



Iron workers stand ready to place the final steel beam in the Life Sciences Facility topping-out ceremony Aug. 12. The beam, painted in UAF's colors, is adorned with the U.S. and Alaska flags, signatures of the crew and a tree meant to bring good luck and future growth.

Achievements

Educators at the Geophysical Institute developed the Alaska K–12 Science Curricular Initiative, a free online science education resource for Alaska teachers. The program helps bring cutting-edge Alaska research to K–12 classrooms.

An extremely rare fossil discovered in Southeast Alaska was identified by research staff at the UA Museum of the North as a prehistoric marine reptile called a thalattosaur. The fossil was shipped to the museum, where the earth sciences team will remove the surrounding rock until the remains are exposed.

Scientists at the Institute of Arctic Biology have successfully induced hibernation in small mammals, showing how the process is initiated. Understanding the neuroprotective qualities of hibernating animals may help lead to development of a drug or therapy to save people's lives after a stroke or heart attack.

UAF conducted a major disaster response exercise on campus in July. The event involved responders from organizations throughout the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Additional crisis practice exercises are planned in coming months.

The chancellor's convocation speech focused on preparing for the university's 2017 centennial, and on institutional planning efforts such as the research plan, campus master plan and enrollment plan, and how those plans contribute to shaping the UAF of tomorrow.

Alaska Sea Grant research increased survival of hatchery-born red king crab larvae, proving that hatcheries can produce a sufficient number of crab for experimental purposes, and that the techniques may be scaled up to produce larger numbers.

A Cooperative Extension agent taught a weeklong GPS/GIS class in Quinhagak during July in collaboration with Alaska Sea Grant's Marine Advisory Program. Participants learned how to use GPS and GIS software to map river channels to help reduce the number of barges that get stuck each summer.

Kinross Fort Knox announced a \$1 million gift to support graduate student research in mining engineering at UAF. The engineering research endowment will allow UAF to provide advanced training for mining engineers by establishing a steady source of research funding.

In Progress

The Fishery Industrial Technology Center is reorganizing to be more closely aligned with the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences. The Kodiak-based center will continue to serve as a research and training hub for the Alaska seafood industry, and will have a stronger public outreach and formal education focus.

Nine evaluators from the Northwest Association of Colleges and Universities will visit UAF community campuses the last week of September and the Fairbanks campus Oct. 3–5. The team will meet with faculty, staff, students, deans, directors, administrators and governance leaders to evaluate UAF for reaffirmation of institutional accreditation. The evaluators, each of whom has been assigned a UAF theme to evaluate, will announce their findings Oct. 5 at the end of their visit.

Outdoor recreation options on campus are expanding with the addition of an outdoor climbing wall and a snowboarding terrain park. The climbing wall, near the Student Recreation Center, offers more than 30 vertical feet of climbing area for instruction and recreation. Land contouring for the Nanook Terrain snowboarding park, south of the Butrovich Building, began this summer, but most of the major features are still under development. These improvements will enhance the quality of student life on campus.

What's Next

Nanook Hall of Fame inductees in ceremonies Sept. 24 will be Alan Cardwell (swimming), Kelly Mansfield (rifle), Steve Moria (hockey), Brad Oleson (basketball), Anne Berit (Nilsen) Smith (skiing) and the 1993–1994 rifle team — the first UAF team to win an NCAA championship. The awards ceremony is one of the events during the 2011 UAF Alumni Association Reunion Sept. 22–24. The current list of inductees into the Nanook Hall of Fame now stands at 21.

through the lens: recent images

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

September 2011



Bobbing for veggies was just part of the fun at the Alaska Agriculture Appreciation Day Aug. 11 at the Matanuska Experiment Farm in Palmer. The UAF facility hosted hundreds of guests for the annual open house. Visitors toured the farm and research facilities, learned about Alaska agriculture, played games, and took home prizes and fresh produce from local farmers. *Photo courtesy of the School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences.*



Photos, clockwise from left

Ben Cobb plays two horns at the same time while participating in the UAF Community Marching Band during the Fairbanks Golden Days parade.

Adjunct faculty member Michael Golub keeps an eye on Stephen Bishop as he rewires a circuit board during Golub's electric car conversion class this summer.



High school students from throughout Alaska gathered on the Fairbanks campus in July for Business Week, sponsored by the School of Management and the Alaska Chamber of Commerce.

Firefighter candidates in the Community and Technical College's seven-week summer fire academy complete drills at the University Fire Department's University Avenue facility.

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