



Billy Koitzsch and Bob Ostrom (holding the check) share the \$10,000 first prize for this year's Arctic Innovation Competition. Their award-winning idea is called a HydroHeater. The competition was created by School of Management faculty member Ping Lan (back row, second from left), director of the MBA program, and is managed by a committee of graduate students, faculty and staff. UAF photo by Maureen McCombs.

Achievements

The Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activity office in Bunnell was inaugurated in September. Barbara Taylor, associate professor of biology in neuroscience, was appointed director of the newly formed program in July. URSA's goal is to promote, facilitate, coordinate and document undergraduate research efforts and capacities.

KUAC FM raised \$305,797, the most ever raised, during the fall fundraiser. There were 267 new donors, and 1,503 donors renewed. A total of 850 volunteer hours were put in by the community in support of the fundraiser.

The Fairbanks campus celebrated Food Day, a new national event, with exhibits from local agriculture and food-related businesses, organizations and UAF departments. The School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences, Cooperative Extension Service and UAF Anthropology Society hosted the Oct. 24 event in the Wood Center to promote safe, healthy, sustainable food production.

Purely Alaska: Authentic Voices from the Far North, an anthology of stories compiled by Susan B. Andrews and John Creed, professors at the College of Rural and Community Development's Chukchi Campus, won three national book awards. *Purely Alaska* features 32 stories from 23 rural Alaska writers, including 21 distance-education students.

UAF was one of the first universities to go through a newly adopted Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities accreditation process. The evaluators presented commendations and preliminary recommendations at the conclusion of their visit in October. The commission is expected to take action on UAF's accreditation at its January meeting. Because of the new process a year-one report will be due in fall 2012.

The 1841 Kolmakovsky Russian blockhouse is again sitting tall on the grounds of the University of Alaska Museum of the North following construction of a new foundation, replacement of rotten logs and construction of an updated roof outfitted with tundra sod and tamarack poles. The blockhouse is one of the oldest Russian-era structures in Alaska.

In Progress

Researchers planted high-performance bluegrasses, bred for use as sports turf, in a field at the Matanuska Experiment Farm this summer. Researchers will evaluate the suitability of the grasses for Alaska soccer fields and golf courses. The School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences project is the first of its kind in the state. The Mat-Su Health Foundation and the Wadsworth Golf Charities Foundation funded the project.

Work continues on construction projects despite the arrival of winter. The new Life Sciences Facility was enclosed and roofed by mid-November. The School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences greenhouse hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony Nov. 22. The utilidor steam capacity expansion construction, adjacent to Tanana Loop, is shut down for the winter; work will resume in April. The critical electrical distribution renewal switchgear installation was completed, and work continues toward energizing it. UAF will disconnect from GVEA next May to reconstruct a portion of the substation, and campus buildings will be connected to the new switchgear beginning in June.

What's Next

The Chancellor's Holiday Gathering for students, staff, faculty and community supporters takes place in the Wood Center Dec. 13.

WINTERmester, an intense inter-semester program where students can earn up to 3 credits in two weeks in January, will this year offer courses from fields as diverse as anthropology, art, film, geography, philosophy and recreation.

Nominations are being accepted for the Chancellor's Cornerstone Award to recognize UAF staff for sustained outstanding contributions toward accomplishing and enhancing the UAF mission and strategic plan. Winners will be announced at the Longevity Awards program in spring.

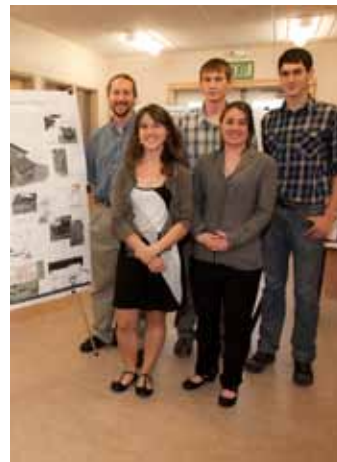
through the lens: recent images

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

December 2011



Sophomore Dabric Baxter, left, helps UAF fire marshal Len Dejoria light the annual bonfires at Starvation Gulch 2011. Baxter earned the privilege by winning a drawing held by the Student Activities Office. *UAF photo by Maureen McCombs.*



Photos, clockwise from left

Undergraduates Kyle McCormick, left, and Jessica McLaughlin capture ducks as part of their Survey of Wildlife Science class.

Students (back) Erik Williams, Garrett Evridge, Lyle Axelarris, (front) Rachael Skye Sturm and Maura Sateriale pose with their entry for the UAF Sustainable Village Design Competition. *UAF photo by Maureen McCombs.*



Participants in the Cooperative Extension Service's Alaskan Growers School learn greenhouse techniques from Tom Zimmer of Calypso Farm and Ecology Center. *Photo by Jeff Fay, CES.*

ROTC cadets Aliana Rose Isip, left, and Josephine Wasky sell baked goods in the Wood Center.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. UAF is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution. Produced by UAF Marketing and Communications. UAF photos by Todd Paris, unless otherwise noted.

Chancellor Brian Rogers • uaf.chancellor@alaska.edu • www.uaf.edu/chancellor/