



**DECEMBER 2018  
INFORMATION UPDATE**

**CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND LEARNING**

- **The November 15<sup>th</sup> Think Tank** co-hosted by Micah Hahn and Libby Roderick in partnership with the Municipality of Anchorage brought together more than 40 people to respond to the question **How can Anchorage strengthen its Climate Action Plan?** This was the last Think Tank of the semester. The first spring Think Tank will be on **February 21<sup>st</sup>** co-hosted by Mike Mueller in the School of Education.
- **Dr. Jessica Barlow presented the keynote address at the Urban & Rural in Alaska Conference on November 16<sup>th</sup>.** In addition to the keynote, there were six morning break-out sessions, 23 rapid-fire presentations by faculty, and two afternoon sessions. Approximately 80 faculty, staff, students, and community members attended the community engagement conference.
- **The RFP for Spring 2019 Community Engaged Student Assistants (CESAs) has been posted.** Applications are due December 7<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 pm. CESAs support faculty with their community-engaged teaching, research, and/or creative projects.
- **CCEL Public Scholar Students working on the national *Up to Us* competition** hosted a Walk the Debt event on November 8<sup>th</sup> to educate UAA students about the national debt. They facilitated a deliberation using the National Issues Forum model about the national debt on November 27<sup>h</sup>.
- **The retirement party for Judy Owens-Manley, director of CCEL, has been postponed until January.** At that time, please come celebrate Judy's accomplishments with CCEL and wish her well in her new endeavors.

## CENTER FOR ADVANCING FACULTY EXCELLENCE

- Over 1000 people (students, staff, faculty, community members) attended events featuring renowned Indigenous author and activist **Winona LaDuke** November 8-10 on the UAA, KPC and APU campuses. The UAA/APU **Books of the Year** program hosted LaDuke, who is the author of one of six 2018-19 Books of the Year texts selected under the theme of “Building Community Resilience”. For more information about the Books of the Year program and ways to build the texts into your courses, please visit:  
<https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/institutional-effectiveness/departments/books-of-the-year>.
- At the request of the Interim Provost, various Deans, and HR, CAFE has offered two faculty development sessions on “**Overcoming Implicit Bias in the Hiring Process.**” 53 faculty from CBPP and COH attended the workshops; a third is scheduled for November 30.
- CAFE Director Shawnalee Whitney and Vice Provost for Student Success Claudia Lampman offered a workshop November 20 on **Small Changes that Make a Big Difference: The Crucial Role of Faculty in Student Success**. A second will occur on December 5, and a third session will be provided as part of the Adjunct Winter Teaching Academy on the evening of January 9, 2019. The sessions are open forums in which participants are familiarized with recent student performance data and explore specific approaches to teaching and learning designed to improve retention, connection to the institution, and course completion. Fifteen faculty and Student Affairs professionals attended the November 20 event, attending both in person and via distance.
- **Great Ideas for Teaching Students (GIFTS), a workshop series led by CAFE Faculty Associate Stasia Straley (CBPP),** invites faculty to share creative ways to engage students in discussions, problem-solving, critical thinking, and more. These conversations have drawn over 20 faculty representing five different colleges and one community campus. Additional sessions will be held in the spring.
- Clare Dannenberg, Faculty Associate for **Faculty Leadership Development**, continues to host a **monthly gathering of chairs/directors of academic departments** to provide support and training around leading academic units. The sessions, held in the morning of the first Tuesday of each month, have been received enthusiastically by chairs/directors. The November session explored motivating faculty around key department goal(s).
- CAFE’s Associate Director Libby Roderick led a faculty workshop entitled: “**Controversial Topics and Difficult Dialogues: Effectively Engaging Students in Critical Conversations**” in late November. The workshop explored a range of strategies for intentionally and successfully introducing controversial topics into the classroom, and is part of a broader system-wide effort to engage the university community on topics related to free speech in the academy.

## CENTER FOR ADVANCING FACULTY EXCELLENCE (continued)

- A search committee is in the process of replacing CAFE's **Administrative Assistant**, Romanie Roach, who left the university in October. The new hire should be announced by early December.
- CAFE is working in cooperation with AI&e, CCEL, and Academic Affairs to coordinate the upcoming **Winter Teaching Academy** (Jan 10-11) and **Adjunct Winter Teaching Academy** (Jan 9). Working with Susan Kalina's office, **Dr. David Marshall** (Senior Scholar, NILOA) will return to UAA to lead the campus community in two assignment charrettes, structured events designed to improve assignments and ensure that they're effectively aligned with course, program, and institutional goals. Alignment of this nature is helpful for students because it enables them to see the ways in which their work is scaffolded and interrelated.

## ACADEMIC INNOVATIONS & eLEARNING

### Administrative:

- Dr. Heather Nash and Dr. Dave Dannenberg co-presented *Accessible Content: An Institutional Case Study* at the WCET Annual Meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Heather Nash was awarded the **2018 WCET Sally M. Johnstone Award**. This award recognizes a professional who has made an outsized contribution to the technology-enhanced learning community with the intention of recognizing thought leadership, excellence in practice, and demonstrated leadership capabilities.
- AI&e submitted a Saltonstall-Kennedy grant in partnership with Alaska Fish and Game to develop *Scale Academy*, an online training program that will train salmon scale age readers. Understanding the age of a fish, helps biologists forecast and manage future runs, thus contributing significantly to sustainable fisheries. If funded, the project will begin in Fall 2019.
- We are hiring for several positions this fall. Brief updates below:
  - (2) Instructional Designer III – final interview stage
  - LMS Administrator – Application open for candidate resumes
  - Title III Activity Director - Application open for candidate resumes

### Faculty Support Services:

- AI&e will launch a Quality Matters mini-grant program to encourage faculty members to engage with QM online course design. Applications will open Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>
- Quality Matters Improving Your Course Online Nov. 9-30
- Winter Teaching Academy dates set for Jan. 9-11th

## **ACADEMIC INNOVATIONS & eLEARNING (continued)**

### **Title III ROLL Grant:**

- The Title III Robust Online Learning Grant received a favorable report from its external evaluator after the annual site visit in September. Year 4 will focus on online student support efforts in partnership with Student Affairs and other key departments across campus.

### **eWolf ePortfolio:**

- The eWolf team hosted a visit with Tommy Woon and Shawn O'Reilly. Tommy Woon was at UAA working with NCBI on diversity, native engagement and eportfolios while Shawn was working with CoH regarding student engagement efforts.
- Supported Dr. Sara Buckingham in her efforts to engage the Office of Children's Services, connecting AK Natives, issues of identity and eportfolios.
- Working with Eagle River's Alaska Middle College team to launch eWolf with their AMC students.
- 326 eportfolios created in last 30 days.
- Just a reminder that as of January 1, 2019, new eportfolio sites will not be able to be created in the Classic version of Digication.

### **eLearning: Distance Student Support Services:**

- eLearning Services are providing proctor/distribution services to 130 courses.
- 3,400 individual appointments have been scheduled for the fall semester using eLearning's new online appointment scheduler, RegisterBlast, 900 of which are scheduled for finals weeks.
- RPNOW has been deployed in 90 courses, with 1,750 exam records to date for the fall semester.
- eLearning: Distance Student Services participated in National Distance Learning Week (NDLW) during the week of November 5th with almost 400 online participants in various online games and activities hosted by our Student Success Coordinator, Brittani Chu.