Pre-College Academic Enrichment in Rural Alaska

- High school students from Nikiski, Kenai, Ninilchik, Port Graham, Nanwalek and Seldovia participated in a UAA Pre-College computer lab at the Kasitsna Bay Research Lab across Kachemak Bay for one week in June.
- Matt Calhoun, Director of Pre-College Academic Enrichment in Rural Alaska, has developed computer building curriculum for Pre-College labs to use in rural Alaska during the 07-08 academic year.
- The Tablet Tutoring Initiative completed testing equipment needed to link UAA student tutors with rural students across the state. The rural students will be taking gateway courses, i.e., Trigonometry, Chemistry, and Physics.
- Computers on the UAA campus are being formatted to use the tablets, along with voice and video in preparation for the Tablet Tutoring Initiative for Pre-College students across rural Alaska.

Academic & Multicultural Student Services Division

- Over 300 students enrolled in the GUID150 course. This semester the course has been expanded to 15 sections with six additional adjuncts joining the Advising and Testing Center’s teaching staff.
- Native Student Services launched a video-teleconference outreach effort with the Bering Straits School District. During this school year, Native Student Services will be hosting a monthly video-teleconference with the juniors and seniors in 15 village high schools to help prepare them for postsecondary education at UAA.
- Student Support Services partnered with UAA OCDC and Senator Bettye Davis to present to college-potential youth at the Anchorage African American Summit.
- 20 Educational Opportunity Center and 39 Educational Talent Search participants received 07-08 GEAR UP scholarships.
- 40 Upward Bound summer program students studied Math, English, Science, Japanese and Spanish for six weeks at UAA, and participated in a community service project with MOA Parks and Recreation and the Color of Justice Program. A highlight of the summer was a four day trip to UAF, where the students interacted with scientists in a day long climate change workshop and fieldtrip presented by the International Arctic Research Center. Students participated in the remote robotic project, part of a program that has people participating remotely from all over the world. UAA Upward Bound students attended classes with the UAF Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math Science students in their summer program. Approximately 140 students and family members attended the closing banquet celebration.
- Training workshops on Accuplacer’s new platform were provided to Eagle River, Elmendorf, Mat-Su, and the Anchorage School District. These locations are now designated as official Accuplacer administrative sites under the UAA umbrella.
- Disability Support Services presented five sessions during the first Midnight Sun Assistive Technology Conference. The department facilitated options for participants to earn UAA credit at the professional development or graduate level.
- Native Student Services initiated a mentor/tutor project, with 6 student mentors/tutors as study group leaders and tutors.
- Advising and Testing provided audio/video advising conferences as part of the check-in process for students assigned to North Hall to answer questions and to resolve course scheduling issues.
- Disability Support Services assisted with the planning and promotion of two different awareness building efforts over the summer. They were the annual city-wide celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Road to Freedom tour.
- Native Student Services, in collaboration with the Alaska Native Studies and Preparatory English, is co-sponsoring a Freshman Interest Group (FIG) pilot project in which 20 rural students co-enrolled in 6 credit block of courses--AKNS A290 (Contemporary Native Life) and PRPE A108 (Introduction to College Writing). The topics of the PRPE papers will be drawn from the content of the AKNS course. A student mentor/tutor will assist to AKNS and PRPE faculty in this FIG.
- 4 Upward Bound Summer Bridging students completed the College Survival 101 class. The program pays for tuition and books to help the students get a start on their college career.

Enrollment Management Division

- Career Connection and Educational Pathway brochures are being created in partnership with each of the colleges and the UA Statewide system. 21 brochures of 64 were printed by the end of August.
- Evaluations reviewed the records of 478 students with work from 315 different institutions including 6,232 courses and 24,413 credit hours.
- The UAA Anchorage campus received 9,140 applications for admission in FY07. This is an increase of nearly 6% over FY06. 4923 of those applicants enrolled at UAA.
- There were 8,240 undergraduate applications including 3,682 first time freshmen and 896 graduate applications. There were 4,455 undergraduate students including 2,051 first time freshmen and 465 graduate students enrolled in FY07.
- Student Financial Aid disbursed $19.83 million in financial aid by the end of the first week of school. Student loans processed by the end of August were up 7% over last year and up 326% from August 2004. Number of students offered aid was up 17.78% over last year and 154% from August 2004.
- During the month of August, the UC Call Center answered 11,566 calls and assisted over 4,200 students at the kiosk.
- There were 2,388 transcripts sent out in FY07, an 8% increase over last year.
- “Drop below Full-Time” Banner workflow went live. Students are notified by email as well as impacted service areas of Athletics, Veteran Affairs, University Housing/Dining, and International Student Services. “Change in Registration Status”
Betty Bang, Nurse Practitioner, MaryAnne Wilson, Director, and the staff of Student Health and Counseling Center reached 4% did not complete. Sophomores, 17% Junior, 16% Senior, 2% grad students, 2% transfer students 58% living off campus, 38% living on-campus, survey/entry forms; students' survey results are as follows: 73% new students, 27% returning students; 44% freshmen, 19% sophomores, 17% Junior, 16% Senior, 2% grad students, 2% transfer students 58% living off campus, 38% living on-campus, 4% did not complete.

Student Development Division

Campus Kick-Off was a great success! Concert Board presented BJ Novak, star of NBC’s “The Office” as part of Campus Kick-Off with over 800 attendees. Major prize drawings included an Alaska Airlines ticket, a laptop computer, and a portable hard-drive. The program was in collaboration with Student Activities. 538 students and 96 family/friends completed survey/entry forms; students’ survey results are as follows: 73% new students, 27% returning students; 44% freshmen, 19% sophomores, 17% Junior, 16% Senior, 2% grad students, 2% transfer students 58% living off campus, 38% living on-campus, 4% did not complete.

Residence Life staff members traveled to Bethel and the small village of Napaskiak in July, to learn more about the lifestyles and backgrounds of Alaska Native and rural students.

In collaboration with the University Police Department, Nathan Miller, Student Judicial and Ethical Development Coordinator, has tabulated the university crime statistics for the 2006/2007 academic year for submission in the 2007 Clery Act Report. The report will be available to October 1, 2007 and can be viewed at http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/students/campussafety.cfm.

The Student Union is currently updating the facilities. Construction projects include The Northern Light moving downstairs to the former Parking office (SU 111); the former newspaper space (SU 210) becoming the new office of Student Clubs and Greek Organizations; and a new roof installed on the Union.

The Student Health and Counseling Center reached 583 students at new student orientation by providing a station at the “Information Fair;” in addition, Mary Anne Wilson spoke to parents and students about their services.

The summer Juneteenth Celebration was the best on record featuring the traditional southern barbecue and a concert with the West African group, “Sierra Leone All-Stars.” Over 300 people attended the barbeque and over 700 attended the concert. The audience drawn to campus was ethnically diverse and varied in background and age, including 252 UAA students. The band met with local refugees and met another refugee from Sierra Leone. UAA Diversity Action Council was a cosponsor.

Students visiting the Student Health and Counseling Center can now do self check in on kiosks in the waiting room of the SHCC. Their medical record is now stored electronically and soon, students can schedule on-line for some appointments.

Lindsay Washek presented a resume writing and interview tips workshop to the UAA Nursing and resident advisors.

Karla Booth, Alaska Native Rural Outreach Program Coordinator, attended the Arctic Institute of Indigenous Leadership (AIIL) Conference in Fairbanks August 20-25. Twenty-five young Alaska Native leaders were chosen from all over Alaska to come together to build relationships, look at their common histories, and discuss important issues. This opportunity will allow Karla to better relate to residents from Alaska, revive her dedication to Alaskan students, and provide her valuable collaboration opportunities with Native Movement Alaska.

A new judicial officer training manual was completed and is being used for training and educating new and current University Judicial Officers on the UAA Student Code of Conduct, educational sanctions, and working with students in a developmental, non-punitive manner.

UAA Residence Life collaborated with Mat Su College and APU Residence Life to provide joint training to 70 student staff members in August. Timi Tullis from the Association of Alaska School Boards was the keynote speaker and talked about classism in higher education.

Upcoming Events

Hispanic Awareness Month event will be held September 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in RH 106.

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month. UAA will be participating in Disability Mentoring Day.

Fall Poster Sale will be held in the upper hall of the Student Union beginning September 10–13 from 10:00 a.m.-500 p.m.

Comic Michael Dean Ester is scheduled for the Student Union Den on September 14beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Bright Eyes concert is planned for September 19-20 in the Wendy Williamson beginning at 7:30 p.m each night.

Saul Williams will perform September 21 and 22 in Arts 150 beginning 7:30 p.m.

Residence Life sponsored Life Safety Night on September 24, 4:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. in the Commons

Voter Registration Station SU hallway beginning September 24–27 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Minniejean Brown Trickey of the Little Rock 9 will perform September 27 in the Wendy Williamson beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The annual meeting of the Alaska Association of Financial Aid Administrators will be held September 27-29.