

## In This Issue ...

Business Leader of the Year .....	1
Wells Fargo Donates ....	2
EDGE .....	2
Flint Hills Donates .....	3
Faculty Spotlight .....	4
Faculty News .....	4
Business Week .....	5
GAAP Trip .....	5
Alumni Updates .....	6
KUDOS to Students .....	7

The SOM and the Associated Students of Business recognize

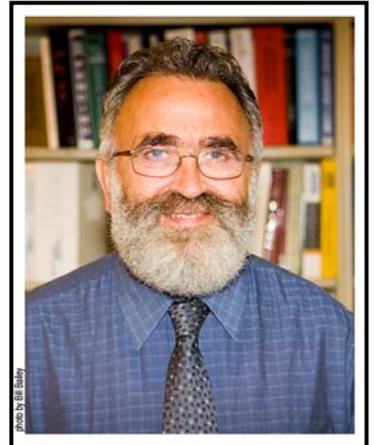
**Jack B. Wilbur, Jr.**

**as the Business Leader of the Year**

Fairbanks, Alaska--The University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Management and the UAF Associated Students of Business have (ASB) selected Jack B. Wilbur, Jr. as this year's recipient of the business leader of the year award. Jack is president of Design Alaska Inc.

This is the 31<sup>st</sup> year UAF has given this annual award. Recipients are selected for their business excellence, educational support and community service.

Jack began his career with Design Alaska in 1975. He worked as a mechanical engineer-in-training before becoming Design Alaska's Chief Mechanical Engineer in 1980. In 1990, he was selected as the Executive Vice President, where he remained until his transition to



president in 1996. "Jack has made outstanding contributions to the University and the community. His characteristics exemplify qualities and traits that ASB values for the business leader of the year," said Natasha Larry, president of ASB, and selection committee member. "We want to commend Jack for his hard work, enthusiasm and valuable contributions to the Fairbanks community."

Jack is also a strong supporter of multiple local community organizations. He serves on the Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation Task Force, the KUAC Leadership Council, the board of directors for the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce, the UAF College of Engineering and Mines Advisory and Development Council and is an active volunteer in Rotary International, United Way of the Tanana Valley, and the Midnight Sun Council—Boy Scouts of America.

In addition to his professional and community accomplishments, Jack has a strong commitment to higher education. He employs local architecture and engineering students every summer, and encourages them to take advantage of Design Alaska's educational benefits, which pay for employees to pursue educational opportunities at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Jack, his wife Carol, their daughter Sara and son Aaron enjoy the Fairbanks community and all that it has to offer.

The Associated Students of Business have been honoring community business leaders since 1977. The banquet is an excellent networking opportunity for students, UAF alumni and the business community. The public is invited to attend the banquet honoring Jack Wilbur on March 22. Tickets are \$50 per person.

## Business Leader of the Year Banquet

**March 22, 2007**

**6 p.m. No-Host Cocktails**

**7 p.m. Dinner**

**Fairbanks Princess  
Riverside Lodge**



**For more  
information or to  
purchase tickets**

CONTACT Faith Long,  
at (907) 474-7253, or  
e-mail [fntmh@uaf.edu](mailto:fntmh@uaf.edu)

or visit

[www.uaf.edu/som](http://www.uaf.edu/som)

**Wells Fargo donates \$50,000 for RAHI**

**Thank you  
Wells Fargo!**



Laura Milner, SOM's MBA director (far right), is pictured with Darren Franz, Wells Fargo district president northern Alaska, Denise Wartes, UAF Rural Alaska Honors Institute program coordinator, and Bernice Joseph, UAF vice chancellor for Rural, Community and Native education. *Photo by Katrina Paul*



*Photo by Katrina Paul*

RAHI stands for the Rural Alaska Honors Institute which is a "bridge" program at UAF designed to prepare rural high school graduates for life at the university of their choice. The program happens during the summer. Students arrive at UAF, live in the dorms, get a feel for campus and for Fairbanks, and take classes. They can earn up to 11 college credits before starting their freshman year. Dr. Liz Ross, former 13<sup>th</sup> Regional Native Corporation CEO and one of less than ten Native Americans with a Ph.D. in business, will teach the School of Management class, Introduction to Business. As the scholarships needed per student are about \$6,000 we are very grateful for the generous donation from Wells Fargo in response to a solicitation from Ms. Denise Wartes, RAHI Director and Dr. Laura Milner, MBA Director.

Randall Yates is a former RAHI student and now, after completing a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration, he has come back to UAF this past summer to participate as RAHI dorm staff. Randall writes:

*"As a student I attribute a lot of the success I had in college to RAHI. I still use the skills and techniques I developed over that summer years ago; things like writing style, time management, work ethic, and overall perspective. The continued support over the years I've received from RAHI has been priceless. As a staff member, I was impressed by how much the students improved in such a short time, especially in writing. I know that was true for me when I was there and it is amazing the consistency of this program."*

He is currently pursuing an MS in Resource and Applied Economics. Visit the RAHI webpage for more information and to view student and faculty testimonies: [www.uaf.edu/RAHI/](http://www.uaf.edu/RAHI/)



Randall Yates,  
RAHI attendee  
~ 1998 & 1999 ~  
RAHI Dorm Staff  
~ 2006 ~  
Currently a SOM  
Economics Grad  
Student

**Thank you  
Alyeska!!**



Alyeska donates \$125,000 to fund Native American students in the MBA program  
*(read more about it in the next newsletter)*

**~ EDGE ~**

I want to offer my profound THANKS to Susan Herman, Ken Abramowicz and Sherri Wall who went with two students each from ASB, GAAP and SWEET into the UAF dorms to promote the School of Management and our student clubs to freshman as part of the Education Development Growth Experience (EDGE) program. The session was attended by 79 students (59 of them who stayed for the entire session). "I can't thank the faculty and the students enough. I hope that we can continue to do this each year." Mark Herrmann, Associate Dean.



## Flint Hills funds \$165,000 for an Experimental Economics Lab

**Thank you  
Flint Hills!**



Chancellor Jones receives a check from Jeri Wigdahl & Jeff Cook of Flint Hills  
*Photo by Todd Paris*

Jeff Cook, Chief Managing Officer and Jeri Wigdahl, Public Affairs for Flint Hills, presented a check in the amount of \$165,000 to Chancellor Steve Jones and Economic Professors Joe Little and Doug Reynolds earlier this year. The money is to be used to support a portable experimental economics laboratory and two research projects directed by Dr. Little and Dr. Reynolds. In their proposal they state that:

*"The flexibility afforded by a portable laboratory will allow UA researchers to bring experiments to rural Alaskans, thus, enabling individuals of the University to interact with Alaska residents in a way that significantly contributes to the tie between UAF, the UA system, and local communities."*



Professors Joe Little & Doug Reynolds with Jeri Wigdahl, Flint Hills Public Affairs (center) *Photo by Todd Paris*

Dr. Little's proposed experiment, "Wildfire Risk Mitigation in the Wildland Urban Interface", is designed to analyze wildfire risk mitigation strategies in the wildland urban interface (WUI).

There are critical links between public and private fire risk reduction efforts and an individual's willingness to purchase averting insurance (i.e., compensation for losses) that impact the effectiveness of any risk reduction strategy. Understanding these links will help to improve the functioning of private insurance markets and can be used by policy makers as they contend with the risk posed by wildfire to life and property.

Dr. Little plans to start the experiments with the help of graduate and undergraduate students in April and continue throughout the summer. He is also coordinating with Dr. Mike McKee, editor of the Journal of Economic Inquiry, Dr. Robert Berrens, Professor of Economics, University of New Mexico, Dr. Mick Jones, Assistant Professor of Economics at Bridgewater State College, and Tyler Prante, Graduate Research Assistant in the economics department at the University of New Mexico.

Dr. Doug Reynold's experimental proposal "Assessing Risk Taking Behavior within the context of Government Oil Infrastructure Ownership" will analyze individual and group decision dynamics in the presence of risk. Dr. Reynolds and economics graduate student, Joe Kluberton, conducted experiments on the UAF campus early this spring and will conduct the same experiment on the UAA campus later this spring. They will have approximately 300 students participating from each campus. Students will be given the opportunity to make between \$10-\$35 by taking part in the study. The results will be compiled and analyzed this summer.



Joe Kluberton explains the experiment to a participant



Professors Jacob Joseph & Doug Reynolds observe the experiment

Flint Hills also presented a \$1,000 check to Sherri Wall to support the new Economic Organization SWEET- Students Who Enjoy Economic Thinking. Thank you your support Flint Hills!

## Welcome Accounting Professor



**Kevin Berry!**

## Faculty Spotlight: Kevin Berry, Cost & Managerial Accounting

Kevin Berry recently hails from Bradley University in Peoria, IL, having taught there for the past eight years. His forte has always been Financial and Managerial Accounting, starting his teaching profession at the University of Missouri-Columbia while pursuing his Masters. Kevin then went to Oklahoma State-Stillwater to work towards his Ph.D. which he completed while teaching at Fayetteville State University, NC his last year, 1995. Upon receiving his Ph.D. Kevin taught at the University of New Brunswick Saint John in New Brunswick, Canada, until he took the position at Bradley, which incidentally, is where he received his undergrad, BS in Accounting in 1989.

One may relate to Kevin upon hearing his history prior to teaching. Kevin originally began his college career playing hockey for the UAA Seawolves. Even though it turns out that he played for the 'cross-state rival' we welcome Kevin to UAF and to the School of Management. Why did he come to Alaska the first time? After playing Junior Hockey for a couple of years, he received a hockey scholarship at UAA. He says he picked Accounting because he didn't have to write any papers and it was easy. Why did he pick Alaska the second time, and the UAF campus? He wanted to teach where there was an ice rink on campus and where there was a culinary school available for his fiancée, Erin. Kevin enjoys attending all the hockey games in Fairbanks, be it high school, the Ice Dogs, or UAF (although we're not sure what side he's cheering for when the Nanooks play the Seawolves). He enjoys playing hockey with peer faculty Joe Little and Mark Herrmann during hockey class each semester. It has been great to hear the weekly play-by-plays, and the three different interpretations! Kevin is anxious to finish moving everything up to Fairbanks this summer: most importantly, his fiancée and her daughters, his Great Dane, and his Harley Davidson motorcycle. We are glad to have Kevin teaching here this past year. He has been a great fit with the students, the department and the university as a whole. Welcome Kevin!!



Mark Herrmann & Kevin Berry at Hockey Class at the Patty Center

## SOM Faculty News

### Faculty Publications:

**Laura Milner:** "Race Portrayals in Ghana, Kenya, and South Africa Television Advertisements" was accepted for inclusion in a forthcoming issue of the *Journal of African Business*.

**Greg Goering:** "Durable-Goods Monopoly and Maintenance" to be published in the *Bulletin of Economic Research*.

**Susan Herman:** "Leadership Training in a 'Non-Leadership' Society" to be published in the *Journal of Management Education*.

**Susan Herman, SOM Business professor** received the 2006 Outstanding Service Award from the Organizational Behavior Teaching Society at its annual conference in June.

On January 10, 2007, **SOM Econ professor, Branka Valcic** defended her doctoral dissertation "The Economics of Spatial Choice and Displacement: Case Study of the Oregon Bottom Trawl Groundfish Fishery". Congratulations Branka!!



Congratulations  
Branka!

~ Biz Week ~



SOM students talk to Employers at the Job Fair



Cynthia Lashinski meets with James McDermott from UAF Small Business Development Center



Marius Korthauer visits with Joan Cahill, left, and Shawn Lew, center, from Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation

Student Organizations

- ASB
- GAAP
- NABL
- SIF
- SWEET

Have been updating their showcases in the Bunnell Hallways ~ Check it out ~



This February kicked off the first annual Business Career Week. It was co-sponsored by Career Services, Associated Students of Business (ASB), and the School of Management. It was well attended by over 100 students visiting with sixteen participating firms.

The event began with a Job Fair held in Wood Center where businesses had booths set up to share about the general nature of their work. In the evening a Job Panel, moderated by ASB Vice-President, Bobby Bonestroo, provided an open forum for questions and answers. Following the job panel was a dessert reception that encouraged mingling of the students with the employers.

Throughout the week several businesses held information sessions to provide specifics about their company and to answer inquiries regarding positions available. Three firms also held interviews and made job offers to several applicants. Special thanks goes out to Alice Palen, Career Services Employee Relations Representative; Natasha Larry, ASB President; and to all of the firms that attended. Everyone agrees that it was a great success!



Darren Fritz, Wells Fargo, Elizabeth Yunker, ASB CFO, Mark Herrmann, Associate Dean SOM, Natasha Larry, ASB President, and Alice Palen & Jacque Debevec from Career Services

~ GAAP Spring Break Trip ~

Crystal McGill, GAAP President

Spring Break is almost here, and with that comes the Great Alaskan Accounting People's (GAAP) Annual Spring Break Trip. Every year GAAP organizes a trip to Anchorage for its members. But this isn't just a shopping trip, although there is some of that, this is a career-building and networking opportunity for all GAAP members. During the two days that the group has in Anchorage they will visit eight different firms, including KPMG, the Department of Revenue, the IRS, DCAA, Mikunda, Cottrell & Co., the FBI, Altman, Rogers & Co., and NANA. These visits, about two hours each, offer the students that attend the opportunity to meet managers, partners and CFOs of these high level firms. This year GAAP is taking 12 students, accompanied by their faculty advisor, Dr. Mike Davis. It is shaping up to be a great trip and we are excited to have these opportunities and to represent SOM.



## Alumni Updates

We are so proud of our students and the choices they have made that have helped shape their career path. If you have any updates on where you are and what you're doing, let us know.

**Wanda M. Bowen (Fields)**, B.B.A. Accounting, 1997, was recently named the Assistant Director of Grants and Contracts Administration at UAF.

**Gavin Carmichael**, MBA Graduate - Capital Markets, 2002, who has been serving as the interim CEO of Platte County Memorial in Wheatland, Wyoming, will now serve in the facility's top leadership role permanently.

**Randy Griffith**, B.B.A. Business Administration, December 2006, upon graduation and placement with Crestline Investors writes:

*"I am a Junior Analyst in the Fixed Income and Derivatives department here at Crestline Investors in Fort Worth, TX. We are a fund of funds, which means we invest in different Hedge Funds. We also conduct some of our own trades, but the primary business is focused on investing in other hedge funds. As a Junior Analyst, I assist the Senior Analyst with research of new and upcoming Fixed Income products, i.e. ABX, TABX. I also work on the due diligence and research report writing of prospective funds. I monitor market conditions, weekly and monthly reporting of funds, as well as a wide variety of other duties. While most of my time is spent in front of computer monitors, I get to travel to different cities to attend conferences, meetings, and training seminars!"*

*So how did I end up down here in Texas? I interned with the Alaska Permanent Fund program last summer. While I applied to many firms throughout the country, Crestline was the firm I was most interested in. The Hedge Fund industry is very obscure with little to zero transparency. All I did know was the income potential as fund managers! I focused all of my efforts on this one firm. I had my resume and cover letter torn down and built back up numerous times until it appeared perfect. I have Prof. Craig Wisen to thank for this. His help and guidance in preparing me for interview questions was invaluable. As for the internship, I was thrown into a world that classes could not prepare you for. The learning curve is steep! I gained valuable knowledge and experiences during the summer and realized that this would be the best start to my career. At the end of the summer, I was offered a position here at the firm with a salary I could not refuse. The main selling point for me: the knowledge of Fixed Income products and trading strategies that I'm learning. I highly recommend an internship and don't be afraid to ask lots of questions."*

**Dmitri Batsev**, MBA Graduate - Capital Markets, 2002, provides his bio:

*"I grew up in Yakutsk, Russia and came to Fairbanks as an exchange student to learn English and later decided to attend UAF. I earned my B.B.A. in Marketing in 2001 and the following year received my MBA with the concentration in Capital Markets.*

*I am currently working for Lazard Asset Management in New York City as a financial analyst covering the US financials industry (banks, thrifts, specialty finance, etc.)*

*(continued on page 7)*

### We're proud of our alumni and current students!

If you have an accomplishment that we could post in our newsletter, please email Kelly at [fnkfw@uaf.edu](mailto:fnkfw@uaf.edu) with the information including your name, major, year of graduation and contact information.

Thank you!



**Randy Griffith**  
December 2006  
Graduate

If you have any ideas, comments or suggestions regarding **Top of the World Updates**, please email Kelly at [fnkjw@uaf.edu](mailto:fnkjw@uaf.edu) or call 907.474.7461

*as well as financials-related technology companies. I am responsible for conducting research on companies under coverage, building financial models, making buy and sell recommendations for our clients' portfolios. Lazard has \$90 billion+ under management.*

*It is clear that I would never have gotten this far if it weren't for the education and experience I received at SOM. After having started my career on Wall street several years ago I realized how well-prepared I was for this challenging profession. I owe it to SOM and many of its excellent professors for mentoring me all those years. The highlight of my student career at SOM was involvement with the Student Investment Fund (SIF), which provides students with real world experience in managing investments. Thanks to the SOM and its partnership with the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation. Alaskan students have an opportunity to work for the world's largest and most prestigious financial institutions. I highly recommend anyone contemplating a career in business to consider UAF School of Management!"*

### Kudos to our Students

This past semester these School of Management Students were named to either the Chancellor's or the Dean's list, each requires that they be full time students. Those honored on the Chancellor's list must maintain a cumulative 4.0 GPA and those who maintained a 3.5 GPA were honored by being named on the Dean's list. Congratulations on such hard work!!

#### Chancellor's List

---

Victoria Clark  
 Andrew Fritz  
 Galya Georgieva  
 Randy Griffith, Jr.  
 Shawn Hatfield  
 Van Hawkins  
 Alexander Hooper  
 Gurpreet Kaur  
 Sumiyo Kuroda  
 Jennifer McMillan  
 Benjamin Nelson  
 Kasey Peterson  
 Nicolette Sauro  
 Brian Selby  
 Robert Weaver

#### Dean's List

---

Dawson Arthur  
 Kendall Brehm  
 Aaislinn Brown  
 Andrea Clemens  
 L'ile Clemens  
 Leslie Coffey  
 Thad Curtis  
 Kathryn Ewing  
 Michael Gomes  
 Jason Gundersen  
 Amber Hannum  
 Brian Herring  
 Sean Holden  
 David Hooper  
 Gwendolyne Jenkins  
 Daniel Knudson  
 Marius Korthauer  
 Scott Lade  
 Natasha Larry  
 Cheng-Hao Liu  
 Aaron Lojewski  
 Jana Malingowski  
 Angela Muprhy  
 Ryan Muspratt  
 Breanna Nance  
 Christina Nigl  
 Jordan Pernarowski  
 Patrik Pettersson Sartz  
 Azlynn Reese  
 Abigail Scannell  
 Sarah Shaw  
 Alicia Shoemaker  
 Marilyn Smith  
 Rauchelle Smith  
 Rhonda Whittaker  
 Liling Zhu

SOM's little helpers  
 Melissa, Francine, Deb, Faith,  
 Johanna, Kelly, and Jenn  
 (Front office staff)





School of Management  
 University of Alaska Fairbanks  
 P.O. Box 756080  
 Fairbanks, AK 99775-6080



Jack B. Wilbur, Jr.

The UAF School of Management  
 and the Associated Students of Business

Congratulate

**JACK B. WILBUR, JR.**

President, Design Alaska Inc.

for being chosen as the School of Management

**Business Leader of the Year**

Mr. Wilbur will be honored at the  
**31st Annual Business Leader of the Year Awards Banquet**

Thursday, March 22nd at the Fairbanks Princess Riverside Lodge  
 6:00 Seating and No Host Cocktails ~ 7:00 Dinner and Program

For tickets or information call 474-1560

Or visit [www.uafsom.com](http://www.uafsom.com) to purchase tickets

**Grand Door Prize: 2 round-trip tickets on Alaska Airlines!**

**Tickets: \$50 • Students: \$40 • Table of Ten: \$480**



**Associated Students of Business**

*UAF is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution. 10/01*



PHOTO BY P. KELLEY

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