

JANUARY 2021

UAF Nanook Navigator & Student Success Newsletter

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Pre-nursing student Tiffany Scott practices taking vital health measurements like pulse at UAF's Chukchi Campus in Kotzebue. UAF Photographer:

Dates & Deadlines

January 15- 25: Progress Reports Open

January 22: Deadline for tuition & fee payment

February 1: Summer 2021 course list available at UAOnline

February 15: Deadline for UA Foundation and privately funded scholarship applications

February 15: Deadline to apply for spring 2021 graduation

February 8-22: Mid-Term Grades Open

March 8-12: Spring Break
March 22: Fall 2021 course list available at UAOnline

Nanook Navigator & Retention

Upcoming Items

- ⇒ Instructors complete progress reports January 15th-January 25th.
- ⇒ Opening for a student employee and students may apply to the pool here: <https://careers.alaska.edu/cw/en-us/job/516114/uaf-provosts-office-student-assistant>. Looking for a student who has experience in an office setting assisting with duties such as: managing calendars, campus-wide communication and outreach, assisting with complex data systems & reports, website management, newsletter editing, creation of training materials, events, and more.
- ⇒ Intro to eCampus and Intro to Blackboard sessions over Zoom, next session is January 14 at 2:00pm for students. <https://ecampus.uaf.edu/join-a-welcome-to-ecampus-session/> or pre-recorded Intro to Blackboard here: <https://ecampus.uaf.edu/academic-advisor/>
- ⇒ Outdoor Adventures spring trips: Trips are open to UAF students, staff and faculty. This semester we will be offering a class on how to photograph the aurora, a skate ski clinic, Skiland shuttles, a Castner Glacier snowshoe and more!
- ⇒ Taking Charge of Your Headspace: Stress and Coping Workshop Series. Virtually on Tuesdays 12:00-1:00pm Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/y6qkot5g>, Meeting ID: 91677613534, Passcode: 604747 or [counseling services here](#).

Reminders

- ⇒ Want to know which continuing students have not registered for Spring 2021 yet? See this advanced search handout.
- ⇒ Spring 2021 semester: Update **availability settings** to reflect COVID changes (office hours/meeting options/Zoom security settings). Zoom security settings, you need waiting room or password enabled. **Personal appointment links are coming soon!**
- ⇒ Recommended end of semester data pulls: final grades, students with alerts who may need extra support next semester, advisor assignments, or student course rosters for next semester.
- ⇒ Student Support Services is accepting new students. The mission of SSS at UAF is to increase the academic achievement, retention and graduation rates of first-generation, low-income students and students who experience a documented disability.
- ⇒ COVID-19: Campus Entry Restrictions
- ⇒ Text students a welcome back message to check in and restart your 90 day connection.

Student Success Stories

- ⇒ Graduate School congratulates spring completion degree award recipients!
- ⇒ Congratulations to URSA's 2021 spring project award recipients!



The Choir of the North performs at the Davis Concert Hall Dec. 12, 2014. UAF Photographer: JR Ancheta

Events & Opportunities

For All

Year-Round: Department of Equity and Compliance Training

Year-Round: Nanook Engage

Year-Round: 529 Plan for Prospective Students

Students

Year-Round: Student Financial Need Report

Year-Round: Service members apply for free

February 1: Applications due for Alaska INBRE graduate research assistantships

Due February 7: BLaST scholarship applications

February 15: Undergraduate Research & Scholarly Activity Opportunities— Applications Due for [Ocean Sciences REU](#) and [Alaska Native REU](#)

Due February 21: Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activity-Research/Creative Projects for Summer 2021

April 25: First-Generation Cording Ceremony

Student Care Employees

Year-Round: On-Demand Webinars available for free

December 18, 2020: Creating Inclusive Teams and Promoting a Culture of Respect recording

Jan & Feb: Nanook Navigator Trainings

Instructors

Year-Round: Faculty Development



Mt. McKinley, at 20,237 feet, is the tallest mountain in North America. This photo was taken from the north side of the mountain in Denali National Park and Preserve. UAF Photographer:
Todd Paris

Support for Student Care Teams

Student Support Services has two new forms available

A [referral form](#) has been created for the campus community to use. Advisors, faculty and staff can use this form if they have identified a student that may benefit from the services SSS provides. A [request for information form](#) is also available for anyone to use, particularly students. Faculty can also use this form to request a short drop-in class presentation from one of our advisors. Learn more about SSS online, or contact them at 474-6844 or uaf-sss@alaska.edu.

Exciting Update to the Change of Major Form

Update your link to the new form found on the Registrar forms page https://uaf.edu/reg/files/forms/REC_Change_of_Major.pdf. Students that are currently in Bachelor degree programs wanting to add/change an Associate or Certificate, can now use the change of major form. These students no longer need to fill out an admission application to add a degree of a lower level, simplifying the process for many students."

How to Optimize Your Student Communications Strategy

What makes student communication so difficult to get right? From matriculation to graduation, students must navigate a maze of requirements beyond academic coursework. Secondary challenges, such as registering for courses, maintaining financial aid, and resolving administrative holds, can derail a student on their path to commencement.

Why nudges work and how to use them to keep students on track

Students want to succeed, but psychological and structural barriers can get in their way. Colleges and universities that invest in nudges can remove these obstacles and help students stay on track. Richard Thaler and Cass Sunstein, authors of the book *Nudge: Improving Decisions About Health, Wealth, and Happiness*, define a nudge as an action that encourages, rather than mandates, a particular behavior. Nudging, which is rooted in behavioral economics, considers the cognitive, emotional, and social factors that prevent people from accomplishing goals.

5 lessons to remember as you create a grading policy for distance learning

We interviewed independent schools and school districts across the country to learn how administrators and teachers developed plans for grading and assessing distance learning. Find out what is most important to keep in mind as you create or adjust a grading and assessment policy that provides flexibility for students.

GSU's playbook for eliminating equity gaps

Tim Renick of Georgia State University discusses his efforts to analyze data to identify struggling students quickly and divert finite advising resources accordingly. Find out how GSU has partnered with EAB to completely eliminate gaps in graduation rates by race, ethnicity, or income level—for six years straight.

UAF Grade Appeal Forms

The Grade Appeal forms (informal and formal) were transitioned into DocuSign Powerforms. The forms can be found on the provost's website: <https://uaf.edu/provost/resources/student.php>.

The future of non-degree certificates: Q&A with the founder of Grow with Google

The founder of Grow with Google sat down with EAB to dispel the myth that the free online learning program presents a threat to colleges and universities. Find out how Google is partnering with colleges to create an alternate path for adult learners to in-demand, high-paying careers.

The Well

Free weekday meditation online through the Well starting January 18. See the Well website for the schedule: <https://sites.google.com/alaska.edu/thewell/home>

Nanook Navigator Resource Website: <https://uaf.edu/gs/nanooknavigator/index.php>

Log into Nanook Navigator: <https://uaf.campus.eab.com/>

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