

# University of Alaska Anchorage **PERFORMANCE '19**



# UAA PERFORMANCE '19

October 2019

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## FRONT COVER:

**Center top photo:** Spring 2019 Commencement. **Lower left:** Shane Mueller (left) and First Year Advisor Quentin Simeon (right). **Lower middle:** Jordyn Therriault. **Lower right:** Assistant Professor of Chemistry Toshia Wrenn. **Photos by James Evans, UAA Advancement.**

## BACK COVER:

*Lucerna*, the glass and steel sculpture by Osman Akan at the Alaska Airlines Center. **Photo by James Evans, UAA Advancement.**





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##### **KODIAK COLLEGE**

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Co-Presidents, 2019-20

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Co-Presidents, 2018-19

##### **USUAA STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

Claire Baldwin, President, 2019-20

Geser Bat-Erdene, President 2018-19

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## UAA MISSION STATEMENT

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.

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# Chancellor's Message - UAA Year in Review

## *The highs and lows of a tumultuous year*

The 2018-19 academic year marked my first as chancellor of University of Alaska Anchorage. It was a year that brought us together amid many accomplishments and challenges.

In October representatives from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), the body that has affirmed UAA's institutional accreditation since 1974, visited the campus. This site visit was the culmination of more than two years of broad-based campus engagement in reviewing UAA's mission fulfillment over the past seven years. UAA's institutional accreditation was reaffirmed with four commendations—a tremendous achievement. *(See page 24)*

The largest earthquake to hit Anchorage since 1964 shook UAA on Friday, November 30, 2018. We sustained no injuries or major structural damage, but all Anchorage campus buildings were affected in some way. Faculty, students, and staff rallied.

Within less than a week, most buildings reopened and classes were back on schedule. *(See page 42)*

In January, UAA received notification that the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) revoked accreditation for UAA's School of Education initial teacher preparation programs. The Board of Regents voted 6 to 5 to discontinue UAA's initial licensure programs and instead to provide a pathway to licensure through other UA campuses.

In February, newly elected Governor Mike Dunleavy's budget proposal included a \$136 million cut to the University of Alaska, representing a 41% cut to UA's state appropriation, one of the largest single-year cuts to any university system in the US. Alaska residents, UA alumni, business owners, employers, economists, and UA faculty, staff, and students came out in force to advocate for the university and its vital role in state. *(See page 43)*

A budget rollercoaster ride continued all summer ultimately resulting in a much smaller cut of \$25 million to the UA system. In the meantime, the UA Board of Regents declared fiscal exigency, then reversed their decision. The Board directed the president to plan for a single accreditation/merger model, then asked for other structural options to consider during the 2019-20 academic year. This story continues to evolve.

Throughout this period of turmoil and uncertainty, it was impressive to see our dedicated faculty, students, staff, and alumni across all UAA campuses continuing the important work of this university. We congratulate the more than 2,300 students who earned degrees and certificates. Faculty refined teaching practices to improve student outcomes—resulting in continuing improvement in graduation rates. Faculty contributed greatly to UAA's enhanced reputation for research, scholarship and creative activity, including faculty who played key roles in developing the Municipality of Anchorage's Climate Action Plan.

Students participated in numerous undergraduate research and community service projects to enhance the relevance of their education. Seawolf athletes set records in their sports as well as in their academic achievement. Alumni turned out in record numbers at alumni events and UAA received gifts from 879 new donors during the year.

This just scratches the surface of the remarkable work accomplished at UAA every day. We are pleased to present this report showcasing some of UAA's amazing stories from this memorable year.

Sincerely,



**Cathy Sandeen**  
UAA Chancellor



# New Leaders

## KACHEMAK BAY CAMPUS DIRECTOR:



REID BREWER joined UAA as director of Kenai Peninsula College's Kachemak Bay Campus in June 2019. As a full professor and director for Fisheries Technology for the University of Southeast, Brewer conducted research in the Homer area. Just prior to joining UAA, he served as chair for the School of Career Education for the University of Southeast, working from the Sitka campus. He also served nine years working for the University of Alaska Fairbanks as the first ever Alaska Sea Grant agent in the Aleutian

Islands. Brewer received his B.S. in Environmental Science/Systems Engineering from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and served as a pilot and platoon leader in the U.S. Army. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. in Marine Biology from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.



PAULA MARTIN served as interim director for Kachemak Bay Campus from December 2018 to June 2019. Martin served as the Kenai Peninsula College assistant director for academic affairs and associate professor from 2008 to 2015. In 2015, she was appointed director of the UAS Sitka Campus, a position she held until 2017 when she was tapped to serve as interim dean of the UAS School of Arts and Sciences and Vice Provost for Research and Sponsored Programs. Martin, who has had a home in Homer for 10 years,

earned her B.S. in Entomology from the University of California, Berkeley and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Entomology from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.



KENRICK MOCK began serving as interim dean of the College of Engineering in October 2018. Mock, a professor of computer science, joined UAA in 2000. Prior to joining UAA, he taught at Washington State University, Portland State University and was a research scientist at Intel Corporation. He is co-author of four textbooks on computer programming, and conducts research in artificial intelligence, complex systems, computer security, and computer science education. He received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in

Computer Science from the University of California-Davis.

## KODIAK COLLEGE DIRECTOR:



BETTY WALTERS has served as interim director of Kodiak College since October 2018. A respected educator since 1964, Walters served as superintendent of the Kodiak Island Borough School District for more than a decade as well as an adjunct instructor in education for UAA and Kodiak College for 25 years. She served as interim deputy commissioner for the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in 2016 after serving as nine years in the department as a teacher, mentor, and rural

administrator. She earned her B.A. in Elementary Education from Marywood University in Scranton, Pennsylvania and her M.A. in Reading Education from the University of West Florida-Pensacola.



JEFF EARLE began as chief of the University of Alaska Anchorage Police Department on August 21, 2019. He brings 19 years of experience in law enforcement, compliance, and emergency management. Before coming to UAA, he served as director of Cleary Compliance/Emergency Management at St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas, where he led St. Mary's University Management & Crisis Team response to Hurricane Harvey in 2017. He earned a B.A. in Political Science with a minor in Criminal Justice at

St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, and is working on his M.S. in Campus Public Safety Administration from New England College.



TIM EDWARDS joined UAA as the director of Safety, Health, and Risk Management Services in July 2019. Since 2016, he served as Chief Risk Officer for the University of Alaska Statewide. Previously, he was the Occupational Safety and Health Manager for the Air Force Active Fighter Wing Safety office at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in North Carolina with oversight of 5,600 employees. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, he served at Eielson Air Force Base from 1984 to 1989. He earned his B.S. in Occupational Safety and Health

from Columbia Southern University, and has had extensive specialized training in safety, compliance, and leadership.





BRIAN IBSEN was appointed director of philanthropy in the Office of University Advancement in September 2018. Ibsen came to UAA with 25 years of experience in higher education fundraising at both public and private universities. He was chief development officer for Aga Khan University in Chicago, Pakistan and East Africa, and held fundraising and development posts at the University of Connecticut and University of New Mexico. He also served as a consultant for SDG Resources serving non-

governmental organizations and foundations in Ethiopia, Senegal, South Africa, and the U.S. He received his B.A. in History from Yale University and his M.A. in Teaching from Harvard University's Graduate School of Education.



DONNA AGUINIGA, associate professor of Social Work, was named interim director of the Center for Community Engagement and Learning in January 2019. Since joining UAA in 2013, she has taught for both undergraduate and graduate social work programs and has conducted research, presented at national conferences, and co-authored several reports related to her research on birth mothers, adoption, and foster care. She has been active with the Center, serving as a program coordinator and faculty fellow for the Dialogues in Public

Life initiative. She was granted tenure in 2016. She has held leadership positions with the Council on Social Work Education and currently is a member of that organization's Council on Conference and Faculty Development. She received her B.S. in History and Psychology from Eastern New Mexico University-Portales, her MSW from Boise State University, and her Ph.D. in Social Work from the University of Texas at Austin.



TANYA PONT was named interim director of alumni engagement in May 2019 in the Office of University Advancement. She brings more than 18 years of experience in marketing, public relations, and event planning as regional director of marketing for SMG Alaska, Inc., which provides management services for six Alaska public facilities, including the Sullivan Arena. For nearly two years, she served as the associate athletic director of development with Seawolf Athletics where she helped create communications strategies for

student-athlete alumni engagement. She holds a B.S. in Corporate Communications from the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs.



SHAUNA GRANT accepted the position of director of Student Financial Aid at UAA in May after serving as interim director since February 2019. She has more than 20 years of experience in financial aid. At UAA, she served as interim director of Student Information Services from March to November 2017, program manager of Financial Aid, senior loan coordinator, and financial aid technician. She served on the NextGen Leadership Group, was a member of the Alaska Performance Scholarship

Statewide Development and Implementation Team from 2010-2013, and she was a panelist and reviewer for the Department of State Gilman Scholarship. She is active at the state, regional, and national levels of the Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, serving as president of the Alaska Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and as a member of the executive council and communications committee for the Western Association of Student Financial Administrators. She earned her B.A. in English from the University of Maryland University College.

## IN MEMORIAM

DOUGLAS "DOUG" DESORCIE, who worked for Prince William Sound Community College from 1992-2012, passed away on July 4, 2019. He started his career there as



coordinator of Student Services, and eventually served as president from 2005-2012,

Born in Vermont, Desorcie made his way to the University of Alaska Fairbanks where he earned his bachelor's degree and served as goaltender for the UAF Nanooks hockey team. In 2017, Desorcie was inducted into the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Nanook Hall of Fame.

At Prince William Sound College, Desorcie worked to get funding and support for projects that included new and renovated buildings. He also worked on the Theatre Conference from its inception, earning the *Jerry Harper Service Award* in 2016 in recognition of his contribution to this internationally renowned conference. He was also involved in the Valdez community as a volunteer and board member with numerous organizations, including the school district, hospital, Rotary, and United Way.



# Honors & Awards

## HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS



JOSEPH JOSEPHSON was honored for his leadership in local and state government, his dedicated public service through his legal profession, and his volunteer work on behalf of numerous nonprofit organizations. Josephson's professional service for Alaska began in 1957 as a legislative assistant to Alaska Delegate in Congress, E. L. "Bob" Bartlett. In 1960, President John F. Kennedy appointed Josephson as chair of the Alaska Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. He served in the Alaska State House from 1962 to 1966 and in the Alaska State Senate from 1968 to 1972 and again from 1982-1988. He also served on the Anchorage City Council, and was vice chair of the Anchorage Charter Commission, which unified the Anchorage Borough and the City of Anchorage. He continues to work as an attorney, providing legal service to the underprivileged.

SHEILA TOOMEY, news reporter, was recognized for her commitment to telling the stories of Alaska. She began her career in Juneau as a radio and television reporter, then moved to Anchorage in 1980 to host *Alaska News Nightly*. She had a long tenure at the *Anchorage Daily News* as an editor, reporter and columnist, and was part of the team that won the 1989 Pulitzer Public Service Prize for *People in Peril*, a series that broke the silence about alcoholism and suicides among Alaska's indigenous people. Other awards include the 1991 *Blethen Memorial Award* for distinguished reporting, a 2005 *High-Five Award* from Victims for Justice, and the 2014 *Howard Rock First Amendment Award* from the Alaska Press Club. She taught journalism at UAA and mentored a group of writers who continue to win state, regional, and national writing awards.

BARBARA "BEDE" TRANTINA was honored for her nearly 40-year career at Alaska Public Media. In 1979, she started as a volunteer at the station as a favor to a friend. Throughout her career as KSKA's morning host and program director, Trantina worked closely with newsrooms and national networks covering events from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and 9/11 to the Iditarod and local elections. She oversaw major changes at the station, including the mergers of the public television stations and the creation of Alaska Public Media, and mentored many Alaskans in the broadcast field. In addition to her work at the station, Trantina is a member of the Cuddle Corps, a group of volunteers that provides comfort to infants born prematurely in Providence Alaska's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

## MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

JULIE DECKER, an artist, writer, and director of the Anchorage Museum, was honored for her work promoting diversity, community, and accessibility in Anchorage's art scene. Before joining the Museum, she co-owned an art gallery downtown and was a partner of the International Gallery of Contemporary Art. She worked to establish First Friday as an Anchorage arts event. From 2003 to 2010, she served as an adjunct faculty for the UAA Honors College and Department of Art. In 2011, Decker became the chief curator for the Anchorage Museum, and director and CEO in 2013, continuing her mission to celebrate work from a breadth of voices, focusing on the art, architecture, and environment of the Circumpolar North.



BARBARA HOOD, an attorney, photographer, writer, and volunteer, was recognized for her dedication to social justice and community betterment. As an attorney, she has represented impoverished Alaskans, worked on behalf of victims of child abuse and neglect, and promoted public understanding of our justice system. She has dedicated thousands of hours to causes and organizations that support human rights and equal justice, and has been a longtime advocate for protection of parks and open spaces. She is currently the board president of 49 Writers, Inc. As co-owner of Great Harvest Bread Co., she regularly donated baked goods to a wide range of organizations and provided a space for art exhibits and literary events.

TOM NIGHSWANDER, M.D., has been a leader and innovator in rural health in Alaska and around the world, working to improve health care by adapting technologies, sharing knowledge, and treating patients one-on-one. After serving in the Peace Corps in Malawi and completing his

medical degree, Nighswander joined the Public Health Service in Alaska, working with the Alaska Native Medical Center to improve health care in remote areas. He formed the Alaska Telehealth Advisory Commission to advance health care. Over the last 20 years, he served as professor and regional clinical dean of the WWAMI Regional Medical Education Program. Nighswander's extensive community service has addressed issues from alcohol abuse to cancer research.



Barbara Hood, Bede Trantina, Chancellor Cathy Sandeen, Sheila Toomey, Tom Nighswander.

## EMERITI 2018-19

An emeritus/emerita designation is the highest honor conferred on a small portion of retirees who have served a minimum of 10 years of distinguished service to the university. The following were granted emeritus/emerita status in 2018-19:

TIM DOEBLER, Professor Emeritus of Culinary Arts and Hospitality

LYNN KOSHIYAMA, Professor Emerita of Accounting

ROBERT LANG, Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering

LINDA LEASK, Staff Emerita, Institution of Social and Economic Research

PATRICIA LINTON, Professor Emerita of English

JANE "ELLEN" MCKAY, Professor Emerita of Architectural and Engineering Technology

CAROL SWARTZ, Director Emerita, Kachemak Bay Campus, Kenai Peninsula College

NANCY WAMSGANZ, Staff Emerita, College of Business and Public Policy



## ALUMNI OF DISTINCTION



JOCELYN "JOSIE" WILSON, MBA '09 – Alumni Humanitarian Award, Director of Strategic Communications, HDR Inc.

JENNIFER THOMPSON, BA, Journalism and Public Communications, '00 – Alumni of Achievement Award, President and CEO, Thompson and Co. Public Relations.

JASON HART, BBA '07, MBA '10 – Alumni Energy Leader Award, Clinical Practice Manager, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium.

## FACULTY AWARDED HONORARY DOCTORATE

JOHN DUFFY, adjunct professor with the College of Business and Public Policy, received an honorary doctorate from the National University of Mongolia (NUM) at a special ceremony in February

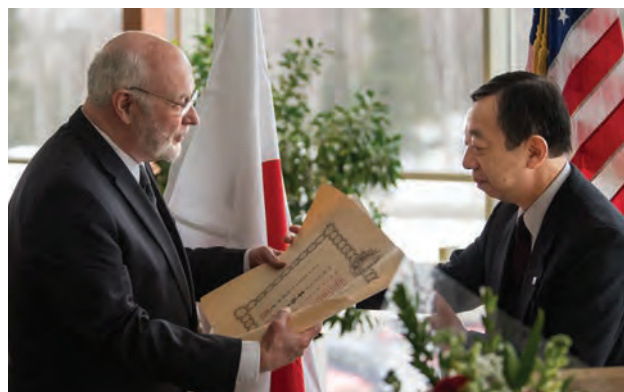


2019. Duffy, who teaches courses for the Department of Public Administration, worked in the NUM Public Administration Program as a guest professor and helped strengthen and expand the cooperation between the public administration departments at UAA and NUM.

He holds a doctorate in Natural Resources and Sustainability from the University of Alaska Fairbanks, a master's degree in Urban Planning and Policy from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and a bachelor's degree in Political Science from UAA.

## JAPAN'S AUTUMN IMPERIAL DECORATION

Chancellor Emeritus TOM CASE received the 2018 *Autumn Imperial Decoration* awarded by the government of Japan. At an awards ceremony held in March 2019, Japanese Consul to Alaska Masatoshi Sato



presented the former chancellor with the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon in recognition of his contributions to strengthening the mutual understanding and promoting academic exchanges between the U.S. and Japan.

## WCET SALLY M. JOHNSTONE AWARD

HEATHER NASH received the WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies (WCET) *Sally M. Johnstone Award*. Nash, project director of the Title III Robust Online Learning Grant, associate director of Academic Innovations & eLearning, and assistant professor of Adult Education, was recognized for her outstanding contribution to technology-enhanced teaching and learning, demonstrated leadership capabilities, and excellence in practice. The award is named after the founding executive of WCET who led the organization from 1989 to 2006. WCET, a leader in the practice, policy, and advocacy of technology-enhanced learning in higher education, was founded by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) and now serves members across the U.S. and Canada.





# Honors & Awards

## AVIATION INSTRUCTOR TO JUDGE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION



CLIF STOCKTON, an aviation maintenance instructor now retired, will judge the aircraft maintenance competition at WorldSkills 2019 in Kazan, Russia. After retiring from teaching, he has judged aircraft maintenance competitions at the national SkillsUSA conference, and has helped design the national competition. This international competition, an “Olympics” of technical skills, brings students from around the world to compete in 51 events in diverse

disciplines. The weeklong event is expected to draw 1,600 competitors from up to 80 countries.

## ALASKA ADULT EDUCATION AWARDS

Staff at the Kenai Peninsula College’s KENAI RIVER CAMPUS LEARNING CENTER received statewide awards from the Alaska Adult Education Association. GAIL SATHER, a community volunteer at the center, received the *Outstanding Volunteer* award and SARA HADFIELD, English as a Second Language instructor/tutor, received a scholarship.

NATASHA ZAHN PRISTAS, lead English as a Second Language teacher for Kodiak College’s Adult Basic Education department, received a Pro-Literacy scholarship for attendance at the ProLiteracy Conference on Adult Education in San Diego in September 2019, the biennial national conference for adult educators.

KODIAK COLLEGE’S ADULT BASIC EDUCATION program was selected for a National Literacy Directory Adult Learning Communities

online cohort course with the National Center for Families Learning. The cohort focuses on teaching strategies for adult English

language learners, and participants work for eight weeks in asynchronous online modules and activities. Each organization creates and shares a program innovation.



## ALASKA ASSOCIATION FOR CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION AWARD



GLORIA BURNETT, College of Health, director of the Alaska Center for Rural Health & Health Workforce and the Alaska Area Health Education Centers, received the *Community Contribution Award* at the Alaska Association for Career & Technical Education Professional Development conference in October 2018. She was recognized for her longstanding commitment and impact to career and technical education, her efforts to strengthen school/workplace

connections, and her work in the field beyond her professional duties.

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HERB SCHROEDER, founder and vice provost of the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP), received the 2018 *George Norlin Award* from the University of Colorado Boulder. The award, the most prestigious honor bestowed by UC Boulder, honors alumni for distinguished lifetime achievement. It recognizes outstanding alumni who, throughout their lives have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in their chosen field and a devotion to the betterment of society and their community. Schroeder’s early experiences working construction and dreaming of being an engineer inspired a lifelong mission to prove that the most important factor for success in science and engineering is not test scores, but a curiosity about the world and a delight in solving problems.

## LYNTON AWARD FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP OF ENGAGEMENT FINALIST

TRAVIS HEDWIG, assistant professor of Health Sciences, was selected as a national finalist for the *Ernest A. Lynton Award for the Scholarship of Engagement* for Early Career Faculty. Since joining UAA in 2009, Hedwig has built community-engaged research projects into his curriculum and works with community-engaged student assistants to enhance their education. His community-based projects have focused on homeless solutions, suicide prevention, and fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. He currently serves on the board for the Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness and is a member of the Governor’s Council on Disabilities and Special Education Ad Hoc Work Group of FASD.





## STAFF MAKE STUDENTS COUNT AWARD

KELLY FORAN, director of TRIO Student Support Services, is the UAA winner of the *Staff Make Students Count* award. She was recognized for strengthening the student mentorship component of her position, building partnerships with student-serving community organizations, and providing professional development to staff to better prepare them to serve students. Co-workers and students nominate individuals for this award, established in 1999 to recognize personnel at UAA, UAF, and UAS who provide outstanding service to students. UA President Jim Johnsen presented the awards at the June Board of Regents meeting. Each recipient receives an award plaque, \$1,000, and two domestic airline vouchers from Alaska Airlines.



Kelly Foran with Chancellor Cathy Sandeen

## BILL ROSE MEMORIAL AWARD

2018: RYAN BUCHHOLDT, sustainability and business manager for Facilities and Campus Services, received his award in October 2018. He was honored for his excellence in lean thinking, strategy development, communications, and process improvement. In the wake of the November earthquake, Buchholdt was in charge of the response team, demonstrating his leadership and deep sense of commitment to the university.



2019: SARA BRANIFF, fiscal analyst in the Budget Office, received her award in May 2019. Braniff is a long-time employee of the university who transitioned to the budget office in the last year from her role as accounts payable manager. During the transition, she continued to support her replacement as accounts payable manager, providing advice and guidance. Braniff exhibits the qualities of excellence and above-and-beyond service that the *Bill Rose Memorial* award honors.

## STAFF RECOGNITION AWARDS

The Staff Council's *Staff Recognition Awards* acknowledge and recognize staff who go above and beyond expectations.

Congratulations to this year's winners:

- MEREDITH MC INTIRE, first-year residential experience coordinator, Residence Life
- RHIANNON ELLIOTT, academic advisor, College of Arts and Sciences
- LISA TERWILLIGER, Care Team coordinator, Dean of Students

## US NEWS RANKS UAA AMONG TOP PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE WEST

In the 2020 Best Colleges rankings from *U.S. News and World Report*, UAA tied for 25th place among the *Top Public Schools in the West*. Among all universities in the U.S., UAA tied for 52nd place for *Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs*.



## UAA AMONG THE TOP INSTITUTIONS SERVING BLACK STUDENTS

A report from the University of Southern California's Race and Equity Center placed UAA among only 36 out of 506 public institutions receiving an Equity Index Score of 3.0 or higher. The report analyzed data on four equity indicators and gave institutions letter grades on each. UAA received an "A" for gender equity; "Bs" for representation equity and for black student-to-black faculty ratio; and a "C" for completion equity. The national average for all public institutions was 2.02.

## UAA SAFETY RECOGNIZED NATIONALLY

*100 MOST SECURE COLLEGE CAMPUSES: A Secure Life*, a noted security firm, ranked UAA #20 on its list of *100 Most Secure College Campuses* in the U.S. They analyzed 11 years work of crime data and focused on campuses with 10,000 students to compile their list of campuses with the lowest property crime rates.

*INDUSTRY LEADER AWARD FOR SAFETY PERFORMANCE:* National Safety Council presented UAA's NANA Management Services (NMS) with the 2018 *Industry Leader Award* for safety performance. NMS oversees Seawolf Dining, the official food provider at UAA, and manages catering for UAA events, concessions at the Alaska Airlines Center, and operations at the Varsity Sports Grill, while coordinating meals, to-go snacks, coffee, and more to residential and commuter students, faculty, staff and the community.

## INNOVATIONS IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

The Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) was one of seven finalists for the 2018 *Innovations in American Government* award presented by The Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. ANSEP founder and Vice Provost HERB SCHROEDER and Chief Operations Officer MICHAEL BOURDUKOFKY spent time on the Harvard campus last fall meeting with the national selection committee for presentations and discussions about how the ANSEP model can transform education across the U.S.

## UAA VIEWBOOK WINS SILVER AWARD

The 2018 UAA Viewbook, a collaborative production by Advancement and Student Affairs, received the *Silver Award for Communications* by The Big One 2018 Awards. The Big One Awards is hosted annually by AIGA Alaska to celebrate award-winning design in Alaska's design community. The creative direction for the Viewbook was led by LIZ SHINE, marketing and creative design coordinator in Enrollment Services.

# 2019 Chancellor's Awards for Excellence

*Chancellor's Awards recognize exceptional commitment and contributions to UAA. Each individual/group award winner received a \$250 prize.*

## EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

*Awarded to faculty who demonstrate exceptional commitment to advancing student achievement through excellence in teaching.*

- TODD PETERSEN, Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering, College of Engineering
- CHORON RYAN, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences

## EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMIC RESEARCH

*Contributions have an outstanding and significant impact in a field of study and to UAA through research, engagement or creative activities.*

- ALEXANDER JAMES, Associate Professor of Economics and Public Policy, College of Business and Public Policy

## 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.*

- SHANNON GRAMSE, Associate Professor of College Preparatory and Developmental Studies, Community and Technical College
- KELLY FORAN, Director of TRIO Student Support Services

## STAFF EXCELLENCE

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

- DAN ALLEN, Research Compliance Coordinator, Office of Research Integrity and Compliance
- JULIA DUFF, Residence Coordinator, Residence Life

## 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.*

- GOKHAN KARAHAN, Associate Professor of Accounting, College of Business and Public Policy

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE

*Outstanding contribution to advancing partnerships between the university and Alaska's schools, public and private industries, and community organizations.*

- MOUHCINE GUETTABI, Associate Professor of Economics, Institute of Social and Economic Research
- HILARY SEITZ, Professor of Early Childhood Education, School of Education

## 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.*

### *Operational Effectiveness*

- FACILITIES MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS WORK MANAGEMENT TEAM
- ROBIN HANSON, Head of Circulation and Interlibrary Loan, Consortium Library
- KIM MAHONEY, RYAN BUCHHOLDT AND RON SWARTZ, Facilities Earthquake Response Leadership Team

### *Sustainability*

- HERMINIA DIN, Professor of Art, College of Arts and Sciences

*For more information on the chancellor's awards and a list of previous winners:*  
<https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/chancellor/awards-for-excellence/>



# Student Success

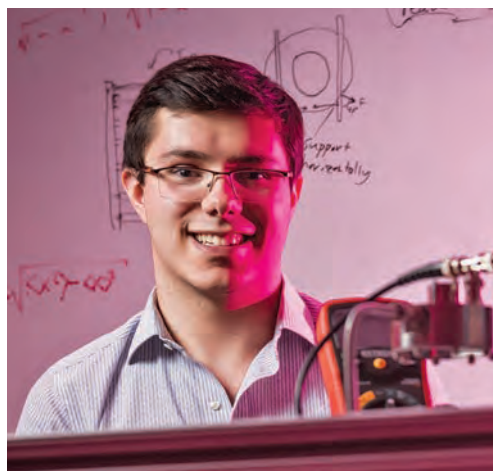


## FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR

MAIA WEN, who earned her B.A. in Psychology in spring 2017, received a *Fulbright Student Scholarship* to travel and study in Spain. The award, presented to students and recent graduates, had been a dream that Wen postponed pursuing so she could support her younger sister. During her first year at UAA, her mother died leaving Wen and her 14-year-old sister alone. She credits the support of family friends and the UAA community with getting her through a very difficult time. Two professors, Shawnalee Whitney and Steve Johnson, helped raise funds for Wen and her sister. “Professors here are so dedicated to their students in giving quality classes and providing mentorships for their students,” Wen said. The network of community-engaged partnerships at UAA helped her gain real-world experience that she said she might not have gotten had she attended a larger university. “I am just so grateful for everyone who’s helped me so far,” she said. “I’ll never forget all the assistance I’ve received, and I intend to always pay it forward by giving back.”

## BENJAMIN A. GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

KRISTAL PEREZ, a junior International Studies major with a concentration in the Global South, received the *Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship*. The Gilman Scholarship allows students with financial constraints to study abroad. The scholarship made it possible for Perez to study in Costa Rica where she lived with a host family and other students, traveled, studied at Veritas University, and worked as an intern in the university’s marketing department for the first four months of 2019. She will spend time in Cuba for the second stage of the study abroad experience. For Perez, who is from Puerto Rico, the immersion in the history and culture of Costa Rica unveiled new aspects of her Latina culture and helped her identify nuanced differences between Puerto Rican and Costa Rican cultures.



## BARRY GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP

HENRIQUE MILLER, a junior double majoring in Electrical Engineering and Mathematics, and double minoring in Physics and Mechanical Engineering, received the *Goldwater Scholarship*, a rare honor for UAA students. The scholarship is awarded to college sophomores and juniors who show exceptional promise in becoming leaders in the fields of natural sciences, mathematics, and engineering. Always excited about math and science, Miller discovered physics through The Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) programs, and it fueled his desire to learn more. “It [ANSEP] started shaping my life toward STEM. Now that I’m at UAA, I’ve gotten involved in the plasma physics lab and will probably now go for a doctorate in plasma physics.” Working with Nathaniel Hicks, an assistant professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, in the plasma lab has given him invaluable research experience.



## CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG AWARD

KOHL KEIL, who earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in 2018, received the *Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals* award, the 12th UAA student to earn this award. Kohl has studied German since elementary school and was mentored by German Professor Nastasa Masanovic, who he met while in high school. He will spend the coming year in Germany, one of 75 students selected from a pool of 500 applicants. The program includes a two-month intensive language program, four months of study at a university, and a six-month internship.



# Student Success

## COMMENCEMENT 2018-19

KAHRYN BUCHANAN, the youngest graduate at Kodiak College at age 17, was the spring 2019 student commencement speaker. Buchanan credited her success to her mother Kathryn Hollis-Buchanan, an associate professor of accounting and general business at Kodiak College, who encouraged her to begin taking college classes at age 13. She scored high enough to place into freshman-level math and English classes, so just before entering eighth grade she began taking dual enrollment college classes that also earned her high school credits. Buchanan also acknowledged the influence of the faculty and staff at the college for her success. “Without the dedication and skill of our favorite math professor, Jesse Mickelson, I would not be pursuing the degree of my dreams today,” Buchanan said in her speech. Buchanan earned her associate degree at Kodiak College and has enrolled at the University of Alaska Fairbanks to study mechanical and aerospace engineering in the fall.



KATIE IRWIN, fall 2018 commencement speaker, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism with a minor in Art. Irwin had just moved to Alaska from Colorado and decided to pursue a college degree. Before enrolling at UAA, she came to campus to explore her options in person. Not sure where to start, the first office she found was the office of Disability Support Services (DSS). Irwin, who was born deaf, got the help she needed to register for classes, apply for financial aid, and arrange for an ASL interpreter. Through her independent study course, Irwin conducted much-needed research into the overall effectiveness of DSS. Reworking a survey for students and creating a new one specifically for staff and faculty increased the response rate to unprecedented levels and gathered current data that will be used to improve services. “As a deaf person, it’s more challenging to get a job. With this degree, I have so many options at my fingertips, ...UAA opened that door for me.”



GESER BAT-ERDENE, spring 2019 commencement speaker, graduated with a B.B.A. in Finance and a minor in French. Bat-Erdene, from Mongolia, attended school in Russia and Japan. He chose to come to UAA based on recommendations from friends. After a year focused on his studies, he decided to get more involved with the UAA campus community. He started work with USUAA, the student government organization, where he served in numerous positions, including student body president this year. He founded the Mongolian Students Society to promote the culture, education, and history of Alaska and Mongolia, and was instrumental in establishing a memorandum of understanding between UAA and the National University of Mongolia in November 2017. He credited much of his opportunities at UAA to the “collaboration of many people – people who are willing to help here at UAA.”

Kenai Peninsula College valedictorian ARIANE JASMIN received the *New Century Transfer Pathway Scholarship*. The \$2,250 scholarship, awarded to one student per state, is based partly on academic performance and community involvement. Jasmin, 29, was a high school dropout from Quebec who grew up speaking French only, and is a first-generation college student. She graduated summa cum laude with an associate of arts degree. She has been a multicultural student advocate in the KRC Learning Center, supporting Native Heritage Month Activities, among other campus support roles.

She will use her scholarship to pursue a bachelor’s degree in biological sciences at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, with a long-term goal of medical school and a practice in rural medicine. The Coca-Cola Foundation and the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation sponsor the scholarship with support from the American Association of Community Colleges and Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for 2-year colleges.



Photo by Victoria Petersen, Peninsula Clarion. Used with Permission.

## ALUMNA NAMED ALASKA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND A FINALIST FOR NATIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

DANIELLE RIHA, who earned her B.Ed. in 2001, was named 2019 *Alaska Teacher of the Year* and was one of four finalists for the 2019 *National Teacher of the Year*. Riha teaches seventh and eighth grades at the Alaska Native Cultural Charter School in Anchorage. Before joining the Alaska Native Cultural Charter School, Riha taught in Togiak and New Stuyahok where she learned how to infuse core curriculum with traditional Alaska Native values and sensibilities that she learned from elders and community members in rural Alaska.



## FRIENDS OF NAEOP SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



UAA's Student Support Services participant and Social Work major JENNIFER SPENCER was the only student from Alaska to receive the *Friends of NAEOP (Northwest Association of Educational Opportunity Programs) Scholastic Achievement Award* for 2018. This \$1,500 scholarship is awarded annually to exceptional TRIO students who exhibit outstanding scholastic achievement while overcoming barriers to educational success. Nine students from the NAEOP region received the awards at the annual conference in Eugene, Oregon in October 2018.

## AMERICAN PROFICIENCY INSTITUTE SCHOLARSHIP

COURTNEY BENNETT'S received a \$2,000 scholarship from the American Proficiency Institute. She was one of five students out of more than 300 applicants nationwide selected for the scholarships that help students further their medical laboratory science education. "Clinical laboratory science has often been regarded as the science behind the medicine and the hero behind the scenes," Bennetts, who is a senior in the Medical Lab Science program, explained. "I think it is an honor to go into a field that offers the challenge of finding that critical piece to a puzzle for the accurate treatment and safety of a patient."

## AHAINA STUDENTS OF EXCELLENCE

AL ASUNCION, an Accounting and Finance major, and AMANDA MAGNUSEN, Legal Studies major, received the Multicultural Center's Students of Excellence awards.

MAGNUSEN grew up in Kodiak and Unalaska, and has worked at UAA as an eWolf Coach, helping students and others prepare ePortfolios. ASUNCION, also from Kodiak, and enrolled in the Honors College, was a resident hall advisor in 2018-19 and served as a peer mentor in the AHAINA Seawolf Success program.



## WASHINGTON CENTER INTERN

DANIEL OGDEN, a History and Political Science major, received the *TOTE Alaska Foundation Scholarship* to support his program fees and



housing (\$12,190) in The Washington Center's (TWC) summer internship program. TWC is a D.C.-based internship program that offers academic courses, and provides leadership training and access to a wide variety of volunteer and civic action opportunities. In addition to the TOTE scholarship, the Honors College covered the cost of roundtrip airfare to D.C. and The Center for Community Engagement and

Learning (CCEL) provided an Administration Scholarship to help meet UAA tuition costs for the summer courses. CCEL's Interim Director Donna Aguiniga serves as the campus liaison for the program, providing support for potential applicants and heading the scholarship award committee.



# Student Success

## ENGINEERING STUDENTS COMPETE ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS



College of Engineering Build Team member Shoshanna Johnson participates in a steel bridge-building demo.



Iceberg Robotics team members Tyler Stevens, left, and Forrest Simpson, right, use a 3D printer to fabricate parts for the team's new rover in the robotics lab.



Five out of six members of the rocketry team competing in the NASA- sponsored Competition (left to right): Danica Mike, Temyka Ayuluk, Monica Heim, Rachelle Griffitts and Trisha Jimmie. Not pictured is Helen Segura.

### MP CORROSION INNOVATION OF THE YEAR AWARD

Mechanical engineering students BRETON HENRY, EZRA ADAMS, JAREK HALAT, JASPER JACKSON and AALIQ ROWLAND, with Professor Raghu Srinivasan, won the National Association of Corrosion Engineers International (NACE) 2019 *MP Corrosion Innovation of the Year Award* (sponsored by Materials Performance Magazine) for their design of an Adjustable Atmospheric Corrosion Test Rack. The creative team had received a 2018 UAA Senior Design INNOVATE Award for the work on their design.



### STEEL BRIDGE TEAM WINS INGENUITY AWARD

UAA's Student Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers won first place in Aesthetics and third place overall at the regional American Institute of Steel Construction's Steel Bridge competition, earning them a spot in the national competition. The UAA Steel Bridge team, one of 41 teams competing at the nationals, won the *Frank J. Hatfield Ingenuity Award* for their innovative design, and finished 16th overall. Associate Professor of Civil Engineering Scott Hamel served as the team's faculty advisor. Team members included AARON MURPH as captain, ALDREY ANTONIO, MARK CREDITO, SHOSHANNA JOHNSON, JACOB KINDER, JASMINE LANGMANN, JHON GILBERT LANDICHO, and PATRICIPA NOTTI, with support from ASCE members MARK COSBY and KACY GRUNDHAUSER and College of Engineering machinist CORBIN ROWE.

### ROBOTICS TEAM MAKES IT TO NATIONAL FINALS

UAA Robotics Club earned a spot in the 2019 University Rover Challenge Finals held in Utah this year, one of 36 top-scoring teams from around the world in the competition. While the winner of this year's competition was a team from Kielce University of Technology in Poland, getting to the finals was a major accomplishment for the three-year-old team. "To put this accomplishment into perspective, UAA competed against international teams, from 10 different countries, and many teams that are heavily sponsored and boast fully-funded robotics labs," said College of Engineering alumna and graduate student Virginia Groeschel, the team's project manager and mentor.

### ALL-WOMEN ROCKETRY TEAM COMPETES NATIONALLY

An all-women team of engineers from UAA participated in the annual NASA Space Grant Midwest-High Power Rocket Competition, held in Minnesota this spring. The six-woman team had support from the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program, and help from three mentors, including David Erickson with the National Association of Rocketry and Tripoli Rocketry Association. TRISHA JIMMIE, a Mechanical Engineering major from Northway, Alaska, co-founded the team with HELEN SEGURA, a Mechanical Engineering major from California. The team organized by the key functions—mechanics and avionics. Working on mechanics were RACHELLE GRIFFITTS, a Civil Engineering major from Ekwok, Alaska, who served as the team's safety officer, and TEMYKA AYULUK, a Mechanical Engineering major from Chefnak, Alaska. DANICA MIKE, an Electrical Engineering major from Kotlik, Alaska led the avionics team with MONICA HEIM, a Computer Science major from Mexico, who served as the team's coder, programming the rocket's computers to control altitude, velocity, acceleration, and temperature.



## REGIONAL FIRST PLACE WIN IN CYBER DEFENSE COMPETITION



UAA's team included students from the Colleges of Business and Public Policy and Engineering. Shown here (left to right): David Crisafi-Lurtsema (CS, CoE), Matthew Berry (CSE, CoE), Kenneth Hood (MIS, CBPP), Wes Dellinger (MIS, CBPP), Rayce Toms (CS, CoE), Kavyn Yah (CS, CoE), David Counts (MIS, CBPP), Joel Keller (CS, CoE)

Management Information Systems and Computer Science students won the At-Large Regional Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition and was one of ten teams to advance to the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (NCCDC) in San Antonio, Texas, in April. The competition is the largest cyber defense tournament in the country, presented in partnership with Raytheon. Students from more than 180 colleges and universities from across the country competed in various regional tournaments.

## KPC COMPETED NATIONALLY AT TROUBLESHOOTING COMPETITION



Pictured here (left to right): Nikita Antonov (Captain), Edward Hoeldt, Jeffrey Laube (Coach), Brenner Musgrave, Timothy Lehman

Kenai Peninsula College (KPC) was one of ten teams earning a spot to compete in the National Troubleshooting Competition finals. The two-day North American Process Technology Alliance's 2019 competition, took place in April in Louisiana. KRC's team, known as the Kenai Kings, was the only Alaska team at the national competition this year. More than 70 schools nationwide teach the process technology program and are eligible to compete in the national competition, which consists of troubleshooting numerous computer simulations that track different types of processes via monitoring screens. Marathon Petroleum and the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium (APICC) sponsored the team's travel expenses.

## SEAWOLF DEBATE

The SEAWOLF DEBATE PROGRAM continued its legacy of excellence in the 2018-2019 academic year in both their competitive and public service missions.

The Seawolves competed in 10 tournaments throughout the year, earning more than 30 awards. Notable accomplishments included winning first, second and third place speaker awards from the Western Regional University Debating Championships, a competition that features over 120 speakers from colleges and universities in the Western United States.

At the national championships, UAA was—for the third year in a row—the only open-enrollment public university to qualify teams for the single-elimination phase of the tournament.

The Seawolf team members continued their support of the high school and middle school debating circuits, where they served as volunteer judges for more than a dozen Alaskan speech and debate competitions and hosted the Alaska State High School Drama, Debate and Forensic Championship. The program also increased its involvement with the McLaughlin Youth Center, offering debate training and competitions for incarcerated youth. The season wrapped up with a public debate in April between UAA and Stanford University's top-ranked debate squad, where the Seawolves won the debate about whether America is ready for Socialism.



# Student Success

*These two pages highlight efforts aimed at helping all students succeed.*

## CHANCELLOR'S TASK FORCE ON ALASKA NATIVE STUDENT SUCCESS

In February 2019 UAA Chancellor CATHY SANDEEN created a task force on Alaska Native student success. The task force conducted a current state analysis of existing programs at UAA that serve Alaska Native Students, reviewed programs effectively serving indigenous and rural students, and identified evidence-based best practices that could be implemented. It also identified 2-3 high impact interventions that should be deployed, and made recommendations for next steps. The Task Force issued its final report in April 2019, and Chancellor Sandeen prepared an Alaska Native Vision concept paper, each are available on the Chancellor's website. Recommendations include helping Alaska Native students arrive on campus prepared—both academically and socially—through pre-college programs, utilizing peer-to-peer assistance, cohort models, and living-learning communities to make sure students feel welcomed, connected, and supported.



*Melanie Demientiff joined the Yupik Dance Group performing at Native Student Services' annual celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day in October.*



*James Minor, Senior Strategist for Academic Success and Inclusive Excellence, California State University.*

## STATEWIDE STUDENT SUCCESS CONVENING

UAA hosted the inaugural University of Alaska Statewide Student Success Convening on March 22, 2019. More than 80 faculty, staff, and administrators from across the system attended the event, which was also streamed live. Jenna Dell from EAB, and James Minor from the California Statewide University System were the keynote speakers.

CLAUDIA LAMPMAN, vice provost for Student Success and VALERIE ROBIDEAUX, director of First Year Student Advising and Success presented a comprehensive overview of UAA student success, including major initiatives (*see next page*). Representatives from the University of Fairbanks and the University of Southeast also shared information on their respective student success initiatives.

## HANDSHAKE – NEW CAREER NETWORKING

UAA launched Handshake, a cutting-edge career management system in July 2018, replacing the College Career Network. Handshake offers user-friendly mobile access to hundreds of job listings. The national platform, dubbed the LinkedIn for university students, offers UAA students access to top employers across the nation who use Handshake to recruit students for internships, part-time, summer jobs, and full-time work after graduation. Since the launch, the number of Alaska jobs listed has increased 74 percent to a total of 1,036 with 1,900 unique students logging into their accounts. Beginning in fall 2019, the UA system is implementing Handshake for all students.



*UAA's Celebration of first-generation college students and alumni in February featured a panel of students, faculty, staff, and administrators sharing their experiences as first-generation college students.*





*First Year Advising Team from left to right: Susan Moran, CTC Student Success Coach; Valerie Robideaux, Director of First Year Student Advising and Success; Whitney Flores, CTC Student Success Coach; Zlata Lokteva, Engineering Advisor; and First Year Advisors—Andrea Hudson, Quentin Simone, Jerry Brockman, Kae Hartman, Valerie Svancara, Tara Ballard, Sharon Ruszko.*

## UPDATE ON STUDENT SUCCESS INITIATIVES

*The goals for the UAA 2020 plan, a three-year strategic plan adopted in spring 2017, each focus on improving student success. In fall 2017, Claudia Lampman was named vice provost for student success. Below is a recap of the substantial work done in the 2018-19 academic year.*

### FIRST YEAR ADVISING

The Office of First Year Student Advising and Success opened in fall 2018 in the Professional Studies Building with a centralized advising team of seven advisors and a director. In addition to these advisors, the College of Engineering and the Community and Technical College dedicate advisors to serve first year students for all majors in their colleges. A First Year Advisor for Alaska Native Student Success was added to the team in fall 2018 to serve new incoming Alaska Native students.

The first year advisors participated in 40 training events that included extensive training in student support. The advisors have logged more than 3,500 interactions with students. During summer of 2018, the Office of First Year Student Advising and Success coordinated one-stop Advising and Registration Days, enabling more than 200 students to meet with an advisor, register for classes, and consult with Enrollment Services and Financial Aid. In spring and summer 2019, the office teamed up with New Student Orientation to offer Academic Pathways advising at 16 Howl Days sessions. The team also focused on proactive outreach to first-time students based on withdrawal reports, faculty referrals, academic standing, and other at-risk indicators.

### ACADEMIC ADVISING

An Academic Advising Steering Committee (AASC) was established in spring 2019 to improve consistency in academic advising across the campus and to clarify the role of faculty advisors. The committee is charged to provide strategic direction, policy recommendations, and implementation strategies that support student success through consistent and comprehensive advising across UAA. The committee includes representatives from each academic college, first year advising, and two community campus advising coordinators. In FY19, the committee addressed accurate advisor assignments in Banner, clear descriptions of academic advisor roles and responsibilities, and a common *Seawolf Tracks* advising appointment campaign calendar to strategically communicate with students.

### SEAWOLF TRACKS

UAA launched *Seawolf Tracks*, EAB's Navigate platform for academic advisors and a companion app for students, in fall 2018. Numerous training opportunities for professional and faculty advisors were offered throughout the year, resulting in 100 percent professional advisor adoptions. By the end of the fiscal year, advisors logged nearly 20,000 advising appointment reports in *Seawolf Tracks*. The adoption rate by students is also high, with a 55 percent increase in downloads in spring 2019. *Seawolf Tracks* can also be used by faculty to send progress reports to students early in the semester with feedback on attendance and course progress. This was piloted in spring 2019 and will be rolled out campus wide in fall 2019.

### ACADEMIC PATHWAYS

In August 2018, an Academic Pathways Steering Committee formed to create “maps” or academic pathways. These pathways provide first-year students information about majors and career options in their general interest areas to build a foundation of success as they choose or progress in a major. The Committee categorized individual majors into academic umbrellas that share a similar focus and created first year course maps. Ten Academic Pathways have been created for baccalaureate degrees encompassing 40 degree programs, with four maps per level of writing and math placement for each Pathway.

Course recommendations are selected, using an evidence-based process, and are based on the student's level of math and writing preparation and historical data on course pass rates. Courses meet the initial requirements of many majors represented in the Pathway and will prepare students to complete program prerequisites. Also, the courses will likely meet degree requirements for students who move into a different academic pathway or major. First-Year Advisors were trained and began employing the pathways for all incoming students in fall 2019.

*For information about the Textbook Affordability initiative, please see page 20 in Teaching & Learning.*



# Student Success

## STUDENT ATHLETES

CAROLINE KURGAT, who didn't start running regularly until the year before she enrolled at UAA, has become the most decorated athlete in UAA Seawolf history. The medical laboratory science and nursing major participated in both indoor and outdoor track & field and cross country, producing a combined seven NCAA titles, 14 All-America finishes, and two First Team Academic All-America honors.

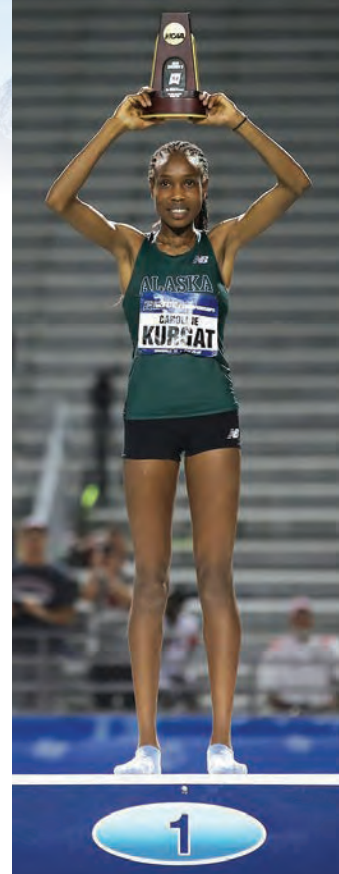
In her native Kenya she wasn't allowed to enroll in a nursing program so she started running to earn a scholarship to get her degree in the United States. Just a few years later, Kurgat broke a nearly 31-year-old NCAA Division II record in the 10,000 meters and was named the 2018-19 Great Northwest Athletic Conference Female Athlete of the Year for the second consecutive year, becoming just the second woman in conference history to repeat. She also received a citation from the Alaska Legislature commending her achievements.

## SEAWOLF ATHLETICS 2018-19 HIGHLIGHTS

- Earned its 12th straight Top 50 finish in the Leaffield IMG College Directors' Cup, an annual ranking of national success of all 308 NCAA Division II programs.
- Third straight year as GNAC All-Sports Champions.
- Seawolf student-athletes' combined GPA was 3.35, a new record.
- Student-athletes combined for 2,000 hours of community service to area nonprofit groups.



- WESLEY KIRUI (above right) won GNAC titles in cross country and the 3,000-meter steeplechase, was named GNAC Men's Newcomer of the Year, and earned All-America honors in both cross country and track and field.
- The Women's Basketball team won the GNAC regular season for the fifth year in a row.
- HANNAH WANDERSEE was named GNAC Player of the Year.
- RYAN McCARTHY, was voted GNAC Coach of the Year for the third year in a row, and with 190 wins became the winningest coach in UAA women's basketball history.



- Gymnasts broke 17 school records, six by SOPHIA HYDERALLY, who won the MPSF title on balance beam and placed fourth at the NCAA Regional competition—the best finish ever for a Seawolf.
- EVE STEPHENS named GNAC Freshman of the Year in volleyball.
- LIAM WALLACE placed runner-up in the slalom at the NCAA Skiing Championships.
- CASEY WRIGHT earned All-America honors at the NCAA Skiing Championship and became the first Seawolf to be honored as an Elite 90 Award Winner, presented to the student-athlete with the highest GPA at each NCAA Championship.





# Teaching & Learning

## WHERE LEARNING MATTERS

The Annual Academic Assessment Seminar: *Where Learning Matters*, held in September 2018, featured keynote speaker David Marshall, Ph.D., Senior Scholar at the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment, and co-author of the book *Degrees that Matter: Moving Higher Education to a Learning Systems Paradigm*. Marshall also presented the workshop, “Intentional Assignments and Activities for Reaching All Our Students | What is UAA’s Learning Paradigm?”

In addition to his role at the Institute, Marshall is a professor of English and director of the University Honors Program at California State University San Bernardino. He facilitated the Lumina Foundation-funded Tuning projects nationally from 2010 to 2016, working with states, regions, and national disciplinary associations to identify essential learning within

disciplines and develop strategies for campus-based engagement with the resulting learning outcomes. His research explores issues of alignment and curriculum mapping as a complex collaborative process in higher education. He is the author of *Tuning American Higher Education: The Process* and co-author of *Roadmap to Enhanced Student Learning*.



## NSF FUNDS REDESIGN OF INTRO BIO COURSE TO IMPROVE STUDENT SUCCESS

The Center for Alaska Education Policy Research (CAEPR) is collaborating with the Department of Biological Sciences in a new National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded project to redesign UAA’s general introductory biology course for non-majors. The goal is to increase student learning and engagement, and to encourage more UAA students to pursue STEM majors and careers.

In the three-year research project, principal investigator SARAH GERKEN, professor of biology, and co-PI, DAYNA JEAN DEFEO, director of CAEPR, will explore new techniques and innovative teaching methods for delivering general biology education. They will also identify elements of the recent redesign of UAA’s introductory biology for majors that support student success, and use those to inform the new curriculum. In addition, funding is provided to support faculty participation in workshops to ensure the curriculum will be paired with best practice instructional strategies.



Sarah Gerken



Dayna DeFeo

## NEW PARTNERSHIP LAUNCHES FIRST-IN-NATION FORENSIC TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

The College of Health and the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault partnered to offer the first Alaska Comprehensive Forensic Training

Academy in May 2019. The academy, the only such program in the

nation, was established to provide nurses and health care providers with important skills and tools to assist victims of trauma. The academy consists of 20-25 hours of online modules, followed by 20-25 hours of face-to-face learning.

**THE ALASKA COMPREHENSIVE FORENSIC TRAINING ACADEMY**

“Interpersonal violence issues affect all Alaskans,” said College of Health and Program Developer ANGELIA TRUJILLO. “By ensuring the proper collection of forensic evidence related to crimes, Alaska nurses and healthcare providers that complete this academy empower victims by preserving critical data that will aid crime victims in their pursuit of justice.”



Angelia Trujillo

# Teaching & Learning

## THE RECRUITMENT & RETENTION OF ALASKA NATIVES INTO NURSING CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

The Recruitment and Retention of Alaska Natives into Nursing (RRANN) celebrated its 20th anniversary this past year. Current students and graduates were honored at an anniversary celebration in March at the Southcentral Foundation Nuka Tribal Drum Room. RRANN began in 1998 with funds from a



RRANN director Annette Rearden

federal grant to recruit and mentor Alaska Native and American Indian students pursuing a nursing degree. Since then, 277 Alaska Native and American Indian students in the RRANN program have graduated from the School

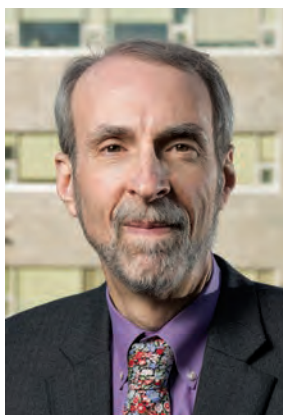


RRANN graduate Chelsea Royal

of Nursing. These students have been very successful. Ninety-four percent of RRANN graduates pass the National Council Licensure Examination on their first attempt. At least 80 percent of RRANN graduates are working as nurses in Alaska. Current students in the program are from 86 communities across Alaska.

## ATWOOD PROFESSOR

LARRY PERSILY will serve as the *Atwood Chair of Journalism* for the 2019-2020 school year. Persily began his journalism career in 1969 as a college newspaper reporter. He continued as a journalist for the next three decades. Over the last 20 years, he took time away from the profession periodically to work on public policy in federal, state, and municipal government. He returned to journalism in recent years to help smaller newspapers in Haines and Kenai. This year he took over as owner/publisher of the *Skagway News*.



"My work in government will be beneficial to helping students understand not just the policy issues and how to report on them," Persily said, "but how to cultivate sources, conduct research and look for the stories that seldom are in plain sight."

## BOARD OF REGENTS HONOR ADJUNCTS

The first two UAA adjunct faculty to receive the *University of Alaska Regents' Adjunct Faculty Award* are JENNIFER MCCLUNG (Writing) and GERALD SMITH (Anthropology). This new award, presented by the UA Board of Regents, established as part of the United Academic-Adjuncts collective bargaining agreement, recognizes the essential role of adjunct faculty. Students and peers nominate Adjunct faculty members from their home campus, and a selection committee evaluates the nominations with the campus provost making a final recommendation. The Regents may select one faculty member per semester to receive the award, which comes with a lump-sum of \$1,500.

## TEXTBOOK TRANSFORMATION FELLOWS

The Student Success Advisory Council Textbook Affordability Subcommittee and Academic Innovations & eLearning partnered to create a Tech Fellows/Textbook Transformation Fellowship in partnership with the long-standing Academic Innovations & eLearning Tech Fellows learning community. This program supports faculty by providing training and resources needed to redesign their courses using free-to-access or Open Education Resources. Open course materials directly impact student success by improving student performance and retention, especially for low-income, part-time, and first-generation students. (See related story on page 41)



Thirteen faculty were selected for this competitive fellows program. The 2019 Technology/Textbook Transformation Fellows include:

- DOUG BOURNE, Term Instructor, English
- SAMUEL COOK, Associate Professor, Mathematics
- STEFANOS FOLIAS, Assistant Professor, Mathematics
- ALISON GARDELL, Assistant Professor, Biology (Kenai Peninsula College)
- GREGORY HARTLEY, Assistant Professor, Writing
- RACHAEL HANNAH, Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences
- JEREMY NETTLETON, Assistant Professor, Biology (Mat--Su)
- SOLVEIG PEDERSEN, Term Instructor, Communication
- LESLIE REDMOND, Assistant Professor, Dietetics & Nutrition
- MICHELLE SCAMAN, Term Instructor, Journalism
- JOHN SIROIS, Assistant Professor, Chemistry (Mat-Su)
- SARAH SMITH, Adjunct Professor, Communication
- CORRIE WHITMORE, Assistant Professor, Health Sciences





## FACULTY SENATE CONVENES AT KPC FOR ANNUAL RETREAT

The Kenai Peninsula College Kenai River Campus hosted the Faculty Senate Retreat in August 2018 with 30 Senate members attending in person or via distance. Scott Downing, associate professor of English at KPC, is the first Faculty Senate President elected from a community campus.

## NASA GRANT & MOST DOWNLOADED ARTICLE

UAA geologist SIMON KATTENHORN's paper, "Commentary: The Feasibility of Subduction and Implications for Plate Tectonics on Jupiter's Moon Europa", published in the *Journal of Geophysical Research: Planet*, was one of the top 20 most downloaded articles in 2017-18. The paper builds on an article published in 2014 in which Kattenhorn and co-author, Louise Prockter, presented



evidence that the process of tectonic plate subduction (such as occurs on Earth) also occurs on Jupiter's icy moon Europa. This means Europa may have (or had) a system of plate tectonics, which previously was thought unique to Earth. NASA recently awarded Kattenhorn a research grant to continue work on the Europa Plate Tectonics project with help from two graduate students.

## GENE CARTE AWARD

YEUNGJEOM LEE, assistant professor in the Alaska Justice Center, with co-author Jihoon Kim of Arkansas State University, received second place in the *Gene Carte Student Paper Award* at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology held in November 2018 in Atlanta, Georgia. Their paper, "Revisiting the Overlap Between Delinquency and Peer Delinquency Through a Life-Course Perspective", was submitted when Lee was in her final semester in graduate school and was one of three recognized for outstanding scholarly work by students. Lee joined UAA in fall 2018.

## BEST-IN-TRACK AWARD

Finance Professor NALINAKSHA BHATTACHARYYA, with co-author and Assistant Professor of Finance LEYUAN YOU, won the *Best-in-Track Award* for the 2019 MBAA International—Academy of Finance Conference in the Mathematical Finance area with their paper, "Expected Return and Skewness Relationship in Futures Markets". BHATTACHARYYA was also recognized by the Social Science Research Network in the top 10 percent of authors by total new downloads within the last 12 months.

## FEATURED IN POETS & WRITERS

RONALD SPATZ, professor of English and co-founder and editor of the *Alaska Quarterly Review*, was featured in the special section, "Diving into the Digital Slush Pile: How Online Submissions Are



Changing Lit Mags (And Your Chances of Publication)," in the November/December 2018 edition of *Poets & Writers* magazine. This summer while serving as a faculty associate of the First Nations Studies Department at Simon Fraser University, Spatz participated in a one-hour public radio interview in Greater Vancouver, B.C. on empathy building through narrative and story-

telling as reflective practice. They also talked about his role at *Alaska Quarterly Review* in engaging with issues of political and social consequence. Spatz's editorial work also was recognized in the 2019 *PEN America Best Debut Short Stories* anthology.

# Teaching & Learning

## 2019 COLLEAGUE-TO-COLLEAGUE FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence (CAFE) has presented awards recognizing colleague-to-colleague faculty development excellence since 2008.

The following group was recognized for collaborative efforts in developing an ePortfolio template and resources used in faculty promotion and tenure files, as well as offering support programming and creating materials to help the file development process:

MARIAN BRUCE, Faculty Services; PAUL WASKO, SHAMAI THACKER, and FRANCES BASKETFIELD, eWolf ePortfolio Program; ERIC BALDWIN, Academic Innovations & eLearning; KAT MILLIGAN-MYRHE, Biological Sciences; JENNIFER STONE, English; CORRIE WHITMORE, College of Health.



Left to right: André Thorn, Devin Feighan, Chancellor Sandeen, Corrie Whitmore, Stasia Straley, and Paul Wasko.

STASIA STRALEY, associate professor, Accounting, was honored for her sustained effort in advancing the use of active learning techniques among faculty, and her exemplary leadership in discussions of teaching through CAFE's Great Ideas for Teaching Students (GIFTS) sessions.

The following awards were presented in partnership with Academic Innovations & eLearning:

ANDRÉ THORN, director, UAA Multicultural Center and interim director, Native Student Services, was recognized for his passionate work and national recognition in advancing the use of ePortfolios by students, faculty, and among Student Affairs entities.

DEVIN FEIGHAN, instructional designer, Academic Innovations & eLearning, was honored for his exceptional support of faculty in eLearning and online contexts, especially at Kodiak College where he supported faculty accessibility efforts, and in the College of Business and Public Policy where he helped transition the M.S. in Global Supply Chain Management to a 100 percent online program.

## FACULTY SENATE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

*For Outstanding and Distinguished Service to the Senate*

LARRY FOSTER, Professor, Mathematics

*For Outstanding and Distinguished Service to the University for Regional Accreditation*

LARRY FOSTER, Professor, Mathematics

JENNIFER BROCK, Associate Professor and Department Chair, Mechanical Engineering

SUSAN KALINA, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

MEGAN CARLSON, Director of Accreditation Functions

*For Outstanding and Distinguished Service to the University and the Community*

ERIN HICKS, Associate Professor, Physics and Astronomy, Director, Planetarium  
THOMAS CHUNG, Assistant Professor, Art



Erin Hicks and Thomas Chung



Left to right: Susan Kalina, Jennifer Brock, Larry Foster. Not pictured: Megan Carlson

The Faculty Senate also recognized USUAA leadership members for their *Outstanding and Distinguished Service to the University and the Community*:

GESER BAT-ERDENE, President; CLARE BALDWIN, Vice President; ALEX JORGENSEN, Speaker of the Assembly; JAMIE BAGLEY, Speaker of the Assembly Pro Tempore; TERESA WROBEL, Government Relations Officer; LANA SUVOROVA, Chief Financial Officer; ROSE KRUGER, Sergeant-at-Arms, Rules Chair; QUACYYA CUARESMA, Chief Activities Officer; and KATIE BERNHARDT, Ombudsman.



## FACULTY ASSOCIATES

Faculty Associates work with the Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence (CAFE) to present workshops and “sparkshops” (15-minute presentations), provide leadership and mentoring, and develop online materials on selected topics. Highlights from this year include:



**Collaborative Learning** – SANDRA EHRLICH MATHIESEN (Business); Ehrlich Mathiesen works with faculty to develop “flipped” classrooms (in which coursework takes place largely out of class and class focuses on application of the material) and the effective use of student groups/teams in courses.



**Books of the Year** – IAN HARTMAN (History) and SHANNON DONOVAN (Geography and Environmental Sciences); (See page 34 for more on the Books of the Year program)



**Leadership Development** – CLARE DANNENBERG (Anthropology and English); Dannenberg, a recent alumnae of HERS: Women Leaders in Higher Education, led once-a-month support and development session to support chairs and directors of academic departments.

**Faculty Career Advancement** – JENNIFER STONE (English); Stone offered sessions on file preparation for promotion and tenure, and led a 12-week support group to help faculty complete their scholarly writing projects.



**Teaching and Learning** – STASIA STRALEY (Accounting); Straley facilitated CAFE’s new Great Ideas for Teaching Students (GIFTS) sessions in which faculty share at least one teaching and learning strategy that has worked in their classes; faculty conversations evolve into discussions of pedagogical strategies, formative and summative assessment practices, classroom management, and more.

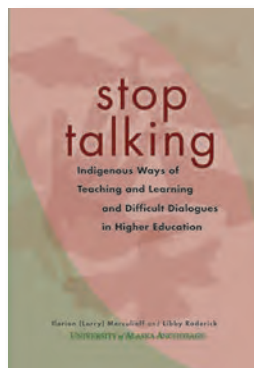


**Contemplative Practice and Pedagogies** – SOLVEIG PEDERSEN (Communication); Contemplative pedagogy empowers students to integrate their own experience into the course material to cultivate attention, deepen their understanding, foster greater compassion for others, and engender engaged inquiry into their most profound questions. This learning community explored the practical application of contemplative practices across the academic curriculum.



## INDIGENOUS WAYS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

In fall 2018, 30 faculty members participated in a learning community on Alaska Native Ways of Teaching and Learning, co-hosted by CAFE



and the Faculty Senate Diversity Committee. The learning community was organized around the nationally recognized UAA publication *Stop Talking: Indigenous Ways of Teaching and Learning and Difficult Dialogues in Higher Education*. *Stop Talking* explores traditional Alaska Native ways of teaching that focus on reflection, silence, visual learning, storytelling, honoring relationships, and Elder- and earth-based learning.

The learning community, co-taught by Unangan (Aleut) Elder ILARION MERCULIEFF and CAFE’s Associate Director LIBBY RODERICK, allowed faculty to reflect on their current teaching practices and the possibilities for broadening them to include these ancient approaches. The faculty also discussed key difficult dialogues between Alaska Native communities and academic communities, and explored how to tie their work to the student learning outcomes associated with the new Alaska Native-themed General Education Requirement launched in fall 2018.

Several faculty members made changes to their courses after participating in the learning community, including Health Sciences assistant professor CORRIE WHITMORE, who dramatically revised her senior seminar in Health Policy to showcase the power of storytelling. Over the semester, her class hosted ten community members who shared their health policy stories, bringing to life for her students the real drama of developing and implementing policies related to health care in Alaska.

## TEACHING ACADEMIES

Each fall and spring, the Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence and Academic Innovations & eLearning co-host teaching academies. More than 90 full- and part-time faculty registered for 31 sessions offered in the fall academy. Many of the sessions focused on the UAA 2020 Student Success Initiatives.



The Center for Community Engagement and Learning and the Office of Academic Affairs joined CAFE and AI&e to cohost the Winter Teaching Academy that attracted more than 100 faculty and student affairs professionals. David Marshall, Senior Scholar at the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment, who presented at the Annual Assessment Seminar in the fall, returned to UAA to lead two events designed to improve assignments and ensure that they effectively align with course, program, and institutional goals.

# Teaching & Learning

## INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

In January, the Board of Commissioners of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) reaffirmed UAA's institutional accreditation, based on a comprehensive Self-Evaluation Report and peer evaluation site visit. This culminated more than two years of a broad and inclusive process to evaluate how well the institution is meeting its mission and serving its students. Chancellor CATHY SANDEEN, who arrived just weeks before the site visit, said, "I have never before served at an institution that has so fully engaged the institutional accreditation process, across all campuses and including faculty, staff, students and community members."



Left to right: Chancellor Fran Ulmer (2007-2011) and Chancellor Cathy Sandeen (2018-) at the reaffirmation celebration in March 2019.

The reaffirmation establishes that UAA has met rigorous standards of quality, effectiveness, and sustainability while meeting its mission to serve the needs of the State of Alaska. UAA was last reaffirmed in February 2012.

UAA received four commendations from NWCCU, each of which acknowledges a key area of accomplishment and reflects UAA values. The four commendations were:

- An inclusive planning process for *UAA 2020*, which brought the campuses together in an unprecedented joint effort focused on Student Success.
- Its culture of diversity and inclusivity, especially in relationship to Alaska Native communities.
- Its commitment to community engagement and the Public Square.
- Its extensive assessment efforts related to student learning. Faculty exhibit robust ownership and leadership in assessing academic programs, and also engage proactively in the multifaceted assessment of general education.

NWCCU noted two areas where UAA is in substantial compliance, but in need of improvement. These are institutional planning of graduate programs and a continued focus on collaborative Student Success efforts.

UAA moved quickly to build on NWCCU's commendations and address the recommendations. An Accreditation Metrics Team worked over the spring and summer to identify possible student achievement metrics, one of the keys to NWCCU's 2019 revised standards. Two UAA faculty, JENNIFER BROCK and RACHEL GRAHAM, applied for and were selected as fellows in NWCCU's Mission Fulfillment Fellowship program, and UAA was selected to participate in NWCCU's Retention, Persistence, and Student Success Academy.

Of particular note moving forward, UAA's collaborative Student Success efforts are resulting in improved graduation rates. Since 2016, UAA has seen its graduation rate increase seven percentage points from 24.9 to 32 percent. (See page 49 for more on UAA's graduation rate)

## PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

- Art BA/BFA

### COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

- Computer Science BS

### COLLEGE OF HEALTH

- Human Services AAS/BHS
- Paramedical Technology AAS
- Surgical Technology AAS – Initial accreditation

### SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

UAA was notified in January that the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation revoked accreditation for UAA's School of Education initial teacher preparation programs. After an expedited review, UA President Jim Johnsen recommended that the Board of Regents discontinue initial licensure teacher education programs administered by UAA, and transition to provide coursework on the Anchorage campus offered through the accredited teacher education programs at University of Alaska Fairbanks and University of Alaska Southeast.

## NEW PROGRAMS

The following programs were approved:

### COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

- Civil Engineering Accelerated MS
- Project Management Minor

## NEW AGREEMENTS

UAA signed a cooperative agreement with Memorial University of Newfoundland in Canada to explore the development of collaborative educational and research projects, joint academic and scientific activities, and publications.

The agreement also explores faculty and student exchanges.





# Research & Creative Activity

## NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS CHAPTER FORMED AT UAA

UAA established a Chapter of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI) and held an induction ceremony for the first chapter members in September 2018.

The formation of this chapter recognizes UAA's involvement in inventions, patents, and start-ups, and encourages faculty to transform their research into inventions that benefit society. HELENA WISNIEWSKI, an NAI fellow, and professor of Entrepreneurship and Department Chair at UAA, established the chapter and organized the event. Invited speaker and NAI fellow Robert Duncan is the President's Distinguished Chair in Physics and Professor of Physics at Texas Tech University.

Inductees into the UAA Chapter included GENEDY GIENKO, BOGDAN HOANCA, TIMOTHY MENARD, FRANK MOORE, KENRICK MOCK, ANTHONY PARIS, NANCY JANE SHELBY, MITHUN SINGLA, ALEXANDRA WEST JEFFERIES, JOEY YANG and HELENA WISNIEWSKI.



NAI Fellow Robert Duncan.



Left to right: John Stalvey, Robert Duncan, Mithun Singla, Joey Yang, State Senator Shelley Hughes, and Helena Wisniewski.

The event also featured the announcement of the *Best Ideas Contest* for members of the community with a Patent, Patents in Process, or the intent to submit for Patent within the next year. Sam Combs, an architect received the *Most Beneficial to Alaska Award* for his patented design of EacMoto-Va-Tire™, a tire/wheel changing tool that reduces the time needed to change the tire/wheel. Candy FitzPatrick, founder and CEO of RestAngles, LLC, won the *Most Likely to Succeed as a Business Award* for her portable footrest for people of limited height. Awards were based on innovation, marketability, market size, inventor passion and the probability of becoming a successful business. Each awardee received a certificate and a \$250 check, sponsored by Charley Brown, partner Ballard Spahr.

## INVENTIONS AND PATENTS

In FY19, UAA filed 14 invention disclosures, double the historical median number of seven per year. Three new patents were received. Patents issued in 2018-19 include:

ANTHONY PARIS, associate professor of engineering, and JENS MUNK, professor of electrical engineering, were issued U.S. Patent 10,028,679 B2 for *Devices, systems, and methods for determining linear and angular accelerations of the head*. This is another patent related to work Paris and others have developed for an instrumented mouth guard and helmets that measure motion and impact to better assess and treat head trauma.

PARIS was also issued U.S. Patent 10,271,860 B2 for *Tap guide device and systems and methods for using the same*. Other inventors listed on the patent are Phillip Boysen, an engineering technician at Boise State, and Joshua Gunderson, a mechanical engineer at POWER Engineers in Meridian, Idaho.

JOEY YANG, professor of civil engineering, was issued U.S. Patent 10,036,560 B2 for *Heating panels and systems and methods of using the same*. Yang, former graduate student Ting Yang, and colleagues from the University of Houston, collaborated on this new development related to their work developing systems to prevent the build up of snow and ice using carbon fiber heating elements.



# Research & Creative Activity

## COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH WITH A FOCUS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

### UA RESEARCHERS AWARDED \$20 MILLION GRANT FOR FIRE & ICE PROJECT

The three main UA campuses are collaborating on a 5-year, \$20 million climate change research project, *Fire & Ice: Navigating Variability in Boreal Wildfire Regimes and Subarctic Coastal Ecosystems*.

Funded by the National Science Foundation, the project will look at how climate change is affecting two Alaska ecosystems, the boreal forest and the Gulf of Alaska.

Representing UAA as co-principal investigator and researcher on the coastal margins group is LEEANN MUNK, Ph.D., watershed hydro geochemistry expert and professor of Geological Sciences. She is joined by ERIC KLEIN, Ph.D., researcher, hydrology expert, and assistant professor of Geological Sciences.



Left to right: Eric Klein (UAA), Jason Fellman (UAS), and LeeAnn Munk (UAA). Photo by Molly Tankersly, UAS.

### STUDYING THE IMPACT OF EARLIER SPRING ARRIVALS ON VEGETATION AND GEESE

Alaska is at the forefront of climate change and is leading research on its effects. At UAA, researchers teamed up with researchers from South Dakota State University, Utah State University, and the USGS Alaska Science Center to investigate how the effects of climate change can contribute to a phenomenon known as phenological mismatch, when the phenology of two species that rely on each other becomes offset.

Researchers completed their third and final summer of field work in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta last summer. The team set up in an area known for its colonies of Pacific black brant geese that use the area for feeding and nesting. It was a perfect spot to study how an earlier spring arrival might impact the local vegetation and the geese. The team set up open-top greenhouses that heated the surface of the soil, simulating an early arrival of spring. Captive geese then grazed these areas, allowing researchers to observe their grazing patterns under different levels of climate change.

What researchers have found from this initial study is that the plants grow larger before the geese arrive. The larger plants absorb more greenhouse gases, so that can slow the rate of further climate change, but the larger plants are less nutritious for the grazing geese. This illustrates the complexity of the connections. Researchers now will focus on analyzing the data they collected over the three summers.

The team included postdoctoral researcher KATHARINE KELSEY (UAA), principal investigators JEFFREY WELKER (UAA) and Joshua Leffler (South Dakota State University), lead principal investigator Karen Beard (Utah State University) and Joel Schmutz of the USGS Alaska Science Center.

### MICROBIOLOGISTS WORKING WITH NASA ON NEW BIOFUEL

For the past three years, assistant professor of Biological Sciences BRANDON BRIGGS has worked as the principal investigator on a project researching a way to produce the biofuel known as isobutene more efficiently. Isobutene is a gas that serves as a key component in a variety of everyday products, from rubbers, plastics and detergents to lubricants and gasoline additives.

Currently, the only method to develop isobutene uses crude oil in an energy intensive process that is a significant contributor of carbon dioxide and methane emissions. Briggs' research utilizes microscopic organisms, specifically, a strain of *E. coli* found in humans' digestive system and waste-water to develop isobutene into a biofuel that could compete with oil. His project interested NASA, which fast-tracked the project to study how *E. coli* would perform under microgravity conditions by sending samples up to the International Space Station.



Brandon Briggs



Katharine Kelsey at the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta field site. Photo courtesy of J. Leffler, South Dakota State University.



## DOCUMENTING SPREAD OF INVASIVE PLANTS IN ALASKA'S LAKES

ISER researcher TOBIAS SCHWOERER and Engineering Computer Science Professor FRANK WITMER are working with Honors College student DEVIN BOYLE to get a better understanding of how Elodea, an invasive freshwater plant in Alaska, is being spread across the state by floatplanes. Funded with an Honors College grant and support from Rust's Flying Service, the project involves investigating the feasibility of using images captured by cameras installed on floatplanes as part of a "big data" citizen science project.

The project builds on Schworer's previous bioeconomic analysis of Elodea, indicating that if allowed to spread, Elodea could cost Alaska's commercial sockeye fisheries and floatplane pilots nearly \$100 million a year on average. Damages are projected to increase as long as no clean up of existing infestations occurs.

As part of his Honors project, Boyle installed GoPro cameras on one of Rust Flying Service's airplanes and collected images of Elodea gathered on the plane's rudders. The images will be used to develop an algorithm to detect and measure Elodea entanglement through computer automation. The researchers hope to use the project as a proof of concept study that will allow them to expand their research to a statewide citizen science project with floatplane pilots that would result in a much larger statewide data collection effort.

The project is part of UAA researchers' ongoing efforts to improve detection capabilities for Elodea and aid in management decisions.



Devin Boyle installing the camera on the airplane.

## 2018-19 INNOVATE AWARDS

The INNOVATE awards were established to encourage new research, creative works, and innovation. UAA's Research and Graduate Studies program awarded a total of \$130,000 for seven projects plus a new Innovate Expansion Award. This special award is granted on a case-by-case basis and is only considered for research projects that demonstrate a strong potential of successful research results leading to patent applications, and the rapid development of transformative products.



The first INNOVATE EXPANSION award went to fund the project, *A Bioinspired Artificial Tessellated Intervertebral Disc Human Prototype* with principal investigators CHERYL WILGA, professor and director, Biological Sciences, and MATTHEW CALHOUN, assistant professor, Civil Engineering. This project has produced four invention disclosures and two patent actions this year. Wilga also participated in the I-Trep Summer Course in "Biomedical Entrepreneurship" at the University of Vermont College of Medicine.

Additional projects receiving Innovate Funding in FY19:

- ANAYANSI LOMBARDERO, assistant professor, Psychology; DIANE KING, research associate professor, Center for Biological Health Research and Services: *Provider barriers and facilitators to the implementation of CBT-I in primary care in Alaska.*
- ANTHONY PARIS, associate professor, Mechanical Engineering, with JENNIFER BROCK, associate professor, Mechanical Engineering, NICOLAE LOBONTIU, professor, Mechanical Engineering, and JOHN LUND: *Design of an instrument to quantify multidirectional head acceleration.*
- BRANDON BRIGGS, assistant professor of Biological Sciences with SIMON KATTENHORN, director and professor, Geological Sciences: *Microbial survivability under Alaskan glaciers as an analog for icy worlds.*
- CAIXA WANG, assistant professor, Geomatics, with MATTHEW CARLSON, director and associate professor, Biological Sciences, with SAIF AL-ZAHIR: *Copula-based detection for Alaska invasive plant - Prunus Padus.*
- GETU HAILU, assistant professor, Mechanical Engineering: *Experimental setup and procedure for developing innovative and effective cooling strategies for battery packs.*
- REBECA MASEDA GARCIA, assistant professor, Spanish, with PERLA RICHERSON, a senior majoring in Languages: *Transformation and innovation in media representation of gender-based violence.*
- SHUVAJIT BHATTACHARYA, assistant professor, Geological Sciences, with KENRICK MOCK, professor and chair, Computer Science and Engineering, and SAIF AL-ZAHIR: *Learning models for fault and fracture characterization in the subsurface.*

# Research & Creative Activity

## CONOCOPHILLIPS ARCTIC SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AWARDS

Faculty and students at the University of Alaska Anchorage are researching some of the Arctic's most pressing issues, from how climate change is affecting Alaska's buildings and infrastructure to how increasing solar penetration is affecting power system stability for Arctic communities. Funded by the ConocoPhillips Arctic Science and Engineering Endowment, the 2019 awards for these exploratory research projects totaled more than \$470,000.

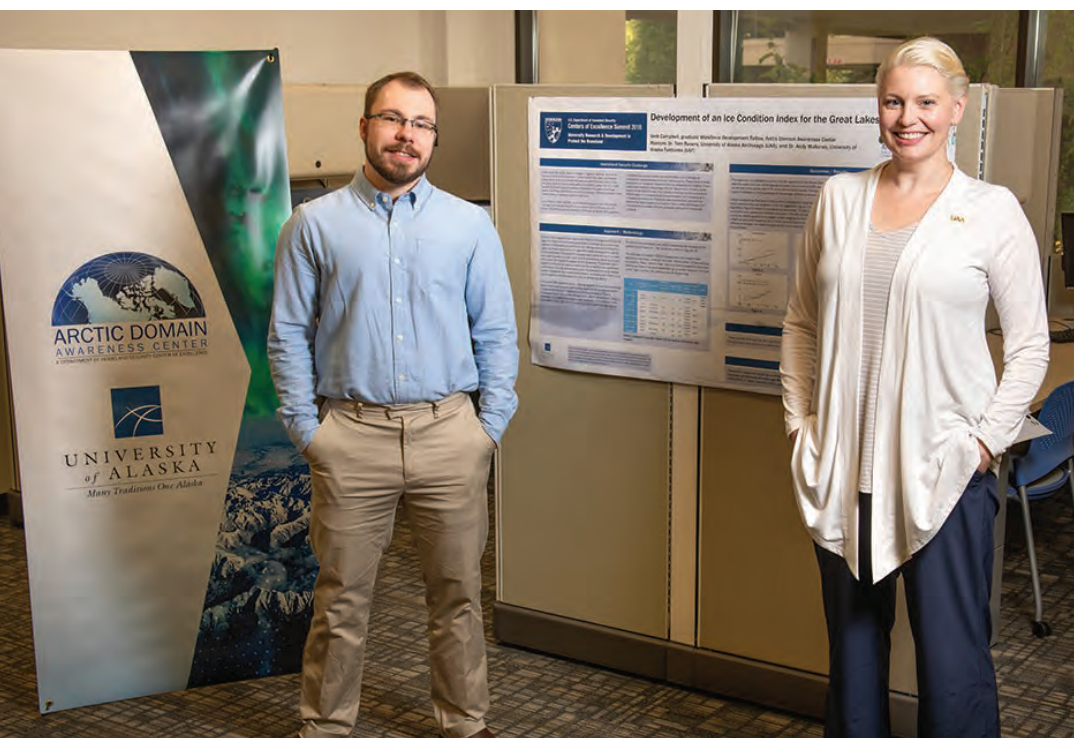
"UAA faculty and students live and work in the only Arctic state in the U.S.," UAA Chancellor Cathy Sandeen said. "ConocoPhillips' generous gift provides continuous support to conduct critical research in this important region." Created in 2008 with a \$15 million gift from ConocoPhillips Alaska, the endowment provides annual support to Arctic science and engineering programs and research at UAA and is the largest endowment in the University of Alaska system.

The winning projects for fiscal year 2019 include:

- GETU HAILU, assistant professor, Mechanical Engineering: *Improving cooling performance of battery backup facilities.*
- JIFENG PENG, associate professor, Mechanical Engineering: *Combustion and dispersion model of particulate matter from in situ oil burning, a widely used method in oil spill cleanup.*
- SEBASTIAN NEUMAYER, assistant professor, Computer Science and Engineering, and MOHAMMAD HEIDARI KAPOURCHALI, assistant professor, Alaska Resources Library and Information Services: *Determining interdependencies in critical Arctic networks (power, communication and other necessities).*
- PATRICK TOMCO, assistant professor, Chemistry; KHRISTYNE DUDDLESTON, professor, Biological Sciences; AARON DOTSON, associate professor, Civil Engineering; and TIMOTHY BRADNER, Atwood Chair of Journalism: *Building a new "pipeline" of oil spill recovery research at UAA.*
- MOHAMMAD HEIDARI KAPOURCHALI, assistant professor, Alaska Resources Library and Information Services; AHMED ABUHUSSEIN, assistant professor, Electrical Engineering; and MATTHEW KUPILIK, assistant professor, Electrical Engineering: *Operating photovoltaics in Arctic environments: Potential threats to Alaskan power systems.*
- CAIXIA WANG, assistant professor, Geomatics, and JOEY YANG, professor and chair, Civil Engineering: *Toward the prediction of climate change impact on the built infrastructures in Northern Alaska.*
- SHUVAJIT BHATTACHARYA, assistant professor, Geological Sciences; JENNIFER ASCHOFF, professor, Geological Sciences; and JOEY YANG, professor and chair, Civil Engineering: *Enhanced 3D seismic imaging and geologic modeling on Alaska's North Slope.*



Joey Yang



Arctic Domain Awareness Center (ADAC) fellows Seth Campbell and Kelsey Frazier in the ADAC offices at UAA's Bragaw Office Complex. Campbell and Frazier have helped to develop an Ice Condition Index (ICECON) used to quantify ice conditions for vessels navigating the Great Lakes. The model is now being scaled up for use in the Arctic.



## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH & DISCOVERY SYMPOSIUM



Former UAA student NICK ARMSTRONG-CREWS delivered the keynote address, “Self-driving cars are here...and they’re awesome!” for the Undergraduate Research and Discovery Symposium in April. Armstrong-Crews is a career roboticist, building self-driving cars to eliminate death caused by auto accidents. Born in Nome and raised in Fairbanks, he studied math and computer science at UAA, leading to doctoral studies in robotics at Carnegie Mellon. He worked on AI for Mars rovers at NASA Ames, drone vision at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, hand-held 3D cameras at his start-up Heuristic Labs, and mobile machine learning at Google. He is currently working on multi-sensor fusion and perception for self-driving cars at Waymo. Of his return to UAA, he said, “It’s really just amazing to come back and still feel like I’m a part of the community. Being invited back is really touching, and I’m hoping that I can give back in some way.”

During the Symposium, students displayed 49 posters on research projects completed and participated in 47 presentation sessions. Fifty-five students received grants, including 37 Undergraduate Research Awards, eight Discovery Awards, and the following:

### **Alaska Heart Institute Award:**

- MONIQUE MOJICA for work with Anthony Paris: *Gentle Spinal Rod Bender*
- DANIEL ENGLAND for work with Anthony Paris on *Redesign of Rod Bender*

### **Undergraduate Research in the Community Award:**

- AMANDA HANSEN for work with Tracey Burke on *Local Foods Utilization in the Upper Susitna-Talkeetna Region of Alaska*
- JENNASSY REGAL for work with Hattie Harvey, *Exploring Alaska Native Indigenous Approaches to Early Childhood Education*
- REBEKAH KIESTER for work with Veronica Howard, *Employee Satisfaction and Support in Call Centers*

### **Resilient Communities in Transition Award:**

- BENJAMIN HAGENSIEKER for work with Jill Flanders-Crosby, *Elevation of Artistic Identity through Resilience*
- ANNA PATRICK for work with Jill Flanders-Crosby, *Performative Identity: A Focus on Queer Ethnography and Artistic Voice*
- KRISTAL PEREZ AVILES for work with Jill Flanders-Crosby, *Afro-Cuban Dances and Social Identity 1959 to the Present*

### **ConocoPhillips Arctic Science and Engineering Summer Undergraduate Research Award:**

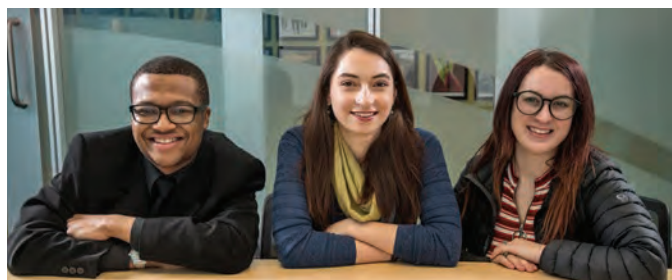
- ELIZABETH WHISENHANT for her work with Patrick Tomco, *Effects of Temperature and Sunlight on Crude Oil Weathering Under Simulated Laboratory Conditions*.

In addition, BRITTENY HOWELL, assistant professor Division of Public Health Sciences, received the **Faculty Leadership in Expanding Undergraduate Research (FLEUR) Award** for her project, *Bringing Community Wellness Breaks to Low-Income Seniors*. The FLEUR award, made possible by support from the Alaska Cardiovascular Research Foundation, supports a faculty member who proposes to integrate original health and wellness research efforts into an undergraduate course.



## PUBLIC SERVICE SCHOLARS

Five students participated in this year’s Public Service Scholars (PSS) program. Started in 2017, this program challenges students to expand their understanding of civic engagement and service, builds their capacity to effect change, and encourages students to explore community-engaged scholarship and research. As part of the program, students meet weekly with a Center for Community Engagement and Learning Faculty Fellow.



Left to right: Koby Scott, Lauren Criss-Carboy, and Moira Pyhala

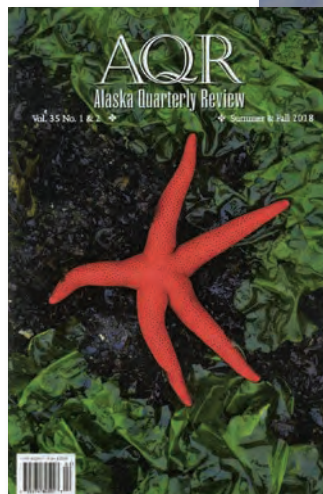
In fall 2018, the scholars participated in the national *Up to Us* campus-based challenge to increase knowledge and awareness of college students about the national debt crisis. The PSS team’s efforts, included a Walk the Spine event that illustrated the scope of the nation’s debt and a deliberation about addressing the fiscal crisis, resulted in the UAA team’s selection as a Top 20 finalist of the *Up to Us* competition. As a top 20 finalist, the campaign’s team leader, junior International Studies major LAUREN CRISS-CARBOY received an all-expenses paid trip to Washington D.C. in June to participate in briefings and working group sessions.

# Research & Creative Activity

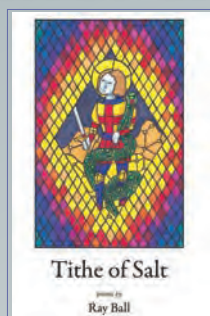
## ALASKA QUARTERLY REVIEW

*Alaska Quarterly Review* (AQR) celebrated its 70th edition in the 2018-19 academic year, edited by co-founder and English professor RONALD SPATZ. The Summer-Fall 2018 edition featured the novella *Life/Story* by Emily Mitchell about a family man's adventure gone wrong in a reality TV show. The Winter-Spring 2019 edition included four narrative poems by Pulitzer Prize winning poet Ted Koozer who served as U.S. Poet Laureate from 2004-2006. Well-attended public community events launched each edition, "The Need to Believe in Something" and "Here and Over There," and were sponsored by the Center for the Narrative & Lyric Arts and the Alaska Center for the Book.

Media citations from across the U.S. included a 2019 *PEN America Literary Award for Emerging Writers*, *The Best American Short Stories*, *The Best American Essays* and inclusions in the *Pushcart Prize: The Best of the Small Presses*, *New Stories from the Midwest*, *The Best Small Fictions*, *Poetry Daily*, and *American Life in Poetry*. In Alaska, feature articles appeared in the *Anchorage Press* and the *Anchorage Daily News* that concluded AQR is "exceptional for its emotional depth and warmth. What's Alaskan about it is an aesthetic that values spirited independence, possibility, and a shared humanity that crosses time, space, cultures, and political divides."



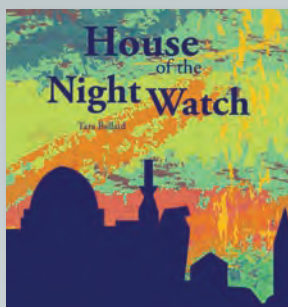
## BOOKS BY UAA FACULTY & STAFF



Ray Ball, Associate Professor, History



Chaun Ballard, Instructor, Writing



Tara Ballard, First Year Advisor



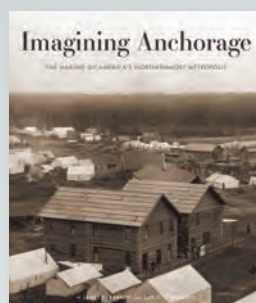
Phyllis A. Fast, Professor Emeritus, Anthropology



Andrea Gregovich, Instructor, Writing



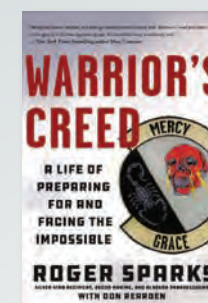
Herminia Din, Professor of Art, with her pop-up book, "Our Plastic Ocean-Our Clean Ocean," an Alaska-themed book she created to teach children about plastic pollution with support from UAA's INNOVATE program.



Ian Hartman, Associate Professor, History, and James Barnett



Dan Henry, founder Alaska Native Oratory Society



Don Rearden, Professor, Developmental Studies, with Roger Sparks



# Community Engagement

## DEMOCRACY & CIVIC ACTION WEEK

Spanning from Constitution Day (Sept. 17) through National Voter Registration Day (Sept. 25), Democracy & Civic Action Week events explored diverse perspectives about the role of democracy and civic engagement in the United States. More than 20 departments, programs, and organizations across campus presented activities to engage campus and community members in reflecting on their rights and responsibilities that are fundamental to creating a civil society. More than 600 students, faculty, staff, and community members attended events across the week.

Democracy & Civic Action Week collaborated with the Municipality of Anchorage's Welcoming Week to co-host a Civics Fair at the Loussac Library. A writing contest for Anchorage School District high school students and UAA students invited them to answer the question "Is Voting a Right, A Responsibility, or a Privilege?" Cash prizes, sponsored by the ACLU of Alaska and the League

of Women Voters of Anchorage, were awarded to the best high school essay, the best college essay, and the best overall essay.

Throughout the week, faculty and guests presented talks. Among those were:

**Keynote speaker Jennifer Domagal-Goldman**, Associate Director of the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge, spoke about creating a culture of democracy on campus. John Eastman, Henry Salvatori Professor of Law at Chapman University, delivered the 14th Annual Constitution Day Chartwell Lecture *Birthright Citizenship and Administrative Law: Did an Unelected Bureaucrat Alter the Meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment's Citizenship Clause?*



Jennifer Domagal-Goldman

Special events included a debate *Youth Votes Should be Weighted to Count More than Votes Cast by Elderly Citizens* with the Seawolf Debate Program; a Think Tank with the Coalition for Democracy & Civic Action and the ACLU of Alaska; and, a Naturalization Ceremony & Reception presented by the U.S. Immigration and the League of Women Voters of Anchorage.



Marsha Olson staffs a table at the Civics Fair

## CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

In May 2019, the Anchorage Assembly adopted the Anchorage Climate Action Plan. The plan culminated an intense community effort over the past year, but began over 10 years ago with a UAA class project. Former UAA science professor and current first lady MARA KIMMEL and UAA political science professor KIMBERLY PACE traveled with their class to Anchorage's sister city, Tromsø, Norway, to learn how the circumpolar north city was incorporating policy into local government to combat climate change. Upon their return, the class prepared a draft plan they then presented to outgoing Mayor Mark Begich.

In summer 2017, Mayor Ethan Berkowitz resurrected the plan as part of the Resilient Anchorage Initiative. Political Science major JACOB SHERCLIFFE was hired as an intern for the Municipality with funds secured from the Institute of Social and Economic Research, the Alaska Center for Energy and Power, and the Nature Conservancy. Shercliffe conducted a baseline greenhouse gas inventory. In December



Micah Hahn

2017, the UAA and Municipality of Anchorage signed a memorandum of understanding to develop the city's first Climate Action Plan, formalizing the collaboration.

In August 2018, MICAH HAHN, an assistant professor of Environmental Health within the Institute for Circumpolar Health, began work with a small steering committee comprised of

university and city representatives. "It crossed so many departments across the university and will have a real applied impact on the city," Hahn said.

Last fall, students, mostly Environment and Society majors, in a capstone class taught by SHANNON DONOVAN, associate professor of Environmental Studies, contributed to the plan. "It was really interesting to work with a lot of different people from different backgrounds

in the community and being able to discuss this one common issue, that we all cared about together," said CLAIRE RHODES, a junior majoring in Environment and Society with a concentration in Geology. Donovan said she is proud of her students' dedication and how they represented the university on such a huge project. She says she was impressed by how they each rose to the occasion to engage with their subcommittee groups.

The draft was completed early in 2019. Following a review period during which Anchorage residents submitted their suggestions and ideas, the final plan was presented to and approved by the Anchorage Assembly. UAA will continue its collaboration with the Municipality to begin implementation of the plan.



Shannon Donovan

# Community Engagement

## SELKREGG AWARD FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE LEARNING

Two faculty projects received a 2019 *Selkregg Community Engagement & Service Learning Award*, a \$5,000 award that recognizes community engagement projects with significant discipline-based scholarship, community partnership, and student leadership development. This year's recipients include:



AISHA BARNES, instructor, Department of Writing, for *Close-Looking: Building Skills for Writing and Observation* with the Anchorage Museum. This collaborative project bridges the divide between writing and art by bringing students to the Anchorage Museum to teach them about Alaskan art, careers, and writing opportunities associated with art exhibits, culture, and community outreach. Museum staff and community leaders will present three lectures/discussions at UAA regarding ethical acquisitions and the roles of museums in communities. Students will respond creatively to art in the museum, with audio projects about museum objects posted for the public on the museum website.

MICHELE BURDETTE-TAYLOR, assistant professor, School of Nursing, for *Interprofessional Academic Service-Learning Student-Led Free Clinic*. This project brings together WWAMI School of Medicine and UAA School of Nursing faculty and students with community outreach partners to provide medical and psycho-social services at Central Lutheran Church. It expands a foot and wound care clinic for the homeless of Anchorage, started with a Selkregg award in 2017, into a primary care clinic. In this clinic, students will offer clinical and emotional care while learning about interdisciplinary care, social justice issues, and developing an understanding of the values of community service.

This is the 15th anniversary of the award, which draws from a memorial fund established in the names of Dr. Lidia Selkregg and Fred M. Selkregg, Jr., longtime Alaskan community leaders. Additional gifts are provided by the Iden and Selkregg families.



Michelle Burdette-Taylor with a student at the foot clinic.

## COMMUNITY BUILDER AWARD

KATHI TRAWVER, associate professor and coordinator for the Bachelor of Social Work program, School of Social Work, was recognized with the 2019 *Community Builder Award* from the Center for Community Engagement and Learning. The award is presented to a faculty, staff, student or community member who adds to the soul of the community by his or her examples of bold leadership. Trawver



Kathy Trawver (middle) at a meeting of UAA's Hunger and Homelessness Support Network

demonstrated that leadership in her active role guiding efforts to address homelessness. She helped develop Anchorage Project Homeless Connect and served as a founding board member for the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness. Trawver also spearheaded the Classroom-Based

Survey of UAA Student and Food Housing Insecurity to better understand the needs of the UAA student community.

## COMMUNITY-ENGAGED WRITING AWARD

SHANNON DONOVAN, associate professor, Geography & Environmental Studies, received the inaugural *Community-Engaged Writing Award* presented by the Center for Community Engagement and Learning for her article, "Growing Gardens Sustainability: Challenges and Opportunities Facing the Strategic Expansion of Anchorage, Alaska's Community Garden System." The article, published in the University of California Press *Case Studies in the Environment* online journal, highlights Donovan's partnership with the Municipality of Anchorage and provides a framework for other



cities to develop similar partnerships for community gardens. In the partnership, UAA completed a multi-faceted needs assessment that included



a community survey, stakeholder workshop, and key informant interviews to better understand how expanding community gardens can bridge a gap in the local food system and increase access to fresh foods for the city's most vulnerable individuals.





## TACKLING DIFFICULT TOPICS THROUGH ART

In last fall's beginning painting class, Adjunct Professor Steve Gordon worked with artists in the community on *The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Mural Project*. This project focused on the correlation between ACE and addiction. Seven murals were painted, each depicting a recovering drug addict's life story. Individual artists and teams of artists paired with an ACE "guest" and had a conversation about their life. The ACE guests talked about what happened to them as children, how they got into their addiction, where their addiction took them, how they found recovery, and what they are doing currently to deal with the stresses of life in a healthy way. Three of the seven completed murals were displayed in the Fine Arts Building.

## KACHEMAK BAY WRITER'S CONFERENCE

The 18th annual KACHEMAK BAY WRITERS' CONFERENCE featured Diane Ackerman, poet, essayist, naturalist, and author of the *New York Times* bestsellers *The Zookeeper's Wife*, *A Natural History of the Senses*, *The Human Age*, and the Pulitzer Prize Finalist, *One Hundred Names for Love*. The conference featured 17 presenters, including one agent, one editor, and 15 writers.



Diane Ackerman



A scene from James Hindman's *Popcorn Falls*

## VALDEZ LAST FRONTIER THEATRE CONFERENCE

The 27th VALDEZ LAST FRONTIER THEATRE CONFERENCE held in June 2019, saw participants coming from across the country, Canada, and Australia. The driving force for the event is the developmental Play Lab in which 55 plays were presented as readings, followed by critique sessions from theatre professionals. The six evening shows, among the strongest in the history of the event, included the powerful Black Lives Matter play *Hands Up!* and the raucous hit Off-Broadway comedy of James Hindman's *Popcorn Falls*. The final gala featured Prince William Sound College's longest tenured employee, SHANNON STITES, receiving the *Jerry Harper Service Award* for her many years of service to the event.

## MACHETANZ ART FESTIVAL

The ninth MACHETANZ ARTS FESTIVAL was held May 31 and June 1, featuring one-day, two-day, and half-day workshops covering a variety of mediums and disciplines, from intermediate water color painting to digital photography. A first this year was a Gallery Walk celebrating the art created during the festival. Participating artists displayed their work within the bridge from the main entrance to Snodgrass Hall on Saturday afternoon.



Dana Levin

## NORTHERN RENAISSANCE ARTS & SCIENCES READING SERIES

The Master's of Fine Arts in Creative and Literary Arts program hosts the annual *Northern Renaissance Arts & Sciences Reading Series* as part of the summer residency program. The 2019 schedule featured Dana Levin as the keynote speaker. Levin has taught poetry for more than 20 years, serving as the Russo Endowed Chair in Creative Writing at the University of New Mexico and as faculty at the College of Santa Fe and the Santa Fe University of Art and Design. She is the Distinguished Writer in Residence at Maryville University in St. Louis.



# Community Engagement



## UAA/APU BOOKS OF THE YEAR HOSTS WINONA LADUKE

More than 1,000 people, including students, faculty, staff, and community members, attended events featuring indigenous author and activist Winona LaDuke, November 8 through 10 on the UAA, Kenai Peninsula College, and Alaska Pacific University campuses. Her book, *The Winona LaDuke Chronicles*, is one of the six books chosen for the *Building Community Resilience* theme of the 2018-2020 Books of the Year. A potluck was held in her honor at the APU Atwood Building. Her keynote lecture, *The Next Energy Economy: Grassroots Strategies to Mitigate Global Climate Change, and How We Move Ahead*, was held in the Wendy Williamson Auditorium.



Conversations involving the community held during the visit included:

- *Leading from the Heart: Activism, Identity and Community Empowerment*, a conversation specially designed for potential and current student leaders between renowned Winona LaDuke and Psychology Professor E.J. DAVID.
- *All Our Relations: Environmental Justice and Community Empowerment* with Vi Waghiyi of Alaska Community Action on Toxics.
- *Indigenous Resistance and Community Empowerment* with Heather Kendall Miller, Native American Rights Fund.
- Other Books of the Year events included a reception for the *Annual Books of the Year Art Exhibit*, produced and hosted by Herminia Din's Art 491 class. At the reception, students presented their art, created in response to the theme of "Building Community Resilience."

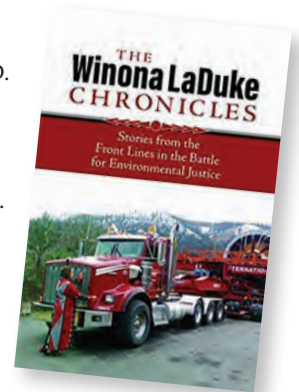
Approximately 60 people attended and engaged in discussion at a *Books of the Year Forum* on March 28 at the Anchorage Museum. The event, spearheaded by English Professor JACKIE CASON, showcased innovative climate change solutions in Alaska and the Books of the Year title, *Drawdown*, edited by Paul Hawken.



On Earth Day, April 22, *Climate Disruption Meets the Green New Deal* featured a viewing of the film *Disruption*, an investigative documentary on the consequences of climate change at the UAA/APU Consortium Library. A teach-in/forum followed and focused on the Green New Deal, including a presentation by IAN HARTMAN about the original New Deal.

Just prior to the Anchorage Assembly's vote on the Anchorage Climate Action Plan, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies SHANNON DONOVAN organized a screening of the National Geographic Film, "From Paris to Pittsburgh" at the Anchorage Museum on May 8. Sponsored by the UAA/APU Books of the Year Program and the Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence, the event also featured Anchorage First Lady Mara Kimmel and a discussion of climate resiliency in Anchorage.

The UAA/APU Books of the Year program is coordinated through the Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence. Faculty and staff from both UAA and Alaska Pacific University serve on the Faculty Steering Committee. UAA members include: JACKIE CASON, English; SHANNON DONOVAN, Geography & Environmental Studies; IAN HARTMAN, History; JOEL POTTER, Philosophy; Faculty-in-Residence; CHRISTINE STUIVE, Counseling, Kenai Peninsula College. Alaska Pacific University members are: MEI MEI EVANS, English and Liberal Studies and CHANDLER STROUP, Assistant Director of Campus Life.





## INTERNATIONAL FOOD CONFERENCE

UAA, in collaboration with Alaska Pacific University, hosted the joint annual meeting and conference of the Association for the Study of



Food and Society (ASFS) and the Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society (AFHVS). The conference theme, *Finding Home in the Wilderness: Explorations in Belonging in Circumpolar Food Systems* focused the conference on the roles of landscape and indigenous cultures in influencing food practices and systems.

ZEYNEP KILIC, associate professor and chair of the Department of Sociology, is secretary of ASFS, and served as conference co-chair with APU assistant professor of Business Rachel Miller, and UAA associate professor of Public Health ELIZABETH HODGES SNYDER.

## PACIFIC RIM CONFERENCE

The theme for the 2019 Pacific Rim Conference on English Studies was *Reframing Colonialism: Considering Languages Cultures and Identities*.

More than 50 UAA faculty, students, and volunteers, and 10 faculty from outside UAA, participated in the two-day conference held in April.



This year's keynote speakers included:

BETH LEONARD, a professor and director of the Alaska Native Studies Program, is Deg Xit'an (Dene'/Athabaskan) and a member of the Shageluk Tribe of Interior Alaska. She presented *Reclaiming Indigenous languages within the colonial project: Interventions and opportunities*.

ALANNA FROST presented *DIY Anticolonial Work*. She is an associate professor and the chair of the English department at the University of Alabama Huntsville where she teaches writing, composition, research, and native women's literature.

## URBAN & RURAL IN ALASKA CONFERENCE

The Center for Community Engagement and Learning hosted the annual *Urban & Rural in Alaska Conference* in November.



Jessica Barlow presented the keynote address, *Community-Campus Partnerships on an EPIC Scale*. Barlow is a professor in the School for Speech,

Language and Hearing, and is the executive director of the Center for Regional Sustainability at San Diego State University.

More than 80 faculty, staff, students, and community members attended the conference that also featured eight break-out sessions and 23 rapid-fire faculty presentations on their community-engaged work.

Begin  
Expand  
Innovate

The UAA Business Enterprise Institute (BEI) portfolio 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.

## RURAL BUSINESS KIOSKS

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) recently deployed a series of business kiosks in rural communities with the assistance of a United States Department of Agriculture Rural Business Development grant. These standalone kiosks, housed by community partner organizations, allow rural entrepreneurs to schedule remote sessions with a business advisor for real-time one-on-one advising sessions, transfer documents desktop-to-desktop, set up a training schedule, view training videos on-demand, do online research, and more.

## ALASKA MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

The National Institute of Standards and Technology selected UAA as the next operator of the Alaska Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Center. This largely federally-funded program will work with manufacturers to help create and maintain jobs, provide classroom-style courses and workshops, and offer one-on-one consultations. Partners include the Alaska Regional Development Organizations, the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium, the UAF Marine Advisory Program, the Alaska Small Business Development Center, the Institute for Circumpolar Health Studies, and the UAF College of Engineering and Mines.

## IDEAS TO DOLLARS IN RURAL ALASKA

The Center for Economic Development (CED) led workshops for more than 60 entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs in Kodiak, Bethel, St. Mary's, Klawock, Utqiagvik, and Soldotna. The curriculum emphasizes understanding customer needs, personal goals and strengths, and financial fundamentals in a way that is culturally relevant.

## HEALTH TIE

Health TIE (Health Testbed for Innovative Enterprises) recently finished its discovery phase. During this phase more than 150 influential stakeholders collaborated to develop the "Health TIE Innovation Hub" program in which Health Service providers can act as a testbed for solutions developed by startup companies from across the Nation.

## THE ALASKA CENTER FOR RURAL COLLABORATION

BEI's new Alaska Center for Rural Collaboration was launched under a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency. This new center's mission is to better leverage existing business resources across BEI to empower Alaska Native individuals, entrepreneurs, and business owners, and strengthen rural economies.

# UAA Community

## ANNIVERSARIES

### KODIAK COLLEGE TURNS 50

KODIAK COLLEGE celebrated its 50th anniversary in April 2019.



Kicking off the celebration was a reception on April 12 honoring the people who helped establish the college, including Carolyn Floyd. Floyd's vision and determination started things with a few classes held at the local high school in 1968. She

went on to serve as president of the college for 18 years. In recognition of her legacy, the library was named in her honor. Kodiak College also featured alumni and employees from 1968 and beyond in an Instagram Series—*Faces of Kodiak College* to show the impact of the college over the years.



### MARKING 20-YEAR PARTNERSHIP WITH PEOPLE MOVER

U-PASS celebrated the 20-year partnership between UAA and the People Mover bus system that has enabled UAA students, faculty, and staff to ride any People Mover bus at no charge. Riders simply show their Wolfcard, the UAA identification card. Since its launch in 1998,

Wolfcard holders have accounted for an estimated 4.6 million rides through 2017, roughly 6.4 percent of People Mover's total ridership. The anniversary

celebration started with the Campus Kick-Off last August with events throughout the fall and spring semesters. Local businesses contributed prizes and rewards for participants at events and through social media promotions. Donors included Kaladi Brothers Coffee, Moose's Tooth, Bear Tooth, Blaine's Art, Middle Way Café, Best Buy, Regal Cinema, the Anchorage Museum, the UAA Bookstore and the Planetarium.



Special events throughout the year included a special exhibit in the Student Union Coffee Shop from October 18 through November 6 that featured covers of the annual ride guide published through the years. The year of celebration wrapped up with a Cupcake and Minigolf event in April.



### ALASKA'S LARGEST PLANETARIUM CELEBRATES 10 YEARS



THE PLANETARIUM AND VISUALIZATION THEATER observed its 10th anniversary with free planetarium shows, hands-on activities, giveaways, and special presentations on January 19. FRANK WITMER presented *Salmon and Environmental Changes on the Kenai Peninsula*. OMEGA SMITH presented *Stars of the Alaskan Sky*, and ANDY PUCKET presented *There and Back Again: A Tale of Asteroid Orbits and Uncertainty*.



## NEW FACILITIES AND OUTDOOR ART



### ENGINEERING THEMED SCULPTURE INSTALLED

*Changing the World*, a sculpture by artist Patrick Garley (pictured left), is a 41-foot tall by 30-foot in diameter depiction of once commonly used engineering instruments, a slide rule, bow compass, and plumb bob. The piece is made of stainless steel, acrylic, and bronze materials and was funded by the one percent for the arts program, in which one percent of the construction budget for public buildings is set aside for funding public art.

In an interview with *The People's Paper*, Garley explained that his goal was to create a sculpture that represented the evolution of the contributions engineers have offered to society in the past, present, and future. "With the simplest of tools and their knowledge, engineers have changed the world," Garley said. Originally from New Mexico, Garley opened his art studio, Arctic Fires Bronze Sculptureworks, in Palmer in 2005. He received the 2016 Governor's Individual Artist Award.



### NEW LAB STRUCTURES TESTING FACILITY

ConocoPhillips Structures Testing Lab opened in October 2018. The lab, made possible by a gift from ConocoPhillips, is another in-state and state-of-the-art lab for UAA engineering students. It has already been used to test energy efficient insulated building panels for a local manufacturer, and can test the strength of various components of essential infrastructure—all things that could only be done out-of-state before the lab opened.

*Scott Jepsen, ConocoPhillips Alaska Vice President of External Affairs and Transportation, speaks at the ribbon cutting for the new ConocoPhillips Structures Testing Laboratory in UAA's Engineering and Industry Building.*



*Celebrity Chef Kevin Lane in the renovated kitchen.*

### CULINARY ARTS KITCHEN UPDATED

The Culinary Arts kitchen now has state-of-the-art equipment thanks to a generous donation from Holland America Group. The renovations help instructors provide a learning environment that reflects what students will see when they enter the workforce in the food and hospitality industry in Alaska and beyond.

Renovations and updates include a new cooler and freezer in the bakery, as well as two convection-style double-stacked ovens, and a newly updated prep line that comes equipped with steam tables, refrigeration drawers and a double heat lamp to keep food warm. Lastly, the whole kitchen got a fresh coat of paint.

"Having these new improvements really brings us into the future," said Noah Miller, an alumnus of Culinary Arts and Hospitality Administration program and now one of its instructors.



### STATUE HONORING MAT-SU VALLEY SETTLERS INSTALLED AT MAT-SU COLLEGE

In July, a statue commissioned by Robert Gottstein that stood for years at the Carrs Mall in Palmer was relocated to its new home outside Snodgrass Hall on the Mat-Su College campus. After the Carrs-Safeway store moved, the statue was placed in storage, and Robert Gottstein offered to donate the statue to the campus. "There can be no better resting spot for this art," Gottstein said at the dedication ceremony. Created by Jacque and Mary Regat (pictured with the sculpture here), the statue named "Where the Matanuska River Flows" commemorates the colonial spirit that formed the Mat-Su Valley and depicts John Bugge, one of the first settlers in the Valley.

# UAA Community

## PHILANTHROPY

UAA achieved \$8.3 million in private fundraising in FY19, including gifts from 879 new donors! Individuals and corporations made donations to establish more than 20 new funds for programs and scholarships across UAA.

Below are just a few donor highlights. Thank you to all UAA supporters.

- The **Phonathon** student fundraising program raised \$132,470 in pledges and cash gifts from 1,114 donors for UAA.
- The **Atwood Foundation** completed their pledge of \$1.2 million with a final payment of \$200,000 to the Robert B. Atwood Chair of Journalism.
- **Thomas and Sharon Warren** announced a planned gift of \$2 million for the Sharon and Tom Warren ANSEP Scholarship.
- **Eugene P. Giza Administrative Trust** donated \$584,000 to the Giza Hockey Support, a new fund to provide support for the UAA Men's Hockey Team.
- **Foundation Health Partners** pledged \$500,000 to the School of Nursing Expansion-FMH.
- **United States Seafood, LLC** donated \$300,000 to the ISER Fisheries Research
- **Rasmuson Foundation** donated \$80,000 to the Alaska Library Catalog fund at the UAA/APU Consortium Library. Rasmuson also donated \$513,571 to support both the ANSEP Acceleration Academy and the Vernon Smith Economics Science Lab.
- **Alaska Trauma and Acute Care Services** pledged \$35,000 to the UAA Surgical Technologies program.
- **GCI Communications** donated \$50,000 and **Anchorage Fracture and Orthopedic Clinic** donated \$10,000 to the UAA Building Futures Fund.



UAA Athletics held its first **Seawolf Giving Day** on March 6. This 36-hour, online giving campaign raised \$43,777 from 412 donors to support Degree Completion, Student-Athlete Wellbeing, and Competitive Success programs.

## SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

The 2018 **UAA Cares United Way Campaign** raised a total of \$35,052 for local nonprofits and United Way through individual contributions and fundraising efforts on campus.



Chancellor Cathy Sandeen and Senior Disability Accommodations Coordinator Karen E. Haddock present a check to Muldoon Elementary School Principal Leroy Grant for UAA's Adopted Title 1 School.

**Mat-Su Math Department** supported two local charities in AY19, MyHouse, a nonprofit serving homeless youth and the Wasilla Vet Center. They collected snacks, clothing, and self-care supplies and raised money for their charities.

At **Prince William Sound College**, students in Teresa Barton's Small Group Communications class held a food drive for the Valdez Food Bank as part of a class project based on Elizabeth Minei's "Do Good" project.



At the 2018 annual Celebrity Chef Invitational, 261 people attended and more than \$43,000 was pledged.



Joe Howell and Chris Turletes participated in the annual Nine in the Spine fundraiser. This year's event raised \$8,000, a 44% increase from last year..



Kaladi Brothers Coffee launched the new Team Spirit Seawolf Blend this year. Ten percent of all sales of this blend will go toward UAA Athletics.



## ACCESSIBLE WAYFINDING AND CAMPUS NAVIGATION SYSTEM

UAA is the first university campus in the world to fully map and install a campus-wide technology that is accessible and inclusive for blind or low-vision students. Using a grant from the University Technology Council, Disability Support Services (DSS) researched, developed, and installed an Accessible Wayfinding and Campus Navigation System (AWCNS). While designed primarily for Blind/Visually Impaired (BVI) individuals, this new system benefits all campus visitors.

The system consists of a free app and a public website that gives real-time, audio feedback to the user regarding their location, as well as any potential hazards they could encounter on their way. The maps accompanying the app use high-contrast colors and large print to further aid users. The app, UAA-WAY, runs on both iPhones and Android devices.

In alignment with *UAA 2020* goals, UAA is leading the nation in implementing inclusive, innovative technology—changing the way UAA is recognized—here in Alaska and in the national community.



Above: A Braille map of the campus.



Left: Students Kelsy Tallant, Aubrie Lucas, and Nake Kile assisted in developing UAA's Wayfinder App.

## UAA NAMED TREE CAMPUS USA FOR 10TH YEAR

UAA celebrated the 10th year it has been recognized by the Arbor Foundation as a Tree Campus by planting trees on campus in June. Volunteers planted three large Japanese lilac trees and several birch and spruce seedlings on campus with guidance from certified arborists and campus landscapers.



## 2019-20 MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL

UAA has been named to the 2019-20 *Military Friendly*® Schools list for the eleventh consecutive year. This prestigious list, created by Victory Media, serves as a comprehensive resource to help veterans, service members and their families select the best college, university, or trade school to pursue education and training for a civilian career. It is awarded to fewer than 15 percent of post-secondary schools in the United States.



## SEAWOLVES SPEAK UP

UAA launched a new campaign in 2019 to raise awareness and encourage students, faculty, and staff to step in and speak up when they see something wrong. Initially aimed at raising awareness of dating violence and sexual assault, the campaign reinforced the need for building a community of respect and caring. The campaign used a series of images and statements depicting strength, support, and compassion. The series is posted on the UAA Dating Violence and Sexual Assault Coalition for Change webpage.



Quentin Simeon



Chancellor Cathy Sandeen



Yemi Knight



Tai Yen Kim

## DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The Diversity Action Council (DAC) was charged with overseeing the implementation of the Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan. In 2018-19, subcommittees were formed for each of the six objectives to identify challenges to implementing the plan and recommend next steps to move toward full implementation. In this first year, each subcommittee developed a charter and short and long-term goals. The subcommittees also met with Institutional Research representatives to develop appropriate benchmarking tools.

The following presents a brief summary of the work completed this first year since the plan was published. Full committee reports are available on the Chancellor's webpage for Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan.

**OBJECTIVE 1 BEST PRACTICES IN HIRING:** Completed a preliminary list of best practices known to have success at colleges nationwide and identified where these practices are already in use at UAA.

**OBJECTIVE 2 PROVIDE A FRAMEWORK FOR MANAGING AND ADVOCATING DIVERSITY:** Goals included identifying areas where diversity/access efforts could be integrated and more broadly communicated across all UAA campuses and identifying areas for potential collaboration. The group recommended that a review of Promotion and Tenure policies should be completed to identify ways diversity and inclusion activities could be included in the Promotion and Tenure process.

**OBJECTIVE 3 STUDENT SUCCESS:** This committee focused on identifying retention strategies for First Generation, Pell Eligible, African American, Alaska Native, Hispanic, and Pacific Islander students. They studied current retention outcomes to determine gaps in reaching UAA retention goals, and worked closely with Institutional Research to develop a diversity dashboard to provide access to data needed for analysis and work to improve outcomes. The group reviewed reports from the Dean of Students Office to identify barriers to student progress, and encountered some challenges in accessing disaggregated data needed for in-depth analysis.

**OBJECTIVE 4 CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES:** The Faculty Senate Diversity Committee (FSDC) assessed current curriculum and identified 98 general education requirement courses that engage diversity and inclusion. Full implementation of a Diversity & Inclusion GER is expected in fall 2020. Through a voluntary survey, FSDC also identified 155 faculty engaged in activities supporting diversity at UAA.



**Multicultural Pre-Professorite Fellowship Program:** Several groups, including the Multicultural Fellowship Working Group and the Faculty Senate Diversity Committee moved quickly to implement the Multicultural Pre-Professorite Fellowship Program. The goal of the Fellowship Program is to increase the diversity of those teaching at UAA and advance issues of diversity and multiculturalism in teaching and scholarship within academic programs. The fellowships are intended to enrich multiculturalism in the University and the educational experience of all students, especially by bringing multicultural perspectives to the curriculum and/or department, college, and university.

Three Fellows were hired for AY18-19, with two additional Fellows arriving in fall 2019.

*Left to right: Jennifer McCurdy, Philosophy (fall 2019); Evan Shenkin, Sociology (fall 2019); Amana Mbise, Social Work (December 2018); Anita Moore-Nall, College of Health (fall 2018); and Heidi Senungetuk, Alaska Native Studies (fall 2018)*

**OBJECTIVE 5 CAMPUS SPACE – CREATE INCLUSIVE SPACES:** This committee focused on organization, identifying challenges, and establishing future goals, including what metrics can be used to measure and document progress and defining the process for allocating and redevelopment of space on campus.

**OBJECTIVE 6 COMMUNITY CAMPUS:** Each community campus was represented on this committee. This year it focused on building a communication structure and working toward the long-term goal of establishing a Community Campus Diversity Action Council on each community campus.



UAA also offered multiple events and programs focused on diversity and inclusion throughout the year. Below are some of the highlights of those programs.

## STUDENT AFFAIRS HOSTS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES ON ACCESS & INCLUSION

Student Affairs hosted a professional development series, *Creating a Culture of Access and Inclusion*, last September. Sessions were led by Amanda Kraus, a national leader, researcher, and advocate for accessibility and inclusion in higher education. She serves at the University of Arizona as an assistant professor of Practice, Educational Policy Studies, assistant vice president for Campus Life, and the executive director for Disability Resources and Housing and Residential Life.

Sessions included: *Reframing Disability: Changing What We Think We Know*; *Everyday Ableism: Unpacking Disability Stereotypes & Micro Aggressions*; and *By Design: Using University Design Strategies to Create Inclusive Events and Experiences on Campus*

SHAWNALEE WHITNEY, director, UAA Center For Advancing Faculty Excellence, facilitated a panel discussion on *From Access to Equity and Inclusion*. Panelists included Amanda Kraus, ASU; ANNE LAZENBY, director for UAA Disability Support Services; KIMBERLY PACE, professor of Political Science and coordinator, Women's Studies Programs; and RACHEL PLUMLEE, associate general counsel for the University of Alaska.

## INCLUSIVE AND CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS ONLINE

Academic Innovations & eLearning (AI&e), in collaboration with the Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence, hosted a faculty intensive, *Engaging UAA Students in Quality eLearning 2019* on June 6. This intensive specifically targeted faculty who are or have worked with AI&e's Title III Department of Education grant project creating online master courses. The focus this year was on inclusivity and cultural responsiveness. Among the presenters were LIBBY RODERICK and AGATHA JOHN SHIELDS.

## OVERCOMING IMPLICIT BIAS

Throughout the year, the Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence presented sessions on *Overcoming Implicit Bias in the Hiring Process* for various colleges, campuses, and groups, including the Colleges of Health, Business and Public Policy, and the Mat-Su Campus. A similar session was offered for the Interprofessional Simulation workshop attended by over 100 students on January 30. The session, hosted by faculty from multiple disciplines, focused on the issue of transgender healthcare.

## ACCESSIBLE CONTENT

All of AI&e's and several other instructional designers around campus completed WebAim accessible document training. Five faculty also tested CourseArc, a digital content creation tool that allows faculty to create accessible, attractive, interactive content from within Blackboard.

## ALASKA OPEN EDUCATION INITIATIVE AWARDED GRANT

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture awarded UAA an Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian Grant to support the *Alaska Open Education Initiative*. This initiative is a joint project between Academic Innovations & eLearning and the UAA/APU Consortium Library and is focused on increasing retention rates for Alaska Native students and decreasing "DFW" rates in high enrollment courses in the food, agriculture, natural, and human science fields. The two-year \$474,908 grant will support the hiring an Open Educational Resource Librarian and two student workers to assist faculty in developing no-to-low textbook cost courses, will create and develop an OER-focused professional development program for faculty, and an OER-based leadership and advocacy training curriculum for students.



UAA campuses, located in Anchorage, Mat-Su, Kenai, Kodiak and Prince William Sound, are located on the traditional homelands of the Dena'ina and Ahtna Athabascan, Alutiiq/Sugpiaq, and Eyak peoples.

This year, JOEL ISAAK, an artist and adjunct professor who teaches the Dena'ina language at Kenai Peninsula College, created a bronze statue of a Dena'ina elder that stands near the Ship Creek overlooking land that was once used as a Native fish camp. The statue was commissioned as a way to honor the original inhabitants of the land.



## EARTHQUAKE SHOWS UAA RESILIENCE

When the 7.1 earthquake shook Southcentral Alaska the morning of Friday, November 30, UAA students and faculty were days away from final exams and about two weeks from commencement. Less than an hour after the shaking triggered the evacuation of campus buildings, the campus closure notice was posted. By noon, the UAA Incident Management Team had set up an Incident Command Post to manage damage assessment and plan repairs and clean-up.

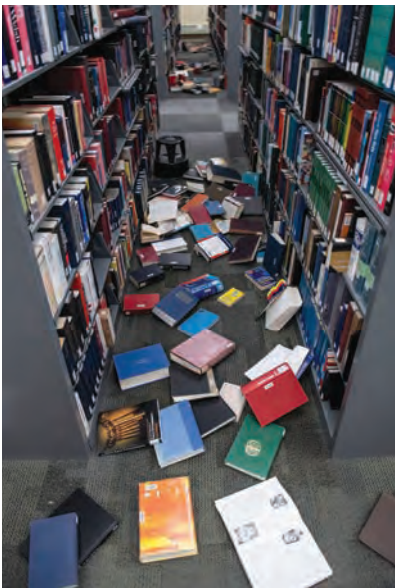
Fortunately, there were no health issues and no major structural damage to campus buildings. Thanks to the dedication of the Incident Management Team, the Facilities staff, a number of contractors, several of whom are UAA alumni, the Anchorage campus opened safely within five days, enabling students to take their finals and graduate on time. The response also demonstrated that planning and training for emergencies really do make a difference.

At the UAA/APU Consortium Library, at least 100,000 books fell to the floor but the shelving remained standing. At the Cuddy cafeteria, plates



*Buildings emptied shortly after the 8:30 a.m. quake hit the region.*

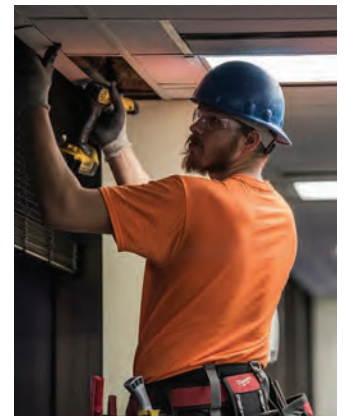
shook off the shelves and shattered. A sprinkler at the Alaska Airlines Center flooded the main gym floor. Student residence halls lost heat. Across campus, ceiling tiles and lights fell to the floor in offices and classrooms. Extensive damage closed the UAA Chugiak-Eagle River campus, and classes and staff relocated to the Anchorage campus while the building was repaired.



*At the UAA/APU Consortium Library*



*In the Administration Building  
conference room*



*Repair work*

*Incident Management  
Team Meeting*





## BUDGET DEBATE DOMINATES SPRING AND SUMMER

In addition to the November earthquake rattling UAA students, faculty, and staff, the budget proposed in February 2019 by newly-elected Alaska Governor, Mike Dunleavy shocked the community. While the aftershocks of the November quake continued, the budget debate in Alaska put the state on a roller-coaster ride for several months. Thanks to unprecedented outpouring of support from alumni, the business community, economists, Alaska residents, and UA faculty, staff, and students, as well as support from elected officials, cuts to the University of Alaska budget for FY20 were not as deep as proposed. Below is a timeline documenting key points in the development of the FY20 budget.

### November 26, 2018

Outgoing Governor Bill Walker presented a draft budget for FY20 that included a \$348 million appropriation to the University of Alaska, a significant increase from the \$327 million appropriation the university received in FY19.

### February 13, 2019

Governor Mike Dunleavy presented an amended budget to the Alaska Legislature that cut \$134 million from the unrestricted general fund allocation to the university, a 41% reduction from last year's appropriation. This announcement started discussions at UA regarding consolidation of the three accredited universities into a single accredited institution.

### June 10, 2019

The Alaska Legislature passed a compromise operating budget for the state that included \$322 million for the University of Alaska.

### June 28, 2019

Governor Dunleavy vetoed several items in the operating budget passed by the Alaska Legislature, including \$130 million from the University of Alaska, bringing the budget back to his proposed total of \$193 million.

### July 7, 2019

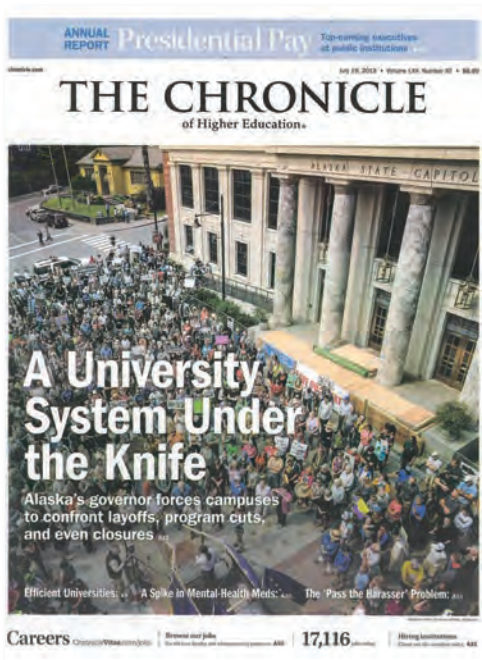
Anticipating the budget cuts, the University of Alaska sent furlough notices to all non-temporary employees, and imposed a freeze on hiring, travel, and new contracts.



Portugal the Man headlined a "Save our State" rally at the Alaska Airlines Center on July 9 to urge legislators to override the governor's budget vetoes.



Rally speakers featured Vic Fischer, sole surviving member of the Alaska Constitutional Convention and the first director of the Institute of Social and Economic Research, and Alex Jorgensen, a senior in political science and USUAA senator.



The budget cuts attracted attention from the national media with stories in Forbes, The New York Times, and this front page coverage in The Chronicle of Higher Education.

### July 22, 2019

The Board of Regents voted 10-1 to declare financial exigency due to the Alaska Legislature's inability to override the Governor's budget vetoes.

### July 29, 2019

After the Alaska Legislature failed to override the Governor's vetoes in its first special session, it passed a supplemental appropriations bill that restored \$110 million to the University of Alaska budget, funding UA at \$302 million, \$25 million below FY19 funding.

### August 13, 2019

Governor Dunleavy and UA Board of Regents Chairman John Davies signed an agreement on the FY20-22 budgets that spreads \$70 million in cuts over three years. The agreement preserved the budget passed by the legislature for \$302 million for FY20, a \$25 million cut. Subsequent cuts include \$25 million in FY21 and \$20 million in FY22.

### August 20, 2019

The UA Board of Regents voted 10-0 to rescind the declaration of financial exigency as a result of the budget compromise with the Governor. The budget compromise also enabled the institution to end the need for the proposed furloughs.

### September 13, 2019

The UA Board of Regents approved the FY20 Budget Distribution. UAA's portion of the \$25 million cut represented a 10.3% reduction in funding from the previous year. Regents also vote to explore restructuring options beyond single accreditation.





UAA's Middle College, the College of Health, and the Alumni Association presented *Seawolf Stories: Good Medicine*—stories of healing, helping, and honoring in the 49th State on April 11, 2019.


*Seawolf Stories*, a TED-style storytelling event, featured eight UAA alumni sharing their compelling educational and professional journeys in Alaska. From the inside of emergency rooms, to helping others overcome addiction, to curing cancer, *Seawolf Stories: Good Medicine* was an evening of inspiration that demonstrated how education transforms lives through the practice of healthcare.




# Performance Summary

## PERFORMANCE STATUS


This section describes how UAA performed during the 2018-19 fiscal/academic year on a number of performance and accreditation measures organized within the framework of the four values identified in the *UAA 2020 Strategic Plan*. The information presented here provides a high-level view.

 Access	Status 2018-19	Change from 2017-18
Enrollment	23,586	-4.5%
Diversity: Students	33.6%	-0.9 pts
Diversity: Faculty	17.1%	+1.7 pts
Diversity: Staff	24.1%	-0.1 pts
Student Credit Hours	304,483	-5.3%
eLearning Credit Hours	103,294	+5.8%


  

 Student Success		
Retention: 1st to 2nd year (all first-time students)	51.6%	+0.2 pts
Retention: 2nd to 3rd year (all students)	36.8%	-1.6 pts
Retention: First-time, Full-time Baccalaureate	66.9%	-2.5 pts
Completion: Graduation Rate	32.0%	+0.6 pts
Completion: Total Awards	2,317	-5.2%
Completion: Awards in Health areas	569	-8.5%
Completion: Awards in STEM areas	367	-15.6%

 Excellence		
Research Expenditures	\$17.7 M	+8.5%
Total Grant Awards	\$45.3 M	+15.9%
Academic Program Outcomes Assessment	100%	No Change

 Affordability		
University-Generated Revenue	\$175.6 M	-2.0%
Percent Contribution of Tuition & Fees	28.6%	-0.3 pts
Cost per Award	\$76.0 K	+5.9%

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-Reports* for Awards and Certificates, Diversity, Enrollment, Graduation Rate, Retention Rates, and Student Credit Hours.
- UAA Office of Budget for Grant-Funded Research Expenditures, University-Generated Revenue, Tuition and Fees, and Cost per Award.
- UAA Office of Research and Graduate Studies for Total Grant Awards.
- UAA Office of Academic Affairs for Academic Program Outcomes Assessment.



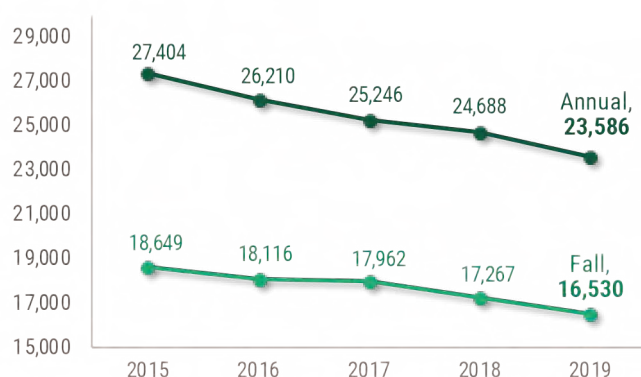
## ENROLLMENT/HEADCOUNT

**DEFINITION:** The annual headcount at UAA represents the total number of students who enroll at any campus. It counts all students regardless of degree-seeking status and whether they are taking classes for credit or auditing a course.

**PURPOSE:** Tracking annual enrollment provides a perspective of UAA's ability to attract and retain students, demonstrates access to higher education, and supports the workforce development needs of Alaska by increasing the number of citizens with post-secondary certifications and degrees.

**PERFORMANCE:** Enrollment peaked at UAA in 2011-2012 due to a surge in the number of first-time freshmen driven by a demographic peak among 17-18 year-olds in Alaska.

### ANNUAL/FALL HEADCOUNT TRENDS



In FY17, UAA began a number of programs to increase enrollment, including focused recruitment strategies, improving the admission process, new Advising and Registration Days, expanding Middle College School opportunities and dual-credit programs for high school students, all to help boost enrollment. UAA also launched the Student Success Initiative in fall 2018 with one of its goals to improve retention rates, and stabilize enrollment.

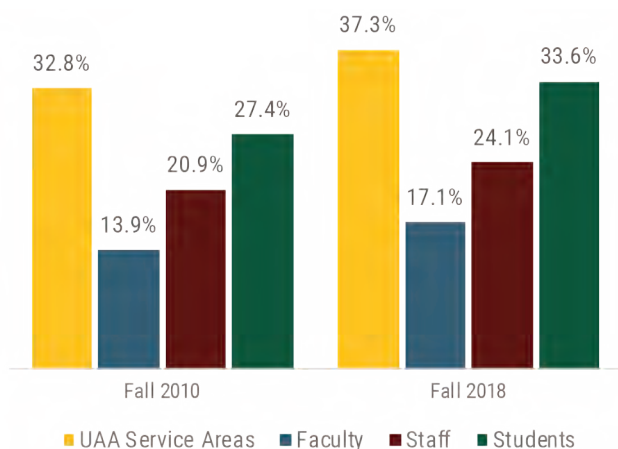
Since 2015, the beginning of annual reductions to the appropriations from the State of Alaska, the annual enrollment at UAA declined an average of 3.3% per year. In 2019, that decline was 4.5%. This trend is likely to continue with future budget cuts looming.

## DIVERSITY

**DEFINITION:** The degree to which UAA students, staff, and faculty reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the communities UAA serves.

**PURPOSE:** The diversity of UAA's student population presents evidence of the extent that its open access mission is equitably available to all students in the state. The diversity of UAA faculty and staff builds a sense of belonging for students and provides more inclusive perspectives.

### UAA POPULATION DIVERSITY COMPARED TO UAA SERVICE AREA



**PERFORMANCE:** Racial and ethnic diversity has increased in both the UAA Service area and at UAA since the last official U.S. Census, although the growth in diversity among UAA faculty, staff, and students has outpaced that in the service area.

Implementation of initiatives in the UAA Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan has had an impact, especially among faculty. The percentage of minority faculty has increased nearly two percentage points just since fall 2017.

*NOTE: Service area figures are from U.S. Census Estimates released July 2019. UAA student count is from fall 2018 closing. Faculty and staff counts are from the fall 2018 HR freeze.*



# STUDENT CREDIT HOURS

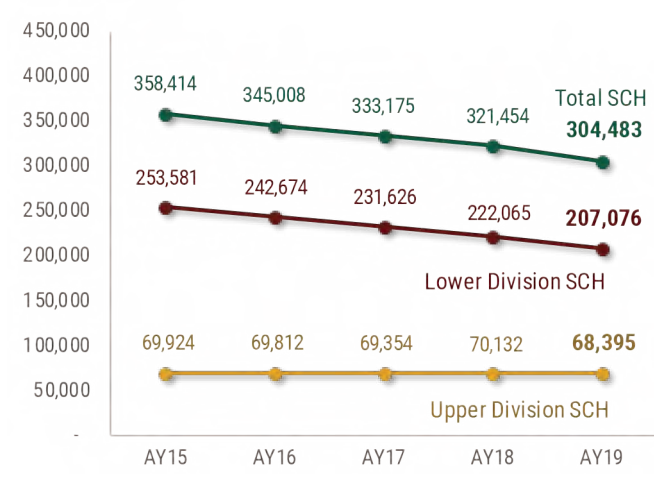
**DEFINITION:** The number of student credit hours attempted, all levels, including auditors. It is measured annually. AY19 includes summer 2018, fall 2018, and spring 2019 semesters.

**PURPOSE:** The level of student credit hours demonstrates the extent to which UAA successfully serves its communities, promotes access, and meets demand for educational services.

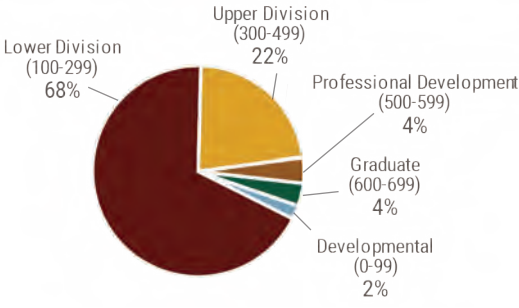
**PERFORMANCE:** As headcount has fallen, student credit hours also declined. In AY19, credit hours declined 5.3%, a greater decline than the 4.5% drop in headcount. The data show that fewer students enrolled in 12 or more credits in fall 2018, a trend that could impact UAA's graduation rate in upcoming years. Enrollment in lower division courses, which

produce the majority of all credit hours, declined by 7.2% from AY18, and contributed 88% of the overall drop in total credit hour production from AY18 to AY19. Professional courses (500-599) set a 10-year high in total credit hours at 10,571, a 14.6% increase from AY18. Graduate level course enrollment continued its annual decline, now down 19.3% from AY15.

## STUDENT CREDIT HOUR TRENDS



## AY18 CREDIT HOURS BY COURSE LEVEL



# eLEARNING CREDIT HOURS

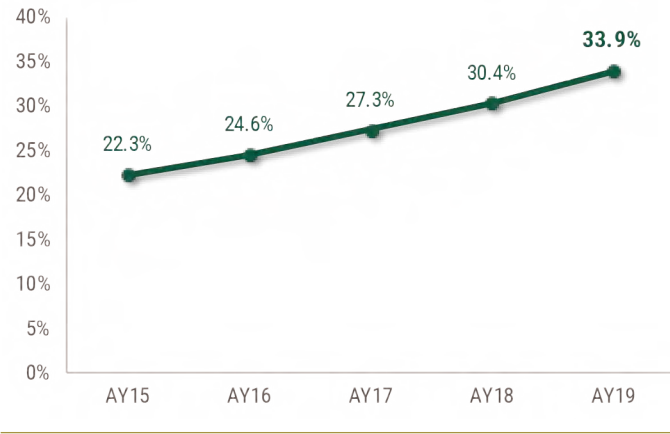
**DEFINITION:** eLearning courses include those that are designated as 0% to 50% location-based in Banner.

**PURPOSE:** Offering courses electronically improves access to needed courses, especially for a student population with significantly higher work and family obligations.

**PERFORMANCE:** While total student credit hours declined 5.6% from AY18, credit hours in courses offered via eLearning grew by 5.8%, from 97,670 to 103,294, and now represent one-third of all credit hours produced. Overall, eLearning credit hours have increased 29% over the last five years. The majority (68%) of eLearning credit hours is

produced by lower division courses (100-200 level), and growth at this level has fueled most of the growth over the last five years.

## eLEARNING AS PERCENT OF TOTAL STUDENT CREDIT HOUR TREND



Department of Education Title III grants received in recent years at Kenai and Kodiak Colleges and the Anchorage campus have supported faculty training and technology to support quality eLearning capabilities. The most recent Title III grant for the Anchorage campus, with funding from fall 2015-fall 2020, has supported the creation of master courses and improvements in services for students taking online courses, with new online orientation, virtual learning communities, and online advising.



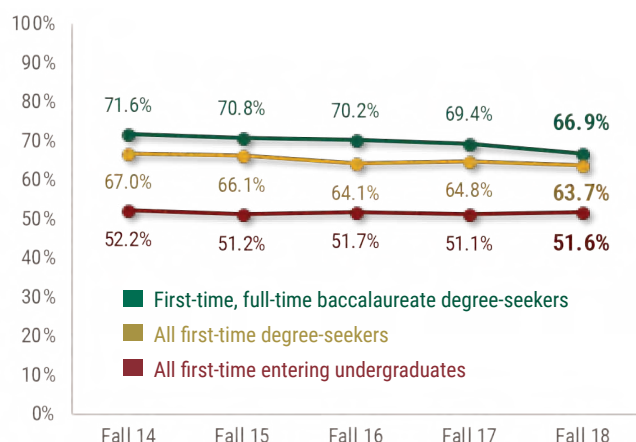
## FIRST-TO-SECOND YEAR RETENTION



**DEFINITION:** First-to-second year retention measures the percentage of students who enter the institution for the first time in a given fall semester and return the following fall, regardless of their degree-seeking status. The national measure focuses on first-time, full-time baccalaureate degree-seeking students. The *UAA 2020* goals expanded this to include all first-time undergraduate degree and non-degree seeking students.

**PURPOSE:** This measure indicates how well students are progressing during their first two years—the highest risk period in their academic careers.

### FIRST-TO-SECOND YEAR RETENTION RATE



**PERFORMANCE:** The retention rate for first-time, full-time baccalaureate degree-seekers has been an area of strength for the institution. UAA's rate for students who enrolled in fall 2017 and returned in fall 2018 was just under 67%. This is well above the most recent rate of 62% cited by the National Center for Education Statistics for 4-year, public, open admission institutions. It is concerning that this is the fourth consecutive year that UAA's rate has declined.

The full implementation of the Student Success Initiative began in fall 2018 so the full impact of that work is expected in the next two years. The positive impact of this work will likely be offset by budget uncertainties.

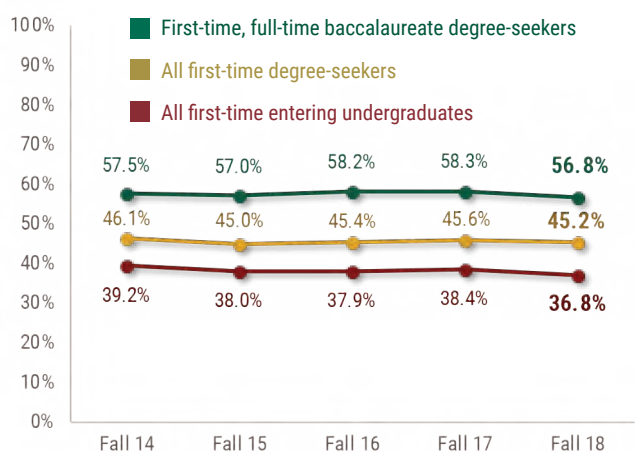
## SECOND-TO-THIRD YEAR RETENTION



**DEFINITION:** Second-to-third year retention measures the percentage of students who enter the institution for the first time in a given fall semester and return for a third fall term two years later.

**PURPOSE:** Increasing the rate at which students return from their second to third year, a *UAA 2020* goal, will increase the number of students who complete their educational goals.

### SECOND-TO-THIRD YEAR RETENTION RATE



**PERFORMANCE:** As with the retention metric above, first-time, full-time baccalaureate degree-seekers have the highest rates of return to their third year.

It is important to note that many students attending UAA who earn associate degrees or 1-2 year certificates will complete their educational goals by their third year, so some drop-off in returns the third year is to be expected.

The *UAA 2020* goal is to increase the return rate the third year among all first-time entering undergraduates to 45%. It is concerning that the return rate in fall 2018 (36.8%) declined from the previous year. The loss of accreditation for initial licensure programs in the School of Education, and student concerns about changes in academic programs due to budget cuts make achieving that goal more difficult.



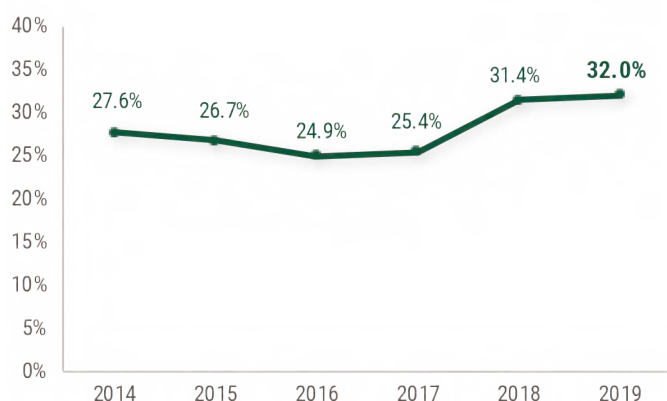
# SIX-YEAR GRADUATION RATE



**DEFINITION:** The percentage of first-time, full-time undergraduate degree-seeking students enrolled in a given fall semester who earn their degree within 150% of the time to complete (six years for a four-year baccalaureate degree). The 2018 rate measures the cohorts who completed their degree by August 2019 (entering UAA in fall 2013).

**PURPOSE:** This nationally normed metric measures how efficiently the first-time, full-time degree-seeking students reach their educational goals. It also demonstrates the university's collective ability to support student completion.

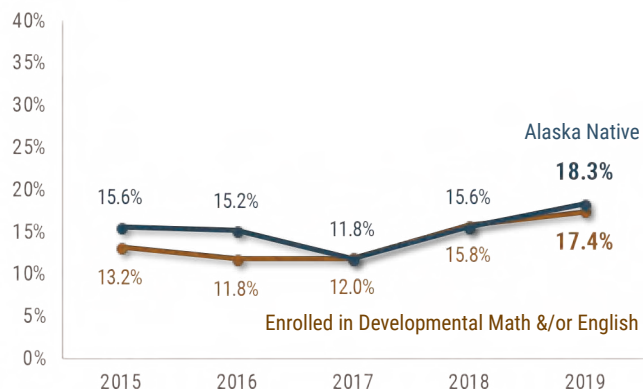
## FIRST-TIME FULL-TIME BACCALAUREATE 6-YEAR GRADUATION RATE TRENDS



**PERFORMANCE:** UAA is pleased to see its 6-year baccalaureate graduation rate increase to 32%, a new record.

The increase from 2018 is heartening, and may be seen as a validation of a number of programs implemented over the last several years. These include the use of software programs such as DegreeWorks, introduced in AY09 to help students check progress to completion, and the Stay-on-Track initiative, launched in spring 2012, that promoted students enrolling in 15 credits per semester to finish in four years. Under the new Student Success Initiative, the First-Year Advising, and Seawolf Tracks programs have replaced and expanded the MapWorks program that focused on at-risk first and second year students used between 2010-2017.

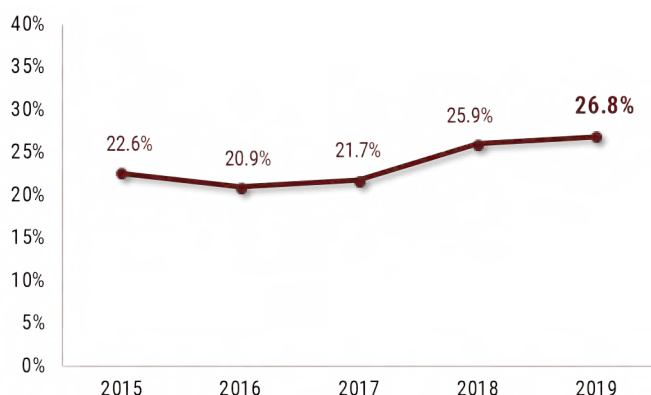
## 6-YEAR BACCALAUREATE GRADUATION RATE TRENDS BY COHORTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST



A higher percentage of the fall 2014 and 2015 cohorts graduated in 4 and 5 years than the 2013 cohort, suggesting that UAA should continue to see improved 6-year graduation rates and achieve its *UAA 2020* goal of a 35% 6-year graduation rate by 2025.

Increases in the graduation rate were seen in the College of Business and Public Policy which had a 50.6% graduation rate, up from 36.9% in 2018. The College of Arts and Sciences graduation rate also increased, from 33.6% to 37.2%. All other colleges had slightly lower graduation rates.

## 6-YEAR RATE FOR FIRST-TIME, FULL & PART-TIME BACCALAUREATE DEGREE-SEEKERS



A second year of increased rates was found among subcohorts of special interest such as Alaska Natives and students who had enrolled in developmental education courses their first year. While these rates remain below the total, improvement is encouraging.

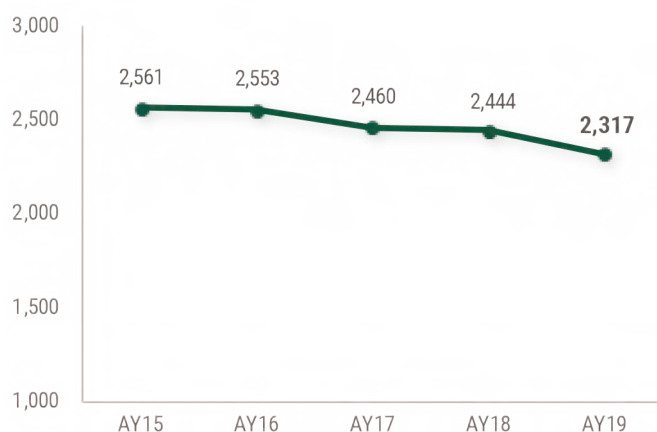
Of the 1,235 first-time baccalaureate degree-seeking students entering in fall 2013, 80% entered as full-time students. The rest began as part-time students, and of these 6% graduated within six years, bringing the combined graduation rate for all baccalaureate degree-seeking students in the cohort to 26.8% in 2019, nearly one percentage point higher than 2018.



## TOTAL DEGREES & CERTIFICATES AWARDED

**DEFINITION:** The total number of certificates and degrees conferred during the academic year (fall 2018, spring 2019, summer 2019). Includes occupational endorsement certificates, undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, graduate and post-graduate certificates, associate, baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees.

### UAA TOTAL AWARDS TREND

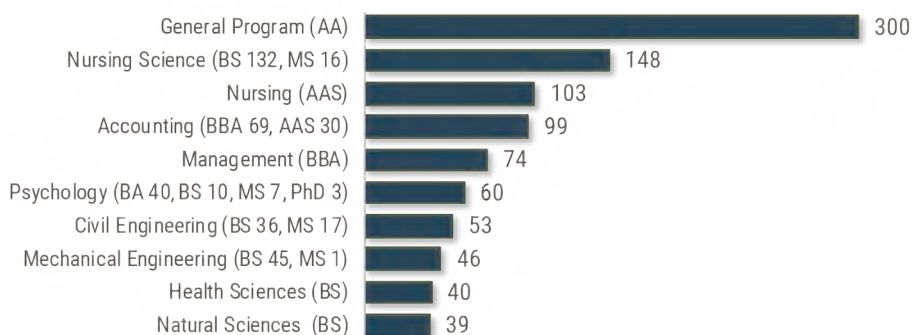


**PURPOSE:** This measure indicates how well students achieve their educational goals and are prepared for the workforce.

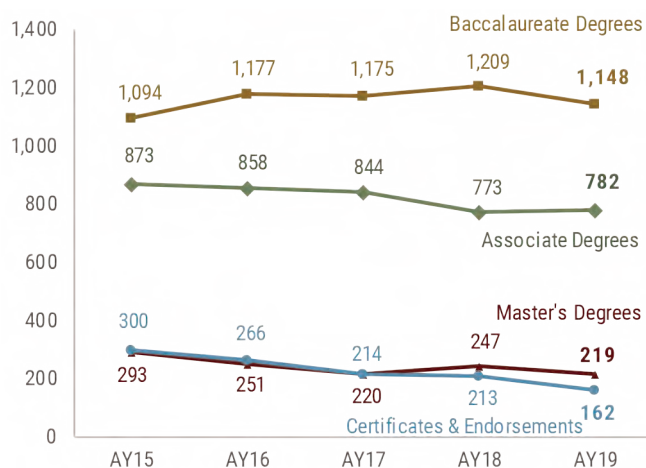
**PERFORMANCE:** The total awards conferred in AY19 declined 5.2% from AY18. The General Program Associate of Arts showed the greatest increase of any program, up to 300 awards, the highest number since 2013. Overall, Associate degrees (up 9 awards) and Doctoral awards (up 4 awards) were the only categories to show increases from last year.

Programs in the School of Education produced 152 awards in AY19, 38 of those awards are in programs that will continue at UAA.

### TOP AY19 AWARD-PRODUCING DISCIPLINES/PROGRAMS

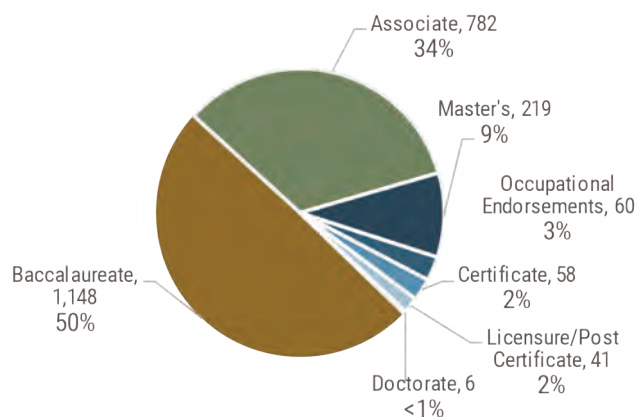


### TREND BY AWARD TYPE



NOTE: Doctoral degrees produced 6 awards in AY19.

### DISTRIBUTION BY AWARD TYPE IN AY19





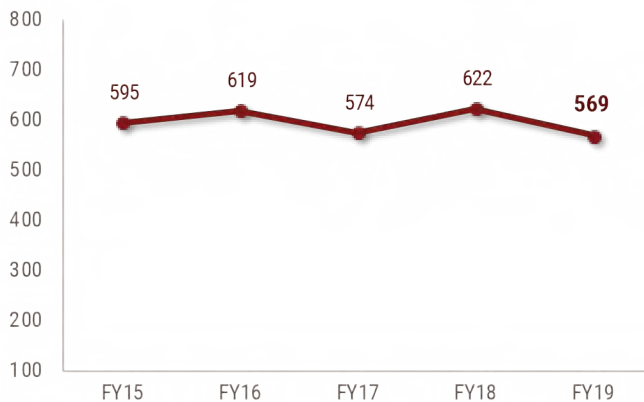
## HEALTH & RELATED AWARDS

**DEFINITION:** The total number of certificates and degrees conferred during the academic year (fall 2018, spring 2019, summer 2019) in programs assigned the Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) codes: 51-Health Professions and Related fields; and 42-Psychology.

**PURPOSE:** As the lead campus for health programs in the UA System, this measure indicates how well UAA is supporting the needs of the state for professionals in these fields.

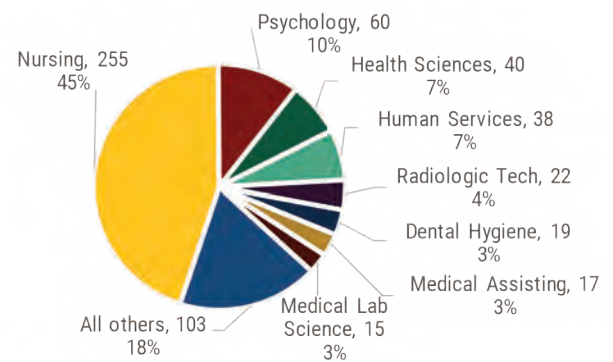
**PERFORMANCE:** Nearly 25% of all awards conferred at UAA are in health and psychology fields, with nursing programs contributing the largest share of that total. The number of awards in these fields declined 8.5% in FY19. The AAS in Human Services (-24 awards) and in both the BA and BS in Psychology (-9 each) accounted for much of the decline.

### HEALTH & PSYCHOLOGY AWARDS TREND



The new Surgical Technology program produced its first awards, 11 AAS degrees.

### TOP AWARD-PRODUCING HEALTH PROGRAMS



## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, MATHEMATICS (STEM) AWARDS

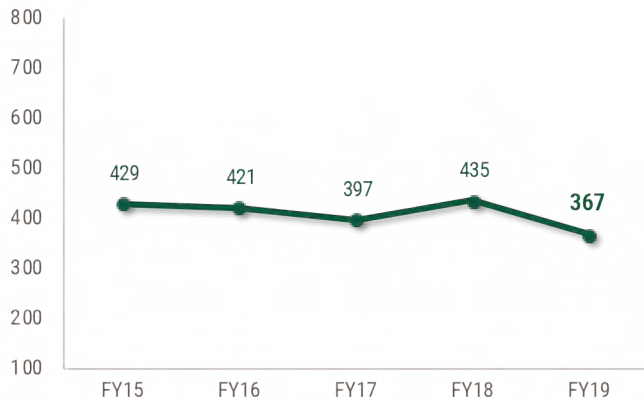
**DEFINITION:** The total number of certificates and degrees conferred during the academic year (fall 2018, spring 2019, summer 2019) in programs assigned the Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) codes: 11-Computer, 14-Engineering, 15-Engineering Technology, 26-Biology, 27-Mathematics, 40-Physical Sciences, and 41-Science/Technologies.

**PURPOSE:** This measure indicates how well students achieve their goals and are prepared for the workforce in these areas of importance to Alaska.

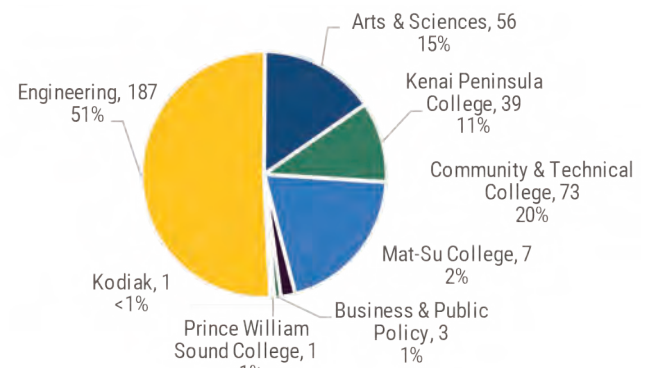
**PERFORMANCE:** Awards in STEM fields contribute nearly 16% of all degrees and certificates awarded by UAA.

Engineering and engineering technology fields produced two-thirds of STEM awards in AY19.

### STEM AWARDS TREND



### STEM AWARDS BY COLLEGE/CAMPUS



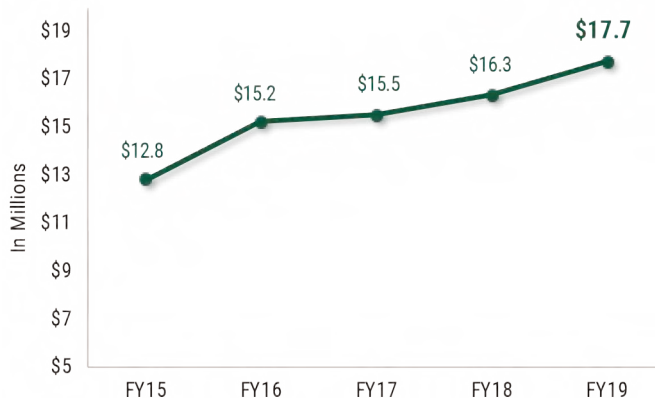


## GRANT-FUNDED RESEARCH EXPENDITURES

**DEFINITION:** Restricted expenditures made from the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) category of Research, including indirect cost recovery. Funds are counted at the university where the funds are expended, not at the university associated with the grant award.

**PURPOSE:** This measures grant activity in a given year, and provides a baseline for understanding productivity in research, scholarship, and creative activity.

### TREND, GRANT-FUNDED RESEARCH EXPENDITURES



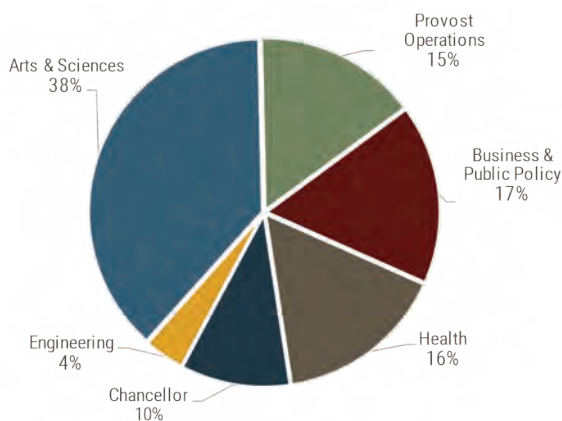
**PERFORMANCE:** Grant-Funded Research increased 8.5% over FY18.

### GRANT-FUNDED RESEARCH EXPENDITURES

represented 32% of all restricted expenditures in FY19. The 8.5% growth from FY18 was largely due to increases in the Business Enterprise Institute, College of Arts & Sciences, Math & Natural Sciences, the Center for Human Development, the Institute of Circumpolar Health, and the Institute of Social and Economic Research.

Four of the six contributing units increased their activity in grant-funded research in FY19. The biggest increases were in the College of Arts & Sciences (up 10% to \$6.7 million), and the College of Health (up 13% to \$2.8 million).

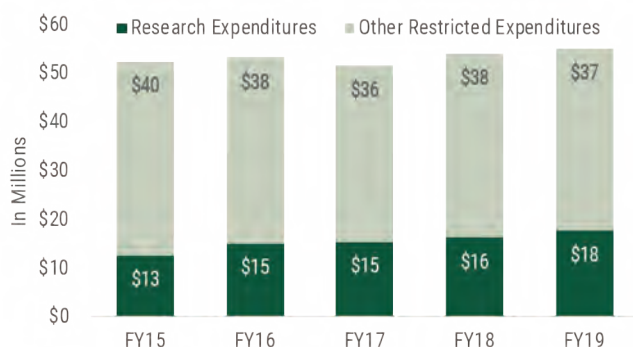
### CONTRIBUTORS BY UNIT



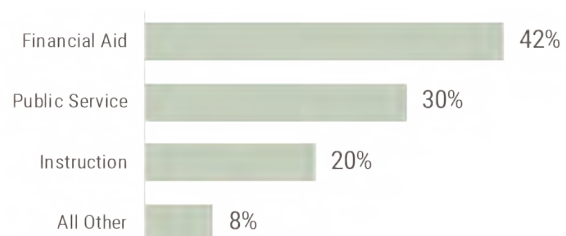
**OTHER RESTRICTED EXPENDITURES** totaled \$37.4 million in FY19, down just 1.1% from FY18. These expenditures include the other NACUBO categories (*see next page for the list of categories*).

- **PUBLIC SERVICE** produced \$11.4 million, 30% of the total. The largest contributors are the Business Enterprise Institute, the Center for Human Development, School of Social Work, and the Consortium Library's "Library Partners" program.
- **INSTRUCTION** accounted for 20% of all other restricted expenditures in FY19. ANSEP produced 28% of all Instruction expenditures, the largest contributor in this category.

### TOTAL RESTRICTED EXPENDITURES



### OTHER RESTRICTED EXPENDITURES



*All other includes Academic Support, Auxiliary, and Student Services categories*

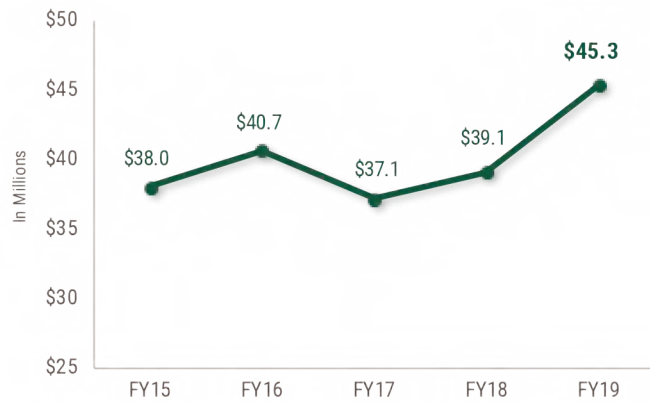


# TOTAL GRANT AWARDS

**DEFINITION:** The total dollar amount of grant awards in a fiscal year as indicated by award letters sorted by the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) categories of Academic Support, Instruction, Public Service, Research, Scholarship/Fellowship, and Student Services.

**PURPOSE:** This measure demonstrates the university’s strength as a research institution, and is a measure of institutional quality and reputation.

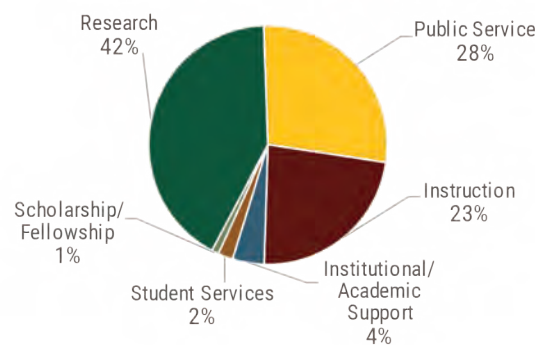
## TREND, GRANT AWARD TOTALS



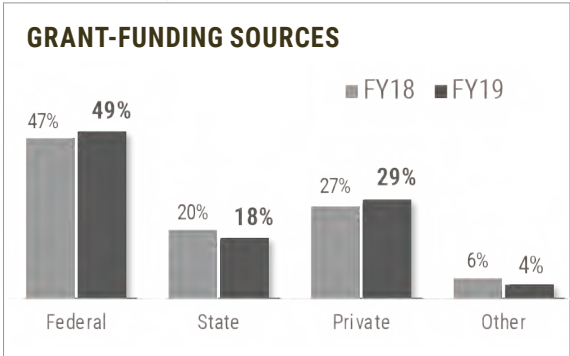
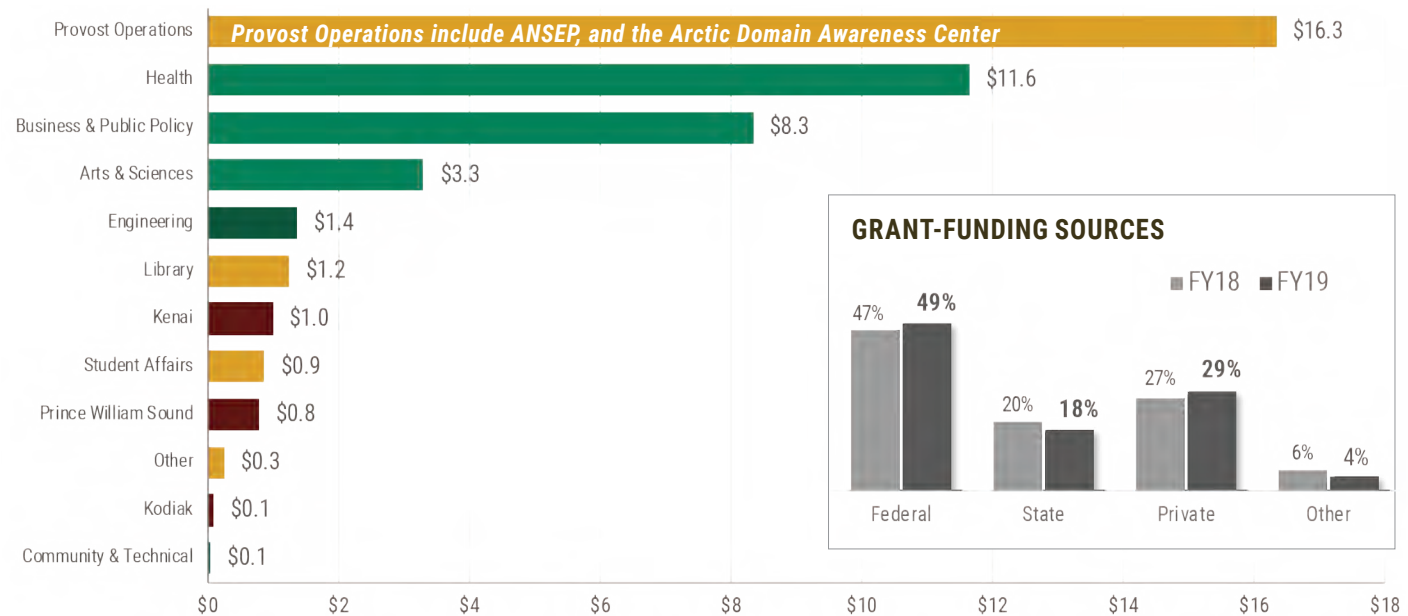
**PERFORMANCE:** The 324 grant proposals that received award letters in FY19 will generate \$45.3 million, a 16.3% increase from FY18. Three categories produced 93% of all grant awards.

- **RESEARCH** accounted for 42% of all grant funds awarded, up 2% from FY18. The major funding source for research continues to be Federal agencies, producing just under two-thirds (65%) of all research awards.
- **PUBLIC SERVICE** grants produced 28% of all awards, with the College of Health delivering nearly half of the grants in this area. Federal agencies provided 43% of all public service grant funds. Total awards in public service were up 12% this year over last.
- **INSTRUCTION** generated 23% of all awards in FY19, up significantly from last year (+56%). The Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) funding in this category increased 64% in FY19, and accounted for more than half of all funds received. The largest funding sources for this category are Alaska State agencies (41%) and Private Funding Sources (31%).

## GRANT AWARDS BY NACUBO CATEGORY



## FY19 GRANT AWARDS BY UNIT IN MILLIONS





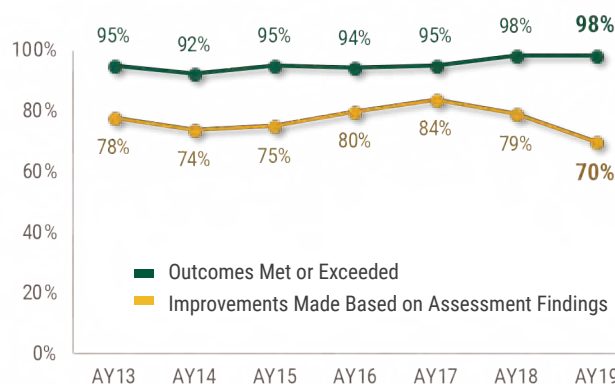
## ACADEMIC PROGRAM OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT: FOCUS ON STUDENT LEARNING

**DEFINITION:** For this measure, “program” may refer to a group of programs that are assessed together and submit only one report.

**PURPOSE:** This measure confirms continuous assessment of academic programs and provides evidence for how the information collected is used to improve programs and student achievement.

**PERFORMANCE:** The Academic Assessment Committee of the Faculty Senate has conducted an Annual Academic Assessment Survey since AY13 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. For the third consecutive year, 100% of the surveys were completed. Survey data indicate a high level of student learning at UAA. Out of 605 program student learning outcomes measured, students met or exceeded 98% of the outcomes. Out of the 123 active programs, 70% of survey respondents reported using assessment results to make program improvements this past year.

### SURVEY RESULTS TRENDS 2013-2019



**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Survey data indicate a consistently high level of student learning in their programs. The AY19 survey showed 98% of measured outcomes in which students met or exceeded faculty expectations.

**PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS:** In 2013, a question was added to the survey to capture the kinds of program improvements resulting from assessment.

The majority of faculty reported making program improvements based on the survey data. The top three most frequently used interventions:

- Course-level curriculum changes
- Changes to teaching methods
- Adjustments in advising practices

### BRIEF HISTORY OF ASSESSMENT AT UAA

2019	UAA joined the Interstate Passport, a lower-division GenEd block transfer program based on student learning outcomes.
2015-19	General Education assessment used rubrics based on AAC&U VALUE rubric. Annual survey added General Education question.
2015	Faculty Senate approved shared GER assessment plan.
2014	Faculty Senate approved General Education Values based on AAC&U LEAP Outcomes. Included in the 2015-2016 Catalog.
2013	Annual Academic Assessment Seminar with national keynote speakers established.
2012	Annual Academic Assessment Survey established.
2011	Faculty Senate Academic Assessment Committee created first Academic Assessment Handbook.
2009	Faculty Senate Academic Assessment Committee established.
1999	9 GER Student Learning Outcomes first approved and incorporated into the 2001 Catalog.
1997-00	Program Student Learning Outcomes approved for all programs.

### COMMENDATION FROM ACCREDITORS

The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities reaffirmed UAA’s regional institutional accreditation in January 2019 and commended UAA for:

*Its extensive assessment efforts related to student learning. Faculty exhibit robust ownership and leadership in assessing academic programs, and also engage proactively in the multifaceted assessment of General Education.*

### UAA JOINS INTERSTATE PASSPORT PROGRAM

In 2019, UAA joined the Interstate Passport, a lower-division General Education block transfer program that allows students to transfer to member institutions without losing General Education course credits earned.



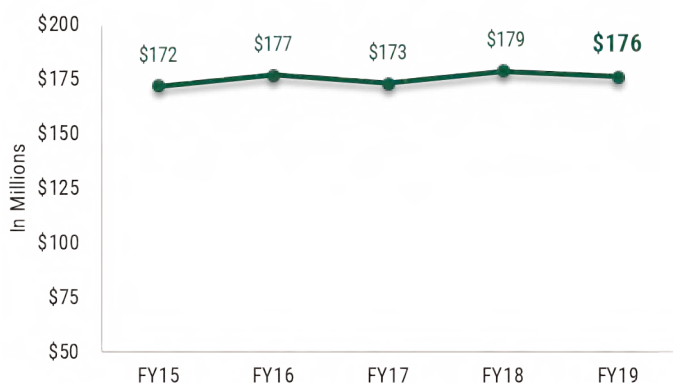


## UNIVERSITY-GENERATED REVENUE

**DEFINITION:** The total of university-generated revenue (UGR), including university receipts (interest income, auxiliary receipts, gross tuition and fees, indirect cost recovery, and other university receipts), federal receipts, capital improvement project receipts, and state interagency receipts.

**PURPOSE:** This measure indicates the diversity of UAA's revenue sources and demonstrates a decreased reliance on any single revenue source.

### UNIVERSITY-GENERATED REVENUE TREND

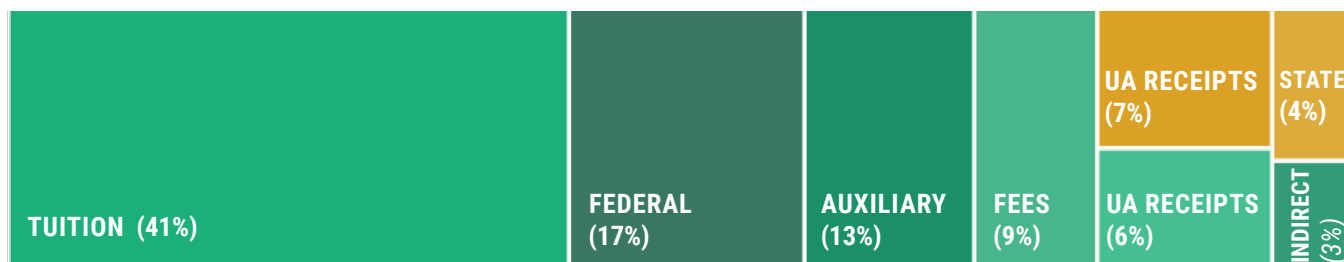


**PERFORMANCE:** UAA generated 2.0% less revenue in FY19 than the previous year. UGR contributed 56.4% of the total authorized budget, down slightly from the 57.1% it contributed in FY18.

Over the last several years, the percentage of UGR that is unrestricted has decreased. These unrestricted funds now comprise 71.8% of all UGR compared to 73.0% last year. Conversely, restricted funds have increased, led primarily by funding from Federal agencies. Restricted funds have increased 4.5% since FY15.

Tuition and fees combined contributed half of all UGR in FY19, showing no change from FY18.

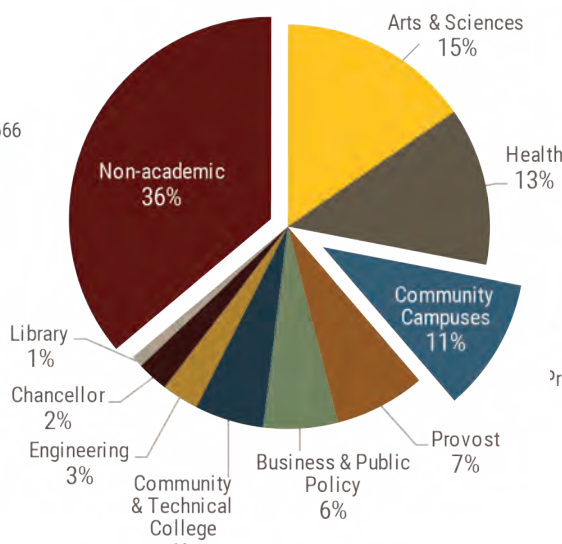
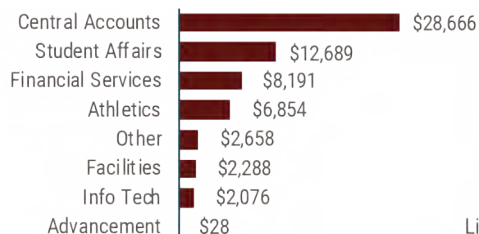
### RESTRICTED AND UNRESTRICTED REVENUE SOURCES



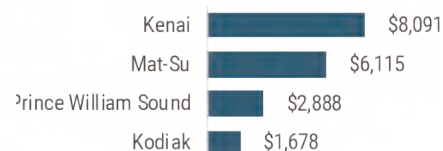
■ = unrestricted revenue by source ■ = restricted revenue by source

### MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS BY UNIT

#### NON-ACADEMIC UNITS IN THOUSANDS



#### COMMUNITY CAMPUSES IN THOUSANDS



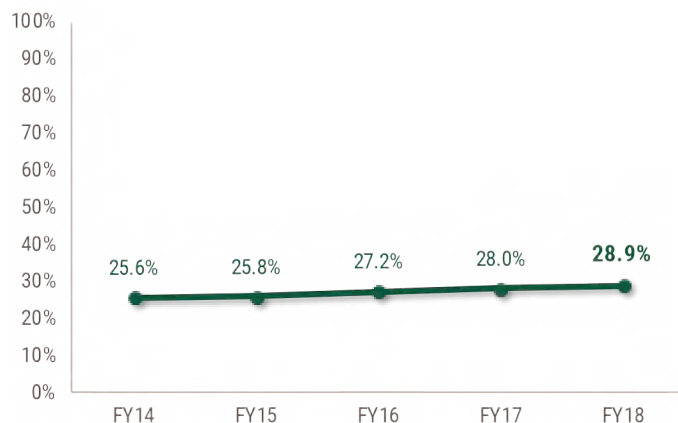


## CONTRIBUTION OF TUITION & FEES TO TOTAL BUDGET

**DEFINITION:** This measures the percent contribution of gross tuition and fees collected by the institution to the total annual budget authorized by the UA Board of Regents.

**PURPOSE:** This measure helps the institution balance two competing objectives—decreasing reliance on state appropriations while providing good value to students—with its core mission of offering educational opportunity.

### TUITION & FEES AS PERCENT OF TOTAL AUTHORIZED BUDGET



**PERFORMANCE:** As indicated on the previous page, tuition and fees account for 50% of all university-generated revenue and 28.6% of the total authorized budget (\$311.2 million for FY19).

In FY19, the total revenue from tuition and fees declined 2% from FY18, the first decline in 10 years. While tuition revenue decreased by just over 1%, the total raised by fees declined by 5.1%.

## COST PER AWARD

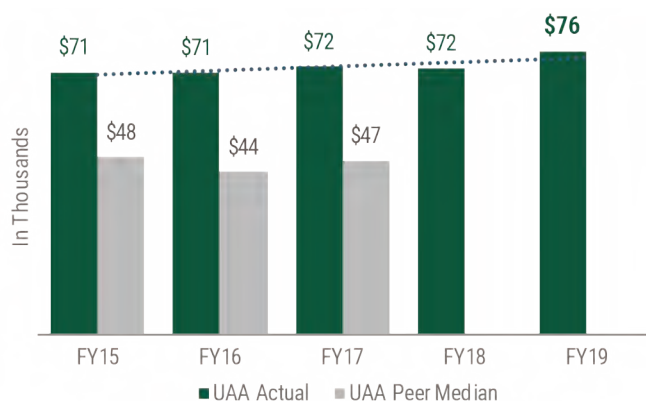


**DEFINITION:** This metric presents the annual ratio of Academic Support, Instruction, Intercollegiate Athletics, Library Services, Scholarships, and Student Services, referred to as Instructional and Student-Related Expenditures, to the total number of certificates and degrees awarded by UAA.

**PURPOSE:** This measure indicates the value UAA represents to the state of Alaska and to its students, enables UAA to compare these costs to those of its peers, and demonstrates stewardship of resources.

**PERFORMANCE:** UAA began setting targets for this measure in FY13 when the cost per award was \$76,000. From FY14

### INSTRUCTIONAL EXPENDITURES PER CERTIFICATE & DEGREE AWARDED



to FY18, actual instructional and student-related expenditures per award remained relatively steady between \$71,000-\$72,000. Investments in the new Student Success Initiative, including hiring new first year advisors increased expenditures in this category in FY19. This combined with a decline in the number of certificates and degrees awarded produced a cost per award rate that matched the FY13 level. The expectation is that increasing student success will increase the number of awards and ultimately help reduce the cost per award.

Reducing the cost per award is a *UAA 2020* goal, with a target of \$68,000 set for 2020.



## UAA TOTAL

### STUDENTS

AY 18-19	Student Credit Hours	304,483
	Headcount	23,586
	Full-time Equivalent	10,316
	Awards Granted	2,317
Fall 2018	Headcount	16,530
	Full-time	6,651
	Part-time	9,879

### FACULTY AND STAFF—FALL 2018

Regular Faculty	603
Adjunct Faculty	564
Staff	1,276

### FACILITIES

Square Feet	3,342,007
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### FINANCE—FY 2019 (IN \$000)

University Generated Revenue	\$175,630.0
Research Focus Expenditure	\$17,723.1
Total Budget Authority	\$311,264.1
Gross Tuition	\$72,912.7
TVEP Awards	\$2,284.4

## KODIAK COLLEGE

### STUDENTS

AY 18-19	Student Credit Hours	6,669
	Headcount	1,389
	Full-time Equivalent	221
	Awards Granted	24
Fall 2018	Headcount	721
	Full-time	237
	Part-time	484

### FACULTY AND STAFF—FALL 2018

Regular Faculty	13
Adjunct Faculty	23
Staff	29

### FACILITIES

Square Feet	44,981
-------------	--------

### FINANCE—FY 2019 (IN \$000)

University Generated Revenue	\$1,677.8
Research Focus Expenditure	\$0.0
Total Budget Authority	\$5,424.1
Gross Tuition	\$1,240.1
TVEP Awards	\$105.2

## ANCHORAGE CAMPUS

### STUDENTS

AY 18-19	Student Credit Hours	240,168
	Headcount	18,486
	Full-time Equivalent	8,178
	Awards Granted	2,058
Fall 2018	Headcount	13,158
	Full-time	5,939
	Part-time	7,219

### FACULTY AND STAFF—FALL 2018

Regular Faculty	526
Adjunct Faculty	363
Staff	1,059

### FACILITIES

Square Feet	2,894,400
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### FINANCE—FY 2019 (IN \$000)

University Generated Revenue	\$156,858.2
Research Focus Expenditure	\$17,723.1
Total Budget Authority	\$270,903.0
Gross Tuition	\$60,355.9
TVEP Awards	\$1,638.0

## MATANUSKA-SUSITNA COLLEGE

### STUDENTS

AY 18-19	Student Credit Hours	23,631
	Headcount	2,441
	Full-time Equivalent	785
	Awards Granted	127
Fall 2018	Headcount	1,559
	Full-time	725
	Part-time	834

### FACULTY AND STAFF—FALL 2018

Regular Faculty	25
Adjunct Faculty	72
Staff	51

### FACILITIES

Square Feet	152,145
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### FINANCE—FY 2019 (IN \$000)

University Generated Revenue	\$6,115.4
Research Focus Expenditure	\$0.0
Total Budget Authority	\$13,099.8
Gross Tuition	\$4,946.6
TVEP Awards	\$157.3

## KENAI PENINSULA COLLEGE

### STUDENTS

AY 18-19	Student Credit Hours	27,313
	Headcount	4,256
	Full-time Equivalent	909
	Awards Granted	87
Fall 2018	Headcount	2,476
	Full-time	947
	Part-time	1,529

### FACULTY AND STAFF—FALL 2018

Regular Faculty	33
Adjunct Faculty	81
Staff	93

### FACILITIES

Square Feet	183,214
-------------	---------

### FINANCE—FY 2019 (IN \$000)

University Generated Revenue	\$8,090.8
Research Focus Expenditure	\$0.0
Total Budget Authority	\$15,893.6
Gross Tuition	\$5,542.1
TVEP Awards	\$269.6

## PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND COLLEGE

### STUDENTS

AY 18-19	Student Credit Hours	6,702
	Headcount	2,235
	Full-time Equivalent	223
	Awards Granted	21
Fall 2018	Headcount	895
	Full-time	152
	Part-time	743

### FACULTY AND STAFF—FALL 2018

Regular Faculty	6
Adjunct Faculty	25
Staff	44

### FACILITIES

Square Feet	67,267
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### FINANCE—FY 2019 (IN \$000)

University Generated Revenue	\$2,887.7
Research Focus Expenditure	\$0.0
Total Budget Authority	\$5,943.5
Gross Tuition	\$828.1
TVEP Awards	\$114.2

## 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 Certificates, 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 and 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.



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