A team of UAF researchers studies how oil percolates into ice. This has implications for the methods used to clean up oil spills in the Arctic. Researchers artificially grew sea ice in experimental chambers and created their own oil spill in the chambers. The team learned that ice is not a barrier to oil movement, complicating cleanup efforts. The research team includes graduate student Kyle Dilliplaine; Professor Eric Collins and affiliate faculty members Rolf Gradinger and Bodil Bluhm, all of the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences; and International Arctic Research Center Professor Hajo Eicken.

The College of Liberal Arts is creating a new linguistics program to support bilingual educators. The program, working with the School of Education, will include a post-certificate endorsement to teach English as second language, as well as a master's degree related to literacy for emergent bilinguals — people who speak two languages but may lack proficiency in one or both.

WHAT'S NEXT

UAF’s 94th graduation ceremony takes place Sunday, May 8, at 1:20 p.m. at the Carlson Center in Fairbanks. Aaron Schutt, president and CEO of Doyon, Limited, and a co-chair of the Troth Yeddha’ Legacy Initiative, is the 2016 commencement speaker.

Preparations are underway for the Alaska Summer Research Academy. The annual UAF program runs from July 18-29, 2016, and welcomes middle and high school students to campus. ASRA students will participate in modules that explore topics in science, engineering, math or technology. The program is offered through the College of Natural Science and Mathematics.
Pips Veazey, associate project director with the Alaska Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, leads a meeting with colleagues in the new Decision Theater North in the West Ridge Research Building.

Decision Theater North is a visualization facility designed to promote discussion and decision-making by agencies, industry, communities and academia. The bank of high-definition monitors provides more than 60 million pixels of resolution and utilizes UAF’s high-performance computing and storage capabilities. Decision Theater North was created in fall 2015 with support from Alaska EPSCoR.

Photos, clockwise from left

UAF student athletes visit classrooms at Weller Elementary School Feb. 19. They answered questions, read to students, participated in the school’s Love of Reading parade and played an exhibition volleyball match against school faculty members.

Sarah Rice, a graduate student with the Institute of Arctic Biology, handles a hibernating ground squirrel housed in the animal quarters in the Biological Research and Diagnostics Facility on UAF’s West Ridge.

Stacks of plasterboard stand piled up on the third floor of the unfinished engineering facility on the Fairbanks campus. The construction is on hold pending funding from the Alaska Legislature and other sources.

Angela Linn, senior manager of the Ethnology and History Collection at the University of Alaska Museum of the North, cleans and documents specimens in the museum’s gold collection.