Achievements

**UAF and the U.S. Department of the Interior** officially opened the Alaska Climate Science Center — the first of eight projected centers in the nation — in the UAA Diplomacy Building. The centers will work with government agencies and universities to build new capabilities and will function as regional providers of climate science.

**A site newly excavated by UAF anthropologists** contained cremated remains of one of the earliest inhabitants of North America. The researchers are working closely with representatives of local Native Alaskan groups to ensure the work will benefit science and heritage studies in a way that is respectful of Athabascan culture.

**The Office of Sustainability** partnered with the Community and Technical College to install power-saving cords on campus and employee vehicles, which reduce the amount of electricity needed to keep engines warm in cold weather. CTC donated the use of their automotive technology facility for cord installation, Golden Valley Electric Association donated the cords and a student employee of the Office of Sustainability installed them. **Strange and Sacred Noise,** a film by Leonard Kamerling, curator of film at the University of Alaska Museum of the North, premiered in New York City with the premiere of composer John Luther Adams’ work *Inuksuit.* The film explores Adams’ work through an outdoor performance of his percussion piece, also titled *Strange and Sacred Noise,* which took place during an Alaska night in June 2008.

**A new study coauthored by forestry professor Glenn Juday** provides confirmations of a wholesale shift in the boreal forest ecosystem due to climate change. Scientists at the Woods Hole Research Center and three other institutions based in Alaska and France conducted the study. UAF scientists were instrumental in the project, which involved one of the largest and most widely distributed samples of tree-ring data ever analyzed in Alaska.

**UAF’s New Music Festival** was the epicenter of contemporary music in Alaska for three days in February. The festival included premieres of new compositions and performances by students (both undergraduate and graduate) and faculty members, and a piano recital by a renowned pianist from the University of California, San Diego.

In Progress

**A set of safety training modules** were established in 2008 that all employees must complete. Of approximately 4,100 current employees, 1,538 have begun the training modules. Between January and early March, 1,894 safety training units were completed. In addition, 524 employees have completed the supervisors’ safety training module.

**The Cooperative Extension Service** announced last fall that its Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation-certified kitchen is now available to the public to help entrepreneurs trying to get their businesses going. Experts from Extension, ADEC and the Alaska Small Business Development Center were on hand for an open house in February to talk to individuals about their food-based business ideas and the state regulations that could affect them.

**Three UAF Community and Technical College** programs — construction management, drafting technology and information technology — are relocating from the Downtown Center to 604 Barnette Street. The third floor is undergoing significant renovation to accommodate the move.

What’s Next

**The second annual Campus Research Day** May 5 will underscore the unique hands-on learning opportunities students have at UAF. The event will feature graduate and undergraduate student poster sessions, an undergraduate research symposium, open labs and an awards ceremony.

**A concert by the Jasper String Quartet** May 20 kicks off this year’s busy Summer Sessions calendar. In addition to 274 credit and non-credit course offerings, other events scheduled include music and ice cream every Thursday from noon – 2 p.m. at Wood Center Plaza, the Summer CAFÉ series of culinary classes, a UAF Legacy Lecture with Joe Usibelli and a live broadcast of National Public Radio’s *Wait Wait … Don’t Tell Me!*
Students with the UAF chapter of the Society of Automotive Engineers get help from Dean Doug Goering as they push their electric sled back into the Duckering Building lab for more work. The group was preparing to enter the SAE International Clean Snowmobile Challenge at Michigan Tech University.

Florence Nukusuk from Hooper Bay performs with other members of the Inu-Yupiaq student dancers during the 2011 Festival of Native Arts.

The UAF Alumni Association held its annual wine tasting event in the Wood Center Pub in February.

Nanook basketball fans have enjoyed watching Parrish West, a senior from Chicago who led the nation in NCAA Division II scoring and who broke several team records.