

Soundings

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Career Transition Center leaves Sitka campus



Career Transition Center open house on the Sitka campus attracted state officials and reporters. Thad Poulson of the Sitka Sentinel gathered information about the event from campus director Elaine Sunde and Mark Mickelson of the Department of Community and Regional Affairs.

Two years after opening on the UAS Sitka campus, the Career Transition Center has completed the bulk of its work and is moving. The center was established to help employees of Alaska Pulp Corporation find new employment after the mill closed.

"I plugged in the phone when the office opened," Sitka director **Elaine Sunde** said, "and it started ringing." Some 200 former employees were helped while the center was located on campus.

At a June 14 Transition Center open house, Sunde explained, "The center's services aren't going away. We're just out of the emergency mode." The Sitka Job Service office will now handle the center's functions. The center was a cooperative effort between UAS Sitka and the state departments of Labor and Community and Regional Affairs.

Rebecca Nance with the Department of Labor told the gathering, "The Sitka center is a model, not only for the community but throughout the state." She and other speakers praised the partnerships that worked successfully in Sitka and said they will be used in other Alaska towns facing the loss of a major employer.

Mark Mickelson of Community and Regional Affairs said the adversity of the mill closure and loss of jobs brought people together and "turned lemons into lemonade."

He said many of the people seeking assistance at the center were dealing with change. "The university did a good job of helping with that change," Mickelson said. "What we have here is something we can build on."

Sitka city administrator **Gary Paxton** told the open house gathering that half of the mill workers and their families still remain in town. Describing the community effort to deal with issues, Paxton said, "A whole range of talented people in this community are trying to get us into the 21st century. UAS and Elaine bring innovation, focusing and have served us well in the past and will in the future."

Juneau Racquet Club contract expires

The UAS contract with the Juneau Racquet Club expires on June 30. The university will issue a Request for Proposal in July to seek a recreation contract that would be in place by fall semester.

"We've had a great working relationship with the Juneau Racquet Club for years," according to Director of Student Services **Bruce Gifford**. "But since the contract has ended, and because there is at least one other athletic facility in reasonable proximity to the Auke Lake campus, we are required to seek competitive bids."

Gifford also said, "It's critical our students have a facility for exercise and health. The JRC has been our students' only regular recreational outlet other than use of local school gyms a couple of times a week."

Under the current contract, students taking 9 credits or more could use JRC facilities for free during specified times. Other students, faculty and staff were eligible to use the facilities at a reduced rate.

JRC statistics indicate about 12,500 UAS visits during the year starting July 1, 1994. The low number of visits was 97 during July and the high was more than 1800 in September.

Because of the end of the JRC contract there will be no usage of the facility by UAS students, faculty or staff in July or August. Those who have purchased a summer discount plan under the student contract must negotiate July or August use with the JRC.

UAS Service Awards

The following have earned awards for their work at UAS on the Juneau campus:

Mike Greene; project manager with facilities, planning, and construction; 5 years on 5/14/95

Teresa Windred Lefarga, student resource center, 5 years on 5/21/95

Milt Fudge, operations manager and purchasing agent with administrative services, 10 years on 11/11/94

Bob Etheridge, building services supervisor with the physical plant, 15 years on 2/3/95

Dr. Joey Wauters, co-chair of the ELAS communications department, 15 years on 4/15/95

School is a building that has four walls with tomorrow inside.

Banner in Stika campus hallway

Juneau campus

Student housing shortage

The annual campaign for locating student housing on the Juneau campus is about to begin. Nearly 260 new students in degree programs have applied for enrollment in the fall semester. That's about a 20% increase over the same time last year.

More than 100 are already on the waiting list for student housing. Housing Director **Tish Griffin** is seeking those with rooms to rent, apartments, etc. to call her office (465-6528). Griffin said, "We are especially in need of low cost options for students."

Ground breaking for a new student resident hall will take place about six weeks after the governor signs authorizing legislation. Plans are to open the new 81 bed facility for the fall 1996 semester. The new hall will add to the facilities for 156 students that are currently available.

The housing office has a new staff member. **Dee Dawson** has been hired as the new administrative assistant in the Activities and Housing office on the Juneau campus. She has recently moved from California where she worked in a low income housing program in San Jose for more than 15 years.

Dawson said, "I went kayaking near Juneau last summer and fell in love with the place. I just sold everything and came up without a job."

Recycle phone books

New Juneau phone books have arrived. The old books should be recycled. Place last year's directories at the regular recycling spots, and they will be picked up by physical plant personnel.

Soundings is published by the UAS Office of Public Information. It is distributed to UAS employees each pay period, and to others upon written request. The deadline for submissions is Tuesday noon prior to that Friday's publication. Send submissions to 11120 Glacier Highway, Juneau, Alaska 99801, or call 465-6530.

If you do not wish to continue to receive Soundings, please call (907) 465-6472 or write to us and we will remove your name from our mailing list. Thank you.

Student handbooks/calendar

The Juneau Activities Office is in the process of revising the UAS Student Handbook/Calendar. Any ideas or suggestions about content or design should be directed to **Tish Griffin**, 465-6529/JNTJG. All comments are welcome before the 7th of July.

The handbook is a student information source that includes rules and regulations for student conduct.

Juneau Bookstore

The last day for inter department charges at the bookstore will be June 27.

In addition, the bookstore will be closed beginning at noon, June 28 through Friday June 30 for inventory. Staff will be counting everything they sell and the store will be sealed. No purchases will be allowed.

Ad campaign begins

A print and broadcast ad campaign encouraging students to register early for fall semester has begun in the Juneau media. The campaign runs for about three weeks.

The broadcast spots are 30 seconds. A poem is used on commercial stations KJNO/KTKU and KINY/KSUP. It's aimed primarily at high school seniors who have not yet picked a university. The poem will run four times throughout the day on the stations on an alternating day basis to extend the exposure time. The broadcast spot on KTOO-FM encourages people whose life seems to be going in circles to "straighten their path" by taking classes.

Print ads are being placed in the Juneau Empire, Capital City Weekly, the Big Skinny, and the Alaska Southeaster. These ads feature a photo of the campus with a stop sign prominently displayed.

Vanessa Lujan is shown walking toward the sign. The ads encourage early registration by playing off the theme "stop putting it off".

Calendar

Wednesday, June 28

- Juneau Campus Council: 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., CCR

Monday and Tuesday, July 3-4

- Independence Day Holiday

Staff Salary Schedule

U A staff employees who are currently between-steps on the new salary schedule will be moved up a step on October 1, 1995. The Board of Regents approved the move at their June Fairbanks meeting. Those who are on a current step will not change on October 1.

This is the second in a three phase implementation program of the new salary schedules. Phase one moved employees who were paid below the new salary schedule up to Step A in January 1995.

The third phase of program starts July 1, 1996 when staff employees will become eligible for salary increases through movement to the next step on their leave accrual anniversary date based on an overall performance appraisal rated as satisfactory or better.

Ketchikan campus

KETCHIKAN ROWING TEAM WINS

The Ketchikan campus rowing team of **Steve Kinney** and **David Sweetman** beat back a challenge from a U.S. Coast Guard team to win the Celebration of the Sea Rowing Challenge in mid May.

The teams were tied after the original three-legged course, but the UAS team skimmed to victory in a "sudden death race-off". The winners received prizes valued at nearly \$200.

Sitka campus

SITKA PROGRAM PRODUCES SAFE WORKERS

The Matanuska Electric Association in Palmer has become the first company in Alaska to complete all 15 training modules of the UAS Sitka Falling and Bucking program.

The training program, originally developed in British Columbia, was brought to Alaska by UAS Sitka under an OSHA grant. The training materials, available in video or laser disc format, address field work practices. It's offered by the Sitka campus to any company in the state wishing to conduct field training.

All ten members of electric association's line clearance department successfully passed OSHA field tests on May 23. MatSu Safety Manager **Al Casebere** reported to the Department of Labor that the "benefits are already beginning to pay off. We have not had a reported accident or injury in the line clearance department since November of 1994", when the safety training program began.