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WHALESONG

Volume 11, No. 3

March 4, 1992

Changes in Accounting Program draw criticism from students, faculty

By Dennis J. Doland
Whalesong Staff

Some recent restructuring moves in the School of Business and Public Administration have upset students, faculty, and staff at the University of Alaska Southeast, and have put the dean of the school, L. A. Wilson II, on the defensive. One student referred to the level of disgruntlement within the program as "a furor."

The story had its beginnings in the spring semester of 1991. At the end of that semester two seasoned accounting instructors, Harold "Hal" Jones and Chris Robuck, resigned their positions at UAS. Jones wished to retire, and Robuck left to pursue graduate studies at another school. Jones taught cost accounting classes primarily, and Robuck's teaching emphasis was in auditing and government/non-profit accounting courses.

After the resignations of Robuck and Jones, recruiting notices for the positions were sent out to various newspapers and trade journals. It was at this point in time, late in the spring of 1991, that the story began to take on a tone of diverging camps and inter-department wrangling.

Associate Professor of Accounting, Paul Kennedy, doesn't mince many words in his interpretation of the events that followed. He said the two

positions were indeed advertised, but when it came time to choose the two most qualified out of six or seven applicants, Wilson notified Kennedy that only one new faculty member would be hired.

Wilson, for his part, said he had been contemplating some restructuring of the accounting department budget at that time, but also said he initially gave Kennedy authorization to make two new faculty selections from the pool of applicants. He said Kennedy supplied him with the name of only one nominee after reviewing the applications.

Thus, said Wilson, even if his proposed restructuring budget had not excluded the second faculty position, he was provided with only one successful applicant anyway.

Whichever the case, just one



"What can we do to attract outside funding as oil revenues dwindle and legislative allocations shrink?"

— L. A. Wilson

faculty member was hired, leaving the accounting department with a reduced staff. Barbara Rolfe, visiting professor of accounting, was named to fill the single position. Her contract is temporary, terminating in May.

When word of this faculty reduction reached other accounting faculty, staff, and



Representative Randy Phillips and Representative Georgianna Lincoln listen to student concerns during the recent Legislative Conference held in Juneau.

Photo By Gregory Norman

students, a number of them went directly to Wilson to voice their concerns. Wilson subsequently held two meetings in the early summer to discuss the issue. He eventually agreed to put together a review committee to address their concerns and, in his words, "to look at the overall direction [in which] the accounting department should be heading."

The review committee was comprised of eleven people, including accounting students, faculty, and professionals from accounting-related careers. The first of about half a dozen meetings took place in late summer. Wilson named himself chairman of the committee.

In addition, Wilson invited as an outside advisor, Ilene Kleinsorge, Ph.D., CPA, who is an assistant professor of accounting at Oregon State University. She was recommended to Wilson by the Northwest Association of

Schools and Colleges, the body responsible for UAS' accreditation.

A number of items were discussed during the course of the meetings, which continued into October. At the last meeting, about a dozen of those items were voted on by the members. The issues under consideration ranged from revisions in course offerings to the proposal of an Accounting Club at UAS.

Aside from the loss of the accounting faculty position, one of the most controversial and highly debated issues dealt with the reduction of credit hours in Accounting 201 and 202. Currently, these are four-credit courses, and the accounting faculty voted to maintain the status quo. However, Wilson cited a report showing that many colleges classify these as three-credit courses, and said he feels UAS should follow suit in the near future.

Another discordant note was struck when an accounting elective "menu" system was proposed. Faculty and student committee members liked the

concept and designed what they felt was a well-conceived, workable model. However, according to one member, Wilson put forth his own plan and then declined to negotiate compromises with the committee.

According to Kennedy, "The committee was a waste of everyone's time. We spent maybe 100 hours of our time; and for what?" he asks. He said Wilson asked for input, but then made decisions contrary to what the committee agreed upon.

Several accounting students who were contacted by the Whalesong concurred with Kennedy's assessment of the committee's results, but many asked that their identities be kept anonymous. One student said, "I don't think Dean Wilson was even interested in hearing from the committee. He just did it for show, and then made his own unilateral decisions. It was a sham."

Wilson said it was never his intention that the committee should have had binding powers. After all, he said, it

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The University of Alaska: Is its tuition a bargain?

"Most universities, and particularly land-grant institutions, have traditionally sought to maintain a policy of low tuition."

Alaska Statute prescribes that the legal caretakers of the University of Alaska, the Board of Regents, shall have the exclusive right to set tuition rates.

For the past few years, the university community has observed this right being exercised. And once again, tuition is on the table for Fall 1992.

On February 13, 1992, it came to my attention that the UA Board of Regents was considering a proposal, at its 20-21 February meeting in Ketchikan, to substantially increase tuition for the following academic year.

The proposal, submitted by the UA administration, was intended to be acted upon right away. Fortunately however, the Board's compassion towards UA students, with particular respect to the commitments made to the students in the past regarding tuition increases, lead to the proposal being postponed, by a marginal vote, until April.

While there does exist some sparks of honor, in the eyes of the Regents, to uphold their previous commitments, the advent of under-funding from the state is very real. The Board of Regents, in response to declining state subsidy, is being forced to, 1) reduce institutional costs; and/or 2) to increase other sources of revenue—namely tuition.

For purposes of definition, tuition itself is of course meant as the basic price paid by a student to enroll in, attend and receive credit for an academic course. Other jargon such as "fees" or "dues" all relate to this basic price and should be considered part of the total tuition paid. The issue remains as to what tuition, as an idea to the distribution of the burden of higher education, should be.

Most state universities, and particularly land-grant institutions, have traditionally sought to maintain a policy of low tuition. In fact, until 1991, UA had a policy of keeping the "lowest possible" tuition rates. That philosophy has obviously been consumed by inflationary, political and state revenue constraints.

"Lowest possible" has since become "competitive" tuition levels. Students have been the quickest to feel this sudden transition.

The theme of becoming "competitive" has been that students have been getting too good a deal in terms of financing their education. The current "UA Student Fee Report," prepared by the UA Statewide Budget Office, has alone attempted to qualify a tuition increase by statistically demonstrating UA's relative "cheapness" compared to other universities.

This notion is not a new one. For several years university administrators, and a number of Regents, have sought to convince the community that students have been getting grossly more than they have been paying for.

However, a moderate examination of the report, which compares UA with schools such as Berkeley and Washington State, quickly suggests some biasness to the

Photo
Not
Available

Guest
Editorial
Tim Lamkin

increased to \$46 per credit hour.

Considerations of increasing or eliminating the consolidation fee/cap policy were also being, dangerously, entertained. A year later the same discussions were being held.

However, this time the students succeeded in convincing the board of the need of a stable tuition policy. This was done in the form of establishing a set tuition formula for proposing and implementing tuition increases. Specifically, the board agreed to set tuition for the 1991-92 academic year at \$50 per credit-hour with a 13 credit-hour cap, followed by a 1992-93 tuition rate of \$55 per credit-hour and a return to the 12 credit-hour cap. Thereafter tuition increases would be fixed by the national rate of inflation for higher education

"... university administrators, and a number of regents, have sought to convince to community that student have been getting grossly more than they have been paying for."

terms of student input and budget preparation, the benefits derived from these policies are apparent.

Thus far, the university has at least been consistent in its tuition increases. The preliminary research I have done has suggested that tuition increases have occurred, or at least been proposed, almost annually since 1970. Even since 1988, tuition has increased by 43 percent.

The current proposal would bring the rise in tuition to 73 percent over that in 1988. But similarly, these increases have been based on a continuing shortfall of appropriations from the state. Tuition has been increased for no other reason than to offset lost revenues.

Arguments about UA's "bargain" and "cheapness" are simply used for easier justification of making up the loss. This is clearly inappropriate.

Exogenous factors such as this, when taken by itself, fail to recognize the importance of higher education to Alaskan society and should not be the cornerstone to determine tuition.

Even with efforts to establish tuition levels, the university continues to struggle with meeting the needs of students and in turn imposing a price. References to

reader. Merely conducting a broad comparison of universities, all having a myriad number of peculiar variables that make each campus unique, is no basis for policy.

The "bargain" campaign persists, however. It was first introduced to me in 1990 at the February board meeting. At that time tuition was being

UA being a "bargain" have only considered the direct dollar cost of attending school here.

The essence of tuition and its relationship to the real value, both monetary and non-monetary, of education to the individual and to the community, has not been identified. No where in the discussions of university costs and revenues has tuition been given a clearly definitive role.

Participants in debates on the purposes and uses of tuition monies can have such diverse assumptions and values that making a satisfactory tuition policy seems almost impossible. Obviously a clear understanding of the "costs" and of the "value" of providing and receiving an education is paramount to the question of tuition. The lack of this understanding is therefore why the question remains unanswered. It's time for students themselves, not administrators, to consider the value of their education.

Based on this evaluation, a tuition level that reflects the relationship between the societal value derived from higher education, and the cost of providing it, should be demanded. If we succeed in doing this rationally, then perhaps light will be shed upon the matter, such that both the university and the state will recognize the importance and sensitivity of tuition policy and public funding.

By beginning to consider these factors, from the students perspective, we may have time to successfully prove our point at the April meeting.

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The University of Alaska Southeast student newspaper, *Whalesong*, is a bi-weekly publication with a circulation of 2,500 copies per issue. The *Whalesong's* primary audience is UAS students, although its broader audience includes faculty, staff, and community members. *Whalesong* will strive to inform and entertain its readers, analyze and provide commentary on the news, and serve as a public forum for the free exchange of ideas. The staff of the *Whalesong* values freedom of expression and encourages reader response. Letters to the editor are welcome and highly encouraged. All letters must be signed to be considered for publication and may be edited for style and/or brevity but never content. The *Whalesong* is located on the Auke Lake campus in Mourtant 207B. Mailing address: 11120 Glacier Highway • Juneau, AK 99801. Telephone: 789-4434, Fax 789-4595, VAXID: JYWHALE.

Letters to the Editor

Assembly member disturbed by Olson

Martin Luther King Day, a day to honor a great American—not just a minority.

Dear Editor:

Wallace Olson's letter to the editor (*Whalesong* 2-5-92) presents some myopic views that are quite disturbing. In a subtle way, I suspect that he is suggesting some sort of "minority competition" regarding the Martin Luther King holiday. The holiday that was set by the U.S. Congress is to recognize the achievements of an extraordinary American who just happened to be a Black man. It is not a "black" holiday, nor is it a celebration for any one specific minority group. The celebration is to honor a man who made changes in America's social laws and abusive customs. When Dr. Martin Luther King began his human rights and civil rights activities, the principles of social justice in America was biased, abusive and highly controversial. By the time of his brutal murder, Dr. King was a widely respected leader of international stature. Dr. King was a leader of an American revolution.

Dr. Martin Luther King did not initiate the struggle for social justice in America. The struggle began in 1619 when the first slaves were brought to the new world, and there are many, many unsung heroes whose birthdays are not celebrated. Dr. King, however, was different because he acted upon his vision of the WORLD. The ideals and values which he articulated could only have emerged in the United States of America. He raised the conscience of other peoples to the extent that since his death we have seen unprecedented changes in other parts of the world such as China, Poland and Russia. Dr. Martin Luther King was a national change agent acting within the democratic system. Remember the Nobel Peace Award!

A national celebration of Dr. King's birthday is intended to rekindle our pride in America. On that holiday we should reflect and commit ourselves to continue to work for worldwide human rights and civil rights issues. We must reaffirm, each in our own way, our beliefs in the American ideals of freedom, justice and opportunities for all. I am not really concerned about HOW a person celebrates the holiday, but I do feel that time should be provided so that people will realize WHY the Holiday exists.

Mr. Olson should try to correct his tunnel vision. The positive international impacts of Dr. King's work should have great importance to all of us. After all, there is more to life than concern about losing one day of classes at UAS.

Sincerely,
Rosalee T. Walker
A Black Woman

No place for theatrics

Dear Editor:

Oh how I have needed this place, nestled within a deep, green forest—Wait, what am I doing, I almost got sucked into the stupid rhetoric in the letter to you by Mr. Delez.

I must respond to his letter because it seems he is lost

in the splendor of this wonderful setting that UAS is in.

There are just a few things I would like to respond to: First, I agree we should have an opportunity to cry "stop," but the "stop" we should be crying needs to be directed toward those who are babbling about things as trivial as a few trees!

Second, as far as the safeness of ambulating campus, and the world for that matter, it seems rather ludicrous that Mr. Delez thinks Chancellor Lind believes all the trees around the world should be cut! The trees that got cut were uprooted, and I'm not talking about the small, pecker-pole whips, were leaning dangerously to one side or the other. To leave them in that precarious position was putting the university in a liable position.

Third, When Mr. Delez refers to limbed trees as wounded, something strikes me as queer. They are trees for Crist's sake! In a few months the thinned area will have spawned new seedlings and berry bushes, creating a deep, green undergrowth, resting beside a low—OOPS, I almost got sucked into the rhetoric again.

Nothing in the letter from Mr. Delez touched on the long term, big picture of moderate development at UAS. If I could cry stop, it would be to those who live in the "here and now." If they would listen I'd be crying all the time.

Anonymous.

Education instructor unfeeling and unfair

Dear Editor:

Some things have troubled me about the Early Childhood Education program being taught at the University of Alaska Southeast.

It seems that students in the Education curriculum are being taught a narrow minded approach to reading. The "Whole Language Approach" receives the most emphasis in Mrs. Marjorie Fields' teaching curriculum, when phonetics receives only 45 minutes. This "Whole Language Approach" may work for Marjorie Fields' five or six nieces and nephews at home, but not for other young children who may have a difficult time learning how to read in a classroom.

It seems that phonetics is being buried by Marjorie Fields and her "Whole Language Approach," instead of being incorporated with it. By incorporating the phonetic style of teaching, dyslexic students, such as myself, will not be passed by, early on in their education. Young children with reading disabilities do not learn to read out of interest. They need help learning to read by phonetics or an approach like McGuffie's Primers.

I also wonder why the same book Marjorie Fields co-authored is being used in her three different classes. Is this book the bible to UAS Early Childhood Education? What happened to other texts? Or approaches?

It seems to me the education department is very "close-minded" to other ideas except Marjorie Fields' philosophy. This is even more evident with students in her class. She "rewards" students in her class, with different approaches or ideas opposite her own, with lower grades. The grade should not be up to the instructor's biases, but rather, should reflect the quality of course work completed by the student.

It is quite obvious students who do not recite what Marjorie Fields preaches, will not get a decent grade in the course. I wonder if students who disagree with Marjorie Fields' "book" and are applying for student teaching positions are suffering as a consequence?

Anonymous



Council Message

Hello fellow students,

Hope all is going well! The last two weeks have been busy. I will give you a brief summary of what has transpired during this time.

Regents meeting in Ketchikan. The main topic of discussion for students was the proposed tuition increase by President Komisar. The proposal was to increase the per credit tuition by \$8.00 and to increase the consolidated fee to 14 credits rather than the current 13 credit cap. Discussion about the tuition increase resulted in a tabling of the proposal until further analysis was done on the part of the administration. The next Regents meeting which will continue this very topic will be here in Juneau on 23-24 April. I encourage students to speak their mind and attend the meeting. It is our money that they will be taking.

The student government hosted a Legislative Conference here in Juneau February 21-23, for interested students throughout the state. Represented at the conference were students from the Bethel area, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Ketchikan and Homer campuses. The conference was a great success. I would like to thank Deborah Ostendorf, Becky Penrose and Jacqueline Fowler for organizing this conference. I would like to further thank Professor Clive Thomas, Rep. Fran Ulmer, Rep. Randy Phillips, Rep. Gail Phillips, Rep. Georgianna Lincoln, Rep. Loren Leman and the legislative staff who participated in the Legislative Conference. If you see any negative press concerning this event...I personally, would ignore it!

On February 26, I testified before the Finance Subcommittee on behalf of the University and students. During the testimony, I asked the Chair to consider an increase in the Alaska Student Loan. When I presented this subject, the chair took note, and if I recall correctly it was the only time he took notes during the entire proceeding. I asked not only to increase the individual cap of \$5,500 but to increase the general fund to accommodate the individual increase and to attach the Alaska Student Loan Program to the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI). HEPI is the inflationary index used by institutions of higher education to establish equitable tuition increases.

On Sunday, March 22, Student Activities and Student Government are co-sponsoring two recording artists at the JDHS Auditorium at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$8.00 for students, and for non-students \$10.00 advance purchase or \$12.00 at the door. New Age music will be featured.

Student Government will be hosting another pizza feed at Bulwinkles during the month of March but after Spring break. Keep your eyes open and we will let you know as to the date and time. I would like to know from students, should the student government invest in a FAX machine? If a FAX machine is purchased, student government will provide FAXING service for just a fraction of the cost compared to local businesses. An example will be \$1.00 for all local outgoing FAXs, and there would be no charge for all incoming FAXs. Out of state and town FAXs will be in the neighborhood of \$2.00 for the first page and \$0.50 for subsequent pages. This is what I am proposing to the other council members. Call the student government office with your response 789-4537 or VAX me at JYPRES. We greatly appreciate your opinion.

Let's hang in there until Spring break and good luck on you mid-terms coming up. Thank you for your attention!

Board of Regents considers envoking "weasel clause"

By Ronald G. Arvin
Whalesong Staff

I am appalled that President Komisar, Chancellor Lind (Juneau), Chancellor Behrend (Anchorage) and Chancellor Wadlow (Fairbanks), all of the University of Alaska System, would have the audacity to submit a proposal to the Board of Regents to increase tuition.

Less than a year ago and for the fourth year in a row, the BOR, despite student dissension, raised tuition.

Last year, during debate of the tuition increase, the BOR all but promised students that tuition would be increased by only five dollars per credit-hour, with the credit consolidation fee going back to 12 credits from the 13 credits it is now.

The consolidation fee realistically means that all credits above and beyond 13 are free.

This is meant to encourage students to take a heavier courseload, so they can complete their degrees in four years.

Now the proposal is to raise the cap to 14, not to drop it back to 12—isn't that encouraging?

The BOR is able to raise tuition whenever they want because of, what is referred to by students as, the "weasel clause."

This clause, part of the Regents' Policy #05.10.01, states, "tuition can be increased if the board determines such action to be necessary, and if the increase is in the best interests of the university and its students."

A need to increase tuition is actually quite understandable, but the Four Musketeers who proposed the increase have

failed to realize there are certain steps involved in the process of raising tuition.

Section D, spells out very explicitly that, "Students shall have adequate notice of tuition

amount of time to gather support against the proposal? I think NOT!

Students tried last year to get the "weasel clause" reworded, but the BOR left it as it was. By

not changing the "weasel clause" the executive branch of the university is allowed to run amuck, increasing administrative costs anytime they like.

They can have the attitude, "Oh were out of money, no

problem, we will just raise tuition."

There is little forethought involved in the management of the universities' budget; little forethought is needed. Why should there be? All the administration needs to do is raise tuition to get out of any tight financial spots they might find

themselves in.

The University of Alaska Statewide Administration hired a consulting team for approximately \$270,000 to find out how the university might be more cost-effective throughout the system.

I'm only a student, but I can tell you what the university will hear when the consulting team is done, "Build a budget you can live by, and axe some of your vice presidents."

No policy is in place to make the BOR accountable for their decisions.

Hell, I'll take an appointment to the Board of Regents to manage a multi-million dollar budget and get all expense paid trips while flying around the State of Alaska—if I'm not held responsible for my decisions.

Are jobs available in the real world with discriptions such as these? I think NOT!

OPINION

and other student fee changes and the opportunity to participate in decision-making."

Seven days prior to the BOR meeting in Ketchikan, students on all three campuses were made aware that a proposal was to be submitted to increase tuition.

Is seven days an adequate

Light," Komisar confused and talked circles around the issue at hand—the state of the UA system.

In response to Komisar's lifeless rambling, UAS student Don Bradner made an astute observation: Komisar spent all of three minutes talking about UAS. The UAS campus receives about as much time in one of Komisar's speeches as it does consideration in the budget.

As one faculty member put it, "We are like the little orphan boy begging for attention and being ignored."

The UAS campus receives about as much time in one of Komisar's speeches as it does consideration in the budget.

Over the past thirteen years the State and the University of Alaska have been used as a resource for the financial gain of four presidents, each paying minimally into the retirement program and each taking heavily away from it. Each have come in with a "grand, five

year vision." Each have left before it is fulfilled.

Each has managed to exile UAS, while promising it a future. Each has failed to produce results.

I am certainly not the only one who sees the correlation, ask anyone associated with the system over the past 10-15 years. Some may view it differently, but it all adds up to the same thing—once vested in the retirement program, each president retires.

What this university system needs is a president who can make a long-term commitment and one who can make decisions that benefit the university as a unit, not as individual campuses. We need a president who will cut the umbilical cord from the Fairbanks campus, and devote equal time and attention to all three.

Komisar is a politician, nothing more: He is not the UA savor: He is not the white knight riding in to save the damsel: He is nothing more than a transient leading the naive down the wrong path.

Education is our most precise natural resource and it is time the UAS administration and student body got a backbone and realized that chasing statewide services is like trying to find the end of a rainbow—the end is in sight, but the pot of gold is not going to be there.

Someone once said, "Education can't make us all leaders—but it can teach us which leader to follow."

The time has come to find the University of Alaska the right leader to follow. One that is dedicated to the students, the unviersity and the state.

Komisars "grand vision" no different than predecessors

By Gregory Norman
Whalesong Staff

When the University of Alaska President, Jerome Komisar, spoke on the Juneau campus two weeks ago, he began his speech by saying he wouldn't bore us with the same over-head projections, slides and "rhetoric" he hit the Anchorage and Fairbanks campuses with—because we are to sophisticated for that.

What? The real reason Komisar left out the facts and figures wasn't because "We were to sophisticated." It was because we were not sophisticated enough to see the Bull Shit for what it really was!

It isn't that "we are too sophisticated;" it's because Komisar doesn't want the audience to know his "grand vision" doesn't include any major additions to UAS.

For the better part of an hour our illustrious president said nothing new, just reshaped the same "rhetoric" heard time after time from his predecessors: "Alaska has the opportunity to build a very unique university" and "I think we are offering something that is quite good."

It is evident that little preparation went into Komisar's presentation. His lack of clarity, name-dropping and anecdotal stories served only as filler for a long-winded speech that did nothing to enhance the understanding of his "grand vision."

Like George Bush, and his "Thousand Points of

ATTENTION:

The United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast and the Whalesong are recruiting students, faculty and staff for a Publications Board.

Interested parties are encouraged to stop in the Student Government office or the Whalesong for additional information.

Student Government: Joel Hinz 789-4537

Whalesong: Gregory Norman 789-4434 or Jan Marie Dell 789-4401

JC Penney Grand Opening contributes to university's scholarships

By Tina Lee
Whalesong Staff

On Sunday evening, March 1, JC Penney hosted a grand opening event from 7-9 p.m. new store opening in the Mendenhall Mall.

JC Penney chose the Juneau Volunteer Fire Department and the University of Alaska Southeast as recipients of the proceeds from the event. The proceeds will go towards scholarships and the William Hagevig Fire Training Center.

As hundreds of people browsed the store, they were able to enjoy the entertainment

of the UAS String Quartet and keyboarder, Tom Locher.

The entertainment was provided by the university.

A thirty-minute fashion show was part of the event with fourteen models. UAS students Joel Hinz, Tina Lee, Caroline George, Nu-Gina Rogers and Diana Cote modeled. Sue Koester was chosen from the faculty. Brenda Cote and Shirley Andersen represented UAS staff and Valarie Banazak, the UAS Alumni Association also modeled.

Andersen, Laraine Glenn, and Tish Griffin, Assistant Director of Student Services,

selected the models to represent the University and organized the show.

Mary Beth Parsons, wife of Mayor Jamie Parsons (also a model), was the fashion consultant, while J. Allan MacKinnon and Glenn selected the music. Glenn also served as the shows commentator.

Bill Doss, store manager for the Anchorage JC Penneys,

presented a check for \$1,000 to UAS Chancellor Marshall Lind and John George of the Juneau Volunteer Fire Department.

There was a number of volunteer firemen on hand to help with crowd control and serve beverages and food

"All the money is going to student scholarships," Griffin said.

"We were pleased that JC

Penney chose the university as a good corporate investment for their fund-raising effort," she said.

MacKinnon said, "The event was a great success." An official estimate has not been tabulated, but participates suggest between 500-1000 people enjoyed the activities.

The university would like to thank everyone for attending.

Connor adds personal experience to classroom

By Gregory Norman
Whalesong Staff

Nestled in a corner on the top floor of the Anderson Building, Visiting Assistant Professor of Geology Cathy Connor prepares

her lectures. A 10-year resident of Alaska, Connors

has spent the last nine years in the Juneau area, lecturing at local schools and, most recently, teaching an Introduction to Physical Geology class at the University of Alaska Southeast.

Originally Connor came to Alaska as part of a geological survey

in 1978, working in the Kuskukim area. She recalls opening the door to the plane and being overwhelmed by the mesquitos. Although she was employed by a branch of Alaskan Geology, she worked out of Minlo Park, California.

"Senator Ted Stevens thought it would be better if the department was based in Alaska," she said. So she moved to Anchorage in 1982.

Connor graduated with a bachelors and a masters from Stanford University in 1975 as part of a co-terminal degree program. Shortly after receiving her degrees, Connor entered the Peace Corp. She was shipped off to Malaysia, a country in Southeast Asia. She said, "At that time you could teach in the Peace Corp."

During her stint in Malaysia, Connor taught at an Agricultural school, "Teaching soil to scientists," she said.

It was also during that time she met her future husband; he was studying Rhinoceroses in

the area.

Following the two years in the Peace Corps, Connor moved to Montana and California. "I was working toward my Ph.D and had to commute from California to the University of

"broden Alaskan geology," but doesn't have anything in the works at this point. "Alaska is a frontier in a sense, it hasn't been scrutinized as much as back east," she said. Connor said, "This region is geologically

glued together, it's a hodge-podge."

During a Parks and Recreation hike, Connor met Jack Nilles, the former Geology professor at UAS; the two became friends. When Nilles decided to resign for personal reasons, he requested Connor apply for the vacancy.

"That is how it evolved, he basically rooted me out of the woodwork," she said. She is currently teaching two sections of the introductory geology course.

She hopes to remain at UAS and help organize an earth science curriculum, "It's a neat opportunity," she said.

Connor said she would like to teach a course in resource awareness, "Blending something with human use, what resources Alaska has produced over its life and whether there is enough to go around, with regards to use."

She would also like to see more upper division geology courses being offered.

Connor has some advice for students, from her days as a student: "Expose yourself to as much as possible, while you have the opportunity."

Although she doesn't want to give away the location of her secret office, she doesn't mind chatting with interested students.



"Expose yourself to as much as possible, while you have the opportunity."

—Cathy Connor

Student Resource Center

The Student Resource Center is open for academic advising, career and personal counseling

8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mon.—Thurs.
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday

The Student Resource Center's advisers are available for all Associate of Arts students, pre-majors or transfer students who have earned less than 60 credit hours. Stop by or call 789-4457 for an appointment with an adviser. Look for the new Career Counseling Center to be opening in Mid-February.

Winterfest:

By Tina Lee
Whalesong Staff

Thanks to Tish Griffin, Debbie Fischer and the pro-team, Nu-Gina Rogers, George Campbell, Mark Duran and Candace McBride for orchestrating the Winterfest activities. Without their help, the Winterfest program would not have had such a successful week. So successful in fact the pro-team is looking to make it an annual event.

"Winterfest was a success because it was student driven and the student programmers really put their hearts into creating an annual event," Griffin said.

With community and university participation, most of the events had great turnouts.

The Bonfire and Ice-Cream social had the best attendance, while the Fun-in-the-Sun Dance, Juneau Tlingit Dancers and Native Storytelling, the Wiggler's performance, face painting, juggler, art contest, pancake feed, and the human sled dog race were also well attended.

The Fun-in-the-Sun dance was very successful with John Buck and the Casual T's performing.

Vicki Hunt, a UAS staff member present at the dance said, "It was hilarious!"

Terry Speer won the tan legs contest and received a beach volleyball as the prize.

"I had no choice, Vicki made me do it! Thanks Vic!" said Speer. George Campbell won the white legs contest and received a little pail and shovel. "George Campbell's legs are so translucent, he was a given for the whitest legs contest," Hunt said.

Earlier that evening, The Juneau Tlingit Dancers and Native Storytelling had over 65 people show-up for the performance. "I thought Cecilia Kunz was articulate and did a superb job of storytelling. Her three stories seemed to be enjoyed by all," Griffin said.

The Wiggler's performance, face painting and the juggler were all a hit on Sunday with a large turnout of families.

"Eighty-six people were there for the Wiggler's performance," said Nu-Gina Rogers, the events coordinator.

"The face painting was excellent and even parents got their faces painted. It was really festive," Rogers said.

She said, "For the first year of Winterfest, it went really well and I think we will have more university and community support next year."

The art contest was judged by the Michael Gray Trio who also performed during the event.

Michael Ciri won the "Best of Show" with "Indecent Exposure." For the ceramics category, Rob Roys won first prize with "Untitled" and Dina Thomas won second place, her

piece was also "Untitled." Matt Cahill was Honorable Mention with "Cracking the Problem."

Mark Duran won first prize with "Bob Bichen" in the Drawing and Painting category and Terri Gallant won second prize with "Summer." Honorable Mention was "Polar Bear" by Jeanne Engesath.

George Campbell's "Winter Glow" and Candace McBride's "Silhouette" took first and second prizes in the Photography category.

Carl Dutton won first prize in the "Other" category with his collage, titled "Untitled."

The pancake feed on Saturday was another successful event. "It was nice to see a good turnout," Linda Rugg, manager of Food Service said.

The human sled dog race seemed to be the entertainment of Saturday afternoon. With the changes in the event there were no actual winners, although all children that participated received a hat.

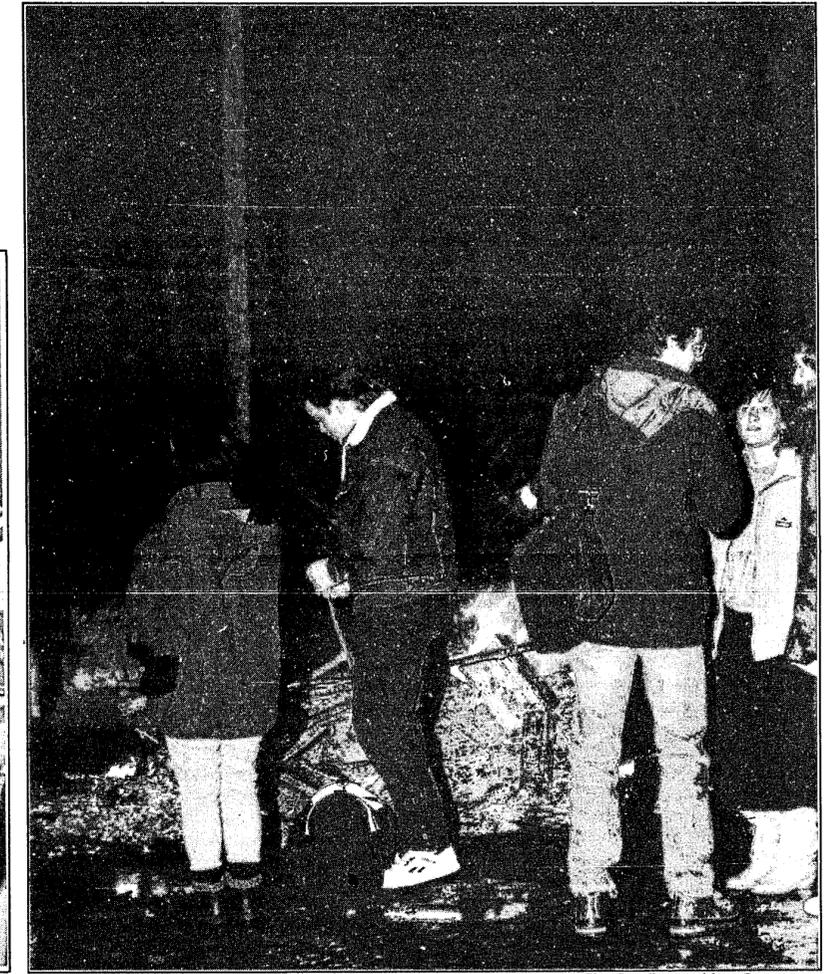
Bob Warren was the coordinator and a participant in the event, but just could not win a race.

"Bob Warren is a crazy man," Colleen Doherty said. "He is Dangerous."

"I think Winterfest helped me in the sense of organizing and prioritizing activities and events. It was more educational than fun to me. It was nice to see people enjoying themselves," Duran said.



The team of Dean, John Pugh and Colleen Doherty lead the human sled-dog contest.



The Bonfire and Ice Cream Social (above) was chaperoned by the Auke Bay Fire Department.



Krisli Seater-Buerger and daughter (right) get faces painted during the Wiggler's performance and face painting activity.



Juneau Tlingit Dancers and the Native Storytellers (above) performed in front of 65 spectators at UAS.

The Fun-in-the-Sun Dance at (left) held at the Student Housing Lodge, featured the music of John Buck and the Casual T's.

Photographs By
Dennis J. Doland and
Gregory Norman

Marine Tech Center receives \$90,000

By Molly Duvall
Whalesong Staff

The Department of Community and Regional Affairs granted \$90,000 to the University of Alaska Southeast Marine Technical Center to promote commercial fishing safety among skippers and crewmen.

The Commercial Fishing Technology program will begin Spring semester 1992, on March 23. The program is a six-day-a-week course: Monday-Saturday 8a.m.-5p.m. The cost of this program is \$295 for the six week course. This semester the program provides enough funds for 40 students.

The main topics to be covered are safety at sea, first aid, fishing skills, social skills (includes tax help) and hands-on fishing boat experience.

This program focuses on helping crewman to be informed of safety on a fishing

boat and to acquire the necessary skills needed when working on a commercial fishing vessel.

The Sitka Coast Guard will provide a helicopter to use in evacuation rescue tactics.

UAS plans to offer the six-week crewmen course next fall. In addition, UAS will also be adding specialized classes aimed at attracting vessel owners and operators.

Classes are planned to be scheduled from November, 1992 to January, 1993.

Some of the topics proposed to be covered are: computerizing fishing records, capital construction, taxes, business management and Japanese culture for the businessman.

Fishermen are interested in this program because Congress has passed a Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Safety Act in 1988, which requires fishing vessels to install safety features.

Congress and other groups have recognized the treacherous business of commercial fishing in Alaska, and have voiced their concern over the safety of the skippers and their crewmen.

There is no license presently required by the government, but the U.S. Coast Guard has developed a proposal for Congress, regarding the possible requirement of "licensing of a fishing vessel operator and crew..." according to the UAS handbook, Professionalism at Sea.

Tom Matheson, Instructor of Marine Technical center, is the coordinator of this program.

He is very excited about the amount of interest he has received from local fisherman, crewman and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Matheson expects "good participation" by all parties included in the new safety program.

Career Counseling Center open to students

By Stephanie Chance
Whalesong Staff

The Career Counseling Center officially opened its doors on February 11, and already its appointment book is filling fast.

The center is here to help students at all levels with job planning and career goals. It is also here to help student find a career they are interested in so they can focus on a certain area in school. The center can also help students look into graduate school.

For now, the Career Center's main focus is to help students with career planning. The center can also help students with resume writing and with job interviewing skills. After

Spring Break, the center will offer workshops focused on helping students market their abilities.

The Career Center offers several ways for students to discover and tap into their interests. A computer program called SIGI is one of the tools they use for this. Additional methods include taking the Myers-Briggs test or just talking with one of the peer-advisors.

Colleen Doherty, a counselor at the Student Resource Center, is the person responsible for getting the Career center off the ground. Students Allison Nyholm and Kristi Seater-Buerger are the peer-advisers at the center. All three agree that the student, as an individual, is what the center should be

geared towards. Because of this attitude they make sure they can orient themselves towards what the student is most comfortable with.

On April 1, 1992 UAS will host a Career Day at the Bill Ray Center. Businesses from the community will talk with students and give students a chance to do some "information interviewing" in the fields they are interested in. There will also be an emphasis on summer job placement.

The advisers welcome comments on how they could better serve the student body. They also want students to feel welcome to come in and browse.

However, if you want advising you do need to make an appointment.

Distance Education adds center, expands offerings

"This is a test case for the adaptation of the standards regarding on-line courses."

By Dennis Doland
Whalesong Staff

Distance Education will soon take another step into the electronic age with the introduction of a two-credit on-line communication course slated for unveiling next fall.

The university already offers a one-credit on-line course, Computer-Mediated Communication. In that course, students perform all of their assignments electronically, working through the University of Alaska Computer Network (UACN).

The course covers such topics as electronic mail, using the UACN, and computer conferencing. Many students do the majority of their assignments from home-based personal computers.

Jason Ohler, UAS Director of Education Technology, said the proposed new course will discuss issues and technologies relating to Distance Education. He said Distance Education is of special importance in Alaska, where many Bush communities rely on telecommunications for access to the rest of the state.

Ohler said he intended to introduce the still-unnamed course this spring, but his initial application for such a course was rejected by School of Education administrators.

He said the concept was well received, but more discussions need to take place so that he and the administrators can come to an agreement on some fundamental issues relating to lecture/credit standards.

The primary question seeking resolution is "What constitutes a lecture in the

electronic age," he said. Generally, course credits at UAS are determined by the amount of actual lecture and/or lab hours they require per week.

Ohler said in an on-line UACN news release last week that he feels his proposed course fits the lecture criteria, because students will be supplied with printed and videographic media.

They will have direct access to him through UACN, and they will be able to conference with other students through the same network.

Ohler said he is not upset with the university's initial rejection of his proposal. He said, "This is a test case for the adaptation of the standards regarding on-line courses."

The outcome is going to be a foundation for future Distance Education courses. He said more discussions must take place between the university and himself before the "whole picture" can be put in place.

Although the proposed course will be offered through UAS, it will be available to students and educators throughout Alaska, Ohler said.

In his on-line news release, Ohler said, five students are currently taking the course on an experimental basis.

In addition to reporting this new course offering, Ohler announced the opening of a Distance Education Center at the Bill Ray Center in downtown Juneau.

He said this addition will help centralize the program and provide staff devoted to Distance Education coursework development and maintenance.



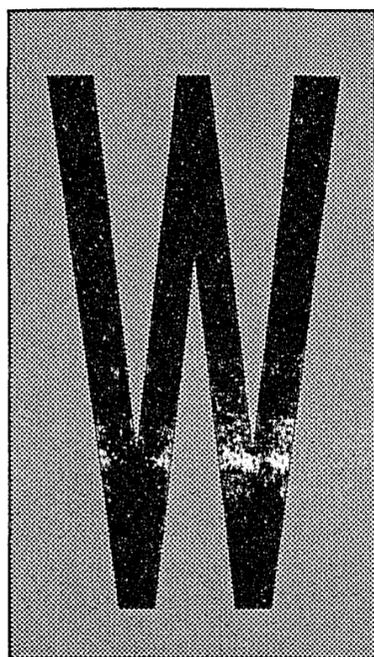
New Career Center employees, Allison Nyholm, Colleen Doherty and Kristi Seater-Buerger.

Does Student Government ever wonder why no students attend their meetings?

It is because students don't consider themselves MEMBERS of the club.

I'd encourage you to attend the next meeting on March 13, 1992, where they will again attempt to "ram" through the purchase of a \$2000 FAX machine with your money!

Photo By Dennis J. Doland



Whitestone Logging Southeast Essay Contest

First Place: Christopher Nolan

"The Decline of the United States as a World Power"

It has been said that hindsight is 20/20. Now, in the year 2021, as we look back at the history of the United States, we see clearly that its decline as a world power was due to internal economic decay. America was not overthrown militarily, nor was she bought out before first deteriorating within and becoming vulnerable. Although the United States appeared to begin declining economically during the 1970's and 1980's when it went from the biggest creditor nation to the biggest debtor nation, the cause of this decline actually began much earlier.

As the U.S. developed during its early years, the capitalist system offered incentives and great rewards for those who were creative and willing to work hard. This system was made up of immigrants seeking a better life for their children and they developed businesses with a long term plan in mind. This long term planning provided stable, steady income for generations of Americans. However, during the 20th century, this long term planning began to yield to a short term profit mentality.

One early example of this mentality, documented by Alan Marcus and Howard Segal, authors of *Technology in America--A Brief History*, is the way General Motors, in an effort to sell more cars between 1932 and 1956, bought out mass transit systems in 45 cities and replaced them with small GM buses. The new buses were then sold to buyers who had agreed to use only GM systems and parts (269). Due to the inefficiency and inconvenience of the new systems, people were forced to buy and drive their own cars. The resulting increase in motorists could be seen in many U.S. cities near the end of the 20th century. For example, a friend who lived in Los Angeles in the 1980's, told me that if there was no traffic she could make it to work in about 20 minutes, but it was common for her to spend up to two hours commuting each way. This means that she spent more than three extra hours every day commuting to work. If we multiply that by the number of commuters in L.A. forty years ago, the number of unproductive hours due to the lack of efficient mass transit is staggering. Sadly, this inefficiency was created intentionally in an effort to sell more cars--high profit, short-term thinking.

The energy crisis of the 1970's revealed another case in which the U.S. auto industry was unwilling to make long term investments, leading eventually to a severe drop in sales. With the price of gasoline rising sharply, the need arose for smaller, more economical cars. However, converting plants to build such vehicles would have been costly, and the profit margin on small cars was considerably less than on larger cars. Detroit delayed making the switch until it realized that it was losing customers to foreign auto makers, such as Toyota, who had been making smaller cars for years. Again, the short-term profit motive overshadowed doing what would have been better for the industry and society in the long run. Had the American auto industry invested in producing smaller cars, it could have kept more people buying American cars, saved jobs, and given more people money to spend.

The short-term profit mentality has plagued the extraction industries throughout American history as well. The Alaskan king crab fishery of the 1980's, encouraged by improved harvesting methods and high prices for its product, failed to properly regulate its stocks. According to Donna Parker, author of "Where King Isn't King," stocks were decimated to a point where the fishery was forced to shut down for years in some areas (42). Then, in the 1990's, pollock fishermen depleted stocks to a point where they virtually fished themselves out of a job and, according to Marine Biologist Martin Moe, threatened other species which fed on pollock, such as the Stellar Sea Lion (46).

The timber industry suffered a similar fate in the Pacific Northwest. Short term profit motives resulted in over harvesting of the resource and brought much resistance from environmental groups. In 1989, according to Forest Service figures, 445,057 acres of federally owned land were logged in California and the Pacific Northwest and only 19,328 acres, or roughly 4%, were replanted (Renewable 15). At about the same time, some of the larger timber companies closed mills in that area and relocated them to Mexico, according to David Chism, where lower wages paid to workers earned corporations larger profits at the expense of American jobs, again resulting in fewer people with money to spend (18).

The oil industry and the government's National Energy Policy met much resistance toward the end of the 20th century. The government's lack of incentives and the industry's lack of initiative caused the oil industry to stall research and development of alternative energy sources. Industry giants spent billions of dollars searching for new sources of oil despite U.S. Geological Survey estimates that domestic resources would only supply the nation's energy needs for less than fifty years (Kerr 382). This was done because, on a short term basis, the industry had a guaranteed profit margin with oil, whereas developing other resources would have been speculative. The Government's failure to offer incentives for investment in new energy sources kept the nation's dependence on foreign oil high and the national debt unmanageable, and ultimately led to a war to defend oil sources in the Persian Gulf. Ironically, that war cost the United States more each day than it had spent in the previous ten years developing new energy resources.

A recent example of this short term profit mentality took place just nine years ago, in the year 2012, with the patent sale of the Personal Atomization and Relocation System (PARS). This system, developed by biologist Jonathan Edwards and electrical engineer Virginia Adams, allowed, for the first time, the transmission and reproduction capabilities of a facsimile machine to be applied to human cells. The team discovered that each cell could be broken down into an "electrical blueprint," transmitted to another location, and reassembled. Despite the promising international marketing potential that this system showed, the couple decided to sell their patent rights to the Japanese government for 16 billion dollars. Again, long term employment in production, distribution, advertising, improving, marketing, and servicing the product were sacrificed for a quick profit, and although the two inventors were made financially comfortable for life, nine years later we can look back and see that the investment was a wise one for Japan. Today the system has made all previous forms of personal travel (automobiles, trains, airplanes, and buses) virtually obsolete and has provided an extremely high profit relative to the amount invested.

The capitalist system, in my opinion, is still the best system of government in the world. However, in our daily business practices we must think of future generations and not just financial security within our own lifetime if we are to regain our position as a world power. We must also instill in our government the need to become financially involved in backing companies which are trying to develop new technology, through low interest loans and other incentives that will eventually provide Americans with jobs by keeping technology at home.

Ambassador Program instituted to benefit incoming students

By Dennis J. Doland
Whalesong Staff

New or transferring students at the University of Alaska Southeast, who took part in the New Student Orientation on January 14 on the Juneau campus were the first to benefit from a recent addition, the Student Ambassadors Program.

The new Ambassadors are Ronald Arvin, Mark Duran and Deanna Quist.

The trio provide orientation tours for new students, acquaint them with the layout of the Auke Lake campus, familiarize participants with the various UAS departments and field questions.

Student ambassadors report to Rhonda Jenkins, Advisor and Coordinator of New Student Programs.

According to Jenkins, the student ambassador concept is popular at other campuses in the Lower 48. She said, "It teaches incoming students what resources are available at the university."

In addition to providing orientation tours, the student ambassadors sat on a panel with

administrators and advisors during the evening hours of orientation. This gave new students the chance to ask questions regarding the university.

While sitting on the panel, Arvin was reminded of his first day on campus a year-and-a-half ago.

He said, "I learned a lot at that time, but everything was from the administrative and advising perspective."

"I think it would have been neat to have had this [ambassador] program when I started at UAS," Arvin said.

Jenkins agrees; she said the new students "really opened up" to the ambassadors.

For example, she said, Duran, Quist and Arvin sat and chatted with groups of new



From left to right: Ron Arvin, Deanna Quist and Mark Duran, new student ambassadors. Photo By Dennis J. Doland

students during meals.

The overall atmosphere of camaraderie was very helpful in the orientation process, Jenkins said.

The student ambassadors have not held any further meetings since getting together in January to formulate their Orientation Day plans.

However, Jenkins said their role will be expanding as the program evolves.

"Primarily, the ambassadors were chosen to be spokespersons for the students, the university

and the community," she said. Jenkins said plans are in the works to add two more ambassador positions by the beginning of the fall semester.

She said hiring notices for the proposed openings will come out sometime in April.

Funding for the Student Ambassador Program is provided by the Student Resources Center. Because the program is in its infancy, funding for this semester came from an "emergency fund" in the Resource Center's budget.

Arvin said he received a letter from the Student Resource Center asking him if he would like to apply for the ambassador position. After looking into the requirements, he decided to accept the offer.

"I think Mark, Deanna and I were chosen for the program because we know the university and we are familiar with the different departments and activities on the Juneau campus," Arvin said.

Arvin said he has learned a lot from the ambassador experience, adding, "This program has been very, very enlightening for me."

Food Service establishes advisory board

By Ben Pollen
Whalesong Staff

A new Food Service Advisory Board will come into existence this week.

Food Service Manager Linda Rugg is organizing the Board that will meet every two weeks and will furnish new ideas and suggestions for the menus and cafeteria service. Rugg said the changes will be implemented in the fall semester of 1992.

The committee will be made up of five people.

"Two of the students on the Board work at local restaurants, so we are hoping to get some professional input," Rugg said.

According to Rugg, the cafeteria has received only five suggestions from students, in the past three years so she is looking forward to getting some fresh new ideas.

Rugg said everyone is encouraged to make suggestions about service.

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Capital Transit facing budget cuts, effecting student ridership

By Molly Duvall
Whalesong Staff

Capital Transit is undergoing a 10 percent budget cut. This budget cut may affect frequent daytime bus riders. It is possible Capital Transit may decide to cut the Express Bus route, which now serves the Auke Lake campus and the Bill Ray Center, located downtown.

The many students who depend on Express Bus service

may be forced to look at other options of transportation to classes.

The Express Bus route now services approximately 125,000 passenger annually.

Capital Transit services the Auke Lake campus during the daytime hours. This daytime schedule is on the regular Express Bus route and is paid for by the City/Borough of Juneau. The extended bus service which runs from 5:30

P.M.-10:30 P.M. is directly paid for by the University of Alaska Southeast Student Activities office, as a service to students.

Capital Transit has three options for cutting the budget. They include cutting the Express Bus route, reducing evening bus service and/or increasing fares.

UAS students would be considerably affected by the elimination of the Express Bus route. Many students rely on

the service, if this cut occurs these students would then have to rely on the regular bus schedule.

John Kearm, Transit Manager, stated (in a memorandum to Ernie Mueller, Public Works Director of City/Borough of Juneau) "Eliminating the Express Bus service would result in worsening crowding on the buses to the extent that some would be unable to use the bus."

Tish Griffin, Director of Student Activities, said she has had at least one person come into her office each day regarding this issue.

Another option is to increase fares. Many students have shown support for fare increases if the Express Bus continues to run.

Unfortunately, even if the fares are increased it will only cover five percent of the 10 percent budget reduction.

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For Sale: Steel desk—\$50, 2 Eskimo kayaks—\$200 each, one white water kayak—\$150. Call 789-2222.

Like-new **kitchen appliances—** almond colored refrigerator and **trash compactor**. Also, matching **dishwasher** that needs minor repairs. Make an offer—789-4630.

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For Sale: Nintendo and 10+ cartridges, Civil War Chess Set and small color TV. Call 789-4238 or 789-4434.

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For Sale: 3 Beautiful Birds, 1 "pied" male and 2 "normal" cockatiels. All young, healthy, good pets and breeders. Sacrifice for \$75 each. Call 789-5801.

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Two non-smoking women **looking to rent** two bedroom apartment or house downtown. Also interested in **housesitting**. Call: Debbie at 789-6611 (days).

Personals

Free tax help available at the Egan Library Group Study Room on the main level. Saturdays, 1-5p.m. until April 11. Call Carol Anderson at 789-4483 for more information. Sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons.

Student government meets bi-weekly at 11a.m. Stop by the student government office for additional details. Meeting dates are March 13, March 27, April 10 and April 24.

Classified advertising FREE to university students, faculty and staff. Stop by the Whalesong office in the Mourant Building with your ad copy.

Metaphysicians!
The "Academy" meets on **Tuesdays** at 6:00 p.m. in the Mourant Building Cafeteria. Bring your Philosophical Insights!

Attention:
Anyone students interested in **researching** the **history of avalanches** in the area of the White sub-division, 2 mile Glacier Hwy. Contact Dave Dawson at 586-9708.

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Free Condoms available at Health Center

By Ben Pollen
Whalesong Staff

With people becoming increasingly aware of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, the need for awareness of protection from these diseases rises.

Condoms are an excellent source of protection and are available at two different places on campus: the Student Housing Lodge and the nurse's office at the Student Resource Center. In both locations the condoms are free and available for students to pick up anytime the buildings are open.

Katy Goodwin, the public health nurse on campus, said that students are welcome to take as many condoms as they like as long as they practice safe sex.

Goodwin keeps a box right outside her office stocked not

only with condoms but also with Tylenol and aspirin.

"I always have time to talk about condoms," said Goodwin. Goodwin is planning on ordering several more different brands of condoms.

Goodwin said, the health center currently stocks the Lifestyle brand but is going to order Maxx, Kimono, Ramses and Trojan because they recently out-performed the Lifestyle in several strength tests at the factory that involved blowing up the prophylactics until they broke.

When asked if they liked the idea of condoms being provided by the university at no charge, students overwhelmingly said that they favored the idea of free rubbers.

"Hell, yeah," said one student, "college students are going to have sex anyway, so they might as well be safe while

doing it."

"Condoms are expensive and I think that some people who wouldn't spend the money to buy them would take the time to go pick up some free ones," another student said.

A Student Housing Lodge employee said that sometimes people think the basket of condoms in the Student Housing Lodge is candy or little packages of lotion but that many people take advantage of the free rubbers.

In one semester, the condom gathering students at the Lodge have gone through a huge box of them.

Another sizable box has already been ordered. A student interviewed in the lodge said, "I like the idea of free condoms but I'm disappointed that they are not provided in banana flavor and in florescent colors."

Tuition increase proposed to UA Board of Regents

By Gregory Norman
Whalesong Staff

The University of Alaska President Jerome Komisar submitted a proposal to the Board of Regents to increase tuition an additional \$3 per credit hour at a meeting in Ketchikan last week.

Included in the proposal Komisar has asked to have the consolidated fee cap increased from 13 credits to 14 credits, despite a promise made to students last year. This proposal goes against what students had been promised less than a year ago.

The BOR passed a tuition philosophy limiting their role in such matters. In essence the philosophy says that the university will increase tuition by following the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI).

However, the BOR is considering the proposal.

Chancellor Marshall Lind-Juneau said the proposal was made due to a "need for more money." What has now become a cliché is causing that need—declining state oil revenues.

Many view this as an attempt to regain the lost revenues.

Lind said, following last fall's failure to gain revenue through the computer user fee, students requested, it go through tuition, not arbitrary fees.

Tim Lamkin, Student Regent said, "There is mixed concern about raising tuition," so the decision has been postponed until the BOR meeting in April, to be held on the Juneau campus.

Lamkin said, "I think if the students can get together, we can collectively fight against this proposal."

Accounting...

Continued from page 1

was simply an advisory committee. However, he said he did listen to concerns, took all the issues under advisement, and then made decisions as he saw fit.

Kennedy is especially upset with the loss of the accounting faculty position. He said he is quite certain that Wilson reduced the accounting faculty for one reason only—to shore up a flagging Public Administration (PADM) department. Natural resources professor, Tom

Gallagher, was added to the PADM staff in the fall of 1991.

Kennedy bolstered his argument with computer print-outs of enrollment data as of January 29, 1992. According to the data, the largest PADM class has an enrollment of eight students. Kennedy pointed to an entry for PADM 632, a heavily-advertised course being taught by Senator Jim Duncan. The enrollment figure: two students.

Student Larry Hurlock said

the accounting/PADM issue has been a common focus of discussion on campus lately, especially among School of Business students. He said it is important to ask the questions, "Who's interests are being served? Is the driving force behind the School of Business the needs of the community or Administration's perception of academic notoriety?"

Dean Wilson has heard those arguments too, but said he feels his decision to increase empha-

sis in PADM is not at all out of line with the goals of the university. He said, "You have to look at where funding is going to be coming from. What can we do to attract outside funding as oil revenues dwindle and legislative allocations [to the University] shrink?"

Wilson said there is a great need to support programs dealing with natural resource policy and management, because "those are issues facing Alaska." He said he never

expects PADM to have a large enrollment, but feels that a strong program with top-notch instructors such as Gallagher will "provide a home for Natural Resources students," giving UAS a certain academic prowess.

Accounting major, Debbie Krontz, is philosophical about the changes taking place in the department. She said, "Accounting needs a lot of discipline, and I think the changes may have lowered the degree quality." She said employers have always looked to UAS accounting graduates for new hires because of the school's proven track record. She said, "These changes will have a major impact."

Jones, though "officially retired," is teaching this year as an adjunct faculty. He said that when he came to UAS from a teaching position in Idaho four years ago he was "delighted to see how strong the accounting program was here." Now, he sees the changes taking place, and although he said he tries to distance himself from the recent maneuverings within the department, he cannot help but feel that accounting majors stand to lose in the long run.

Taking a faculty position away from accounting "was a mistake," Jones said.



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ARTISTS:

Joyce Belnap		Special Thanks to all the people who entered art work and helped to make the first annual WINTERFEST ART SHOW a great success. We consider each of you to be a winner! <small>* Denotes Prize Winners</small>	
Matt Cahill			
George Campbell*			
Nan Cathrother	Karen Jenkins		
Michael Cirl*	Beth Lawry		
Mark Duran*	Emile Lindstrom		
Carl Dutton*	Dottie Maat		
Jeanne Engesath*	Candace McBride*		
Lonna Fagan	Debbie Neubauer		Rob Roys*
Julanna Humphreys	Lee Newman		Kathy Still
Terri Gallant*	Lee Pontlon	Dina Thomas*	