



LATEST NEWS AND DEVELOPMENTS

March 11, 2019

A roundup of the latest developments and news items from UAA this week:

- 1. Completed applications for admission to UAA are up 23 percent compared with this time last year.** The interest in attending UAA remains high and positive. We've received 460 more applications to date compared to this time last year.
- 2. Applications from high-achieving high school students are up considerably,** as well with more than 50 percent of our total applications for admission coming from individuals with high school grade point averages (GPAs) of 3.5 or higher.
- 3. Applications have significantly increased from all 11 major Anchorage and Mat-Su district high schools (from 14-120 percent).** More than half of these applicants from local schools also have high school GPAs of 3.5 or higher.
- 4. Seawolf Tracks student advising app is taking off!** More and more students have downloaded the smartphone/mobile device app, which helps them stay in touch with advisors. Since the app launched last fall, more than 2,000 students are actively using it.
- 5. The UAA Cyber Security Club won first place in the At-Large region of the Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition.** The team will travel all-expenses-paid to compete in the national competition in Orlando, Florida in April.
- 6. UAA College of Business & Public Policy Adjunct Professor Dr. John Duffy received an honorary doctorate this month from the National University of Mongolia.**
- 7. ISER research about the effects of Alaska's PFD on crime** made national headlines (e.g., NY Daily News, Feb. 18).
- 8. About 80 percent of UAA's College of Engineering students receive job offers before they graduate.** The State projects a need for 300 new engineering and computing professionals per year for the foreseeable future, more than the current total of engineering graduates from UAA and UAF combined.
- 9. The recent 7.1 earthquake in Southcentral Alaska underscored UAA's College of Engineering esteemed faculty value to the community.** They are not only educating the next generation of Alaska's workforce, they contributed to the recovery effort and are nationally recognized as a critical resource for quake-related risk assessments and problem solving.
- 10. All six of the Bachelor of Science degrees and the Master of Science in Project Management in UAA's College of Engineering have specialized, or programmatic accreditation.**



- 11. UAA's cohort default rate (CDR) on federal college loans is dropping significantly.** CDR is now at 10.5 percent, a 20 percent drop from our 13.1 percent CDR three years ago (source: **U.S. Department of Education**).
- 12. UAA College of Health's two-year-old Surgical Technology program just received its first-ever accreditation.** The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) awarded initial programmatic accreditation to the UAA Surgical Technology program!
- 13. Job placements for College of Health graduates average between 93 percent across all programs.**
- 14. Job placements for Community and Technical College is 100 percent in each of the following programs: Culinary Arts, Diesel Technology and Aviation Maintenance.**
- 15. Recruitment and Retention of Alaska Natives into Nursing (RRANN) celebrates 20 years on March 25, 2019.** Since 1998, RRANN has helped over 270 AN/AI students graduate from the UAA School of Nursing. RRANN currently assists over 300 nurse majors and pre-majors on University of Alaska campuses throughout the state.
- 16. A revamp of UAA's nursing application process significantly increased enrollment.** The NURN program is up 35 percent (49 distinct count) and NURS is up 10 percent (32 distinct count). Overall, College of Health enrollment is up three percent (99 distinct count).
- 17. UAA Facilities announced a 20 percent reduction in Anchorage campus energy consumption since 2014 in spite of rising utility rates.**
- 18. UAA Police Department's UAA Safe mobile app surpassed 1,000 users since its introduction last summer.** Safety escorts are up by 400 percent, and traffic accidents on campus are down 60 percent since the same period last year.
- 19. UAA student-athletes achieved a fall 2019 semester GPA of 3.34 (of those, 45 students achieved a 4.0 GPA)**
- 20. UAA Women's Basketball team is the GNAC Season Conference Champions for a fifth consecutive season.**
- 21. UAA senior Caroline Kurgat is the NCAA Indoor Track Champion in 5,000 and 3,000 meters. This is her fifth National Championship in four years as a Seawolf.**
- 22. UAA Women's Basketball head coach Ryan McCarthy was recently named GNAC Coach of the Year.**
- 23. UAA Recycling has diverted more than one million pounds (500 tons) of recyclable materials from our city landfill since 2014.** Without Recycling, approximately 200,000 pounds of paper, plastics and aluminum would go into trash bins and dumpsters on campus annually, increasing custodial costs and solid waste service charges.

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