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The 261-foot Sikuliaq after the launch from the shipyard in Marinette, Wis.

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The R/V Sikuliaq splashed into the Menominee River near the shipyard in Marinette, Wis. on Oct. 13, bringing it one step closer to its polar research mission in 2014. The ship is owned by the National Science Foundation and will be operated by UAF. Named for the Inupiaq word meaning “young sea ice,” the R/V Sikuliaq will be the only ship in the national academic fleet rated for year-round operations in first-year ice. Vera Alexander, dean emerita, and Robert Elsner, professor emeritus, both of the UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences were co-sponsors of the vessel; Alexander christened the ship while Elsner launched the vessel into the river. Alexander recently pledged a gift of $25,000 to support a Sikuliaq exhibit at the UA Museum of the North scheduled to open in May 2014, and Elsner gave $10,000 to support the library onboard the vessel.

A generous $200,000 gift from ConocoPhillips will give the College of Engineering and Mines immediate program support. This gift adds to the ConocoPhillips UAF Engineering Endowment established with a $500,000 gift in 2011. With this endowment, ConocoPhillips is supporting educational opportunities today and providing sustainable resources to CEM, while helping to build Alaska’s future workforce. Bij Agarwal, vice president of commercial assets for ConocoPhillips Alaska, said “We are pleased to designate this funding for spending now, in order to more directly and immediately benefit students at UAF.” Doug Goering, CEM dean, noted “This generous gift from ConocoPhillips will provide an immediate boost to our ability to outfit our laboratories with state-of-the-art equipment.”

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**Achievements**

**Individual**
The estate of Paul W. Caton ’60 distributed a gift of $14, 908 to the Geophysical Institute Associates Endowment.

Joe and Carolyn Floyd donated $20,202 to their named scholarship, providing tuition support for UAF students.

Ronald K. Inouye, long-time UAF supporter and volunteer, made a $13,000 gift to the UA Museum of the North.

James E. Moody, P.E. ’55 donated $25,000 to the L.E. and Alaska S. Linck Steel Bridge Support Fund. The fund was established by Moody in memory of his parents.

Joseph E. Usibelli ’59 and Peggy Shumaker donated $25,000 to the Alaska Literary Series at the UA Press. In 2011, they established the fund with a $20,000 gift to support the production of fiction, non-fiction and poetry works in the series.

**Corporate/Foundation**
Alaska Aerospace Corporation made a gift of $20,000 in support of the Alaska Space Grant Program.

Alaska Credit Union League donated $16,750 to the 2012 Alaska Business Week program.

American Chemical Society made a $12,000 gift to the ACS - Hach Scientific Foundation Scholarships.

Crowley Petroleum Distribution donated $10,000 to the Crowley Scholarship for qualified UAF and School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences students.

Kinross Fort Knox made a $15,000 gift for radiation sensor equipment at the College of Engineering and Mines. This gift is in addition to their three-year commitment of $990,000 toward their Mining Engineering Research Endowment at CEM.

Northrim Bank donated $35,000 to the School of Management as well as $25,000 for the Conference of Young Alaskans program.

The Pollock Conservation Cooperative recently continued their support of the Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center at the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences. American Seafoods Company, Glacier Fish Company, Starbound LLC and Trident Seafoods each made an $84,000 gift, and Arctic Storm made a $14,000 gift.

Rasmussen Foundation made a donation of $100,000 to the UA Museum of the North for modular shelving and art racks.

Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association made a $10,000 gift in support of Alaska salmon research at the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences.

The William G. Stroecker Trust made a distribution of $26,213 in support of the Bill Stroecker Jazz Endowment. The late Bill Stroecker ’42 was a generous and longtime supporter of many programs at UAF.

Teck Limited made a $10,101 gift to the Teck Scholarship to support engineering and geoscience students. The payment is part of their current three-year pledge, and is Teck’s second three-year commitment to the scholarship fund.

The Seattle Foundation facilitated a gift of $16,403 from the estate of John Robert and Mary Claus.

**In-Kind Support**
Research efforts with unmanned aircraft in the Aleutians received support from AeroVironment UAS with an in-kind gift valued at $52,500, and Aeryon Labs, Inc., who donated in-kind support worth $53,250.

Marsh Creek LLC made an in-kind donation valued at $67,357 in support of the Wind-Diesel Simulator project at the Alaska Center for Energy and Power.

**Legacy Society**
The UAF Legacy Society recognizes donors who have made provisions to include UAF in their estate plans. There are currently 94 members. The most recent additions include Helga and Bill Watterson.

**Of note**
Scholarships change lives. UAF is grateful for the support from our alumni and friends, and no one can say it better than our students who benefit from your generosity. Recent Ronald F. Cosgrave Scholarship recipient Ealum Howe said, “Receiving support through this scholarship has truly helped improve not only my academic success, but my day-to-day life as well. UAF is an amazing venue to receive a high-level, quality education that will only help me achieve and reach my goals in life.”

In Memory. Over the past few months, Alaska and UAF lost several dear friends and long-time supporters. Our condolences go out to their families and loved ones. They will be missed. They include Ed Christiansen, Jacqueline Goering, Mary Louise Rasmuson, Robert Rausch ’87 ScD (Hon), Helen Snedden, Jack Townshend ’95 ScD (Hon) and Joe Tremarello ’58, ’68.

Bering Straits Native Corporation made a gift of $50,000 to support the UAF Northwest Campus Driver Education program for commercial driver license training in Nome.

Shell Exploration and Production Company made a $50,000 gift for research at the Alaska Center for Energy and Power. Shell also donated $25,000 in support of the new GeoFORCE Alaska program that helps prepare high school students for future science study and careers.

Long-time UAF supporter, Dr. Cary S. Keller of Sportsmedicine Fairbanks, gave a major boost to the new terrain park being developed on the UAF campus with a donation of $50,000. This new ski and snowboard park will increase the outdoor recreation opportunities available for students and help play a vital role in student recruitment.

Usibelli Coal Mine made an $86,000 gift to the Usibelli Coal Mine Diesel/Heavy Equipment Certificate Scholarship. This endowment supports students in the certificate program at UAF Community and Technical College.

The third annual fall phonathon is in full swing! UAF students are reaching out to alumni and friends in an effort to build lasting relationships and raise philanthropic support for UAF’s mission. Last year, student callers raised $55,000 for UAF. The phone program runs from Oct. 28th through Dec. 6th.

Save the date! Chancellor Brian Rogers and Sherry Modrow will host their fourth annual gala celebration Feb. 2, 2013. Proceeds from the event will support the Fairbanks Memorial Hospital Circle of Hope Breast Cancer Project and the UAF Community and Technical College Dental Programs.

This list reflects gifts of $10,000 and above made to the University of Alaska Fairbanks between May 11, 2012, and October 15, 2012. 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. 11/2012 UAF photos by Todd Paris, unless otherwise noted.