DIRECTOR WHITE ACCEPTS NEW POSITION

On March 13, 2015, Chancellor Brian Rogers announced that Dan White would be appointed as the University of Alaska system’s Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research. White joined UAF’s faculty in 1995 and served as chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Director of the Institute of Northern Engineering, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Director of the Office of Intellectual Property and Commercialization (OIPC). His last day as the director of OIPC was March 21, 2015.

Nette La Belle-Hamer replaces White as the new Director of OIPC. La Belle-Hamer received her doctorate degree from UAF in space physics in 1994 and became Director of the Alaska Satellite Facility in 2002. She was appointed Associate Vice Chancellor for Research in July of 2011 and also serves as the Director of the Office of Research Integrity at UAF.

OIPC wishes Daniel M. White the best of luck in his new position and welcomes Nette to the team.

INVENTORS’ FORUM

Software as a Service Primer Draws a Crowd

More than 40 people attended the inventors’ forum in IARC 401 on Friday, March 27, 2015, to listen to Brian Geisel via Skype who spoke about different models for accelerating business growth in the software community.

Brian was both informative and humorous in his delivery. “When I see a simple software program I always think, that will take me about a week to write. Well, seven weeks later...” He presented the software developers with numerous tools to assist in deploying their apps and software, ways to save money during the process and how to put their best foot forward with the hope of being featured as Apples’ App of the Week.

Thank you Brian and UAF staff, faculty and students who joined us. We hope to see you at our next forum. If you are interested in joining us please check our website for announcements at www.uaf.edu/oipc, like us on Facebook and be sure to look for flyers around campus and in the UAF Cornerstone.

NEW PATENT FILINGS

We’d like to congratulate three inventors on developing technologies on which UAF has filed new patent applications.

A non-provisional US patent was filed on a piano lighting device called The Luma Clavier invented by Gary Toth of the Department of Music. The light enables a pianist to see the keys in limited lighting situations without interfering with their ability to play the piano or keyboard. Powered directly from an AC outlet or a rechargeable battery, the LED light bar is suspended above the length of the keyboard. The device is user-controlled by a dimmer mounted at one side of the piano. Manufacturers and distributors of music accessories have shown an interest in potentially licensing the technology and OIPC is working with them to get this technology on the market. A video demonstration of this device can be viewed on the OIPC website.

A second non-provisional US patent application was filed this quarter on Over the Horizon Correction Software developed by Tim Theurer and Bill Bristow, both of the Geophysical Institute. Their patent-pending method improves radar resolution by approximating the signals that would exist under ideal conditions and updating the received signals individually over time. With implementation of this software, the inventors observed an increase in the accuracy of the direction of a target by as much as a factor of 10. OIPC plans to license this technology to private companies within the military, security and GPS industries.

Congratulations to these inventors on their newly filed patent applications! If you have developed a new technology, please contact our office at 907-474-2605 or via email at uaf-oipc@alaska.edu.