Dec. 10 and ends Friday, Dec. 13.

## New classes in Ketchikan

*The History of Women and Work* is one of the new classes offered on the Ketchikan campus spring semester. Others include *Flying with Floats*, the literature of Tennessee Williams and AutoCAD 3-D drafting. They are among the 140 credit courses to be offered. The campus' 48-page spring schedule will be mailed at the end of December.

The redesigned spring schedule of classes for the Juneau campus has been mailed to 15,100 addresses and post office boxes in Juneau. The format of the spring schedule has been changed. It's now booklet size and stapled for easier use. The 63 page schedule includes a listing of more than 350 spring classes that are offered in 52 different subject areas.

## Mourant Student Center building history

The 15,776 square foot Mourant Building was completed in 1983. At that time the ground floor housed the administrative center of what was then the University of Alaska Juneau. The upper floor held the cafeteria, bookstore and student center.

The building was named for student leader **Rob Mourant** who died in a plane accident in 1981. Rob was born in Juneau in 1958 and raised in the Mourant family home on Auke Lake across from the campus. He was a student leader and graduated from high school in 1976. Rob attended the University of Washington for a year and the University of Alaska Anchorage for two years. While at UAA he was instrumental in organizing the student government, served as a student senator, and was a founding member of the statewide Alaska Student Lobby. Rob moved to UAJ in 1979 and received his Bachelor of Business Administration degree in 1981.

Rob was also instrumental in organizing student government on the UAJ campus and served as president of the student body in 1979-1980. He participated in a national convention of the American Student Association and was named Young Man of the Year by the Juneau Chamber of Commerce in 1980.

Rob married Sandy Riddell, daughter of Juneau dentist Norman Riddell. Rob, Norman, and two others were lost in a plane accident on Baranof Island on August 18, 1981. The plane was never found. When UAJ students returned to campus in the fall of 1981 and learned of the tragedy, they began a campaign to name the first student center after Rob Mourant. The University of Alaska Board of Regents approved naming the building after Rob Mourant on June 24, 1982 while the building was still under construction.

## CAMPUS CALENDAR

### Friday, Dec. 6

Students display art at the Davis Log Cabin, 4 - 8:30 p.m.

### Saturday, Dec. 7

Marine Tech Center student/staff BBA, noon - 3 p.m.

Egan Library extended hours from 1 - 8 p.m.

### Tuesday, Dec. 10

Cost center training for Banner HR, 10 a.m. to noon, School of Business conference room and Bill Ray Center conference room from 1 - 3 p.m.

### Wednesday, Dec. 11

Chancellor's holiday reception, 3 - 5 p.m., Lake Room, Mourant Cafe.

## Interest increases in National Student Exchange

Informational meetings are being held on the Juneau campus for students interested in taking part in the National Student Exchange in the 1997/98 school year. A record number of incoming and out-going students have taken part in the program this year. "I've already had some contact calls from out of state students," NSE coordinator **Greg Wagner** said. "Interest appears to be heavy for next year."

## Bird research grant available

Up to \$15,000 is available for proposals for research regarding any avian species found in Alaska as part of the Angus Gavin Memorial Bird Research Grant. The deadline for receipt of the application is February 17. The grant is made possible by a gift from the Atlantic Richfield Foundation and was announced by the UA Foundation. Application details are available in the Exchange and Internship Office on the Juneau campus. Contact **Elizabeth Schelle** at 465-6455.