

Chancellor's Report on Philanthropy

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

Spring 2009



Photo: courtesy of RAHI

New York Life pledges \$450,000 to RAHI and ASRA, over next three years to fund scholarships and rural recruitment for the Alaska Summer Research Academy and Rural Alaska Honors Institute. Other support from New York Life includes internships and college scholarships for RAHI alumni, and travel expenses for guest speakers to attend the RAHI reunion, held at the Alaska Federation of Natives Conference.

Achievements

Esther Louise Largen Living Trust supports nursing students with a gift totaling more than \$385,000, to fund nursing and nurse aide students through Tanana Valley Campus.

Flint Hills Resources gives \$110,000 to several UAF departments to enhance student and faculty support at the School of Management, College of Engineering and Mines, Tanana Valley Campus, Alaska Summer Research Academy, and Athletics.

Cooperative Extension Service celebrates anonymous \$100,000 gift, one of the largest in CES' history, to support outreach activities in both Fairbanks and Anchorage. CES provides expertise on topics from food canning to gardening, and sponsors 4-H and youth development activities.

Princess Tours partners with SFOS Marine Advisory Program with a \$100,000 gift from Princess Tours. To celebrate their generosity, the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences hosted a donor reception in Anchorage in February.

Alumnus boosts CEM students with a generous \$100,000 gift. UAF alumnus and former electrical engineering professor Kenneth Zonge and his wife Kim gave the gift to support electrical engineering and mining scholarships.

KUAC celebrates premiere of *Mr. Alaska* with a reception at the Museum and showing of *Mr. Alaska: Bob Bartlett Goes to Washington*, a documentary about the delegate's role in the creation of the 49th state. The film was made possible by New York Life, UA Eight Stars of Gold Project and Fairbanks Memorial Hospital.

Beaver Sports scholarship gift of \$10,000 for skiing athletes from Greg Whisenant is in continued generous support of the Beaver Sports Whisenant Ski Scholarship, an important way that UAF attracts and retains extraordinary student-athletes.

Ongoing alumnus legacy from the estate of Nathan Gerson, which gave an additional gift of \$81,000, bringing the total gifts from his estate to over \$2.1 million, endowing scholarships for students who have "overcome great adversity." Trustee and UAF alumna Nina Tartakoff guided the process.

Of Note

Save the Date! On Tuesday April 14, the 12th Annual Scholarship and Award Breakfast to honor donors who support scholarships, will be held in the Wood Center Ballroom, 7:30 - 9 a.m.

Emily Drygas named Acting Director for Development, overseeing staff and continuing to raise private, philanthropic funds for UAF. She has over six years of major gift fundraising experience, including two years at UA Museum of the North. A UAF alumna, she holds a master's degree in professional communication (2008).

Proactive measures for scholarships
Faced with challenging financial markets, Chancellor Brian Rogers sent a message to the community explaining the effect the market is having on the campus. UAF development officers are making personal calls to donors to discuss their endowed funds and encourage gifts to the spendable portion for the short-term, to help maximize awards to students in the future.

UAF Annual Giving program released an electronic appeal (pictured below) featuring an innovative and contemporary flash video aimed at young alumni, with music by Gangly Moose. See it at www.uaf.edu/giving/ways/youngalumni/
To date this fiscal year, Annual Giving has raised nearly \$125,000 in unrestricted funds.



Image courtesy of Paul Lewis Design

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America's Arctic University

through the lens: recent events

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Photo: Public domain; painting courtesy: UA Museum of the North



A Tribute to Alaska's Finest, and an Honor to UAF

The Olaus Murie Fellowship has been established at UAF to honor an Alaska pioneer who was the first wildlife biologist to undertake comprehensive studies of Alaska's caribou. Dave Klein, an Institute of Arctic Biology professor emeritus from UAF, established the fellowship, to assist graduate students to carry on the efforts of Olaus Murie and other wildlife biologists, enabling them to attend conferences, symposia, and workshops to make presentations about research. Murie's work in Alaska began in 1920, where he was often accompanied in the field by his wife, Mardy. They are shown, at left, in a photo from their honeymoon trip to study caribou. He was also a skilled artist and illustrator; at left, his painting, "Caribou in Tanana Hills, early 1950s" is part of the museum's collection.

Interior Alaska Building Association (IABA) President Dave Miller, below at right, presents a check for their gift of \$25,000 to TVC Director Rick Caulfield, to create the Interior Alaska Building Association Memorial Scholarship at UAF, supporting students in drafting technology, civil engineering, construction management and residential architectural building fields. The scholarship is in tribute to notable builders Norm Boelts, Leo Olesen, Randy Doll and Robert Maxwell, who played roles in making Alaskan housing safer, more durable and efficient. This gift illustrates the power of partnership, as the missions of both IABA and UAF are furthered with this scholarship -- when students succeed, we all benefit.



Photo: courtesy of TVC

Dr. Cary Keller, at right below, of Fairbanks Sportsmedicine gave a gift of \$10,000 and pledged annual recurring gifts to the scholarship fund named in his honor by former Nanook hockey player, Ryan Muspratt, at left below. Other contributors to the fund have brought the total balance to \$17,000, with a goal of having it endowed at \$25,000 to support student athletes. Dr. Keller and his wife Sarah also made planned gifts through the Legacy Society. He volunteers as team physician for the UAF hockey team.



Photo: courtesy of Ryan Muspratt

Northrim Bank gave a generous philanthropic gift of \$30,000 to the UAF School of Management in unrestricted funding in support of various SOM priority projects. From left to right, below: Acting Director of Development Emily Drygas and SOM Associate Dean Kevin Berry gave Northrim Bank President Joe Beedle and Senior VP Gary Roderick a tour of SOM facilities last month. They visited with faculty to discuss the potential uses of the Northrim Bank gift.



Photo: courtesy of SOM

Museum curator Pat Druckenmiller, below at right, displays the newly unearthed *ichthyosaur* at Military Appreciation Day. The event is sponsored by Wells Fargo, and many local military service members and families enjoyed the day. The museum also said 'thanks' to the Fort Wainwright helicopter team, the "Sugarbears," which helped transport the fossil to the museum. Wells Fargo also supports the Rural Alaska Honors Institute with a \$50,000 gift.



Photo: courtesy of UA Museum of the North

For more information about Giving to UAF:

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