



Gail Phillips, UAF Alumni Association president (left) and Chancellor Rogers (far right) congratulate 2009 alumni association award winners George Gordon, Deanna Dieringer, Terrence Cole, Helvi Sandvik and Greg Galik. Award winners not pictured were Joan Braddock, Richard Foster, Bart LeBon and Jack Wilbur. UAF photo by Maureen McCombs.

Achievements

Gov. Sean Parnell addressed the Students Who Enjoy Economic Thinking, a student group also known as SWEET, in October. He outlined the proposed Governor's Performance Scholarship, which is intended to increase Alaska's intellectual capital by awarding merit-based scholarships to Alaska high school graduates.

The Tanana Valley Campus celebrated its 35th anniversary and the completion of the building's new exterior. The Downtown Association of Fairbanks presented TVC with the Outstanding Renovation Award in recognition of the university's major investment in and beautification of downtown.

Six new members were inducted into the Nanook Hall of Fame in September. Inductees were the nation's first female rifle All-American Carole Rollison Warne; Everad F. Horton, rifle coach and the namesake for the Nanooks' home range; basketball player Mike Lessley; hockey player and coach Tavis MacMillan; rifle team member Joe Nava; and William R. Wood, who served as University of Alaska president for 13 years and was a staunch supporter of UAF athletics.

Three Cooperative Extension Service 4-H youth, guided by staff in the Reindeer Research Program, raised reindeer to show and sell at the Tanana Valley State Fair, the first project of its kind in the nation. The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Kawerak Reindeer Herders Association helped with the pilot project, which enabled UAF researchers to assess reindeer interactions in different environments and with other domestic animals.

The Center for Alaska Native Health Research, which studies obesity and its relationship to diabetes and heart disease in Alaska Natives, received \$1.8 million in four American Reinvestment and Recovery Act awards. CANHR will hire a bilingual science educator, increase the number of village-based and university-based researchers, and combine four Eskimo health research data sets representing almost 4,000 individuals to improve scientists' ability to characterize the prevalence of cardiovascular disease and diabetes.

DegreeWorks is a new, web-based degree audit and academic advising tool the Registrar's Office now offers students. Students can use DegreeWorks to generate their own degree audits and view progress toward a diploma.

In Progress

"Ascension: Exploring the Art of Denali," on display in the UA Museum of the North through January, presents work from 20 former Denali National Park and Preserve artists-in-residence. The exhibit was a collaboration among the museum, National Park Service, Alaska Geographic and other organizations.

Core themes of UAF's mission have been developed by a UAF-wide committee and approved by UAF governance groups and administration. Objectives and indicators for the themes will be developed next in the two-year compressed timeline for reaffirmation of UAF's accreditation with the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

UAF students who participated in the Pathways 2 College program are performing well academically. P-2-C gives first-generation college-bound high school seniors and graduates a chance to earn college credits as part of the six-week Upward Bound summer program.

What's Next

To achieve energy and payroll savings, Chancellor Rogers implemented a holiday "soft closure," an option for UAF departments to include in the winter break the three workdays — Dec. 21 – 23 — that precede the systemwide holiday closure, Dec. 24, 2009 – Jan. 3, 2010.

Musical events scheduled during the holiday season include the Northern Lights String Orchestra Dec. 3, the Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra Holiday Concert Dec. 6, String Ensembles Dec. 8, the Jazz Band Dec. 10 and the University Chorus Holiday Concert Dec. 12, all in Davis Concert Hall.

The 37th Festival of Native Arts, March 4 – 6, will feature Native performances and an arts and crafts fair. Organized by UAF students, the festival has provided a forum for Alaska Native groups to share their cultures since 1973.

through the lens: recent images

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

November 2009



UAF Outdoor Adventures

student employee Lily Grbavach jumps for joy after leading a group up the Angel Rocks trail. Outdoor Adventures' mission is to enable UAF students, faculty, staff and their families to safely explore, discover and understand the timeless beauty of wild Alaska. The program, part of Student and Enrollment Services, has been leading outdoor trips year-round for UAF students and affiliates for more than 20 years.



Photos, clockwise from left

Biology major Gabe Pease expresses himself on the graffiti wall in front of Wood Center during Free Speech Week.

Master's degree student Sally Gustafson studies the health benefits of Alaska blueberries.

Research technician Kendra Calhoun shows off apples growing in unheated high-tunnel test greenhouses near the Fairbanks Experiment Farm. The Cooperative Extension Service project is researching development of fruit trees that can survive in rural Alaska.

Nanook sophomore Courtney Nichols completes a turn in the 200-meter breast stroke event in the Patty pool during a meet against Seattle University.



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