TOM CASE, Chancellor

SAMUEL GINGERICH, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs; and Interim Chancellor (effective 7/2017)

WILLIAM SPINDLE, Vice Chancellor, Administrative Services

PAT SHIER, Interim Vice Chancellor, Administrative Services (effective 11/2016)

BRUCE SCHULTZ, Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

MEGAN OLSON, Vice Chancellor, University Advancement

RENEE CARTER-CHAPMAN, Senior Vice Provost, Academic Affairs

NOTE: Duane Hrncir was named Interim Provost effective August 1, 2017.
NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION:

The University of Alaska is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution. The University of Alaska does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, citizenship, age, sex, physical or mental disability, status as a protected veteran, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, parenthood, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation or belief, genetic information, or other legally protected status. The University’s commitment to nondiscrimination, including against sex discrimination, applies to students, employees, and applicants for admission and employment. Contact information, applicable laws, and complaint procedures are included on UA’s statement of nondiscrimination available at www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination.
UAA’S MISSION

The mission of the University of Alaska Anchorage is to discover and disseminate knowledge through teaching, research, engagement, and creative expression.

Located in Anchorage and on community campuses in Southcentral Alaska, UAA is committed to serving the higher education needs of the state, its communities, and its diverse peoples.

The University of Alaska Anchorage is an open access university with academic programs leading to occupational endorsements; undergraduate and graduate certificates; and associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees in a rich, diverse, and inclusive environment.

FIVE CORE THEMES

This document reflects some of the 2016-17 highlights and performance on measures related to UAA’s five core themes: Student Success; Teaching and Learning; Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity; Community Engagement; and UAA Community.

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PAT SHIER was appointed interim vice chancellor of Administrative Services in November 2016. Shier joined UAA in 2013 as chief information officer. Before joining UAA, Shier served as the CIO and director of Enterprise Technology Services for the State of Alaska. He also served on the Alaska Board of Education and Early Development since 2007. A lifelong Alaskan, he has more than 20 years of experience working for the State of Alaska in several divisions.

ADAM PAULICK was named chief information officer in April after serving as interim CIO since October 2016, and leading a transformation of Infrastructure Services. Paulick has extensive experience in IT leadership and operations, including head of the State of Alaska Telecommunications System. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Accounting from Arizona State University W. P. Carey School of Business.

TANYA HO was named new head coach for the gymnastics team, just the second head coach in 34 years. She competed as a gymnast at UC Davis, winning the Athlete of the Year award in 2010, and earning her B.S. in Exercise Biology in 2011. As assistant coach at Sacramento State she was named the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Assistant Coach of the Year in 2016.

SAMUEL GINGERICH accepted the appointment as interim chancellor effective July 1, 2017. Gingerich served as provost and executive vice chancellor for Academic Affairs since March 2015. Gingerich has more than 30 years of leadership experience in higher education, including eight years as system vice president for Academic Affairs to the South Dakota Board of Regents. He also served as provost and vice president for Academic Affairs and provost and vice president for Academic Affairs at Mississippi University for Women. He earned his baccalaureate degree from Goshen College, an M.S. in Chemistry from Cornell University, and a Ph.D. from Montana State University.

DUANE HRNCIR was named interim provost and executive vice chancellor effective August 1, 2017. Hrncir has more than 30 years of experience in higher education, serving as a faculty member, a department chair, a dean, a provost, an associate vice president and an acting president. As provost at South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, he was instrumental in strategic planning and in efforts to increase enrollment, student retention and graduation rates. Hrncir earned his B.S. in Chemistry at the University of Alabama, a Master’s in Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Massachusetts, and his Doctorate at Texas A&M.

BOGDAN HOANCA, professor of Management Information Systems, was named interim dean of the College of Business and Public Policy, effective March 2017. Hoanca joined UAA in 2002. He has been active in UAA governance groups, serving as president of the Faculty Senate and co-chairing multiple committees. He chaired the system-wide UA Faculty Alliance in 2007-08. Within the College of Business and Public Policy, he established the recently approved 1+1 program with Nankai University in China. Hoanca earned his B.S. in Electronics Engineering from Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest, Romania, his M.S. from Syracuse University, and his Ph.D. at the University of Southern California, both in Electrical Engineering.

BEN MORTON joined UAA as Dean of Students in March. He has over 15 years of experience in Student Affairs, serving as associate dean of students at Saint Louis University, and the University of Memphis. Morton earned a bachelor’s degree from Clarion University, a Master of Arts in Geography from West Virginia University, and a Master of Science in Higher Education from Florida State University. He is working on his doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Illinois.
JEFFREY JESSEE was selected in April as the new dean of the College of Health and vice provost of health programs. Jessee brings more than 36 years of experience in Alaska’s health care sector to UAA. He led the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority as CEO from 1995 to 2016, then served as the Trust’s legislative liaison from 2016 to the present. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from California State University, Sacramento and his J.D. from the University of California at Davis, Martin Luther King School of Law.

MARIANNE MURRAY, associate professor of nursing, became the director of the School of Nursing on July 1, 2017. She joined UAA in 2011 and has served as program coordinator for the M.S. in Nursing Leadership & Education and the B.S. in Nursing Science. She has extensive nursing experience in rural nursing, trauma nursing, management of nursing education. She earned her B.S. and M.S. in Nursing Science at West Texas A&M, and her Doctor in Nursing Practice with American Sentinel University.

DAVID MOXLEY joined UAA as the director of the School of Social Work on August 1, 2017. For 11 years he served as the Oklahoma Health Care Authority Medicaid Professor in the University of Oklahoma Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work. He spent 20 years at Wayne State University School of Social Work, where he co-chaired the Graduate Concentration in Community Practice and Social Action. He has a PhD. from Ohio University and a Doctor of Public Administration from Western Michigan University.

ROBERT MCCLUNG was named director of the School of Allied Health. He joined UAA in 2005 and became the Radiology Technology Program Director in 2013. McClung is a 24-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He earned associate degrees in Criminal Justice and Radiology from the Community College of the Air Force, a B.S. from Bellevue University, an M.S. from LaVerne University, and he is currently working on a Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership with an Emphasis in Higher Education Leadership.

ANDRÉ ROSAY, Justice Center director since 2007, has been appointed associate dean for academic and student affairs in the College of Health. Since 2012 he has also served as a Visiting Executive Research Fellow with the National Institute of Justice in the U.S. Before joining UAA as an assistant professor in the Justice Center in 2002, he taught at the University of Delaware. He earned his Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland College Park.

GLORIA BURNETT, director of the Alaska Area Health Education Center(AHEC) for three years, was appointed director of the Alaska Center for Rural Health and Health Workforce. She founded the Northwest AHEC and served as director for three years, then transitioned to Dean of Students at Ilisagvik College in Barrow. She is a certified Instructional Technology Specialist, and holds a B.A. in Psychology, and an Master’s of Science in Instruction.

BRAD MYRSTOL was named interim director of the UAA Alaska Justice Center. Myrstol began at the Justice Center in 2002 as a research associate, joined the Justice Center faculty in 2009 after a brief time Outside, and was promoted to associate professor in 2013. He has been the director of the Center’s Statistical Analysis and Justice Information Centers. He is the principal investigator on Alaska’s Results First Initiative, a partnership with the Pew Charitable Trusts and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Myrstol received his Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from Indiana University.

KATHY CRAFT was named interim associate dean for Planning, Development and Partnership in July. She has worked for the UAA Center for Rural Health and Health Workforce for four years. In 2016 she was recognized with the Workforce Advocacy Award by the Annapolis Coalition on Behavioral Health Workforce and the Mental Health Program of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. She received her B.S. in Social Work from Bowling Green State University and her M.A. in Community Psychology from UAF.
Honors & Awards

**UAA EMERITI 2016-2017**

Appointment as emeritus or emerita is the highest honor conferred on a small portion of retirees who have served a minimum of 10 years and demonstrated excellence. The following were granted emeritus status in 2016-17.

- TOM CASE, Chancellor Emeritus
- JERRY KUDENOV, Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences
- CHARLES “SEAN” LICKA, Professor Emeritus of Art
- ROBERT MCCOY, Professor Emeritus of Mathematics
- ELIZABETH PREDEGER, Professor Emerita of Nursing
- ELIZABETH SIRLES, Professor Emerita of Social Work
- BJARTMAR SVEINBJÖRNSSON, Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences

**HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAW**

JOHN RADER played a critical role forming the new government as Alaska transitioned from territory to state. He was the first in-house attorney for the City of Anchorage. Rader was elected to the first state legislature in 1958, then Governor Bill Egan appointed him Attorney General, where he established the new state court system. He served again in the house in the early 1960s, and then in the senate. His legislative accomplishments included helping to draft the State Organization Act that established 12 departments and the Office of Governor, writing the Mandatory Borough Act of 1963, and championing the expansion of women’s rights. Rader received an ACLU Champion of Women award in 2010, and Planned Parenthood of the Greater Northwest makes an annual award for advocacy in Rader’s name.

**HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS**

Former First Lady BELLA HAMMOND was honored for her work as a leader in respectful political dialogue in Alaska. Born and raised in southwest Alaska, Hammond has served as an influential voice on how to honor the environment and traditional ways while engaging in a global and civic world. She and her husband lived and worked in Naknek where he ran a flying and guiding business and she fished commercially for salmon. Jay Hammond served in the first state legislature and was elected governor in 1974. After eight years in Juneau, the couple returned to their Lake Clark homestead. Her lifelong connection to fishing and the land, and her political experience at a pivotal time in Alaska’s history, give her a unique perspective that she shares to help deepen common understanding between rural and non-rural Alaskans.

**HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS**

ANN PARRISH, first female president of the University of Alaska Board of Regents, was recognized for her commitment to the university, community, and the state. Parrish chaired the UA Foundation Board, and was the creative spark for UAA’s annual Celebrity Chef Invitational, which has raised approximately $2.6 million. She also helped launch the Renaissance project to raise $700,000 to renovate UAA’s Lucy Cuddy Center and house a restaurant training facility. Parrish received the UA Foundation’s Edith Bullock Prize for Excellence in 2003. Last year, UAA honored Parrish and her husband Al for their combined dedication to the university by naming the new pedestrian skybridge over Providence Drive: The Parrish Bridge.
GUNNAR KNAPP, an economics professor at the Institute of Social and Economic Research for 35 years, and director from 2013 to 2016, is a 2017 recipient of the Edith R. Bullock Prize for Excellence, the largest single award made annually by the UA Foundation. Bullock established the award to recognize and reward individuals who demonstrate excellence in support of the University of Alaska.

An internationally recognized expert on salmon markets, Knapp became well known for his knowledge on Alaska’s fishery markets and management. While serving as ISER’s director from 2013 through 2016, he worked to engage Alaskans on the state’s fiscal challenges and options. “Gunnar’s work defined excellence and raised the university’s profile throughout Alaska as an educational institution. His efforts in understanding Alaska’s fiscal problems and possible solutions were respected across the ideological spectrum,” stated Cliff Groh, chair of Alaska Common Ground, a non-profit that focuses on Alaska’s public policy issues.

Knapp began his academic career at ISER in 1981 after receiving a Bachelor of Arts and doctorate in economics from Yale University. In the late 1980s, he co-chaired the committee that developed common academic policies for the newly restructured University of Alaska Anchorage. A Russian speaker, he was active in efforts to establish relationships between Alaska and the Russian Far East. Knapp was an early innovator in online teaching and taught a popular online course on Alaska’s economy for many years. He retired and received professor emeritus status in 2016.
DOUGLASS BOURNE, who teaches composition in the English Department, won Best Feature in the West Field Screenwriting Awards for his screenplay, *The Mountain in Alaska*. The screenplay, inspired by true events, tells the story of an Alaska Native boarding school student who leads a wilderness guide, a church deacon, and a missionary on the first ascent of Denali. The West Field competition, now in its tenth year, received scripts from four continents and more than 20 countries. *The Mountain in Alaska* also earned an honorable mention in the 2017 Banff Mountain Film Festival. An earlier screenplay, *70% Water*, won an honorable mention for Best Feature-Length Screenplay at the 2015 Banff Mountain Film Festival. Bourne, a 2013 UAA Tech Fellow, earned his MFA at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington, and has been teaching at UAA since 2010.

ZEYNEP KILIC, a 2015-16 Fulbright Scholar and professor of sociology, has received international acclaim for her film *Tables of Istanbul*, a 58-minute documentary that examines issues of food and cultural identity. The film has been screened at numerous international film festivals and has won a number of awards, including Best Documentary at the Canadian Diversity Film Festival, a Viewers’ Choice award for Best Feature-Length Film or Documentary at the 2017 Taste Awards, and recognition from the Hollywood International Independent Documentary Awards and IndieFest Film Awards. The film also won Best Voice Over at the Lady’s First International Film Fest in Cork, Ireland. Recent nominations include Best Director of a Short Documentary and Best Story at the 2017 Madrid International Film Festival. Her Fulbright U.S. scholar grant and a sabbatical grant from the Institute of Turkish Studies enabled her to spend time in Turkey where she grew up. Additional grants from the UAA INNOVATE program and the Turkish Cultural Foundation also supported her work on the film. She earned her master’s and doctorate degrees at Arizona State University and joined the faculty at UAA in 2008.

CAROL SWARTZ, director of the Kenai Peninsula College Kachemak Bay Campus, received two prestigious awards this year. She is one of 11 women named to the Alaska Women’s Hall of Fame Class of 2017 and one of 10 Alaska women to receive the 2016 YMCA Alaska/BP Women of Achievement Award. In her 31 years as director, Swartz’s accomplishments include initiating the Kachemak Bay Writer’s Conference and Haven House, a community women’s shelter. She has championed adult and youth access to education, promoted the role of the campus in Homer’s economic development, fostered community discussions, and spearheaded advocacy, planning, and design of the campus’s facilities and programs. She served as the first clinical social worker/co-director at Homer’s new Community Mental Health Center and founded South Peninsula Women’s Services.
LAMBDA LITERARY AWARD FINALIST

Building Fires in the Snow, co-edited by MARTHA AMORE, term instructor of English, was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Awards. The book, published by University of Alaska Press and co-edited with Lucian Childs, is a collection of short fiction and poetry by LGBTQ Alaskans. The anthology celebrates the diverse LGBTQ communities thriving in the cities and rural areas at the edge of Alaska’s rugged wilderness.

MULTIPLE RECOGNITIONS

LANDRY SIGNÉ, professor of political science, was named a 2016 Woodrow Wilson Center Public Policy Fellow. He also received the 2016 American Political Science Association Campus Teaching Award for the second consecutive year. Also in 2016, the Union of Students at UAA presented Professor Signe with the inaugural Order of Excellence Award to recognize his “exemplary contributions” in expanding educational opportunity and student academic success and promoting the social, intellectual, and cultural diversity of students.

INSTITUTE OF REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT’S 30 UNDER 30

TERRY FIELDS, director of the Weidner Property Management and Real Estate Program in the College of Business and Public Policy, was named to the 2017 Institute of Real Estate Management (IREM) 30 Under 30 award. Fields is an active member of IREM, serving on the Student and Academic Advisory Board, and encourages all of his students to take advantage of the networking and resources IREM offers. The award recognizes his leadership in both UAA’s program and the Institute of Real Estate Management.

STAFF MAKE STUDENTS COUNT AWARD

WAYNE “WOODY” WOODGATE, coordinator for the Adult Basic Education program at Prince William Sound College, is the UAA winner of the Staff Make Students Count Award. He was recognized for revitalizing the program and for his dedication to student success, doubling the ABE student contact hours from 2015. The first Prince William Sound staff to receive this award, Woodgate obtained to help fund dual credit enrollment courses in allied health fields, developed a course to help rural teachers refresh their math skills, and implemented the Math Emporium program at Prince William Sound. The annual award recognizes staff members at each university and UA Statewide who provide outstanding service to students. UA President Jim Johnsen presented the award at the Prince William Sound College commencement ceremony on May 10.

UAA STAFF RECOGNITION AWARD

CRAIG MEAD, a transfer recruiter in Student Affairs’ New Student Recruitment, received a UAA Staff Recognition Award for going above and beyond in his work, supporting the team efforts and goals, and taking whatever time is needed to ensure a student’s questions are answered accurately and thoroughly or connecting them to the right person if he doesn’t know the answer.
EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING
Awarded to faculty who demonstrate exceptional commitment to advancing student achievement through excellence in teaching.

- KYLE HAMPTON, Director, Center for Economic Education, and Associate Professor, Economics & Public Policy
- KATHRYN OHLE, Assistant Professor, Early Childhood Education
- JOHN PETRAITIS, Associate Dean, Social Sciences, and Professor, Psychology

EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMIC RESEARCH-CREATIVE ACTIVITY
Contributions have an outstanding and significant impact in a field of study and to UAA through research, engagement or creative activities.

- LINDSEY BLUMENSTEIN, Assistant Professor, Justice Center
- IAN HARTMAN, Assistant Professor, History
- OSAMA ABAZA, Professor, Engineering

PROMOTING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
Outstanding contribution to student achievement that improves transition to higher education, performance, grades and/or completion rates. Demonstrated innovative and creative approaches in advising, programming, partnerships, outreach, and support services that promote student achievement.

- GOKHAN KARAHAN, Associate Professor, Accounting and Finance
- LAURA ZAMBORSKY, Financial Literacy Outreach Specialist, Office of Student Financial Aid

STAFF EXCELLENCE
Exercises leadership, initiative, outstanding teamwork capabilities that create a positive atmosphere, and consistently performs at a level above normal job requirements.

- BRIDGETT DYSON, Special Events Manager, University Advancement
- KRIS KEAYS-GANT, Grant Administration Manager, College of Arts & Sciences

DIVERSITY
Outstanding contribution to the advancement of diversity of UAA students, staff, and faculty through increasing the visibility and representation of diverse voices, creating an atmosphere of inclusiveness and community.

Diversity Action & Inclusion Plan Tri-chairs –

- MARIA WILLIAMS, Director, Alaska Native Studies
- ROBERT BOECKMANN, Professor, Psychology
- ANDRÉ THORN, Director, Multicultural Center and AHAINA Student Programs

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE
Outstanding contribution to advancing partnerships between the university and Alaska’s schools, public and private industries and community organizations.

- JAN HARRIS, Vice Provost for Health Programs and Director, Alaska Center for Rural Health and Health Workforce
- MICHAEL STALLINGS, Joint Library Catalog System Administrator, UAA/APU Consortium Library

CHANCELLOR’S STEWARDSHIP AWARDS
Awarded to an individual faculty or staff member and/or group collaborating as a team who have made an exceptional, innovative, and measurable impact in one of the following areas: Safety, Operational Effectiveness, and Sustainability.

- Safety: HEALTH PROMOTION TEAM / UAA Student Health & Counseling Center
- Operational Effectiveness: JODEE KUDEN, Professor and Head of Collection Development, UAA/APU Consortium Library
- Sustainability: RECYCLING CREW

For more information on the chancellor’s awards and a list of previous winners: https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/chancellor/awards-for-excellence/
FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR

NICOLE WILLSON, a 2017-18 Fulbright Teaching Assistant, is UAA’s 14th Fulbright award recipient. Willson, a 2016 graduate with a double major in English and Economics and a minor in Spanish, begins her English teaching assistant position in Spain this September. A UA Scholar when she entered UAA, she enrolled in an introductory Spanish class with Associate Professor Patricia Fagan who became her mentor. In 2015, Willson participated in a six-week program in Barcelona that featured classes in international economics and Spanish. After graduation, Willson completed an independent study with Fagan to create lesson plans to prepare for her Fulbright application. Among those plans is to introduce a literacy discovery club in which young adults who know a little English will explore classic American and English texts. She also plans to offer a global exploration workshop to help students and young adults learn more about opportunities outside of Spain and build an English resume. Historically, only 20 percent of Fulbright English Teaching Assistant applicants receive awards.

TRUMAN SCHOLAR

JACOB SHERCLIFFE is one of 62 people nationwide named this year as a Truman Scholar, the thirteenth UAA student to receive this award. The political science and economics major with a minor in communications is active in both Seawolf Debate and the Model U.N. The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation provides up to $30,000 to each scholar in support of graduate study. Criteria for selection include exceptional leadership potential, commitment to careers in government or public service, and academic achievement. Shercliffe described his experience at UAA as “getting a private school education at a public school price.” After earning his baccalaureate degree, he plans to pursue a joint Master of Arts in Education and Master of Public Policy degree to prepare him for a career promoting access to education and boosting graduation rates for Alaskans.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION FELLOW

NATHANIEL COX, a civil engineering graduate student, was selected as a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow. Cox credits his high school physics teacher, Bill Ennis, and UAA Professor Larry Foster, for igniting and inspiring Cox’s interest in math and engineering. As an undergraduate, Cox was part of a team that received an Alex Hills Engineering and Community Engagement Award to design snow-disposal facility in the Fairview neighborhood. He also received an Alaska Space Grant Program Fellowship to develop a new mortar mix design for an extraterrestrial lunar environment. In the first year of his 5-year fellowship, Cox will complete research on the suitability of structural insulated panels, thin plywood slabs sandwiching a polyurethane core, for use in multi-span buildings. He will be testing strength, stability, and energy efficiency. He sees potential for his current research to improve living conditions in rural Alaska by reducing costs of construction, transportation of materials, heating operations, and improving housing design.

DREAM SCHOLARSHIP

LENA ILLIG was awarded a $1,000 Law Enforcement Education Program (LEEP) Dream Scholarship for the fifth year in a row. She was among 22 students to receive the award supporting pursuit of law enforcement/public safety careers. A former cadet of UAA’s Army ROTC program, Illig was in the Emerging Leaders Program and organized numerous justice events. She also works at Aviation Medical Services of Alaska and Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest, serves as an on-call volunteer with the Anchorage Police Search and Rescue Team, and is a Crisis Hotline volunteer for Standing Together Against Rape. She received the UAA Martin Luther King Student Appreciation Recognition and the Point of Light Award from President Bush for her volunteer work. She earned her bachelor of arts in Justice in fall 2016.
2016-17 COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

SOPHIE LESHAN, fall 2016 commencement speaker, graduated with a bachelor’s degree in early childhood education, with magna cum laude and leadership honors. After moving from Ann Arbor, Michigan, Leshan immersed herself in everything UAA has to offer and received her degree in less than four years. She held leadership positions within the Emerging Leaders Program, USUAA Student Government, UAA Concert Board, and the University General Assembly. Drawn to the field of education, she worked with Kids Corp Inc., Head Start, and Camp Fire in addition to her classes and her student teaching placements. “Elementary schoolteachers really do have to be the ‘jack of all trades’ in a sense, as they must cover so many different content areas,” she said. “The idea that I would certainly need to be a lifelong learner to be a successful teacher appealed to me.” Leshan also served as a Community-Engaged Student Assistant helping College of Education Professors Hattie Harvey and Kathryn Ohlé investigate educator perceptions of a statewide kindergarten-entry assessment. An undergraduate research award enabled her to extend the work on this project. Other awards included the UAA Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Award, Seawolf Student Leader Award, College of Education Scholarship, and the Mabil Duir Leadership Scholarship.

NINA LEE, spring 2017 commencement speaker, graduated with a bachelor’s degree in early childhood education. After five years struggling to succeed in college, she took a break. For two years, she volunteered in local elementary schools and found her passion: teaching. She returned to UAA as a full-time student with a newfound drive and motivation. A first-generation American, her parents are from South Korea, Lee realized that diversity and bilingualism are strengths. That motivated her to promote the development of heritage languages in young children to help them find that positive sense of self and recognition. An undergraduate research grant from the Honors College enabled her to work as a Community Engaged Student Assistant on Professor Kathryn Ohlé’s research, and learn how teachers and Alaska Native parents use printed and electronic dual-language books to foster and encourage early literacy and language development. Lee’s work will continue through the materials she created for the project, including a YouTube instructional video for parents for how to use the books she helped produce.

MATT CHILDS, who received a Master of Business Administration this year, was the first student speaker at the Graduate Degree Hooding ceremony this spring. Childs earned his Bachelor of Arts in history in 1995, a Master of Arts in creative writing from Alaska Pacific University in 2004, and returned to UAA in 2014 to pursue an MBA with a business analytics emphasis. He has worked with General Communications Incorporated (GCI) for 10 years, starting out in software development and is now director of data analytics. Childs served as president of the MBA Student Association and contributed time and effort to College of Business and Public Policy/Clark Middle School Leadership Fellows Junior Program. He volunteered as a guest speaker for the college’s “Introduction to Leadership” classes, and served as a virtual ePortfolio mentor. Childs sees students having a responsibility to be engaged, sharing knowledge, networking with students and faculty, and giving back to UAA and the community—a responsibility that doesn’t stop at graduation.
ERIC ROBERTS, Biological Sciences, is a member of the UAA hockey team, and won the most improved player award in the 2015-16 season and was named a WCHA Scholar Athlete last season with a 3.86 GPA. He is a member of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. From British Columbia, his goal is to continue his education in optometry.

LIZA THEN, Legal Studies, is an intern with the Innocence Project and a Justice Center research assistant. She is active in the Justice Club, Pre-law Society, AHAINA, and volunteered as a language coordinator for Catholic Social Service’s Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services while maintaining a 3.2 GPA.

SECOND BRIDGE AWARD

AMANDA SASSI, an Environment and Society undergraduate student, received the $1,000 Second Bridge Scholarship Award for her project, “Permaculture Design to Further Community Gardens in Girdwood.” The project will bring together community partners in Girdwood, including the Four Valleys Community School, to improve sustainable community garden programs. Sassi will attend a permaculture design course and will use that service-learning experience to provide community gardening workshops and expand and design sustainable community gardens. Her faculty sponsor is E. Jamie Trammell, assistant professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies.

BLM INTERNSHIP

RYAN CHALKER, the first graduate in the Associate of Applied Science in Outdoor Leadership program at Prince William Sound College, May 2017, was also one of the first students to intern with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Glennallen Field Office as an Outdoor Recreation-Rivers and Trails Technician through a new program created in 2016. Prince William Sound College and the BLM created the internship program to meet the needs of PWSC students and help fill seasonal positions at the BLM. During his summer 2016 internship, Chalker assisted resource and recreation management in maintaining and monitoring the Gulkana and Delta National Wild and Scenic Rivers.

ALEX HILLS ENGINEERING & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AWARD

The 2017 recipients of the $2,500 Alex Hills Engineering and Civic Engagement Award will design a snow making system for the Arctic Valley Ski Area. JULIA MACKEE, JESSE MILLER, BRYAN SOOTER, ISSAC WILLIAMS, JAMES MATTHEWS, and KYLE ALVARADO (above left to right), will analyze and design options for water delivery and storage, as well as snow gun placement. The community partner is the Anchorage Ski Club, the nonprofit organization that manages the ski area. Civil Engineering Professor Osama Abaza is the team’s faculty advisor.

AHAINA STUDENTS OF EXCELLENCE

The 2017 recipients of the $2,500 Alex Hills Engineering and Civic Engagement Award will design a snow making system for the Arctic Valley Ski Area. JULIA MACKEE, JESSE MILLER, BRYAN SOOTER, ISSAC WILLIAMS, JAMES MATTHEWS, and KYLE ALVARADO (above left to right), will analyze and design options for water delivery and storage, as well as snow gun placement. The community partner is the Anchorage Ski Club, the nonprofit organization that manages the ski area. Civil Engineering Professor Osama Abaza is the team’s faculty advisor.
MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION students KATIE DOUGHERTY, KATE WRIGHT, BRANDON NYE, and LOREEN DAVIS (left to right above) were among 400 graduate students from around the world participating in the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration Batten Student Simulation Competition at the University of Washington campus in February. Students from different schools formed teams of 16 to 20 who simulated a fictional global non-governmental organization working to reduce global hunger in five regions. UAA students KATIE DOUGHERTY and KATE WRIGHT were members of the University of Washington World One team that won the localized site competition and placed in the top eight among all locations.

UAA STUDENTS PLACE THIRD in Regional College Cyber Defense Competition sponsored by Raytheon. Students from more than 180 colleges and universities from across the country competed in several regional competitions. UAA’s team was one of only 10 regional teams to advance to the national competition. The UAA team included students in the MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS in the College of Business & Public Policy, and COMPUTER SCIENCE students from the College of Engineering and the Community and Technical College.

The Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition expects students to have a broad knowledge of IT environments and the ability to utilize time management and task prioritization skills. Student teams were tasked with protecting computer networks against the same type of real-world cyber threats infiltrating major networks and institutions.

KENAI PENINSULA COLLEGE teams finished second and third in the 2017 National Troubleshooting Competition. The team from the Kenai River Campus (KRC) earned second place with team members STEPHEN SEVERSON, DREW LEONARD, and JOSHUA WOLF. JEFF LAUBE, associate professor of Process Technology at KRC, coached the team. The Anchorage Extension Site team finished third. Coached by RICK ADAMS, associate professor of Process Technology, the team consisted of COLLIN OLIVER, WILLOW SCHLENKER, and JOSH BOSNJAK. The Alaska Process Industries Careers Consortium coordinated fundraising for the students and coaches to travel to the competition.

SEAWOLF DEBATE

The SEAWOLF DEBATE team continued to win honors with one of the youngest teams in several years. New members JOHN MACY, NEAL KOENEMAN, and SARAH GRAY received top novice speaker awards in multiple competitions. Veteran members SAM ERICKSON and JACOB SHERCLIFFE advanced to the final round at the Western Regional Championships at Pacific Lutheran University. In other regional competitions, SAM ERICKSON and SARAH ELTON won first place at the Seattle IV and advanced to the semi-finals in the Yale IV competitions. Three UAA teams participated in the World Universities Debating Championships at the Hague in the Netherlands where more than 375 teams competed, and JOHN MACY and ROBERT HOCKEMA earned three first place finishes in their first international tournament.

This year the Seawolf Debate team broadened its work with middle school students, coaching students at the McLaughlin Youth Center and traveling to Fairbanks to train debate judges and host the first Middle School Public Debate program. More than 40 students from four Fairbanks middle schools participated.

Seawolf Debate partnered with the Atwood Foundation, Rasmuson Foundation, Northrim Bank, and GCI to present “Debating Alaska’s Fiscal Future,” a scholarship competition for Alaska high school and college students. Twenty-two teams submitted 10-minute videos for the initial round, from which eight teams were selected to compete for $10,000 in scholarships. Four teams were selected by more than 3,900 votes cast online by the public, and a panel of judges from the UAA debate team selected the additional four teams. The Champion team from Service High School, Ricky York and Jacob Hersh, received the $5,000 grand prize scholarship.
A GREAT YEAR FOR SEAWOLF ATHLETICS

- Second straight Top 20 finish out of 306 schools in the prestigious Learfield Director’s Cup.
- GNAC All-Sports Champions—a first for UAA.
- Seawolf athletes’ combined 3.26 GPA set a new record.
- Athletes logged 2,340 community service hours in 2016-17.
- 25 All-American honors.
- 7 Conference Team Titles.
- More than 125,000 fans attended UAA athletic events in 2016-17.

VOLLEYBALL
- Runner-up for NCAA Division II title, second straight GNAC championship, and program-best record of 34-3.
- MORGAN HOOE named GNAC and NCAA West Region Player of the Year, First Team All-American, and Bill MacKay Athlete of the Year.
- LEAH SWISS named All-American; DIANA FA’AMAUSILI named GNAC and West Region Freshman of the Year.
- CHRIS GREEN named AVCA National Coach of the Year, and GNAC Coach of the Year for the fourth time; and SHELDON CARVALHO named AVCA National Assistant Coach of the Year.
- Attendance at home games led the country for the second straight year.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
- GNAC regular-season and tournament champions for third year in a row.
- KIKI ROBERTSON set GNAC record for assists, steals, and victories.

MEN’S BASKETBALL
- A 21-11 season record marked the 11th consecutive winning season and tied for third place in the GNAC standings.
- SUKI WIGGS led the GNAC in scoring for the second straight year.

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GNAC: Great Northwest Athletic Conference
MPSF: Mountain Pacific Sports Federation
RMISA: Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Ski Association
WCHA: Western Collegiate Hockey Association
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA FELLOW

SIMON KATTENHORN, director of the Department of Geological Sciences and professor of Structural Geology, was named a Geological Society of America (GSA) Fellow, an honor recognizing distinction in the publication of geologic research, training of geologists, and administration of geological programs. “Dr. Simon Kattenhorn demonstrates excellence in research in structural and planetary geology, and is a gifted teacher and valued colleague,” wrote Judith Parrish, a GSA fellow and longtime member from the University of Idaho in his nomination. David Pollard at Stanford University and Louise Prockter of the Lunar and Planetary Institute also wrote letters of support. GSA will honor him on October 22 at the Presidential Address and Awards Ceremony in Seattle. Kattenhorn joined UAA in July 2016 after 16 years as teaching geology at the University of Idaho and two years working as a structural geologist for ConocoPhillips.

NEW EDUCATOR AWARD

TERRY NELSON, graduate programs director in the College of Business and Public Policy and assistant professor of management, received the 2017 New Educator Award presented by the Management & Organizational Behavior Teaching Society (MOBTS). The award recognizes academics who earned a doctorate degree in 2013 or later who make a difference in the field of management education through exceptional classroom instruction, educational innovation, and cutting-edge promise and creativity through their teaching, scholarship, and/or service. The MOBTS is the oldest international professional organization dedicated to teaching and learning excellence in the organizational and management sciences.

Nelson came to UAA in 2013 after earning a Ph.D. from the University of Memphis. She is also a leader in the Leadership Fellows Program and began the award-winning Junior Leadership Fellows program for middle school students.

2017 COLLEAGUE-TO-COLLEAGUE FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

RAY BALL, assistant professor of History, recognized for her work to support faculty in their scholarly writing, through learning communities.

VERONICA HOWARD, assistant professor of Psychology and Tech Fellow, recognized for mentoring the new Tech Fellows and her work with Open Educational Resources.

KATHY KELSEY, postdoctoral fellow in Biological Sciences, recognized for her initiative in coordinating and presenting faculty seminars that cross disciplines.

The Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence (CAFE) has presented awards recognizing excellence since 2008.

CAFE also recognized AUDREY TAYLOR, assistant professor, Geography & Environmental Studies, EMILY LESAK, Biology postdoctoral fellow, and JOAN BARTLEY, Human Services for their high degree of participation in faculty development events during the 2016-17 academic year.
ENDOWED CHAIRS

BART J. WILSON served as the 8th Rasmuson Chair for the spring 2017 semester. He is professor of Economics and Law at the Economic Science Institute and the Donald P. Kennedy Endowed Chair in Economics and Law at Chapman University in California. He earned his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Arizona.

PHILIP GROSSMAN is the 9th Rasmuson Chair, serving in the fall 2017 semester. He is professor of Economics at Monash University in Australia, with a research focus on behavioral economics. He earned his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Virginia.

TIM BRADNER, a longtime Alaskan columnist, is the 22nd Atwood Chair of Journalism. Co-publisher of the Alaska Legislative Digest and the Alaska Economic Report, and a contributor to the Alaska Journal of Commerce and Alaska Dispatch News, Bradner earned an MPA at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

ANNUAL FUND FOR EXCELLENCE PROJECTS

The UAA Annual Fund for Excellence, made possible by alumni and friends of UAA, selected five projects from 26 proposals to receive a total of approximately $164,000. The fund focused this year on projects to strengthen UAA’s Accreditation Core Themes (Teaching & Learning, Student Success, Research & Creative Activity, Engagement/Public Square, and UAA Community).

The winning proposals were:

- **Supplemental Instruction for High Demand, High Attrition GERs** (SHANNON GRAMSE, associate professor, College Preparatory & Developmental Studies) The Learning Commons invited instructors to request Supplemental Instruction support, offering regularly-scheduled small-group study and review sessions in which students work together to discuss readings and lectures, compare notes, develop organizational strategies and study for tests.

- **Faculty-in-Residence** (RYAN HILL, associate director/MAC Residence coordinator, Residence Life) A faculty member will live in the Main Apartment Complex (MAC) and engage with the residential community at least 10 hours a week, coordinating academic programs and workshops to promote student success.

- **UAA Emerging Leaders Program & UAA Leadership Conference** (PAULA FISH, associate director for Student Leadership, Student Life & Leadership) This program uses self-assessment, learning, and practice opportunities to help students become accomplished in the classroom, competitive in the workforce, and civic-minded in their communities.

- **UAAspire** (THERESA LYONS, executive director, Student Outreach & Transition) UAAspire is fostering relationships and building trust with high school students to help them transition successfully into college and to nurture a connectedness to UAA. This project aims to increase the racial and ethnic diversity of UAA’s student body to more fully reflect Alaska’s demographics.

- **Tutor Center/Homework Night** (CRICKETT WATT, success coordinator, College of Engineering) To promote student success and retention, the College of Engineering will expand its hours and the number of available tutors through the Tutoring Center. Faculty will join the tutors once a week in Homework Night to provide additional support for the difficult curriculum required for engineering students. This enhanced program will offer one-on-one assistance and foster a sense of belonging in this learning community.

EXPANDED LIBRARY RESOURCES

With a $300,000 grant awarded by the Rasmuson Foundation, the UAA/APU CONSORTIUM LIBRARY migrated 57 public and school libraries into the statewide Joint Library Catalog system. With this major migration, the Joint Library Catalog system now supports 75 libraries in Alaska serving 65 percent of the state's population. As a result of the grant and continued work with digitizing materials relating to Alaska’s history, the UAA/APU Consortium Library was also invited as a charter member to join the World Digital Library program currently managed by the Library of Congress.

MULTI-MEDIA RESOURCE FOR FACULTY

Developed by the Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence and edited by LIBBY RODERICK, Toxic Friday is a multimedia resource—a book, website, and online video—to address and prevent faculty-to-faculty bullying in higher education. The video uses interactive theater to portray some common toxic behaviors within academic departments. Together, these materials help readers identify, discuss, and implement solutions that create lasting change.
INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

The University of Alaska Anchorage is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU).

Institutional accreditation is regularly reviewed and reaffirmed by the NWCCU. This occurs through regular reports and site visits on a seven-year cycle. UAA’s institutional accreditation was last reaffirmed on February 24, 2012, as a result of the Year One Evaluation report submitted on September 15, 2011. This evaluation began a new accreditation cycle that runs from 2011-2017.

UAA’s self-study process will culminate in the comprehensive Year Seven Evaluation report and peer evaluation site visit in fall 2018. The report will address all Eligibility Requirements and Standards, with a focus on mission fulfillment.

PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

COLLEGE OF HEALTH
- Nursing Practice DNP – initial accreditation

COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
- Construction Management AAS, BS - reaccreditation

NEW PROGRAMS APPROVED

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND PUBLIC POLICY
- Entrepreneurship Minor

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
- Secondary Special Education Minor

COLLEGE OF HEALTH
- Surgical Technology AAS

COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
- Occupational Safety and Health BS

NEW AGREEMENTS

UAA and the University of Tromsø: The Arctic University of Norway (UiT) signed an agreement for the exchange of undergraduate and graduate students.

UAA and Jilin University of Finance and Economics (JUFE) signed a cooperative agreement to explore the development of collaborative educational and research projects, joint academic and scientific activities, publications, and faculty and student exchanges. A 1+1 MBA articulation agreement was also signed.

UAA continues to strengthen its partnerships with Alaska’s schools through agreements such as an articulation agreement with Anchorage School District through Dimond High School’s Project Lead the Way/Engineering Academy and Alaska Middle College School, with the Mat-Su Borough School District (MSBSD) through the Mat-Su Middle College School. Both the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District and the Mat-Su Borough School District have Concurrent Enrollment agreements with UAA.

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE

The COLLEGE OF EDUCATION’S MASTER’S IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP was named one of the 50 Best Online Education Master Programs by College Choice, an independent online publication dedicated to helping students and their families find the right college. The ranking methodology aggregates data from multiple publicly accessible sources. The program was ranked No. 27, ahead of Michigan State University and Arizona State University.

The COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE’S AUTOMOTIVE & DIESEL TECHNOLOGY program ranked #13 on The 20 Best Automotive Mechanic Schools. In its description of the program, “The Best Schools” website said, “The program is career-focused, the courses are modeled after corporate training programs and are based on ASE certification standards. It offers the unique option of the General Motors ASEP program, which specifically prepares students for automotive service careers on GM vehicles.” A 2016 Z07 Corvette is the newest addition to the program’s fleet of GM-donated classroom cars.

The ALASKA AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER (AHEC) program was one of four semi-finalists in the 2017 ACT College and Career Readiness Campaign’s Career Preparedness category for post-secondary institutions, advancing after receiving exemplar status. The success of AHEC’s Behavioral Health Career Pathways Initiative, launched in 2015, was cited. Since the program began, 100 percent of program participants are now certified in Mental Health First Aid. Other semi-finalists included The University of Arizona, Butler Community College’s Early College Academies, and Western Nevada College’s Jump Start College Program.

The KODIAK REGIONAL ADULT BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM at KODIAK COLLEGE received the Alaska Adult Education Association Program Award for “exemplary effort in creative program development for the improvement of student services.” These free career, college, and GED preparation and English language classes, help adults develop skills and knowledge for education, employment and citizenship, and make progress toward personal and career goals. Kodiak’s ABE team includes LINDA HIMELBLOOM, coordinator; MARY FORBES, instructor; and NATASHA ZAHN PRISTAS, staff.

The National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment (NILOA) selected The STUDENT AFFAIRS ASSESSMENT webpage as a Featured Website for its clear and concise overview of the university’s student affairs assessment efforts, and as an example of promising practices in innovative and transparent online communication of student learning outcomes assessment.
NEW PROGRAMS & FACILITIES

UAAS INNOVATIVE DESIGN STUDIO opened in January 2017 on the second floor of the UAA/APU Consortium Library. The new renovated lab space provides training and support for faculty, staff, and students interested in a wide range of cutting-edge learning technologies. These include augmented and virtual reality display and development; 3D graphics, modeling and printing; creative audio and video production; highly interactive digital communications and smart presentation; and engaging ePortfolios. Faculty can find support for the exploration and adoption of these technologies as well as training in their development and use. Students can work with Studio personnel, collaborating faculty, and ePortfolio coaches to search out training and other learning opportunities such as application development. The Studio also works with departments to research the use of these technologies and increase their effectiveness throughout the university. The renovation was funded through the Title III Robust Online Learning Grant from the U.S. Department of Education, managed by UAA’s Academic Innovations & eLearning.

IMPROVING TEACHING PRACTICES

The Missing Piece in Interpersonal Education Teaching: Facilitation Skills Within and Across Professions, held in August as part of the College of Health’s All-College Meeting, featured presenters Mayumi Willgerodt, PhD., RN, and the University of Washington School of Nursing and Health Sciences, and Jennifer Danielson, PharmD, University of Washington Center for Health Sciences Interprofessional Education, Research, and Practice. The interactive workshop was hosted by the College of Health, the Alaska Center for Rural Health Workforce, and the WWAMI Area Health Education Center. Winter Teaching Academy, held in January and co-hosted by Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence, Academic Innovations & eLearning, and the Center for Community Engagement and Learning, featured an opening presentation by Kathleen Blake Yancey, Kellogg W. Hunt Professor of English and Distinguished Research Professor at Florida State University. Her session explored ePortfolios as a platform for improving students’ writing, reflection, and knowledge transfer.

EduPass Course Design & Development Conference, presented by Academic Innovations and eLearning in August, focused on online course design and redesign with tracks for new faculty and for faculty with prior eLearning experience. This free faculty professional development course offered makerspace-guided course design labs, and faculty could attend in person or virtually via Blackboard Collaborate.

eWolf Intensive: Community of Practice, held in May, featured keynote speaker Eddie Watson, associate vice president for Quality, Advocacy & LEAP Initiatives at AAC&U, and guest speakers Jeff Yan and Kelly Driscoll from Digation. Topics focused on ePortfolios, identified as a high-impact teaching practice, with sessions on assessment, team-based learning, working with community partners, and faculty research. The intensive also offered makerspace time with instructional designers and ePortfolio coaches. Sessions were available in person at the UAA Learning Commons and virtually via Blackboard Collaborate.

How to Teach and Talk about Narratives of Sexual Violence: A Difficult Dialogues Workshop in April introduced educators to strategies drawn from UAA’s Difficult Dialogues publication “Start Talking: A Handbook for Engaging Difficult Dialogues in Higher Education.” The session explored the range of tools available to instructors seeking to effectively break the silence about sexual assault on campus and help their students explore solutions in an academic setting.

Your Mind at Work: How Understanding our Brains Can Improve Decision-Making, Collaboration and Cooperation in the Workplace, co-sponsored by CAFE and the Honors College, featured a presentation by visiting behavioral neuroendocrinologist Emma Coddington who investigates neural mechanisms that drive stress behavior and decision making in amphibians and people.

NORTHERN JOURNEYS: INTEGRATING ARTS AND CULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM is a new collaboration between the College of Education, Anchorage School District, Anchorage Museum, Alaska State Council on the Arts, and the Alaska Native Heritage Center. It is helping teachers integrate arts into their classrooms and teach in a culturally responsive way. Anchorage has the top 19 most diverse elementary schools in the nation. Funded in part by a grant from the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation, Northern Journeys had 16-17 Anchorage-based student teachers working with a host teacher and principal at five Anchorage elementary schools. The project provides cultural training and awareness through workshops hosted by partner organizations and artists who present in the individual classrooms. By using culture and art to better connect with students, teachers become more confident in their ability to work with children and families of different cultures. Project leaders are HILARY SEITZ, professor of Early Childhood Education, and Mike Belloni of the Anchorage School District.

IN THE CLASSROOM is a new collaboration between the College of Education and the Alaska Center for Rural Health and Health Education, Research, and Practice. The interactive workshop was hosted by the College of Health, the Alaska Center for Rural Health Workforce, and the WWAMI Area Health Education Center.
INVENTIONS & PATENTS

UAA now has 52 patent filings, up from two in FY11. Two new patents were awarded in FY17, increasing the total number of patents issued to ten.

ANTHONY PARIS, associate professor of Engineering, was issued U.S. Patent No. 9,421,596 B2 for Bending Instrument and Methods of Using the Same, on August 23, 2016. This new patent differs significantly from his previously patented device. It uses a ratchet-type mechanism for controlled bending, preserves the bending process, and allows one-handed use during spinal surgery. The invention shortens surgical and recovery times and reduces tissue damage. This second patent makes Paris the first person inducted twice into the UAA Patent Wall of Fame.

SAMUEL WERNER, a graduate of WWAMI, received U.S. Patent No. 9,636,134 B2 for Surgical Cutting Device and Methods of Using Same on May 2, 2017. While a student at UAA, Werner developed the device using a vibrating attachment to a surgical instrument for eye surgery, enabling it to pass easily through tissues to form precise incisions, avoid significant tissue damage and poor incision closure, and resulting in more rapid healing and recovery times for the patient. Werner will be inducted into the Patent Wall of Fame at the next INNOVATE Awards Ceremony, and will be the second UAA student to be inducted as the lead inventor on a patent.

FIRST ANCHORAGE ARCTIC RESEARCH DAY

UAA and the Arctic Research Consortium of the U.S. (ARCUS) held the first Anchorage Arctic Research Day on March 24. The event brought together the Arctic research community to share information and foster new connections and collaborations with participants from government, industry, academic, nonprofit and indigenous groups.

RHIZOFORM NAMED AMONG TOP UNIVERSITY STARTUPS

RHIZOFORM, LLC, UAA’s fourth startup, was named one of the top 36 “Best University Startups” by the National Council of Entrepreneurial Tech Transfer in September 2016.

As part of the award, PHILLIPPE AMSTISLAVSKI and HELENA WISNIEWSKI participated in Demo Day at Congress on September 20, 2016, and met with Alaska Senators Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan, and Representative Don Young in their Washington D.C. offices.

The company provides biodegradable insulation materials from natural products. A potential replacement for styrofoam, it can be used for housing insulation, road underlayment, packaging insulation, shipping containers, and coolers. Rhizoform was co-founded by public health professor PHILIPPE AMSTISLAVSKI and civil engineering professor JOEY YANG, who with student MARIA WHITE have a U.S. Patent Pending No. 62/288,156.
2016-17 INNOVATE AWARDS

Through FY17 the INNOVATE Awards achieved a 6-to-1 return on research investment through externally funded grants. UAA has awarded a total of $839,892 for 64 projects since 2012 when the awards were established by Vice Provost for Research Helena Wisniewski. To-date, UAA has received $5,270,761 in external funding for INNOVATE projects—mostly from federal agencies, including the National Institutes for Health and the National Science Foundation. In 2016, 7.5 percent of all external funding UAA received ($40.9 million) was generated by Innovate-supported research. Seven projects received Innovate funding in FY17:

• SCOTT HAMEL, Civil Engineering, Seismic Hold-down Connectors for Polyurethane-based Structural Insulated Panels.
• NATHANIEL HICKS, Physics & Astronomy, BRANDON BRIGGS, Biological Sciences, JENS MUNK, Electrical Engineering, and MAX KULLBERG, WWAMI, A Helicon Source for Interdisciplinary Plasma Science and Engineering at UAA.
• VIVIAN M. GONZALEZ and MONICA SKEWES, Psychology, Does the Firewater Myth Contribute to the Limit Violation Effect? A Daily Diary Study.
• MYCHAL MACHADO and GLORIA ELDRIDGE, Psychology, Treating the Destructive Behaviors of Children Diagnosed with Autism using a Novel Approach.
• REBECCA VOLINO ROBINSON, Psychology, JORDAN LEWIS, WWAMI, CHRIS CAVANAUGH, a Ph.D. candidate in clinical-community psychology, Exploring Pathways to Recovery from Comorbid Homelessness.
• ANTHONY PARIS and GETU HAILU, Mechanical Engineering; JENS MUNK and JOHN LUND, Electrical Engineering, Research and Development of an Innovative New Device to Measure a Bicyclist’s Power.
• KHRYS DUDLESTON, Biological Sciences, PATRICK TOMCO, Chemistry, AARON DOTSON, Civil Engineering, Biodegradation of Crude Oil in Arctic Waters and Development of Dynamic Bioremediation Responses.

STUDYING STICKLEBACKS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND HUMAN IMMUNE RESPONSES

KATHRYN MILLIGAN-MYHRE’s research team is studying threespine stickleback fish to better understand how genetic differences shape the human immune response to microbial communities. A National Institutes of Health grant program specifically targeting biomedical research in underrepresented areas like Alaska, also includes stipulations to support undergraduate research. Milligan-Myhre received a $300,000 grant, funded over three years, and her team includes four undergraduate students, one graduate student, a technician, and a post-doctoral student.

“Our gut physiology is very similar,” explained EMILY LESCASK, a post-doctoral researcher in Milligan-Myhre’s lab. Both fish and humans, she explained, host similar microbiota—communities of useful bacteria that boost the host’s immune system. “There are a lot of similarities in our genetic pathways,” she said. “What we learn by studying stickleback—which are a lot easier to study than humans—can be very directly translated to help our understanding of issues of human health.”
ALASKA NATIVE POPULATION AND STOMACH CANCER

HOLLY MARTINSON, assistant professor of Molecular Biology, received a $50,000 grant from Debbie’s Dream Foundation and the American Association for Cancer Research to study gastric cancer among Alaska Native people. Martinson earned her bachelor’s degree in biochemistry from UAA in 2008 and her doctorate in cancer biology from the University of Colorado. When she returned to UAA in 2014 as a post-doctoral fellow, she worked with Matthew Olnes, head medical oncologist at the Alaska Native Medical Center, who wanted to learn more about the high incidence of stomach cancer among Alaska Natives, who also have a high mortality rate from this type of cancer. The five-year survival rate for gastric cancer in the Alaska Native community is 10 percent; in the general U.S. population, it is 30 percent. Her goal with the research is to better understand the cancers Alaska Native patients are being diagnosed with to develop better ways to detect the cancers earlier and devise more effective treatment. Five students are working with Martinson, both helping her set up the lab and studying the molecular characteristics of stomach cancer in the Alaska Native population. An initial grant through Alaska INBRE was funded in August 2015 followed by this grant in summer 2016.

RESEARCHERS FEATURED IN FRONTIER SCIENTISTS VIDEO

Frontier Scientists released a video series based on UAA Professor JEFFREY WELKER’S research, which focuses on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta in the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge. Welker and Karen Beard, a professor at Utah State University, lead the project, funded by a multi-year grant from the National Science Foundation. KATHY KELSEY, a UAA postdoctoral researcher, is also featured. To view the series, go to frontierscientists.org.

FIELDWORK TO BE ARCHIVED IN CUBA

JILL FLANDERS CROSBY, professor of Theater and Dance, will be one of the first Americans to have her fieldwork data archived at the Fundación Fernando Ortiz, the leading anthropological institution in Cuba. Through dance, art, photos and video Crosby reunited cultures in Africa and Cuba that were separated during the years of the slave trade. Crosby’s fieldwork data includes over 60 elder oral history interviews conducted in the communities of Perico and Agramonte in the Matanzas province in Cuba, and years of fieldwork in West Africa. An Innovate Award in 2012 supported some of her work.

CONOCOPHILLIPS ARCTIC SCIENCE ENGINEERING AWARDS

The five winning projects from UAA faculty, selected by a UAA committee through a rigorous evaluation process, received a total of nearly $450,000 for fiscal year 2017. The ConocoPhillips Arctic Science and Engineering Endowment, created in 2008 with a $15 million gift from the company to bolster Arctic science and engineering programs and research at UAA, funded the first round of projects in 2016. The 2017 projects are:

- MATTHEW CULLIN, associate professor, Mechanical Engineering: Accelerated Corrosion Under Insulation Test Apparatus. This apparatus will allow UAA faculty and students to determine the mechanisms and rates of corrosion under insulation in simulated and accelerated atmospheric exposure conditions to evaluate remedial solutions for known problem locations. This is a continuation of last year’s project.

- JENNIFER ASCHOFF, associate professor, and SIMON KATTENHORN, director and professor, Geological Sciences: Reinvigorating Arctic Oil/Gas Exploration with New Shelf-edge Exploration Concepts. This project will evaluate the petroleum potential of Cretaceous sandstone bodies in the subsurface at the edge of the paleo-continental shelf in Arctic Alaska.

- JIFENG PENG, assistant professor, Mechanical Engineering, TOM RAVENS, professor, and JOEY YANG, professor, Civil Engineering: Vortex-Induced Vibration in Marine Pipelines with Application to AK LNG. This project will involve a team of experts in fluid dynamics, structure dynamics, coastal processes, and geotechnical engineering to develop a new vortex-induced vibration model that employs fully coupled fluid dynamics, nonlinear structure, and soil dynamics.

- MATTHEW KUPILIK, assistant professor, Electrical Engineering, TOM RAVENS, professor, Civil Engineering, CAIXIA WANG, assistant professor, Geomatics, and FRANK WITMER, assistant professor, Computer Science & Computer Systems: Arctic Coastal Erosion Modeling Using Machine Learning and Process-Based Approaches. This project will develop predictive models based on machine-learning approaches and detailed accounting of the thermal and coastal processes, and use modeling to examine techniques to slow coastal erosion.

- PHILIPPE AMSTILAVSKI, associate professor, Public Health, and JOEY YANG, professor, Civil Engineering: Mycelium-based Biomaterials for Sustainable Thermal Insulation in the Arctic. This project aims to improve the biofoam’s thermal resistance and lower its density, without compromising its stiffness and strength, in order to bring it closer to field experimentation.
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Undergraduates participate in research projects at UAA in growing numbers. Sixty-three research grant awards were presented at this year’s Undergraduate Research & Discovery Symposium, and 15 new EXITO Scholar awards. Forty-one students received undergraduate research grants, 10 more than in 2016.

- Undergraduate Research in the Community awardees included CRYSTAL DOSSER, for her “Dance and Virtual Reality through 360 Degrees”; KASANDRA SAIKI, for her analysis of glaciofluvial deposits in Portage Glacier Valley; and ANNA STANCZYK, for her research into the cause of the Pretty Rocks debris slide in Denali National Park.

- Winners of the Alaska Heart Institute Biomedical Research Fellowships include DOMINI MALLARI and KOU THAO, for their work with Holly Martinson on stomach cancer research; and PRISCILLA NATCHER, for her research into “natural killer” immunotherapy for eliminating latent HIV.

- SEVY SHEPPARD received the ISER Policy Research Award, and TARAN HAYNES received a Discovery grant.

This year’s Symposium featured CANDACE LEWIS, who earned her bachelor’s degree in psychology from UAA, and her master’s and doctoral degrees in behavioral neuroscience from Arizona State University. As a Fulbright Fellow, she studied advanced neuroimaging in Zurich. Her keynote address, “Psychedelics as Therapeutics: An Old and New Story” discussed the ancient and modern use of psychedelic substances to facilitate healing. Students participated in 66 poster presentations with 118 total posters displayed.

New opportunities in 2017 included the ConocoPhillips Science and Engineering Apprenticeship, an award of $5,000 to a student to work on a summer project with a faculty mentor. Also new is a partnership of the Ludwig Foundation and the Anchorage Museum that selected CAROLINE STREFF to travel to Cuba to study art and dance as part of a “Resilient Communities in Transition” project.

The UAA BUSINESS ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE (BEI) suite of programs provides technical assistance and other services to businesses and communities to advance economic development and link them with expertise and talent at the university.

GLOBAL ENTREPRENEUR IN RESIDENCE (GEIR)

UAA is one of the first universities in the nation to launch a GEIR program, a cross-campus initiative to boost the university’s entrepreneurial ecosystem and academic offerings by involving international business people with real life direct experience in the entrepreneurial process in its different stages (from ideation to startup, from growth and turnarounds to exits). NIGEL SHARP is UAA’s first GEIR, a position he previously held at the University of Colorado Boulder where he co-founded a university spin-out company that was accepted into the Techstars business accelerator in 2017. He also co-founded software companies working on technologies ranging from voice recognition and gesture control to IT network security.

ALASKA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER assisted nearly 1,000 businesses across the state in 2017, helping these companies leverage nearly $14 million in financing. The SBDC launched a series of business development initiatives to better serve rural Alaska. The Center also won a regional award from the Small Business Administration for its work with veteran entrepreneurs in Fairbanks, and the National Science Foundation awarded SBDC $50,000 to help Alaskan innovators turn their prototypes into commercial products.

ALASKA MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER received the top tier National Performance Award for its 2016 economic development results. In 2016, the Alaska Center assisted clients in procuring nationwide and internally over $67 million in contracts, $2.4 million in financial transactions, created 456 jobs, retained 93 jobs and supported seven export transactions.

PROCUREMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER helped clients to bid for and receive over $783 million in government contract awards. More than 700 Alaska firms across the state received assistance with their pursuit of local, state, and federal contract opportunities.

ALASKA COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT CENTER brings local, regional and national experts to help Alaska co-ops and groups interested in the cooperative business model. Last year the center helped two new cooperatives register. It brought a team of national experts to help co-ops focused on improving food security, and worked closely with four peony marketing cooperatives to support this new industry.
ALASKA QUARTERLY REVIEW (AQR), completed its 34th year of publication under Editor-in-Chief and co-founder RONALD SPATZ.

SPATZ, an English professor, was featured in a lead article in the March 2017 edition of The Writer magazine. His literary editing of Alaska Quarterly Review (66 book-length works since 1982) has been recognized consistently. This year, Spatz’s selections were reprinted in The Best American Short Stories and The Best American Poetry and new works were chosen for The Best American Mystery Stories and The Best American Essays. AQR also received mentions in international media outlets including The Financial Times and The Huffington Post, in state outlets in Michigan, Oregon, Kentucky, Vermont, Massachusetts, and in Alaska, including Alaska Public Media, KNBA, Alaska Dispatch News, KTVA, and KTUU-TV.

AQR’s community outreach included several public readings. Spatz collaborated with English professor HEATHER ADAMS on two events related to issues of campus sexual violence (with AQR’s essay “White Horse” by Eliese Goldbach as a focal point). In October 2016, “A Voice Against the Culture of Rape,” featured a panel discussion moderated by professor ADAMS with UAA Justice Center professor LINDSEY BLUMENSTEIN, advocate Elsie Boudreau; artist Sarah Davies, and Anchorage lawyer, Truman Scholar, and UAA Alum Meg Simonian. This public event was supported by the Center for the Narrative and Lyric Arts, The Alaska Humanities Forum, and the Alaska Center for the Book. In April 2017, Spatz and Adams organized UAA’s “How to Teach and Talk about Narratives of Sexual Violence: A Difficult Dialogues” led by LIBBY RODERICK.

BOOKS BY UAA FACULTY & STAFF

Martha Amore, co-editor Instrctor, English
Rachel “Ray” Ball Assistant Professor, History
Pamela Cravez Editor, Alaska Justice Forum
Phyllis A. Fast Professor Emeritus, Anthropology

Christina McDowell, co-editor Associate Professor, Marketing & Management
Darren Prokop Professor, Information Systems & Decision Sciences
David Rameur Visiting Scholar, ISER
Don Rearden Associate Professor, Developmental Studies
Community Engagement

VOTER FRIENDLY CAMPUS

UAA is one of 83 campuses in 23 states that earned the designation as “Voter Friendly Campuses” through a new program sponsored by NASPA/Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, the Campus Vote Project, and the Fair Elections Legal Network. The program requires campuses to promote voter registration and voting as part of their institutional mission, to help students overcome barriers to participating in the political process, and to develop a culture of democratic engagement on campus.

UAA’s involvement began with Professor MARSHA OLSON’s Communications 111 class in spring 2016, in which students registered 90 people. Students created a project in which they registered students on campus to vote and encouraged them to go to the polls on election day. A $2,000 mini-grant from the Center for Community Engagement and Learning helped expand the effort in fall 2017 with 75 students participating. The Voter Friendly Campus designation will continue to broaden the effort with more student groups and classes getting involved. The League of Women Voters is the community partner.

UAA/CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP EARNS ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT HONOR

The Leadership Fellows Juniors Program partnership between UAA and Clark Middle School earned an Anchorage School District Spirit of Tomorrow Award, an honor recognizing schools and businesses that develop strong relationships for the benefit of students. ASD has more than 600 business partnerships; seven received the award.

TERRY NELSON, assistant professor of Management, started the program with help from a grant from the Center for Community Engagement and Learning in spring 2015 as a way to spark students’ interest in college as well as help them develop the skills to become leaders and motivate them to succeed. Nelson’s partner at the school is UAA Alumna CESSILYE WILLIAMS. It has since expanded to include the Colleges of Education and Health and recently received a $10,000 donation from Northrim Bank. Award sponsors include Wells Fargo, NECA/IBEW, BP, Providence Health & Services, CIRI, GCI, Siemens, Sylvan Learning, and Anchorage Chamber of Commerce.

SELKREGG AWARD FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE LEARNING

JAMIE ELSWICK, term instructor of Anatomy in the WWAMI School of Medical Education, received the 2017 Selkregg Award for her project, “Mobile Foot Clinic for Anchorage’s Homeless Population.” She is the 13th faculty member to receive the $5,000 award, established in 2005 in honor of Fred and Lidia Selkregg to support community-engaged research, creativity activity, and course-based service learning.

Collaborating with UAA’s School of Nursing, Central Lutheran Church, and local outreach partners, the project will deliver mobile basic foot, nail, and wound care to Anchorage’s vulnerable homeless. UAA medical and nursing students will be trained to provide the service and offer self-care outreach with personal care kits, gaining valuable experience and awareness of issues facing at-risk populations. The project not only increases access to services, it will instill community service and outreach values among these new medical practitioners.
COMMUNITY-ENGAGED STUDENT ASSISTANTS

Students selected to work as community-engaged student assistants (CESAs) with faculty in community-engaged teaching, research, or creative activity receive tuition support from the Center for Community Engagement and Learning. In AY17, 49 students assisted faculty with 26 community projects in 15 disciplines, with a number of projects combining several disciplines. Health-related projects accounted for eight of the 26 projects, followed by education-related projects with seven. Other disciplines involved included anthropology, English, history, journalism/communications, philosophy, political science, psychology, and public administration. Community partners included the Anchorage School District, The Anchorage Museum, the State of Alaska Citizen Review Panel, Rural Alaska Community Action Program, St. Francis House, and many more. CESAs have made possible many ongoing projects such as the Model United Nations, the BrainBee, and the Creative Activities Fair. Following are examples of two projects in AY17:

SELLING HEALTH: PROJECT BUHAY (LIFE)

Faculty GABE GARCIA, Health Sciences, and JOY MAPAYE, Journalism & Communications, partnered with CESAs JESSICA PETALIO, CLAUDINE TUNGUL, and SUZANNA AQUINO to pilot a creative, theory-based video intervention that promotes screenings for colorectal cancer among Filipinos, who have the lowest screening and five-year survival rates. The project used results from a baseline survey of Filipino-Americans, aged 50-75, in Kodiak and Unalaska. Those who were not current with their colorectal screenings received a copy of a video, along with a brochure from the American Cancer Society. Three months later, they were interviewed to assess any changes in their knowledge and awareness of colorectal cancer and screening, and whether they had recently been screened.

PREVENT-TEACH-REINFORCE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN: INTERVENTIONS TO REDUCE CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS

Education faculty HATTIE HARVEY, with Community-Engaged Student Assistants CALLIE ATKINS and BETHANY LEE, partnered with the Anchorage School District Preschool Programs to evaluate the effectiveness of the “Prevent-Teach-Reinforce” strategy in a preschool setting. With the consent of teachers and parents, the team conducted a functional behavior assessment for three preschool-aged children who had demonstrated challenging behaviors. Following the assessment, a behavior intervention plan was designed, implemented, and monitored. All three children showed a statistically significant reduction in challenging behaviors and an increase in engagement and desired behaviors, with both teachers and parents reporting high satisfaction with the results. This project was one of 12 receiving CCEL faculty mini-grants during the 2016-17 academic year.

ENGAGEMENT IN FACULTY PROMOTION AND TENURE

UAA is demonstrating a substantial commitment by including engagement criteria into the guidelines for faculty promotion and tenure, becoming one of the few institutions in the nation to do so. All of the academic colleges, plus the Consortium Library, have approved college-level acknowledgement of faculty engagement activities, and the College of Health has approved these guidelines at the departmental level. These formalized guidelines acknowledge faculty as one of the most important resources of the university, and engagement as a high-impact teaching practice for student success.
THINK TANK SERIES

This year UAA’s Center for Community Engagement and Learning broadened participation by offering schools and departments the opportunity to co-host the monthly Think Tank series. The series, launched by the Center for Community Engagement and Learning in 2014, invites local nonprofits to present an issue to students, faculty, and staff who then brainstorm solutions. The November Think Tank co-sponsored by the College of Education resulted in a Bringing Theory to Practice grant proposal to the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) to continue discussions across campus about how to better serve Alaska Native students.

Welcoming Anchorage: What contributes to a welcoming community? Co-hosted by the Mayor of Anchorage’s Office and the English Department (September)

The Alaska Innocence Project: What does society owe to those who have been wrongfully imprisoned? Co-hosted by the Justice Center (October)

UAA College of Education: How can we better serve Alaska Native students? Co-hosted by the College of Education (November)

Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission: How should Anchorage respond to the challenging needs of those abusing alcohol/drugs? How can health care professionals best advocate for care of this population? Co-hosted by the School of Nursing (February)

ARGUING ALASKA

The Arguing Alaska Debate Series is a program by the Seawolf Debate Program and Alaska Dispatch News to promote positive community discourse on topics of importance to the Alaska community. Held at the BearTooth TheatrePub, proceeds support the Seawolf Debate Program.

Political correctness has compromised free thought in American universities was the proposition at Arguing Alaska’s fall debate, Are American universities too politically correct?, held in October. Alaska State Senator Mike Dunleavy and Anchorage Daily Planet editor Paul Jenkins argued for the proposition. Arguing against was DIANE HIRSCHBERG, director of the Center for Alaska Education Policy Research, and DANIEL KLINE, director of the Department of English.

Will Alaska thrive under a Trump Presidency? was addressed in the spring debate held January 23. Jim Crawford, chair of the Trump Campaign in Alaska and SAM ERICKSON, USUAA president, represented the pro side. John Havelock, former attorney general for the State of Alaska and a columnist for the Alaska Dispatch News, and JACOB SHERCLIFFE, a political science and economics major, argued against the proposition.

Lael Parrott, a professor in Sustainability at the University of British Columbia and director of the Okanagan Institute for Biodiversity, Resilience, and Ecosystem Services, presented two lectures in September. In Slow Down and Save the Whales, the Helen & Lee Gorsuch Complex Systems Lecture, she shared the story of how multiple interest groups came together to agree upon measures to reduce whale-vessel collisions in the St. Lawrence River estuary. At a noon presentation, she discussed Building Resilient and Sustainable Landscapes: Lessons Learned from Complex Systems Science.

HELEN & LEE GORSUCH

COMPLEX SYSTEMS LECTURE

What the Framers of the U.S. Constitution Learned from Rome with James H. Nichols, Whitehill Professor of Humanism and Ethics in the Department of Government at Claremont McKenna College. (Annual Constitution Day Lecture, September)

What’s next, Mr. President? The Challenges of Waiting in the Asia Pacific with guest lecturer Christopher Hebb, an attorney in Vancouver, B.C. and president of the Churchill Society of British Columbia. (November)

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FOCUS ON ALASKA’S FISCAL CHALLENGE

UAA hosted several events on campus exploring topics related to Alaska's fiscal situation.

FISCALLY ALASKAN: MOVING TOWARDS SOLUTIONS

In October, the College of Business and Public Policy, with SHEILA SELKREGG’S Realizing Solutions: MPA Graduate Students Connecting You to Things that Matter initiative, partnered with Alaska Common Ground to present an all-day nonpartisan public forum focused on the state's fiscal crisis.

The forum included presentations and discussion by Alaska's leaders including Alaska Revenue Commissioner Randy Hoffbeck; Susanne Fleek-Green, chief of staff for Anchorage Mayor Ethan Berkowitz; Bill Popp, president and CEO of Alaska Economic Development Corporation; Rasmuson Foundation President and CEO Diane Kaplan; Department of Labor economist Neal Fried; and more.

Topics included an overview of how the fiscal system works and why we have a deep structural deficit, oil and tax credits and proposals for change, connecting the budget to Alaska's quality of life, impacts of budget cuts, and how to engage the public for action. Sponsors of the event included KLEF, Anchorage Public Library and the League of Women Voters. CARLA BURKHEAD, served as a community-engaged student for the project, and other MPA students assisted.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD LECTURE

The Politics of Cutting the Alaska State Budget: Fallacies and Realities with Clive Thomas, professor emeritus of the Department of Political Science at the University of Alaska Southeast. (September)

PROSPER ALASKA SUMMIT & EXPO

Can Alaska diversify its economy? Is a stable and vibrant Alaskan economy possible? These were overarching issues covered in the Prosper Alaska Summit and Expo organized by the College of Business & Public Policy and sponsored by Northrim Bank, KLEF, and Alaska Dispatch News. The day-long event at the Alaska Airlines Center included topics on tomorrow’s business niches; does minority-owned business matter; low cost marketing; internet technology and your business; and how to develop your business idea.

CONFERENCES

In February, Kodiak College's Community Engagement Committee hosted a mini-conference Tides of Change: Climate in the 21st Century that featured sessions on Climate Change: Perspectives among the Humanities and Social Sciences, Climate Change and Science, and Climate Change in the Literary Imaginations. Presenters included Kodiak College faculty and staff: MARK SCHREITER, associate professor of History and Humanities; CYTHIA FALCONE, assistant professor of Sociology; KATHRYNN HOLLIS-BUCHANAN, associate professor of Business Administration; JORDANA LONG, assistant professor of English; and SARA LOWEN-DANELSKI, library assistant. Other presenters included Mary Beth Lowen from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Dr. Christopher Long of NOAA, and Patrick Saltonstall of the Alutiq Museum.

Transition through Cross-Collaboration was the theme of this year’s statewide conference, Reducing Recidivism through Successful Reentry, organized by UAA’s Center for Human Development with support from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority. The conference offered both Adult and Youth tracks. Judge Stephanie Rhoades and L. Diane Castro of the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services presented the keynote for the Adult track, “The Intersection of Criminal Justice Reform and Medicaid Reform: Health Care as a Key Intercept to Recidivism.” Shannon Cross-Azbill, Shannon Dilley, and Vincent Yadao of the Division of Juvenile Justice presented the keynote for the Youth track, “Trauma Informed Care within the Division of Juvenile Justice.”
The 2017 national conference of Citizen Review Panels (CRPs), *Citizen Participation in Child Protection: Common Goals, Many Paths* was held at UAA in May. Federal law requires all states to establish CRPs to help protect children from abuse and neglect. The conference explored the challenges of—and opportunities for—fostering good relationships between the Citizen Review Panels and child-protection agencies. Debra Schilling Wolfe, a nationally recognized expert on child welfare and executive director of the Field Center for Children’s Policy, Practice, and Research at the University of Pennsylvania, presented the keynote address, discussing best practices and innovative ways of enhancing public participation in child protection. Diwakar K. Vadapalli, assistant professor of Public Policy at the Institute of Social and Economic Research, chairs the Alaska Citizen Review. Sponsors for this year’s conference included Institute of Social and Economic Research, College of Health, College of Business and Public Policy and the School of Social Work, along with the Alaska Children’s Trust, Chugach Alaska Corporation, and Action for Child Protection.

Faculty from UAA’s Department of Health Sciences, Institute of Social and Economic Research, Institute for Circumpolar Health Studies, Justice Center, Public Health, and Center for Human Development presented 11 sessions at the 34th Annual Statewide Alaska Health Summit in January. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, emerging health issues among Anchorage youth, rural health care challenges for people with disabilities, health and housing connections, climate change and increasing travel hazards for rural residents, and culturally responsive online health care were just some of the topics covered by UAA faculty and researchers during the 3-day summit.

In April scholars and history buffs gathered at Kenai Peninsula College’s Kenai River Campus for a two-day conference, 150 Years: Kenai Peninsula History Conference, exploring the Kenai Peninsula’s unique history and cultural diversity with a focus on the period around 1867 when Alaska was transferred from Russia to the United States. It examined the ongoing interactions among the area’s Alutiiq/Chugach, Dena’ina, Russian, and U.S. cultures, including the role of the Russian Orthodox Church, resource use and stewardship, the story of Fort Kenay, and preservation of traditional knowledge. Alan Boraas, professor of anthropology at KPC, presented the session *The Battles of Kenai and the Fate of the Russian American Company*. Mike Hawfield, professor emeritus of history and political science at the Kachemak Bay Campus, served on the organizing committee for the conference. Sponsors of the conference, part of a statewide observance of the 150th anniversary of the United States’ purchase of Alaska from Russia, included the Pratt Museum, Kenai Peninsula College, and the Peninsula Clarion.

The 16th Annual Kachemak Bay Writers’ Conference featured Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist and essayist Jane Smiley. The conference, held June 9-13 in Homer, included workshops and panel presentations in fiction, poetry, nonfiction, and the business of writing. Sixteen nationally-recognized visiting and Alaskan writers read from their work in the Festival of Literary Readings, open-to-the-public events held each evening of the conference. UAA faculty who presented included Rich Chiappone, Erin Coughlin Hollowell, Nancy Lord, and Don Rearden.

Prince William Sound College presented the 25th Annual Last Frontier Theatre Conference in June. This silver anniversary event featured three great new playwriting teachers (John Cariani, Hilary Bettis, Michael Evan Haney) and attracted 231 participants. The conference presented 56 plays in the Play Lab, including two by London playwrights and one from Greece. The Jerry Harper Service Award was presented to Sandy Harper for her enduring work in support of the conference and theatre in Alaska.

Mat-Su College presented the 7th Annual Machetanz Art Festival in June. Featured artist Ray Gamradt taught the full-day workshop “Shadows & Light Art in Charcoal” and presented a free lecture to the public at the Glenn Massay Theater the evening before the conference. Named for Fred and Sara Machetanz, who were closely associated with the early years of Mat-Su College and who contributed both to the visual and literary arts in Alaska through his painting and her books, the festival included workshops on pastels, Photoshop, Athabascan-style beadwork, fiber painting, mosaics, and pyrography (woodburning).

The Master’s in Fine Arts Summer Residency program sponsors the annual Northern Renaissance Arts & Sciences Readings. This year marked the 10th anniversary of the evening readings that are open to the public. American essayist Jo Ann Beard, a 2005 Guggenheim Fellow, presented the keynote on July 15, followed by a 10th anniversary reception. Readings featured 13 faculty and graduate students in the MFA program.
Kenai Peninsula College celebrated the re-opening of the Brockel Building with a ribbon-cutting ceremony last September. Named for KPC’s founding director Clayton Brockel, and one of the original four campus buildings, it now houses a completely renovated Library, Learning Center, Test Center, Math Lab, and the new Gary L. Freeburg Gallery. The Learning Center offers new comfortable study and tutoring areas, expanded testing center, and math and writing labs staffed by faculty. The Library now includes private individual and group study rooms that were not available previously. The new gallery space, expanded and relocated to a central space adjoining the lobby, features a high ceiling with track lighting.

The newly renovated and renamed Engineering & Computation Building opened in September 2016. Home to Computer Science, Computer Science & Engineering, Geomatics, and Mechanical Engineering programs, the building provides three large computational classrooms, student project space, machine shop and wood lab, biomechanics lab, dynamics and controls lab, and collaborative study space. A second floor skybridge connects the building with the new Engineering Parking Garage that provides 470 spaces. Also accessible from the second floor is the East/West spine connecting to the Student Union or the Natural Sciences Building.

The UAA UNIVERSITY HUB opened on the ground floor of the Student Union in January 2017. The Hub is home to Career Exploration & Services, College Transition Advising, New Student Recruitment, UA Scholars @ UAA and the Office of Student Outreach & Transition, previously located off-campus in the University Center. “The idea is working together more cohesively in a more collaborative way, making the experience for the student a seamless one,” said Theresa Lyons, executive director for Student Outreach and Transition. “We want to make sure they’re best prepared for the orientation experience and understanding the life cycle of the institution—when things are due, deadlines and dates—things that help acclimate a student. We’re seeking to create a space where students feel welcome and invited.”
UAA/APU CONSORTIUM LIBRARY OPENS NEW NORTH ENTRANCE AND RELIGHTS BEACON OF KNOWLEDGE

Last October a ceremony with Dean Steve Rollins, UAA Chancellor Tom Case, and APU President Don Bantz celebrated the official opening of a new North Entrance to the UAA/APU Consortium Library and a relighting of the Beacon of Knowledge. The long-awaited North Entrance provides an arctic entryway with a new circulation desk, offers better access to handicapped parking, and a safer path to the north parking lots. The Beacon of Knowledge, the distinctive spire on the library roof, was redesigned by SignCo using less expensive white lights inside gold tubing resulting in a gold beacon, a color used by both schools and associated with wisdom, illumination, understanding, enlightenment, and magic.

LIBRARY INSTALLS FIRST PUBLIC VIDEO PHONE

A public video phone (VP) was installed in the UAA/APU Consortium Library copy center, the first to be installed in a public location in Alaska. Available during regular hours of operation, it provides free video relay service for anyone who is deaf or hard of hearing through the use of American Sign Language (ASL). Disability Support Services ASL Staff Interpreter ANN LAZENBY was instrumental in the installation effort.

JAPANESE TEA ROOM OPENS

The JAPAN CENTER opened an authentic tea room, created with support from the Rasmuson Foundation and design by Japan’s Kato Biken Company. The renovated classroom features soft lighting from paper-and-wood lanterns, raised platforms of tatami mats, and sliding doors that separate the main room from the preparation area. HIROKO HARADA, Japanese language professor and director of the Japan Center, envisions using the space for tea ceremonies, meetings, classes, Zen meditation, and other cultural events. The JAPAN CENTER is dedicated to Monty Dickson, a language graduate and one of Harada’s former students. Dickson was in Japan teaching English when he was killed in the tsunami following the devastating earthquake in 2011. From 2012-2016, the Japan Foundation provided up to $100,000 annually to encourage cultural and educational opportunities at UAA.

PHILANTHROPY AT UAA

Generous alumni and friends gave $9.6 million in charitable contributions to support UAA. Seventeen new scholarship and program funds were established this year. Here are a few donor highlights. Thank you to all our donors!

UAA PHONATHON EXCEEDS ANNUAL GOALS

The UAA phonathon raised $135,705 this year from more than 1,400 alumni, exceeding its fundraising goal for the year. In a new partnership launched this spring, UAA student callers also raised $47,765 for UAF.

MCREAVY GIFT ESTABLISHES SCHOLARSHIPS

A legacy gift from the Ruth McReavy estate of more than $600,000 established the McReavy Graduate Endowment and the Stephen McReavy Scholarship funds.

DEAN AND ANA WEIDNER donated $600,000 to create a dedicated classroom and study space for the Weidner Property Management and Real Estate Program. The space is expected to be completed in October 2017.

AN ANONYMOUS DONOR made a $2 million investment in the First Generation Endowed Student Scholarship and Alaska Endowment for Excellence. This same donor previously endowed the First Generation Fund and created the unrestricted Alaska Endowment for Excellence, which has helped fund the Della Keats Summer Enrichment Program.

UNITED STATES SEAFOODS made a $300,000 pledge to establish the ISER Fisheries Research fund and provide support for research on topics relevant for managing Alaska’s fishery resources.

BP CONTINUED ITS SUPPORT of UAA’s summer engineering academies with a $100,000 donation. The company also gave $72,000 for the ANSEP Summer Bridge program.

RASMUSON FOUNDATION made a $1 million payment toward a $5 million multi-year pledge to institutionalize and sustain ANSEP’s award-winning STEM programming. Rasmuson also made a gift of $25,000 to support the Debating Alaska’s Fiscal Future scholarship competition.

PROVIDENCE HEALTH & SERVICES fulfilled a pledge of $250,000 and made a new gift of $50,000 to support the School of Nursing expansion in Anchorage and Kodiak.

CONOCOPHILLIPS made a $40,000 gift to establish the UAA Geological Sciences Field Experiences Fund to supplement the cost of student field studies.
 Student-run KRUA 88.1 FM celebrated 25 years on the air with a concert featuring Lavoy in the Williamson Auditorium in February. The station was an upgrade from the AM station KMPS that first aired in 1987 as an experimental lab to help students learn the business. Five years later, students wanted something better and got help from Augie Hebert, an Alaska media pioneer, who donated equipment and legal assistance for the FCC licensing. The new station aired for the first time on Valentine’s Day 1992.

The Student Health and Counseling Center celebrated its 25th anniversary in October with a health fair, live music with singer/songwriter Emma Hill, lunch, and program: “Health Care and Education – Supporting the Well-being of All Alaskans.” The event featured Governor Bill Walker, Chancellor Tom Case, Dean Bill Hogan, Vice Chancellor Bruce Schultz, and USUAA President Sam Erickson.

The Alaska Small Business Development Center, part of the UAA Business Enterprise Institute, was ranked 38th on Outside magazine’s 100 Best Places to Work list. The magazine cited flexible hours, good health care, and great annual leave as factors in the ranking. Outside publishes the Best Places to Work list annually, recognizing exemplary companies that make employee health and happiness a point of pride. Companies must apply and undergo an assessment of company policies, practices, benefits and demographics to be considered.

This is the eighth consecutive year UAA has earned the Military Friendly® School designation by Victory Media, recognizing the numerous programs supporting service members, veterans, and their families. Programs include the Military and Veteran Student Services and the VetSuccess On Campus counselor. New this year was the first 5K Veterans Benefit Run in September. Proceeds from the event benefitted local veteran support organizations and Student Veterans of UAA.

University Relations accepted four awards at the annual American Marketing Association–Alaska Chapter Prism Awards celebration last October. AMA chapter leaders from around the country judged the entries.

- **1 Prism Award for Integrated Marketing Campaign** (recognizing multifaceted marketing campaigns that showcase brilliance, creativity, and execution in Alaskan marketing) for the UAA Amazing Stories Campaign.
- **2 Pinnacle Awards** ("best of show" awards with a focus on individual products created within larger campaigns) for Photography: 5th Avenue Mall Wallscape and Outdoor Advertising: Airport Door Wrap
- **1 Merit Award for Video Advertising**: Ariane Audett Video Story

University Relations honored four awards at the annual American Marketing Association–Alaska Chapter Prism Awards celebration last October.
DIVERSITY AT UAA

NEW CAMPUS ART

INFLORESCENCE
The sculpture Inflorescence by Heath Satow was installed at the entrance of the ConocoPhillips Integrated Science Building in June 2017. Inspired by sunflower patterns, the mirror-polished stainless steel facets of each “seed”, “atom” or “cell” create little individual paintings of the world, each one uniquely interpreting the same world around it. The sculpture encourages physical interaction—viewers can walk directly inside the piece, seeing their own reflection multiplied hundreds of times. Sensors placed inside the lobby and near the sculpture trigger an interactive lighting program. Satow won the 2012 Americans for the Arts’ Public Art Network award for a sculpture “Ripple.”

STRENGTH IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY – BULL MOOSE AT KPC
A project begun while artist Paul Tornow was still an art student at Kenai Peninsula College is now complete, with two imposing metal bull moose at the Kenai River Campus. Eleven years separated the completion of the first and second sculptures that stand about 16 feet high and more than 20 feet long. Tornow, who graduated in 2009 with a bachelor’s in Fine Arts, named the pieces Strength in the Face of Adversity. “I’ll humbly admit that I had no idea as to what the scope of a project of this size and scale would take to complete,” he said. “I do know this though, I would sincerely like to thank everyone who helped make these sculptures possible.”

DIVERSITY ACTION AND INCLUSION PLAN
In fall 2015, the chancellor appointed campus leaders Robert Boeckmann, Maria Williams, and André Thorn to lead the creation of a Diversity Action and Inclusion Plan. Throughout this year, the tri-chairs, working with a number of subcommittees and the Diversity Action Council, hosted open forums, focus group discussions, listening sessions, and a Diversity Summit, to gather information and develop ideas for the plan. In total 22 focus groups representing faculty, staff, students, the Anchorage community and community campuses were held this year involving nearly 1,000 participants. The plan was finalized in June and is available on the Chancellor’s website. Next steps include forming an implementation committee that will be led by Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Alaska Natives and Diversity Jeane Breinig. This group will develop timelines for implementation, address the recommendations in the seven objectives, and establish metrics and assessment plans.

NEW ADVISORY COUNCIL
The new ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ALASKA NATIVE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH convened for the first time in August 2016. The Council consists of representatives from all Alaska Native serving programs at UAA, and from Alaska Native community organizations. The purpose of the Council is to provide a forum where the university and its community representatives will work together to develop recommendations and strategies to improve UA’s ability to recruit, retain, and graduate Alaska Native students. Initial work has included crafting a survey of students and alumni to determine the effectiveness of Alaska Native serving programs.

CALRICARAQ GATHERING
Native Student Services hosted a CALRICARAQ GATHERING in March. The full day event focused on strengthening cultural awareness, healing, and indigenous well-being practices. “Calricaraq” is a Yup’ik term for a culture-based system of care, a holistic approach to maintaining a healthy, balanced life, and is a program created by the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation that has received national recognition. The day included sessions on: Understanding impacts of historical trauma; Learning cultural practices; Learning qanruyutet and piciryarat (teachings and values); followed by a discussion about what it truly means to “go back to being Native.” Related to this event was a one-credit course offering March 24-April 7, “Historical Trauma: Transforming the Legacy.”
This year UAA completed an institution-wide effort to create a new strategic plan to replace the expiring UAA 2017. Recognizing the operating environment in the state of Alaska and its impact on UAA, the new plan, UAA 2020, has a shorter timeframe and a reduced set of priorities. RASHMI PRASAD, dean of the College of Business and Public Policy, led the planning team, and Robert Stein, a national consultant, helped frame the work. UAA 2020 was developed through several stages and coincided with the Self-Study Open Forums for the UAA accreditation reaffirmation process, ensuring wide participation of faculty and staff. The first stage was to identify values to guide campus actions in the future. From a list of 13 proposed values developed in an open forum, the university conducted a campus-wide on-line survey asking participants to select the values they felt were most important. Three value statements were clearly favored by the more than 1,500 people participating in the poll, including over 800 students. Following the survey, nine focus groups of faculty, staff, and students from across all of UAA discussed their perceptions of the three proposed values and provided additional information about implementation. This review determined the four final values and the format of the values statements. These were approved by student government, the Staff Alliance, the Faculty Senate, and the Chancellor’s Cabinet in February 2017. The four values are: Student Success, Excellence, Access, and Affordability.

With values approved, the process moved to analyzing UAA’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) as the first stage in developing UAA’s goals for the next three years. The analysis formed a crucial part of the Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Timely (SMART) goal development packet sent to 16 campus units that were asked to submit proposed goals for consideration. A total of 24 goals were submitted. In a one-day facilitated session, 74 representatives from across the institution narrowed the list to six proposed goals that were submitted to the Chancellor’s Cabinet for review and final selection.

**Communicating a clear focus on student success, the goals identified by Cabinet for UAA 2020 are:**

1. Advance a culture of institutional excellence that inspires and enables student, faculty and staff success
   - Identify and remove significant barriers to student, faculty and staff success; improve access to and satisfaction with academic advising; employ process efficiencies (improvements) that lower the cost per award

2. More students persist and complete their educational goals
   - Increase the ratio of credits students earn to credits attempted (a component of Satisfactory Academic Progress) by 5 percentage points by 2020; increase new entering student retention from their first fall to the subsequent fall to 55 percent in the third goal year; increase the rate at which students persist from their second to third year to 45 percent in the third goal year

3. Graduate more students to fill Alaska’s needs
   - Increase the number of graduates in high-demand job areas by 2 percent per year; improve traditional graduation rates to 35 percent by AY25

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**HEALTH & SAFETY AT UAA**

*STAR: Standing Together Against Rape* opened a satellite office in Rasmuson Hall in March. The local nonprofit organization, founded in 1976, provides crisis intervention, education and advocacy services to victims of sexual assault, sexual abuse, and their families. This new resource center on campus offers convenient access to one-on-one advocacy and support sessions for students, faculty, and staff.

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**TITLE IX COMPLIANCE REVIEW AND RESOLUTION**

On Feb. 17, 2017, President Johnsen signed a Voluntary Resolution Agreement with the Office for Civil Rights, the result of a 2014 Title IX compliance review of the UA system. The review helped UAA identify shortcomings in our processing of cases, such as timely resolution, consistent offerings of remedies and interim measures, and documentation errors. Through re-review of 10 cases many of the issues cited in the initial report were remedied quickly. UA and UAA continue efforts to improve Title IX processes and report progress to the Board of Regents at every public meeting.
PERFORMANCE STATUS

This section describes how UAA performed during the 2016-17 fiscal year (FY17) on a number of performance and accreditation measures identified as priorities within UAA’s five core themes.

### Student Success

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Awards</td>
<td>2,460</td>
<td>-3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Demand Job Awards</td>
<td>1,665</td>
<td>-6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureate Retention Rate</td>
<td>70.2%</td>
<td>-0.6 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureate Graduation Rate</td>
<td>25.4%</td>
<td>+0.5 pts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Teaching & Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Credit Hours</td>
<td>333,175</td>
<td>-3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eLearning Credit Hours</td>
<td>91,099</td>
<td>+7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Program Outcomes Assessment</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>+1.0 pts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Research & Creative Activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Expenditures</td>
<td>$15.5 M</td>
<td>+2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Grant Awards</td>
<td>$37.1 M</td>
<td>-9.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### UAA Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University-Generated Revenue</td>
<td>$172.6 M</td>
<td>-2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity-Students</td>
<td>33.4%</td>
<td>+6.0 pts from 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity-Faculty &amp; Staff</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
<td>+2.6 pts from 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety - Crimes</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>up from 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety - Injuries</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>up from 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Community Engagement

- UAA is classified as an “Engaged University” by the Carnegie Foundation.
- UAA was featured on the President’s Community Service Honor Roll.
- All UAA colleges now have engagement criteria in faculty promotion and tenure guidelines.

**SOURCES:** Unless otherwise noted, data for this report was provided by:

- UAA Office of Institutional Research compiled from the UA Statewide Institutional Research DSD data system and IR SharePoint site for Graduation Rate, Awards and Certificates, High Demand Job Area Awards, Retention Rates, Student Credit Hours, eLearning Student Credit Hours, and Diversity.
- UAA Office of Budget for Grant-Funded Research Expenditures and University-Generated Revenue.
- UAA Office of Research and Graduate Studies for Total Grant Awards.
- UAA Office of Academic Affairs for Academic Program Outcomes Assessment.
Degrees & Certificates Awarded

How many degrees and certificates did UAA award in 2017?

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY:
Students earned 2,460 degrees, certificates and occupational endorsements in AY17, 93 fewer than in AY16, a 3.6 percent decline. The total number of baccalaureate awards was just two below the record high set in AY16. The first doctoral degrees in the newly approved Nursing Science program boosted total doctoral degrees to 7 in AY17, the highest since the first awards in 2012. The largest decline occurred in master’s degrees which were down 31 awards from AY16.

UAA AWARDS TREND

2,460 Total Awards
Traditional awards (associate, baccalaureate, and master’s degrees) contributed 91% of all awards.
- The General Program Associate of Arts degree produced 280 awards from all campuses, the most awards from a single program, and the highest number since 2014.
- Nursing programs produced 238 awards (104 Bachelor of Science, 115 Associate of Applied Science, 14 Master of Science, 4 Doctorates, and 1 Nursing Education certificate).
- Other top producing programs included Management (66), Accounting (64), Psychology (62), and Process Technology (52).

TREND BY AWARD TYPE

DISTRIBUTION BY AWARD TYPE

NOTE: Certificates and Endorsements trend totals above include:
52 Undergraduate Certificates, 82 Occupational Endorsement Certificates,
and 80 Licensure/Post-graduate Certificates.

MEASURE DEFINITION: The total number of occupational endorsement certificates, undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, graduate and post-graduate certificates, associate degrees, baccalaureate degrees, master’s degrees, and doctoral degrees conferred during the academic year (includes degrees awarded in Fall 2016, Spring 2017, and Summer 2017).
How well are we meeting the workforce needs of our community and state?

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY:
High Demand Job Area programs produced 1,665 awards in AY17, down 6.3 percent from AY16. High Demand Job Area programs have consistently produced at least 70 percent of all certificates and awards conferred at UAA, though this year that contribution slipped to 67.7 percent. Four job areas produced 78 percent of all high demand job area certificates and awards: Health (38%), Business/Management/Finance (23%), Teacher Education (9%), and Engineering (8%). These four program areas also account for just over half (53%) of all certificates and degrees awarded at UAA.

1,665 Awards
Nine High Demand Job Areas are recognized by the University of Alaska as defined by the State of Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development. AY17 award totals by High Demand Job Area in descending order:

CONTRIBUTORS
628 Health
Down 11% from last year (-74 awards)

380 Business, Finance, & Management
Down 5% from last year (-18 awards)

150 Teacher Education
Down 15% (-26 awards)

138 Engineering
Up 20% from last year (+23 awards)

113 Natural Resources
Up 10% (+10 awards)

101 Process Technology
Down 8% (-9 awards)

93 Transportation
Down 8% (-8 awards)

40 Information Technology
Down 17% (-8 awards)

22 Construction
Down 8% (-2 awards)
Retention Rate

How many first-time, full-time freshmen who start in the fall seeking a degree return to UAA the following fall?

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY:

UAA tracks the overall retention rate of all incoming first-time, full-time, degree-seeking freshmen. Of the 1,335 first-time, full-time freshmen entering UAA in fall 2015, 856 returned in fall 2016, producing a 64.1 percent overall retention rate. This rate is higher than the 62.3 percent reported by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) for 4-Year, Public Institutions with open admission for 2015 (the most recent year available). UAA also follows distinct cohorts, including baccalaureate degree-seeking, associate degree-seeking, and student populations of interest, including those enrolled in developmental education classes (underprepared) and Alaska Native students.

70.2%

**Baccalaureate Degree-Seeking** students account for 71% of the full-time, first-time freshman cohort (950 students) and consistently record the highest retention rate among all sub-cohorts.

48.9%

**Associate Degree-Seeking** students make up 28% of the entering freshman cohort (368 students). 42% of these students enrolled in a developmental education class, compared to 25% of baccalaureate degree-seekers.

52.9%

**Certificate-Seeking** students represent 1.3% of the entering cohort (17 students). This group is included in the overall retention rate of 64.1%.

53.6%

**Students Enrolled in Developmental Education** account for 30% (399 students) of the entire first-time, full-time freshman cohort and 25% (214) of those who returned. The retention rate for those in developmental education who are seeking a bachelor’s degree is 59.3% compared to 44.4% for those seeking an associate’s degree.

43.6%

**Alaska Native** students make up 17% of the entering first-time, full-time freshman cohort (225 students) and 11% of all the cohort returning (98). The retention rate for Alaska Native students seeking a baccalaureate degree is 51.2% and 21.4% for Alaska Natives seeking an associate degree.

**NOTE:** Alaska Native is defined as students who identify as Alaska Native only or who list Alaska Native when identifying as non-Hispanic multirace. Developmental Education classes are defined as 0-99 level.

MEASURE DEFINITION: The proportion of first-time, full-time undergraduate certificate- and degree-seeking students enrolled in a given fall semester who re-enrolled in an undergraduate program within UAA the following fall semester. The fall 2015 rate measures students who entered in fall 2015 and returned in fall 2016.
PERFORMANCE SUMMARY:

UAA's 6-year completion rate in 2017 was 25.4 percent, the first increase in four years. The 3-year completion rate also increased. While the improvement in the rate is encouraging, more work clearly needs to be done, and the UAA 2020 goals for student success are placing renewed attention on this measure and completion rates for all students. It is important to note that the cohort reflected in the 6-year graduation rate represented less than half (46%) of all first-time freshmen who enrolled in UAA in fall 2011 and only 24 percent of all baccalaureate degree recipients in AY17.

GRADUATION RATE TRENDS

25.4%

Baccalaureate Degree-Seeking rate for first-time, full-time freshmen who entered UAA in fall 2011.

16.2%

Associate & Certificate Degree Seeking rate for first-time, full-time freshmen who entered UAA in fall 2014.

NOTE: These rates reflect UAA's performance on the national graduation measure and do not include students who enter in the spring semester, attend part-time in their first semester, transfer from another institution, or are enrolled in graduate degree-seeking programs.

Of all 2017 baccalaureate degree recipients, how many fit the traditional measure?

24% were first-time, full-time, baccalaureate degree seekers who earned their degree within six years.

How many semesters did these students take to earn their baccalaureate degree?

72% completed their baccalaureate degree in 12 semesters (six academic years) or less (may be non-consecutive semesters)

68% stopped out at least one semester before earning their degree.

MEASURE DEFINITION: The percentage of first-time, full-time undergraduate certificate- and degree-seeking students enrolled in a given fall semester who earn a degree within six years (150% of the time to complete a four-year degree) or three years (150% of the time to complete a two-year degree). The 2017 rate measures the cohorts who completed their degree by August 2017 (entering UAA in fall 2011 for baccalaureate degrees or fall 2014 for associate degrees.)
How many students are taking how many classes for how many credits?

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY:
UAA produced 333,175 student credit hours in AY17, a 3.4 percent drop from AY16, continuing a trend that started after the peak year in AY12. Declines in number of high school graduates in Alaska have contributed to the decreases. Five units showed increases in credit hour production: the Colleges of Education, Engineering, Health, and Honors, and the Kenai Peninsula College. The largest increase was in the College of Health which added 3,052 SCH, an 8 percent increase.

STUDENT CREDIT HOURS TREND

333,175 Total Student Credit Hours

231,626 Lower Division (100-299 Level)
Lower division courses comprised 69.5% of all student credit hour production in AY17, and accounted for 93% of the decline in overall student credit hour production from AY16 to AY17.

69,354 Upper Division (300-499 Level)
Upper division courses contributed 20.8% of total credit hour production. The credit hours in this level declined by less than 1% in from AY16 to AY17.

STUDENT CREDIT HOURS BY CAMPUS

BY COLLEGE

MEASURE DEFINITION: The number of Student Credit Hours attempted, all levels, including audits. Measured annually. AY17 includes Summer 2016, Fall 2016 and Spring 2017.
How much of UAA’s credit hour production is in eLearning?

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY:
UAA produced 91,099 student credit hours (SCH) via courses that were 0% to 50% location-based, comprising 27.3 percent of the total student credit hours delivered on all UAA campuses. While total student credit hour production declined 3.4 percent from AY16, eLearning credit hours increased 7.4 percent (+6,271).

91,099

**eLearning Student Credit Hours**
Up 7.4% from 84,828 credit hours in AY16.

71.8%

of all eLearning credit hours was in lower division (100-299) courses compared to 68.7% of lower division credit hours in traditional courses.

65.5%

of all eLearning credit hours was delivered by the Anchorage campus, up 9% from AY16 (+4,889 SCH).

**eLEARNING TREND AS A PERCENT OF TOTAL STUDENT CREDIT HOURS**

**eLEARNING AS A PERCENT OF TOTAL CREDIT HOURS**

- **Kodiak**: 67.5%
- **Kenai**: 64.2%
- **Prince William Sound**: 36.4%
- **Anchorage**: 22.6%
- **Mat-Su**: 19.1%

**eLEARNING SCH BY COURSE LEVEL**

- **Anchorage**: 65%
- **Kenai**: 21%
- **Kodiak**: 6%
- **Mat-Su**: 5%
- **Prince William Sound**: 2%

**eLEARNING SCH BY CAMPUS**

- **Lower Division**: 72%
- **Developmental**: 2%
- **Graduate**: 6%
- **Upper Division**: 19%

**eLEARNING SCH BY COLLEGE**

- **Education**: 34.6%
- **Business & Public Policy**: 27.2%
- **Arts & Sciences**: 26.7%
- **Health**: 22.0%
- **Engineering**: 9.1%
- **Community & Technical**: 8.6%

MEASURE DEFINITION: eLearning courses are 0% to 50% location-based and are coded in Banner as "0" = 0% location-based, "1" = 1% to 20% location-based, and "2" = 21% to 50% location-based. These courses require different design, development, techniques and communication for delivery.
How many programs are actively engaged in assessing student outcomes and using information to improve teaching and learning?

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY:
The Academic Assessment Committee of the Faculty Senate conducted its Annual Academic Assessment Survey to gather information about actions faculty have taken to enhance student learning and make program improvements. In this process, all active programs complete an online survey. As of July 2017, 100 percent of the surveys have been completed, up from 99 percent last year.

A HIGH LEVEL OF STUDENT LEARNING
95% of measured learning outcomes were met or exceeded by students.

FACULTY USE DATA TO IMPROVE PROGRAMS
84% of survey respondents reported using past assessment results to make program improvements this year.

PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS BASED ON ASSESSMENT DATA

PASS RATES IN UNDERGRADUATE COURSES OFFER ANOTHER MEASURE OF SUCCESS
Course pass rates can provide meaningful information about the learning that is taking place. Pass rates have remained stable with steady improvement in upper division courses, and lower division courses seeing a marked improvement in AY17. There are no external measures to indicate whether UAA’s pass rates are appropriate, though with UAA’s open access mission, 100% pass rates should not be expected.

Note: Pass rates for undergraduate courses were taken from institutional records and include A, B, C, P in the pass rate for academic years from 2013-2017.

NOTE: For this measure, “program” may refer to a group of programs that are assessed together and submit only one report. Programs are defined for this measure through consultation among the program chair, the Academic Assessment Committee, and the Office of Academic Affairs.
How much of UAA’s basic and applied research expenditures are funded by grants?

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY:
Grant-funded research expenditures meeting the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) definition of research totaled $15.5 million in FY17, up $276,000 over FY16. For the second straight year the College of Arts and Sciences saw an increase, up just over $1 million from FY16. The College of Engineering also experienced a slight increase of $140,000 over FY16.

CONTRIBUTORS

**College of Arts & Sciences**
Up 17.5% (+$1 million) largely through programs of the Alaska Center for Conservation Science that include the Kachemak Bay program and EPSCoR; the Environment and Natural Resources Institute; and Biological Sciences.

**Provost Operations**
Down 13.9% (-$423,000) from FY16, largely at BEI’s Applied Environmental Research Center due to completion of several larger contracts, a shift in timing of new contract awards, and uncertainties regarding the federal budget.

**College of Health**
Down 10.7% (-$260,000). Contributing were declines at the Justice Center and the Institute for Circumpolar Health.

**College of Business & Public Policy**
Down 5.6% (-$128,000), due to normal fluctuations in ISER projects.

**College of Engineering**
Up 9.5% (+$140,000), mostly in Civil Engineering.
How much of UAA’s mission is supported by grant funds?

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY:

UAA received grant awards totaling $37.1 million in all NACUBO categories, including Research, Instruction, Public Service, Student Services, Academic Support, Scholarship/Fellowship and Institutional Support. The total for FY17 represents a 9.3 percent decrease from the $40.7 million awarded in FY16. Institutional Support (+$780 thousand) and Student Services (+$649 thousand) were the only two categories to increase from FY16. The largest declines occurred in Instruction (-$2.3 million) and Scholarships/Fellowships (-$1.4 million).

TOTAL GRANT AWARDS TREND

- $37.1 million
  - Down $3.5 million from FY16.
  - The majority (89%) of all grants fall into three NACUBO categories:
    - 42% Research
      - $15.4 million, even with last year
    - 29% Public Service
      - $10.9 million, down from $11.2 million in FY16.
    - 18% Instruction
      - $6.5 million, down from $8.8 million in FY16.

GRANT AWARDS BY UNIT, FY17

- Largest contributors include: ANSEP, Business Enterprise Institute, and Office of Graduate Studies & Research

- $10.8 million
- $10.3 million
- $6.8 million
- $4.0 million
- $1.0 million
- $1.0 million
- $0.8 million
- $0.8 million
- $0.8 million
- $0.3 million
- $0.3 million
- $0.1 million
- $0.1 million
- $0.1 million

GRANT-FUNDING SOURCES

MEASURE DEFINITION: The total dollar amount of grant awards in a fiscal year as indicated by award letters in support of National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) categories of Academic Support, Instruction, Public Service, Research, Scholarship/Fellowship and Student Services.
How much money does UAA bring in to support its teaching, research, creative activity, engagement and service mission?

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY:

UAA generated $172.6 million in non-general fund receipts in FY17, $4.3 million less than FY16. Federal restricted receipts declined 5.7 percent, the first substantial decline in three years. Restricted revenues from the State of Alaska declined 13 percent. Tuition and Fees generated 51 percent of all university-generated revenue in FY17 and were up $883 thousand from FY16, mainly from an increase in enrollment in the College of Health and a new tuition surcharge in the College of Engineering. Auxiliary revenue declined $3.8 million from FY16.

$172.6 million
Down 2.4% from FY16.

$ 87.7 million
Tuition and Fees were up 1% from FY16. Increases in upper division tuition offset a decline in lower division revenue due to decreases in new enrollment.

$ 27.8 million
Federal Receipts were down $1.7 million (5.7%) from FY16.

MEASURE DEFINITION: Total amount of university-generated revenue, including University Receipts (interest income, auxiliary receipts, gross tuition and fees, indirect cost recovery, and other university receipts), Federal Receipts, Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Receipts, and State Interagency Receipts. Does not include UA Intra-Agency Receipts, which are duplicated.
**Diversity at UAA**

**To what degree do UAA students, faculty, and staff reflect Alaska’s racial and ethnic diversity?**

**SUMMARY:**

Minorities now represent 40.8 percent of the state’s total population and 36.3 percent of the population in the UAA service areas. Since 2010, the last full U.S. Census, the 14.4 percent growth rate for minorities in the state is much higher than that for the total state population, which grew by 4.2 percent.

At UAA, the total number of students, faculty, and staff declined from 2010, however the percentage of minority students, faculty and staff has increased. In 2016 all minorities combined, including those who identify as two or more races, comprised 33.4 percent of UAA students, and 20.9 percent of regular and term faculty and staff. Students identifying as two or more races increased 46 percent from 2010. Of all students who listed two or more races, 42 percent identify Alaska Native as one of the races. As implementation of the Diversity Action and Inclusion Plan progresses, UAA expects improvement in all categories. *(Plan available on the Chancellor’s website)*

**UAA POPULATIONS COMPARED TO UAA SERVICE AREAS & THE STATE OF ALASKA IN 2016**

![Bar chart showing population percentages](chart.png)

**NOTES:**

- UAA service areas include the areas defined by the U.S. Census Bureau: Anchorage Municipality, Kenai Peninsula Borough, Kodiak Island Borough, Mat-Su Borough, Valdez-Cordova Census area, and relate directly to the geographical regions surrounding each campus.
- UAA student, faculty, and staff totals include those who do not specify a race or ethnicity. These “unspecified” students, faculty, and staff, and non-resident alien are not individually included in the above table. Approximately 6% of students and 2-4% of faculty and staff do not specify a race or ethnicity.
- UAA faculty and staff include only regular and term employees, not temporary positions.

**SOURCES:** Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section; U.S. Census Bureau; UAA Banner/HR data tables.
UAA takes safety seriously.

SUMMARY:
UAA’s focus on safety involves multiple units devoted to making the university a safe place to live, work, and learn. These units work year-round providing training, developing new programs, and making improvements in crime prevention and emergency preparedness to protect and promote the physical and personal safety of everyone on all campuses. In 2016, recordable crimes increased due to a jump in motor vehicle thefts, and injuries increased slightly.

Training to prevent discrimination and promote safety
Title IX: Sex and Gender Based Discrimination Prevention training is one of a number of preventive strategies UAA employs to raise awareness about sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, and domestic and intimate partner violence. Haven Training was introduced last November, and nearly two-thirds of all staff completed the online training. Students received in-person training in various venues. UAA now requires all employees, degree-seeking, and residential students to complete this training each year.

ON-CAMPUS CRIME TREND 2008-2016

ON-CAMPUS INJURIES TREND 2011-2016

NOTE: Totals are for calendar years for all UAA campuses. For a full breakdown, see the annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report. www.uaa.alaska.edu/safety/

NOTE: OSHA recordable injuries are reported on a calendar year basis.

Car thefts drive up crime in 2016
UAA’s annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report compiles crime and arrest statistics and is available online at www.uaa.alaska.edu/safety/.
After only 1 motor vehicle theft in 2015, 12 thefts were reported in 2016. Three burglaries occurred in 2016, up from 2 in 2015. One arson was reported, compared to zero in 2015. In 2016, the 2 forcible sex offenses and 1 aggravated assault reflected no change from 2015.

Recordable injuries remain low
OSHA recordable injuries by employees on the job are tracked annually in compliance with numerous state and federal regulations. These are injuries that are beyond simple first aid or include the administration of prescription medication. The 9 recordable injuries increased slightly from the record low number in 2015.
University of Alaska President Jim Johnsen introduced an initiative this past year focusing on employee safety training: conducting risk assessments, providing appropriate training, and tracking compliance. The initial focus is on high-risk areas, but eventually every department will participate.

## UAA Fast Facts

### UAA TOTAL

#### STUDENTS
AY 16-17
- Student Credit Hours: 333,175
- Headcount: 25,246
- Full-time Equivalent: 11,258
- Awards Granted: 2,460
Fall 2016
- Headcount: 17,962
- Full-time: 7,278
- Part-time: 10,684

#### FACULTY AND STAFF—FALL 2016
- Regular Faculty: 630
- Adjunct Faculty: 592
- Staff: 1,308

#### FACILITIES
- Square Feet: 3,362,431

#### YTD FINANCE—FY 2017 (IN $000)
- Univ. Generated Revenue: $172,639.0
- Research Focus Expenditure: $15,494.4
- Total Budget Authority: $317,546.9
- Gross Tuition: $71,235.0
- TVEP Awards: $2,829.5

### ANCHORAGE CAMPUS

#### STUDENTS
AY 16-17
- Student Credit Hours: 264,601
- Headcount: 19,683
- Full-time Equivalent: 8,979
- Awards Granted: 2,176
Fall 2016
- Headcount: 14,308
- Full-time: 5,735
- Part-time: 8,573

#### FACULTY AND STAFF—FALL 2016
- Regular Faculty: 545
- Adjunct Faculty: 368
- Staff: 1,100

#### FACILITIES
- Square Feet: 2,914,824

#### YTD FINANCE—FY 2017 (IN $000)
- Univ. Generated Revenue: $153,520.5
- Research Focus Expenditure: $15,430.6
- Total Budget Authority: $285,247.0
- Gross Tuition: $59,044.4
- TVEP Awards: $1,981.7

### KODIAK COLLEGE

#### STUDENTS
AY 16-17
- Student Credit Hours: 7,716
- Headcount: 1,461
- Full-time Equivalent: 257
- Awards Granted: 28
Fall 2016
- Headcount: 767
- Full-time: 52
- Part-time: 715

#### FACULTY AND STAFF—FALL 2016
- Regular Faculty: 13
- Adjunct Faculty: 19
- Staff: 29

#### FACILITIES
- Square Feet: 44,981

#### YTD FINANCE—FY 2017 (IN $000)
- Univ. Generated Revenue: $1,979.3
- Research Focus Expenditure: 0
- Total Budget Authority: $6,539.8
- Gross Tuition: $1,205.7
- TVEP Awards: $123.3

### MATANUSKA-SUSITNA COLLEGE

#### STUDENTS
AY 16-17
- Student Credit Hours: 24,678
- Headcount: 2,772
- Full-time Equivalent: 819
- Awards Granted: 123
Fall 2016
- Headcount: 1,775
- Full-time: 375
- Part-time: 1,400

#### FACULTY AND STAFF—FALL 2016
- Regular Faculty: 29
- Adjunct Faculty: 82
- Staff: 51

#### FACILITIES
- Square Feet: 152,145

#### YTD FINANCE—FY 2017 (IN $000)
- Univ. Generated Revenue: $6,204.2
- Research Focus Expenditure: 0
- Total Budget Authority: $13,451.9
- Gross Tuition: $4,872.4
- TVEP Awards: $323.9

### PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND COLLEGE

#### STUDENTS
AY 16-17
- Student Credit Hours: 6,162
- Headcount: 1,961
- Full-time Equivalent: 204
- Awards Granted: 19
Fall 2016
- Headcount: 743
- Full-time: 32
- Part-time: 711

#### FACULTY AND STAFF—FALL 2016
- Regular Faculty: 6
- Adjunct Faculty: 23
- Staff: 39

#### FACILITIES
- Square Feet: 67,267

#### YTD FINANCE—FY 2017 (IN $000)
- Univ. Generated Revenue: $2,485.1
- Research Focus Expenditure: 0
- Total Budget Authority: $7,702.4
- Gross Tuition: $530.8
- TVEP Awards: $115.4

### KENAI PENINSULA COLLEGE

#### STUDENTS
AY 16-17
- Student Credit Hours: 30,018
- Headcount: 4,506
- Full-time Equivalent: 998
- Awards Granted: 114
Fall 2016
- Headcount: 2,596
- Full-time: 274
- Part-time: 2,322

#### FACULTY AND STAFF—FALL 2016
- Regular Faculty: 37
- Adjunct Faculty: 82
- Staff: 89

#### FACILITIES
- Square Feet: 183,214

#### YTD FINANCE—FY 2017 (IN $000)
- Univ. Generated Revenue: $8,449.8
- Research Focus Expenditure: $63.8
- Total Budget Authority: $19,026.6
- Gross Tuition: $5,581.6
- TVEP Awards: $285.2

### SOURCES AND NOTES:

**Students:** UA Statewide Institutional Research (IR) Decision Support Database (DSD) data at semester closing. Student Credit Hours include auditors. Awards Granted include: Undergraduate Certificate, Associate, Bachelor, Master, Doctorate, Endorsements, Licensure, Post Graduate, Post Baccalaureate, and Graduate Certificates. Headcount is for credit students only; students who enrolled in multiple campuses have been counted only once in the UAA total.

**Faculty & Staff:** UA Statewide IR DSD data at Fall Freeze. Staff includes full-time & part-time employees but does not include graduate or student assistants.

**Facilities:** UAA Facilities and Campus Services.

**Finance:** UAA Office of Budget. Research Focus Expenditure is defined by UA Statewide as Basic Research. TVEP stands for Technical/Vocational Education Program.

**Carnegie Classification:** Masters College and University Large Programs, Public 4-year and above.