



# UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS 2007 Summer Sessions

## annual report

### staff



**Michelle Bartlett**  
Director



**Florie Wilcoxson**  
Associate Director



**Vanessa Spencer**  
Fiscal Officer



**Mary Calmes**  
Admin Assistant



2007 Summer Sessions catalog and promotional materials used photos by James H. Barker.

### *From the Director:*

Summer Sessions 2007 was a symphony of educational opportunities for students, community members and Fairbanks visitors alike. Enrollment continues to increase with many out of state students enjoying the benefit of in-state tuition during the summer. Students in over 300 classes created art, tackled the rigors of academic programs, and explored Alaska in destinations including Denali, the Brooks Range, and Katmai. Pre-academic programs flourished. Music, Art, and the Alaska Summer Research Academies all gave future students a chance to sample the incredible future they can have at UAF. Noncredit classes provided excellent opportunities to acquire skills in recreation, photography and culinary arts. We even have a 2007 Summer Sessions cookbook composed of the recipes emanating from the Summer CAFE (Culinary Arts Food Experience) classes.

Outside the classroom, our beautiful flower filled campus reverberated with a myriad of activities that made UAF the place to be this summer. A live two hour national broadcast of Talk of the Nation: Science Friday brought millions of listeners to Fairbanks for a discussion of global climate change. We launched the Alaska Book Festival. Free movies were available three nights a week. The Discovering Alaska lecture series gave students, the community, and visitors alike an opportunity to see Alaska through the eyes of authors and artists with a true passion for the Great Land. Hundreds of people sat on chairs and blankets on the Beluga Field to enjoy the music of the four Beluga Nights concerts. A thousand students participated in Jo Scott's amazing Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival, and Fairbanks Shakespeare Festival continues to add to the cultural quality of campus life.

UAF was definitely the place to be in summer 2007.

Michelle Bartlett, Director  
UAF Summer Sessions

# Summer Sessions 2007 Highlights

## MAYmester launched

MAYmester, a two week intensive session at the end of May, allowed students to complete three upper division credits before heading off to their summer endeavors. The four MAYmester courses (BA 390, COMM 353, ECE 440, JUST 300X) with combined enrollments of 69 students, left students (and faculty) exhausted from the intensity but thrilled to have an extra three credits under their belts and a full summer ahead. MAYmester 2007 biochemistry major, Scott Hummel commented: "I was a part of the MAYmester y'all tried, and I thought it was INCREDIBLE! I was hoping you guys would also do one in the Fall. It really works well for those of us local folks who like to enjoy their summers, get some extra classes done, and work enough to avoid college debt." Both faculty and students provided insightful comments on the program and we look to expand and improve it in 2008.

## Academics

Core courses, math and science foundation courses, professional development courses, special interest courses, weekend focus courses, and developmental education courses were all part of the academic regimen offered in summer 2007. Some core courses and other academic courses were bursting at the seams with registrations. CHEM 105X and 106X as well as BIOL 111X and 112X had to add second sections. The Math Department offered a full slate of courses and enrollments were unusually high. MATH 302, Differential

Equations, in the condensed format of a Summer Sessions 6-week session had 28 students! STAT 200, a requirement for several majors, drew a full house.

The following courses offered in shorter time frames for professional development or general interest are noteworthy. Rudi Gens' SAR and InSAR one-credit week-long courses filled with students from all over the United States. Joseph Thompson's weekend one-credit humanities course Gods and Planets won top honors for the summer course with highest enrollment at 42 students.



## Summer Discovering Alaska lecture series is a hit!

Summer Sessions launched a free lecture series attended by hundreds of Fairbankians and visitors alike. Every Wednesday evening, May through August, a talented member of the Fairbanks community shared their vision of Alaska. Lecturers included authors Roger Kaye, Anne Hanley, Carolyn Kremers, Marjorie Cole, Debbie Miller, Ned Rozell, and Mike Sfraga; photographers Ken Whitten, Dennis Witmer, and Len Kamerling; artist Todd Sherman; and songwriter Susan Grace. The lecture series so intrigued producer Tim Olson of Juneau's Public Television Station, KTOO, that most lectures were filmed for broadcast during the coming months throughout Southeast Alaska. The Discovering Alaska lecture series was made available through a partnership with the Northern Alaska Environmental Center, and in cooperation with the UAF Center for Research Services and the UA Geography program.

## Earn and Learn Program students in summer jobs

Earning money during the summer is essential for most UAF students. Summer Sessions' Earn and Learn program provided employment placement for students who took two Summer Sessions courses. Students applied through a special HR website and worked with the Summer Sessions' director for an appropriate job placement. This summer twenty-two Earn and Learn students worked in various positions in the following campus departments: UAF Admissions, Bookstore, Development, Georgeson Botanical Garden, Grounds Crew, Institutional Research, Natural Sciences, Physical Plant, Purchasing, Registrar, Safety and Security, Alaska Sea Grant, and UA Museum of the North.



2007 Earn and Learn student Mladen Begojevic

## 25% increase in out of state students

Summer Sessions in-state tuition for all continues to attract more students. This is the second summer for all students to pay in-state tuition rates. Enrollments by out of state students and the number of credits they took both increased by 25% over summer 2006.



Summer students enjoy a break between classes.



Summer Metalsmithing Class

# Summer Sessions 2007 Highlights

## 65 tuition waivers awarded

Summer Sessions continued to offer tuition waivers to summer students. This year 65 students received awards. Each award was for up to three credits of summer tuition. Students were responsible for any books and fees associated with the course. Two different categories of awards are given. The first is for students who have earned ten credits or less and do not have the resources to attend UAF. The second is for continuing students who have exhausted their financial aid and do not have the resources to attend summer classes. Over half of the students that were awarded the tuition waivers in fact took more than one class. Summer Sessions was extremely pleased with the efforts that students made to further their education.

(Clockwise from top)  
Roxanne Peters,  
Matthew Balazs,  
Melinda Scott, Kevin  
Peters, and Alice Orlich  
were tuition waiver  
recipients in 2007.



## Talk of the Nation: Science Friday comes to Fairbanks

Friday, June 7, a live broadcast of *Talk of the Nation: Science Friday* was held in the Charles Davis Concert Hall. It was the first time that there has been a two-hour live national broadcast from Alaska. The show's focus was global warming. The first hour addressed "The Biophysical Changes in the Arctic and Alaska" and host Ira Flatow interviewed glaciologist Will Harrison, geophysicist Matthew Sturm, and ecologists F. Stuart "Terry" Chapin and Torre Jorgenson. The second hour addressed "The Effect of Climate Change on Alaskan People & Culture" and the guests were Fran Ulmer, former Director of the Institute of Social and Economic Research, James Berner, Director of Community Health Services with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Craig Gerlach, UAF professor of Anthropology and La'Ona DeWilde, resident of Huslia and Ph.D. Candidate in Biology at UAF. Almost 800 attended the broadcast and many lined up in the aisles to ask questions. The broadcast was underwritten by the UA Center for Research Services, UA Statewide, and the Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau.

## Alaska Book Festival is born

The inaugural Alaska Book Festival was held July 13–14 spotlighting more than 30 invited artists. Poetry, history, cooking, science fiction, photography, mystery and children's literature were some of the genres explored. Various formats were used including author readings, panel discussions and book-signings.

In addition authors made guest appearances all over town, including Gulliver's, Barnes & Noble, Two Street Station, McCafferty's, College Coffee House, Literacy Council of Alaska, Alaska Coffee Roasting Co. and the Noel Wien Public Library.

Festival partners were the Rasmuson Library, UA Press and UAF Auxiliary Services. The Alaska Humanities Forum, the Geophysical Institute, the International Arctic Research Center, the UA Geography Program, and the Alaska Library Associations Northern Chapter provided financial support. The 2008 Alaska Book Festival is scheduled for August 7-10, 2008 with Ketchikan artist, Ray Troll as the opening night speaker.



## **Bartlett and Wilcoxson elected to regional posts**

Michelle Bartlett, Director and Florie Wilcoxson, Associate Director, were elected to positions within Western Association of Summer Sessions Administrators (WASSA). WASSA is a regional association of 100 college and university summer sessions west of the Rockies that includes Arizona State University, UCLA, Oregon State University, and many others. Michelle is the president-elect for the coming year and will be responsible for planning the program for the 2008 annual conference to be held in Bellingham, Washington. Florie is a member of the Board of Directors, elected for a three year term.



**American Sign Language Practice**

## **2007 Faculty Travel Awards**

UAF Summer Sessions is proud to continue the Jaclyn Hendrix Memorial Travel Awards Program in 2007. These awards initiated by Jaclyn Hendrix in 1996 encourage and facilitate the pursuit of professional development by Summer Sessions' faculty through attendance at conferences or workshops in their field of interest. Forty four faculty members received travel awards in 2007.

## **awards!**

**At the regional meeting of the Western Association of Summer Sessions Administrators, UAF won:**

**Best Catalog: One-Two Color Separation**

**Best Administrative Program: Earn and Learn Program**

**Marketing award for window signs in buildings and on vehicles**

**The National Association of Summer Sessions also recognized UAF for the Alaska Book Festival as one of the top three new creative and innovative programs by a small college or university.**