

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT *On Philanthropy*

uaf chancellor daniel m. white

SUMMER 2018

LASTING LEGACY

Brina Kessel, a renowned ornithologist and UAF professor, dean and museum curator emeritus, left an incredible \$7.5 million to the University of Alaska Fairbanks when she passed away March 1, 2016.

Brina's name is all but synonymous with ornithology in Alaska. Starting her career in 1951, Brina advanced from instructor to full professor to dean of what is now called the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (CNSM). In 1980, she transitioned to the University of Alaska Museum of the North, where she focused her efforts on research and development.

Brina was a trailblazer for women scientists in a time when field work and even academic work was often barred. Her work led her to accompany the famous conservationists Olaus and Margaret Murie on some of their trips to far northern Interior

Alaska. She was the first woman to serve as a dean of CNSM.

Kevin Winker, the museum's curator of birds, said Kessel made pioneering contributions to our knowledge of Alaska birds. "And with this generous gift, her contributions to ornithology will fly on in perpetuity through the students and research it supports," Kevin said. Brina had supported many organizations affiliated with her love of the tundra and ornithology.

Brina's love of Alaska and its avian treasures led to a lifetime of exploration. Her modest style of living and dedication to her work complemented her quiet prowess for investing. Brina's multimillion-dollar estate gift will benefit the Brina Kessel Fund for Northern Ornithology, which



Speakers at the Celebration of Birds presentation gather for a photo.

supports programs to better understand the birds of Alaska, Berengia and the associated seas of the region.

A celebration of Brina's legacy was hosted by the UA Museum of the North on May 17. Guest speakers included Gail Buyske (niece and the executor for Brina's estate), and Steve Buyske (nephew), and Kyle Campbell — a former recipient of the Brina Kessel Medal for Excellence in Science.

For more information on legacy gifts, please visit: www.uaf.edu/giving/ways/planned/.

Reichardt Gift



Paul Reichardt with then Interim Dean of CNSM, Dr. Anupma Prakash.

On June 17, just outside the building bearing his namesake, **Paul Reichardt** presented a gift to Anupma Prakash, who was then serving as dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

The gift from Paul and his wife, Terry, supports the Reichardt Lecture Series in Chemistry Endowment. The series promotes opportunities for scientific discussion and enrichment in the community. The Reichardts also gave to the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department Support Fund, and made a gift to the Provost Susan Henrichs Scholarship in honor of Susan Henrichs, who Prakash recently succeeded as provost. Paul and Terry have been giving to UAF since 1988.

UAF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS TROTH YEDDHA'



The Troth Yeddha' Student Dance Group gathers with Aaron Schutt, Peter Van Flein and Chancellor White for a photo at the 2018 UAF Campus Showcase.

The **UAF Alumni Association** made a generous commitment of \$50,000 in support of the Troth Yeddha' Initiative. UAFAA President Peter Van Flein, '87 announced the gift as part of a

Campus Showcase on May 17, 2018.

"The UAFAA Board understands the importance of connecting past and present and celebrating the rich history of this place," Peter noted.

"We're proud to support UAF through this important initiative."

The initiative, one of UAF's major fundraising priorities, will increase program impact,

attract prospective students, help revitalize Indigenous languages and restore cultural knowledge. It will incorporate Indigenous and Western knowledge, reminding us of our history as we embark on UAF's second century.

Including this commitment, the UAFAA has given more than \$300,000 to numerous UAF initiatives and programs — from capital projects to student scholarships.

For more information, please visit: www.uaf.edu/trothyeddha/.

SAVE THE DATE
UAF Blue and Gold
Gala - Feb. 16, 2019

Visit www.uaf.edu/chancellor/gala/ for updates and details!

NANOOK RENDEZVOUS REUNION

UAF and the UAF Alumni Association celebrated the Nanook Rendezvous, the annual reunion weekend, July 19-21. Nearly 120 alumni and friends returned to campus from as far away as Texas, Washington, California, Indiana, Arizona, New York, Arkansas, Oregon and Colorado to participate in the weekend activities. Alumni from Kenai, Anchorage and Fairbanks also attended.

This is the second year UAF has held its reunion in the summer to focus on ways for alumni to re-engage with their alma mater, rekindle friendships and reminisce. The new schedule also enables alumni to enjoy Alaska's beautiful summer season and the community's annual Golden Days celebration.

The 2018 events included a welcome picnic in the Georgeson Botanical Gardens, Alumni Night at the Alaska Goldpanners baseball game, Nanook Takeover on the Riverboat Discovery, and a Last Hurrah at Ursa Major Distillery. Participants who registered for one of the several events were eligible to win tickets on the Alaska Railroad.

If you were unable to attend this year's Nanook Rendezvous, you can reunite with UAF alumni at other events hosted throughout the year, including the Governor's Cup, which kicks off Oct. 19 in Anchorage.

For more information on alumni events, membership or giving to the UAF Alumni Association, please visit: www.uaf.edu/alumni/.



Ann Cook (top) and Dr. Blake and Joan McKinley (bottom) pause for a photo at the Nanook Rendezvous Reunion welcome picnic.

Achievements

This report reflects gifts and donations totalling \$25,000 or more to the University of Alaska Fairbanks between April 1 to July 15, 2018.

CORPORATE

The **Alyeska Pipeline Service Company** gave to the Troth Yeddha' Park Support fund, Summer Sessions Support Fund, the Alyeska Pipeline Native Fellowship, and the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company RAHI Support fund as part of the 2018 RAHI Summer Bridging Program.

The **Alzheimer's Disease Resource Agency of Alaska** gave to the Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska Research Fund.

BP gave to several programs in the College of Engineering and Mines, the School of Management, as well as the

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

Douglas Island Pink & Chum gave to the Alaska Salmon Research project.

Northern Bank gave an unrestricted gift to the UAF School of Management.

The Pollock Conservation Cooperative, comprised of Trident Seafoods, Glacier Fish Company, American Seafoods Company, and Starbound, gave to the Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center Endowment.

Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated made a gift to the Everts Aviation Scholarship and KUAC.

Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo made a gift to the College of Engineering and Mines to create the Sumitomo Pogo JV Endowed Scholarship, and also gave in support of the College of Engineering and Mines Banquet, the Society of Petroleum Engineers, and KUAC.

INDIVIDUAL

The estate of **James E. Moody, P.E. '55**, gave in support of the Paul Solka Memorial Scholarship for Outstanding Journalism and Painting and the L.E. and Alaska S. Linck Steel Bridge Support Fund, and gave works of art to the UA Museum of the North.

Joseph E. Usibelli '59 and **Peggy Shumaker** completed their pledge in support of the UA Museum of the North Gallery of Alaska renovation.

FOUNDATION

The Bill Stroecker Foundation gave to the University of Alaska Fairbanks in support of a mounted whale display at the UA Museum of the North.

LEGACY SOCIETY

The Legacy Society recognizes donors who have made provisions to include UAF in their estate plans. New members include **Jack A. E. deVille Jr. '61**.