Blue and Gold Gala — Celebrating a Century of Education & Community

On Feb. 11, more than 400 Fairbanks community members came together to support UAF and its students at the 2017 Blue and Gold Gala. The sold-out, 1920s-themed event attracted alumni, friends, faculty, staff and donors of the university, and it featured the Inuit soul group Pamyua. We celebrated the 2017 Emil Usibelli Award recipients, faculty members Mary Erhlander ’92, ’93, Laura Conner and David Newman; the William R. Cashen Service Award honoree Jo Ryman Scott; the Distinguished Alumna honoree Virginia Farmer ’84; and the Philanthropists of the Century — Grace Berg Schaible ’49, the late Ed and Mary Louise Rasmussen, and the Usibelli family. In addition, attendees supported UAF students by generously donating to the Centennial Scholarships and Fellowships Initiative and other scholarships. Thanks to the generosity of these individuals and our sponsors, we raised more than $121,000! Thank you to all who attended and our generous sponsors. For more information go to www.uaf.edu/chancellor/gala/.

Centennial Scholarship and Fellowship Initiative

Alaskans have banded together to create a world-renowned university. Businesses and individuals alike have united to ensure UAF’s success for the last 100 years, and with this partnership we are sure to excel in the century to come. UAF has seen many changes in this time — including a dramatic increase in student debt, averaging around $27,000 for recent graduates. To address this obstacle, UAF launched the Centennial Scholarship and Fellowship Initiative in December 2014. Through that initiative, donors have given $3.1 million above and beyond our annual average. Since the initiative’s launch, a total of nearly $8.5 million has been raised for scholarships and fellowships at UAF. Donors, whether individual or corporate, have made a huge impact on the lives of our current and future students.

Centennial Scholarship Breakfast

UAF students, donors and faculty gathered at the Centennial Scholarship Breakfast on April 18 to celebrate the connection between donor generosity and student success. UAF alumna and donor Lorna Shaw ’96, ’05, of Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo, emceed the event. She introduced Chancellor Dana Thomas ’74, graduate student Carolyn Kozak, political science Professor Alex Hirsch, and alumna and longtime donor Ann Tremarello ’57. Tremarello spoke about UAF and Alaska’s historic relationship and why investing in student success is critical for the state. Beyond her 45 years of service to UAF, she continues to support students and higher education for Alaskans.

This event, in its 20th year, holds a special place in the hearts of donors and recipients alike. Philanthropists are able to meet the people they have supported through their giving, and students are able to meet the donors who are encouraging their pursuit of higher education.

AGC supports student success

The Associated General Contractors of Alaska, made up of numerous Alaska businesses, has been a longtime supporter of education. During the breakfast, AGC President Dan Hall and Board Member Marcus Trivet ’10 made a special centennial gift announcement. In celebration of the 100th anniversary of UAF, AGC of Alaska pledged $100,000 in support of the School of Management, College of Engineering and Mines, and Community and Technical College with the majority applied to AGC of Alaska’s three endowed scholarships. UAF is grateful for AGC’s broad commitment to student success and workforce development.

BP – Keeping the pace of progress

BP has been a steadfast supporter of UAF programs ranging from core sciences to liberal arts. Recently, BP gave generously to the Community and Technical College, the College of Engineering and Mines, and the College of Natural Science and Mathematics. BP’s commitment to higher education infuses Alaska’s workforce with skilled graduates who are ready to go to work in Alaska.

Celebrations Continue

One hundred years after Alaska Territorial Gov. John Strong signed the bill to create what is now known as UAF, friends and supporters of UAF gathered in the Centennial Square to celebrate a century of education and community here at Alaska’s cornerstone university. Head to www.uaf.edu/centennial/events/ for information on centennial events!

Save The Date: Nanook Rendezvous

July 20-23: The UAF Alumni Association’s all class reunion will be packed with activities during the Fairbanks Golden Days. For more information, visit www.uaf.edu/alumni/reunion/.
UAF Alumni — Nanooks for Life

More than 30,000 UAF alumni across the globe have come together to make substantial gifts in several areas across UAF. We are proud of our Nanook family, and humbled by their dedication to our mission.

- The UAF Alumni Association board voted unanimously to support the International Arctic Research Center with a donation toward a solid terrain model of the Arctic and two display screens. The exhibit will welcome IARC visitors and connect people to the changing Arctic during events like the Week of the Arctic, hosted in Fairbanks May 8-13.
- Congratulations to new UAFAA board members Shannon Johnson Nanalook '11; Mary Beth Loeven '03, '07; Forrest Kuiper '99, '00, '12; and Rachel Lauesen '04. Peter Van Flein '87 was elected board president at its April meeting.

Generous gifts over $25,000*

CORPORATE
- Alaska Communications gave to the Alaska Statewide Mentor Project.
- Alyseka Pipeline Service Company became a six-time Nauta donor to the Troth Yeddha’ Legacy Initiative.
- ConocoPhillips Alaska gave to the GeoFORCE Alaska program and the Rural Alaska Honors Institute.
- Design Alaska gave to KUAC, the School of Management and the College of Engineering and Mines.
- ExxonMobil Corporation made a gift to the GeoFORCE Alaska program. In addition, they gave field materials and an air quality station to the College of Engineering and Mines.
- First National Bank of Alaska gave to the Community and Technical College, the Rural Alaska Honors Institute and Kuskokwim Campus’ Best in the West Competition.
- Georgeson Botanical Garden Society gave to the Charles C. Georgeson Botanical Garden endowment.
- Hilcorp Alaska gave to the Hilcorp Arctic Fisheries Support fund at the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences.
- Linda Hubbert together with New York Life Insurance contributed to the Hubert Nanook Tent Park.
- Starbound, American Seafoods, Glacier Fish Company and Trident Seafoods, as part of the Pollock Conservation Cooperative, gave to the Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center Endowment and the Ted Stevens Distinguished Professorship of Marine Policy Fund.
- Premium Oceanic established the Blue Evolution Mariculture Fellowship, supporting graduate students studying mariculture at the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences.

FOUNDATION
- The Bill Stroecker Foundation supported the School of Management, the UAF Annual Fund, School of Agriculture and Cooperative Extension Service and KUAC.
- Marion G. Weeks Charitable Foundation supported the Marion Weeks and Bill Stroecker Scholarship, the UAF Pitney Rifle Team Scholarship Endowment, KUAC and the establishment of a new agriculture support fund at UAF.

INDIVIDUAL
- An anonymous donor established the Ehrlander Award for Graduate Research, providing travel grants to students in the Arctic and Northern Studies program.
- Michele Aubry and Peter Christensen supported the Harvey Shields Fellowship in Archaeology.
- Maureen Bradshaw ’63 and Wendell Gadd established the Bradshaw Family Scholarship for UAF students from Southeast Alaska majoring in elementary education.
- Edward J. Kuhn Revocable Trust gave to the Edward J. Kuhn Endowed Scholarship at the School of Education.
- James E. Moody, P.E., '55 gave the “Last Load,” an oil painting by Magnus Colcard “Rusty” Heurlin to the Elmer E. Rasmuson Library.
- Wendel Raymond, a College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences Ph.D. student in Juneau, established the Sea Otter Research Fund.
- Alan Straub ’66 and Rosemary Machado established the Alan Straub Civil Engineering Scholarship.
- John Zarling gave to six different scholarships and programs in Nanook athletics and the Community and Technical College.

Legacy Society
The UAF Legacy Society recognizes donors who have made provisions to include UAF in their estate plans. New members Gerard J. Lea and Joan and James Webster. The Legacy Society includes an incredible 146 members.

Lovalaska

Although the PFD application deadline has passed, you can still choose to designate UAF as a beneficiary of your 2017 PFD through this year’s Pick. Click. Give. program.

* This report reflects gifts and donations of $25,000 or more to the University of Alaska Fairbanks between November 1, 2016, and April 19, 2017.

Save The Date:  
Schaible Art Collection  
on exhibit at the  
UA Museum of the North  
June 2017 – Jan. 2018