Greetings and Happy Spring/Summer!

By the time you get this Spring 2016 semester will have concluded, the Heart Run will be over, and the Globe Trotters will have come and gone. Over 1,300 of our students have achieved their degrees, with over 650 participating in Spring Commencement. Congratulations to our graduates! Now the “Disruption Season” is upon us.

The activities this summer include: the annual fire systems inspections; completion of the Engineering Renewal and Garage construction; space repurposing in the PSB for the Doctor of Pharmacy program, a partnership with Idaho State University; and, Municipal Light & power will replace cabling along Providence Drive. More on these activities in John and Tom’s reports.

Later this summer we will install two new public art installations: “Inflorescence” by Heath Satow at CPISB and “Spirit of the Seawolf” by Osman Akan at AAC. These two art pieces are part of the Art in Public Places program (AKA 1% for Art).

It’s been a busy past several months! Since the last newsletter we have made significant progress on the Engineering Renewal and the Parking Garage; refreshed the look and function of the Bookstore; completed space work in SSB and lab reconfigure work in Natural Science Building; replaced the lighting in RH 101; added several hydration stations all around campus; repaired Cuddy kitchen drain; and, remediated mold in Kaladi Coffee area (SSB) and Subway/Northern Light area (SU). In addition, we’ve provided to support to several signature campus events, including: the “9 in the Spine” alumni mini-golf event, Winter Fest, and the Heart Run.

A big thank you to the Earthquake responders, especially Jack Anderson. It took all day, but all the areas were clean, safe, and ready for students use on Monday morning. Follow-up repairs are still underway around the campus.

While the damage was manageable this was a good reminder about the importance of emergency preparedness. On that note, on April 1st we conducted an Emergency Management exercise in conjunction with the State’s Alaska Shield exercise. Our portion was an active shooter in BMH. We had involvement from several agencies, including APD, AFD, FBI, and the Red Cross. In all we had over 220 participants on UAA’s Campus. Large-scale exercises such as this provide amazing opportunities to test our own responses and build stronger relationships with other emergency response agencies in the community. Check Doug’s report for more details on the exercise. A big thank you to Ron Swartz and the many UAA folks that participated in the planning and conduct of the UAA April 1st Exercise.

Our own Joe Howell contributed to the academic distinction of UAA this semester. His MIS Capstone team achieved 2nd Place for Student Web Projects at the Association of Information Technology Professionals 2016 National Collegiate Conference. Congratulations, Joe!

As we get into summer and increased outdoor recreation season remember to be safe. Think about what you are going to be doing, think about what could go wrong and have a mitigation plan. Let someone know where you are going and when you are expected back. Also be mindful to ease into those house/yard/garden activities.

Please know you are our most valuable resource. We need you fully functional and on the job.

I can’t say it often enough, you, the Facilities and Campus Services Staff do great things for UAA, day, night and on weekends to keep the campus environment safe and comfortable for our students, faculty and staff. THANKS for all you do for UAA.
The big news from this semester’s sustainability activity is around the growth of hydration stations:

- Maintenance staff completed an install at Aviation
- The Residential Hall lobby modifications added hydration stations in the first floor of all three halls
- In February the student Green Fee Board provided $25,000 in funding for our term contractor, KC Corp, to install more hydration stations. With this funding we added units in the University Center (x2), Eugene Short Hall, Rasmuson Hall 2nd floor, Social Sciences Building 2nd floor, and Library 1st floor.

With the addition of these 10 units we now have 39 hydration stations across campus. As of the end of April these units accounted for over 567,000 bottle fills.

More stations are on the way: the Engineering Renewal will add 3 units and in April the Green Fee Board approved an additional $25,000 for 6-7 more installs. What started as a modest idea to improve fountains has quickly grown into one of the most visible green programs on campus!

During the winter break we conducted a survey of plug loads in office areas. Key findings were:

- 15.6% of office computers were left on over the break
- 26.7% of offices had space heaters
- 64.7% of offices had individual printers. This was often the case even where copy/print centers or other large printers were located in adjoining common spaces
- Other common devices include: individual microwaves, coffee makers, electric kettles, paper shredders, fans, and scanners

The results from this survey are informing our re-assessment of the current Campus Energy Policy and strategies of how to reduce the energy load of campus. Occupant behavior and individual devices are significant drivers of the campus’ energy consumption.

In addition to addressing the occupant side of the energy equation we are making progress on further operational improvements. Maintenance & Operations’ Building Automations shop is working with Siemens to rewrite the control program for the Rasmuson Hall. Blake, our Automations Supervisor, expects a 20% reduction in energy use for that building while improving occupant comfort. We are also investigating several areas where we are currently unable to turn off building lights and hope to see some quick and significant wins over the summer.

UAA has once again achieved the designation as a Tree Campus USA by the Arbor Day Foundation! This designation reflects UAA’s commitment to trees on our campus, including the care of trees and replacing those lost to construction. This is the 7th time UAA has been named a Tree Campus USA. Thank you to Catherine Shenk, Glenn Brown, and the Grounds team for the heavy lifting on this!
As the spring semester comes to a close, we are in transition to the summer construction period. Our summer work load continues to grow in spite of limited capital funding. Through creative planning we are using residual capital funds that we have received in previous years and will not expire for several years. The Library north entrance project and the WFSC reconfiguration are examples.

There are many other projects that will happen this summer on campus. Campus parking LED lighting upgrades was recently awarded to Encore Electric. MAC housing renovations will be starting in early summer. Other large projects that will happen include the UAA/Idaho State Doctor of Pharmacy Program (phase 1), repurposing HSB 107 for the College of Health student advising, and Learning Resource Center modifications for the math emporium and tutoring.

The UAA term construction contractor continues to be extremely busy. Planned and ongoing projects include the installation of diamond plating panels in the basement of the Alaska Airlines Center, Diplomacy Building art removal, installation of the library pay-n-park system, Rasmuson Hall corridor modifications, elevator repairs in various buildings, welding lab tenant improvements, installation of hydration stations in various buildings, earthquake damage repair in various buildings, and installation of carpet and repainting of areas in Rasmuson Hall.

Construction of the new engineering parking structure and renewal of the Engineering Building continues. The contractor is aggressively working to complete both projects by the fall semester. The renewal is approximately 70% complete and the parking structure is approximately 95% complete. Installation of exterior siding and sky-bridge has started. Interior finishes are in progress. Work in the atrium including installation of the ceiling system, paint, carpet replacement and minor electrical/fire alarm work will start in mid-May. For the parking structure, installation of the membrane and paving of the driving surface is in progress. Interior finishes in the sky-bridge is also in progress.

With the pending completion of the renewal of the existing engineering building and construction of the new parking structure, it is anticipated that pedestrian traffic crossing UAA Drive will increase. Currently, there are no pedestrian crossings on UAA Drive near the parking structure and the current pedestrian crossing between the existing Engineering Building and Natural Sciences Building is a safety concern. To correct this pedestrian safety issue, FP&C has engaged a consultant to begin conceptual planning and discussion with the Municipality regarding construction of the pedestrian undercrossing/trail connection. Discussions with the Municipality have been positive and strong support exists for the project. We intend to take the undercrossing through completion of design. Funding avenues for the project are being discussed.

Projects continue at our community campuses as well. The project to enclose the pedestrian bridge at the Mat-Su College will be advertised and awarded for summer construction. At Kodiak College, a project is being planned for the replacement of a 5,000 gallon underground diesel fuel storage tank with an above ground tank at the Vocational Technology Building. At the Prince William Sound College, a project for exterior renovations of the Growden-Harrison Building is scheduled to be completed this summer. The scope of work includes the replacement of exterior siding, soffits and lighting.

Sandy Blum, our terrific fiscal manager, received her bachelor’s degree in accounting during commencement on Sunday, May 1st. Congratulations, Sandy. Well done!!!! Break is over……………… back to work!!!!!

Two of our Assistant Project Managers also achieved key milestones. Chris McConnell achieved his Project Management Professional Certification in March. Cory Fischer is coming up on his first year as a licensed Professional Engineer. Congratulations Chris and Cory!

If you have not noticed, our receptionist desk is vacant again. Our student hire and adventurer, Katie Kahlenbeck, recently completed her education and has left the university to tour Europe for four months. Travel is exciting; I can definitely relate to that fact and will do more in the near future.

As General Douglas MacArthur said on landing in Leyte, Philippines in October 1944, “I have returned…………………” With that said, I have recently returned from a month long venture to New Zealand and Australia. Fantastic trip!!!!
Welcome colleagues. Glenn reports the 2015/2016 snow fall totals for the year were less than 40 inches making this the 8th least snowiest snow season to date. There were several periods of freeze/thaws creating situations of ice. No matter how the winter unfolded it’s important to recognize the sacrifices the men and women of the snow crew and grounds crew make each day to come back to campus, work through the night or report early in the morning to ensure a clean and safe campus for all.

We are in the process of switching our facilities into the summer cooling mode. We are working on pad mounted A/C units, roof top units and cooling wells. Due to the warmer weather pattern, we are ahead of our normal summer schedule by a couple of weeks.

Jeremy Sadler joined our team in February as a CT3 Refrigeration Technician. Jeremy has an extensive refrigeration background and hails from Missouri. Please help welcome him to the campus!

Fire system inspections for the suppression (sprinkler) and detection (smoke detection) will begin in May and are expected to be completed by the end of June. Taylor Fire Protection personnel will be conducting both inspections. Inspectors will be accessing nearly every room on campus during this inspection and conducting scheduled audible alarm testing. The Facilities Maintenance Electrical Shop is inspecting ~ 2,000 fire extinguishers across campus and will continue with that work until completed.

The Facilities Maintenance Mechanical Shop is testing 10-20 backflow preventers — used to protect potable water from contamination — as part of our a reorganized Preventative Maintenance program. Any water outages will be scheduled with the building managers. Municipal Elevator Inspectors continue to make the rounds across campus performing the bi-annual elevator inspections. They also have reorganized their inspections into smaller groups in order to keep them current. If you find expired certificates let us know, but most likely it is due to the new inspection routine.

Our quest to go paperless took a big leap forward as we’ve worked more with our partners at UAF. We are working on using an electronic timecard instead of the paper daily form we have had for quite some time. The Electrical Shop is currently testing the process. In addition to this, technicians continue to use the AiM mobile app on their handheld devices as well as accessing AiM through desktop PCs. We have most of our assets bar coded and plan to have the Technicians scan the equipment with a mobile device to find a work order or access information. This is an exciting area of process improvement for our department!

We have successfully upgraded Millennium to Millennium Extra — the latest web-based software. Currently 2 buildings are operating with the product. The Millennium team plans to sweep through the remaining Millennium facilities during the summer to switch them to the new system. In order for the software to work to its full potential, we must upgrade the chips in the site and door controllers. The new software has many improved features that should help the reliability of the system and the ease of use for the end users.

Grounds’ efforts to cleanup the campus have been augmented by a couple volunteer activities:

- On April 5th members of our fraternities and sororities held a cleanup event as part of their annual Greek Week. Special thanks for Candice Kelly of Sigma Sigma Sigma for organizing this!
- On April 16th volunteers picked up cigarette butts around campus as part of the Tobacco-free Task Force’s effort to gauge where smoking occurs now that the campus is tobacco-free. Thanks to Yesenia Camarena and Valeria Delgado for organizing this!

On Arbor Day Members of the Phi Kappa Theta fraternity organized a tree planting in remembrance of a fallen brother. Three trees were planted in the landscape island east of the library.
The past quarter has been busy for EHSRMS&EM. Literally half of our department staff are swiftly approaching their 6th month of employment with our department. They have picked up their respective torches and ran with them.

Kelly Carothers (Safety Officer) and Marci Marino (Chemical Hygiene Officer) are proving to be very valuable and welcome additions to the UAA safety family. If you haven’t met them, please take a moment to introduce yourselves.

Kelly and Marci have been working closely together to help finish developing UAA’s Respiratory Protection Program and associated policies and procedures, and conduct training and inspections related to the program. They have also started participating in various campus committees, including the Chemical Safety Committee and IACUC (animal rights). One product of this has been the annual review and update of the campus’ Chemical Hygiene Plan and Lab Access Policy. Work has also started on our Confined Space program.

Ron Swartz, UAA’s Emergency Manager, finished his first year in the department with a bang – both figuratively and literally. Under his direction, an on-campus, full-scale terrorism active shooter exercise was planned and executed on April Fool’s Day. As part of Alaska Shield 2016, 225 participants and 13 external agencies came to our campus to practice their response skills. Agencies included the FBI, APD, UPD, Red Cross, FEMA, and the Anchorage area hospitals. Students played the part of mock victims, complete with wounds prepared by the theatre department. All of this took a tremendous amount of planning and numerous meetings and training sessions.

In addition to the active shooter scenario, the Crisis Call Center was stood-up and drilled, using 25 volunteers from faculty and staff. The AAC Auxiliary Gym became an overflow ER/treatment center for the hospitals. The Emergency Operations Center was opened in the Admin Building and the ULB Annex became a Family Assistance Center, including counseling and reunification services.

All of this was preceded by a major re-write of the UAA Emergency Operations Plan, which will be used as a template for the entire UA system.

In between our own professional development and training, we have managed to keep up with the chemical waste disposal, Community Right-To-Know reporting to the AFD, OSHA Recordable incident reporting, Minors on Campus safety program and policy update and implementation, building blitzes, community campus assistance visits, and risk management contract review and insurance certification.

Add in a real-life, 7.1 magnitude earthquake response – we’ve been busy!

Lastly, but definitely not least, the UAA campuses also entered 2016 with an exemplary incident rate: 6 recordable incident injuries for all of 2015. Each and every employee, staff and faculty, should be commended for their efforts to keep this university a safe place to work. Let’s make 2016 an even better year!
Hails
Jeremy Sadler — FMO Refrigeration Tech

Promotions
Pete Garcia — FMO Custodial Superintendent

Rest In Peace
Kim Knudsen — FPC Construction Contracting Officer

Farewells
Doug White — FMO Fleet
Byron Turner — FMO Grounds
Don Barker — FMO Building Maintenance
Blake Isaacson — FMO HVAC

Don Barker retired at the end of April, 2016, after 38 years of service to UAA.
We appreciate Don’s almost 4 decades of service to the university and wish him a happy, adventurous retirement!

Upcoming Events
May 1 – Spring Commencement
May 2 – Disruption Season Starts
May 12 – Development Day
May 13 – Tree Planting with State in Honor of 40th Arbor Day
May 28-30 – Memorial Day Weekend
June 10 – Admin Services Picnic
June 16 – Juneteenth
June 17 & 18 – Mayor’s Marathon Support
July 2-5 – 4th of July Holiday
August 15-26 – Facilities Red Zone
(Get those loose ends tied up!)
August 27 – Campus Kick-Off
August 29 – Fall Semester Starts
September 3-5 – Labor Day Weekend

Joe Howell, Samantha Veilleux, and Daniel Ornelas achieve 2nd Place Web Project at AITP’s 2016 Collegiate Conference

Safety is Everybody’s Business