

Chancellor's Report

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

April 2005

Achievements

UAF signed a collaborative agreement with the Cold Climate Housing Research Center to develop and test energy efficient and cost effective building technologies for Alaska and the world's cold climate regions. Construction of the 12,000 square foot research facility adjacent to the Fairbanks campus will begin this summer.

Led by All-American Brad Oleson, the Nanooks won the Great Northwest Conference men's basketball title and reached the finals of the NCAA Division II Western Regional Tournament for the second straight year. Matt Rawlings won the NCAA individual smallbore rifle championship. Tyson Flaharty was the top U.S. finisher at the World Junior Ski Championships in Finland while Johanna Turunen and Jed Kallen-Brown earned All-American status at the NCAA championships. The hockey team ended its season with a win over Michigan for third place in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association's Super Six Tournament.

A volunteer effort led by UAF's Institute of Northern Engineering resulted in a three-dimensional tool to track the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race over the Internet at www.earthslot.org/itarod/. The project demonstrates the scientific and educational aspects of the Earth Science Logistics and Outreach Terrainbase, or EarthSLOT.

Researchers at the Arctic Region Supercomputing Center and the Geophysical Institute created a global tsunami model showing the inundation resulting from the tragic December 2004 tsunami.

The UAF ROTC program was named the best small school program in its brigade and is ranked among the top 15 percent of programs nationwide.

In Progress

A 25-member strategic planning committee consisting of campus and community members has been appointed to develop a 2010 UAF strategic plan. The planning process will take into account broad input from a wide range of stakeholders and other planning processes at UA and UAF. More information is at www.uaf.edu/strategic/.

With work on the University of Alaska Museum of the North's new wing nearly complete, the museum is closed while renovations to the original building are underway. The Gallery of Alaska should be open for the summer visitor season. A Sept. 10 ribbon-cutting ceremony is planned for the opening of the new wing.

Doyon Limited donated \$42,000 to develop a distinguished visiting faculty chair in the Department of Alaska Native and Rural Development. When fully funded, the program will invite retired Alaska Native executives and other leaders to teach, mentor and encourage Alaska Native students.

Two new courses at TVC have particular real-life relevancy. The TVC Golden HEART (Hospitality Education And Retail Training) Academy, a two-day customer service training class, is geared toward local retail and tourism industry employees. The Arabic Customs and Culture class for soldiers at Fort Wainwright potentially being deployed to Iraq covers topics such as building relationships with civilians and how to converse with the enemy if captured.

Cooperative Extension Service staff are conducting workshops throughout Alaska on successfully marketing morel mushrooms. Forests consumed in the 2004 wildfire season were the largest on record, providing unique conditions for morel mushroom growth this summer. Dried morels can fetch between \$25-\$250 per pound.

The School of Management and Office of Electronic Miniaturization are hosting the Accelerating Economic Development in the Arctic seminar series. The series is organized by the NanookTech Accelerator, a project launched cooperatively by the Fairbanks Economic Development Corp., the Fairbanks North Star Borough, the city of Fairbanks and UAF to support the development of start-up businesses in Alaska.

What's Next

UAF's 83rd commencement will be held at the Carlson Center in Fairbanks on Sunday, May 15, 2005. Cultural anthropologist and author Richard Nelson will be the keynote speaker. Details on scheduled events are at www.uaf.edu/commencement/.

The Visual Arts Academy, a new Summer Sessions program, will provide students in grades 6-12 with the opportunity to study with professional artists in the studios of the UAF art department. Registration for summer classes is underway; browse the online catalog at www.uaf.edu/summer/.



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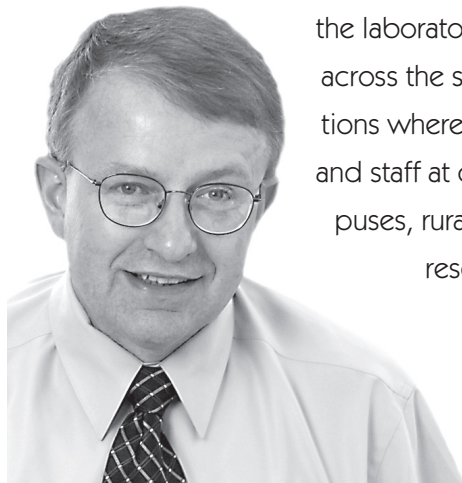
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message from the chancellor

Our 2010 UAF strategic plan will embody an imperative that our university will grow in areas of maximum inherent comparative advantage. We clearly have such advantage across the physical, biological and social dimensions of the far North. We draw great strength from our position as the nation's only high latitude Land, Sea and Space Grant university.

Our advantages encompass both the **spirit** and the **place** that define our location and presence in the last frontier. A commitment to excellence will infuse all that we do in each of those areas of maximum

inherent competitive advantage—excellence in the classroom and the laboratory; in the field; and across the state at the 44 locations where we house faculty and staff at community campuses, rural learning centers, research installations and other facilities. Excellence will be our



trademark and results will be our calling card. Watch for these themes and more as our strategic planning process unfolds during the year.

I also want to note that excellence and results define our university beyond the academic and service realms. We take great pride in the excellence and results our athletes achieved during the academic year. Our January 2005 athletic roster shows 59 percent of UAF student-athletes earned a 3.0 grade point average or better, with 15 achieving a perfect 4.0 GPA. They give UAF a great deal to be proud of—four of our teams competed nationally over the past several weeks, and it was especially sweet to claim the Governor's Cup for the fourth year in a row in a match against the UAA Seawolves hockey team. We celebrate all the Nanook team accomplishments—hockey, basketball, rifle and cross country ski teams—and thank the coaches and players for bringing honor to UAF. Go Nanooks!

Stephen B. Jones