

## Rural Student Services Reach Out Newsletter

1 message

Rural Student Services <fyrss@uaf.edu>

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To: fachythlook@alaska.edu

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### Rural Student Services

Reach Out Newsletter

March 2010

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#### Featured Article

**MARCH 2010  
HAPPENINGS @  
RSS Gathering  
Room**

Mar 2nd, 16th, 23rd, &  
30th 1pm ANSEP  
Meetings

Hello UAF students, staff, and faculty:

We are using a new format for the monthly newsletter, please submit any comments or question to [fyrss@uaf.edu](mailto:fyrss@uaf.edu). If you have a new email address or need to update your email address, please send a message to us.

Thank you and we hope you have a wonderful day.

#### 37th Annual Festival of Native Arts

True Identity: Proud of Our Heritage

March 4-6th at the UAF Davis Concert Hall

6pm to Midnight

Native Dancing, Singing, and Arts & Crafts

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

For more information, call 907-474-6889 or

[festival@uaf.edu](mailto:festival@uaf.edu)

Mar 4th & 18th AISES Meetings

Mar 4-5th AISES Regional Conference @ UAF

Mar 4-6th Festival of Native Arts @ The Princess Hotel

Mar 8-12th Spring Break for UAF, no classes.

Mar 12th UAF Holiday, RSS will be closed.

Wednesdays 5pm Inu-Yupiaq Dance Practice

Saturdays 6pm Inu-Yupiaq Dance Practice

**Friday Positive Connection**  
**Nights 5pm:**  
**3/19: NYO (Native Youth Olympics)**

All events in the Gathering Room are open to the public and we encourage all students to attend. Stop by for more events posted every day at RSS!

**The RSS Gathering Room hosts the following tutor**

## Student Nomination Form for the 2009-2010

### Dennis Demmert Appreciation and Recognition Award

Here is your opportunity to nominate a UAF faculty or staff member to be recognized for their hard work in supporting Native and rural students!



The Dennis Demmert award provides an opportunity for students to nominate a person whom they feel has positively affected their academic efforts at UAF. 2010 marks the 16th year the RSS students and staff will recognize individuals at UAF whose efforts demonstrate UAF's goal of being the educational center for Alaska Natives. During the 1994 Native Summit at UAF, Dennis Demmert recommended that something be done to recognize individuals whose actions have proved their support. The name was changed from RSS Appreciation and Recognition Award to the Dennis Demmert Appreciation and Recognition Award in honor of the many years of service that Dennis has given for the betterment of the Alaska Native community.

For more information, please call Debbie Toopetlook at 474-6618.

## RSS Student Spotlight ~ Norman Carlo Jr.



Norman Carlo Jr. is from Tanana, Alaska. He is in his second year at UAF majoring in process technology. He is part of the Inu-Yupiaq Dance Group. He says being a part of the dance group is a lot of fun with a lot of love, they are good friends and like family. Norman gets his motivation to do well in school from himself, family, and God. One challenge he has faced is distractions, he recommends to find a quiet place to do homework, such as the library. He pays for college with the help from scholarships and personal income. His recommendation for scholarships is to apply early, be persistent, and to follow through to completion of the application. Norman shares, "To the kids who are having problems with school and personal problems, use me as an example. In the Fall of 2007 I lasted only one month in college before I got kicked out for drinking too much. This was a big wake up call for me. Not only did I let myself down, but my family as

**groups:**

**AISES math and science tutors-Every day...stop by to see the schedule**

**UAF Writing Center tutors-Monday thru Thursday  
2:00-4:00PM**

**Different Student Clubs:**

**ANSWA=Alaska Native Social Workers Association**

**ANESA=Alaska Native Education Student Association**

**FNA=Festival of Native Arts planning committee**

**AISES=American Indian Science & Engineering Society**

**ANSEP=Alaska Native Science & Engineering Program**

**NABL=Native Alaskans Business Leaders**

**IYDG= Inu-Yupiaq Dance Group**

**PCN=Positive Connection Night**

**Quick Links...**

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

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

well. Even though I was struggling with alcohol and kicked out of college, I did not give up hope. I took one year off of school and worked. During this time I quit drinking because I knew the only way I was going to make it in this world was to be free from alcohol. I am now on my second year of school and I am doing alright. I am still fighting the fight to succeed in life but no matter what happens I will never give up. Whatever you do in life just be the best that you can be and never forget where you come from and who you are. For our Native culture is just as important as education. Remember you are not only representing yourself but your family, village, and your people as well. Enaa baasee for listening to what I have to say."

## **RSS Alumni Spotlight ~**

### **Jordan Lewis**



Jordan Lewis grew up in Naknek, Alaska and Cannon Beach, Oregon. He graduated with his Bachelors Degree in Social Work in 1999 and with his Ph.D in Cross-Cultural Community Psychology in December 2009. Currently Jordan is a faculty

member in the Alaska Native Studies Department, which has recently merged with the College of Rural and Community Development (CRCD). He is teaching two classes this semester, working on turning his dissertation into a book for UA Press, mentoring students, sitting on PhD student committees, and working on two other journal publications. During his undergraduate and graduate years in school, he participated in the Alaska Native Social Workers Association(ANSWA). Participating in the student club was very beneficial and taught him a lot about the fields of social work and psychology, especially as they relate to Alaska Native peoples and issues. They were a great way to network with other students and local professionals, as well as be involved in the community and learn more about your field of study. Jordan got his motivation from family, in particular, his grandparents, were very supportive of pursuing a higher education and learning. My parents instilled in me my work ethic and dedication to doing things to the best of my ability. One challenge of attending UAF is learning how to say NO and taking care of yourself. There are a lot of activities, clubs, meetings, etc to get involved with on and off campus and it is too easy to over-extend yourself and wear yourself thin. It was important for me to learn to balance my academics, work, and extracurricular activities. Jordan did apply for scholarships and received a few merit-based

scholarships during his undergraduate education. Jordan had fellowships (the RAP Program, Mellon Dissertation Fellowship; and EPSCoR) throughout his doctoral degree here at UAF that paid for his education. "I would tell students to apply for as many scholarships as you can. I found that once I had one scholarship essay written, you can alter it, cut and paste to make it fit other scholarship applications. It doesn't hurt to ask for help with your essays and letters of recommendation. I would also say that it is good to get them submitted early and to try not to wait until the last minute. Contacting the scholarship sponsor/agency and asking questions is good as well. When they can put a voice, or even a face, with your application it will help because they will most likely remember you contacting them, asking questions, and showing interest. My Ph.D. from UAF has opened many doors that have enabled me to continue my research in Bristol Bay communities, network with other researchers, and grow as a faculty member. Being trained as a community psychologist has taught me the importance of our communities in our identity and health and wellbeing; the sense of place and its connection to who we are as Native peoples is very powerful and evident among our Elders. I hope to continue my community health research in Bristol Bay as well as working with our Elders in Alaska and in the circumpolar North." Jordan does not have any plans to further his degrees. He is taking a break from academics but have thought about pursuing a Master's Degree in Public Health so he can combine those skills with his community psychology background and continue to work towards improving our community's health and wellbeing so our Elders and youth can live in healthy environments.

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### **The Writing Center @ RSS Gathering Room**

**Need help with your English paper or scholarship essay? The writing center tutors are at the RSS Gathering Room Monday thru Thursday from 2pm - 4pm.**

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### **Native Youth Olympics (NYO)**

**Volunteers Needed for the upcoming NYO event happening on Saturday March 27, 2010 @ Ryan Middle School. Times TBA. For more information please contact Howard Sparrow, Lathrop Program Tutor at 907-456-7794 ext**

17256.

## Inu-Yupiaq Dance Group

NEW HOURS! Practice: Saturday 6pm &

Wednesday 5pm

Rural Student Services

Gathering Room

Brooks Building

## INTERNSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

### Morris K. Udall Foundation 2010 Scholarship Program

The **Morris K. Udall Scholarship** is awarded to college sophomores and juniors pursuing careers related to Tribal Public Policy, Native Health Care, or the Environment. In addition to the \$5,000 financial award, Udall Scholars also get to attend the Udall Scholar Orientation and are immediately plugged into a growing and active alumni network. Tribal public policy includes fields related to tribal sovereignty, governance, law, education, justice, natural resource management, cultural preservation and revitalization, economic development, and other areas affecting Native American communities. Native American health care includes health care administration, social work, medicine, research, and other disciplines. The Foundation must receive application packets by **March 2, 2010**, but individual institutions may have earlier deadlines. Interested students can contact their campus' Udall Faculty Representative for more information.

We encourage you to visit our website at [www.udall.gov](http://www.udall.gov) to learn more about the internship and scholarship opportunities. On the website, you'll find videos about both programs, tips for applying, and Alumni Mentors you can contact with any questions you might have.

Interested students may contact Colin Ben, Internship Contractor, at [crben02@yahoo.com](mailto:crben02@yahoo.com) or Mia Ibarra, Scholarship Program Manager, at [ibarra@udall.gov](mailto:ibarra@udall.gov).

### Bristol Bay Native Corporation Education Foundation

2010-11 academic year scholarships are available. Be reminded

that one must be an eligible shareholder of BBNC in order to apply and the Education Foundation selection committee reviews only once a year for these scholarship categories. (There is one exception and it is for the "Pedro Bay Scholarship" category where one must be an eligible Pedro Bay Corporation shareholder; see eligibility criteria for details.)

Applications have to be ***complete and received*** (not postmarked) by the **deadline date of April 2, 2010.**

The scholarship program is competitive and limited by budget, therefore some eligible applicants may not be awarded a scholarship and there is no guarantee of funding.

You may also want to contact the *Bristol Bay Native Association* Higher Education Program to request an application for their scholarship program. Write to them at P.O. Box 310 Dillingham, AK 99576 or call them at 1-888-285-2262 (in-state) or 907-842-2262.

### **American Indian Graduate Center Fellowships & Financial Assistance**

These are monetary awards made to American Indian and Alaska Native graduate or professional degree-seeking students. Check out their programs at [www.aigcs.org](http://www.aigcs.org) or call toll free 1-800-628-1920.

**Deadline: June 1, 2010.**

### **ROBERT J. ERICKSON KAISER PERMANENTE SCHOLARSHIP PURPOSE**

The Erickson Scholarship is intended to encourage the higher education of students of color who are underrepresented in the college system. The scholarship is intended to provide a substantial portion of the tuition, room, board and books for a student who otherwise would be financially unable to attend the University of Oregon. The scholarship amount may vary from year to year. The scholarship is renewable for up to four years provided the recipient continues to meet its criteria. The recipient will be required to work with the University's Office of Multicultural Academic Success (OMAS) for academic advising and support.

#### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

You are eligible if you:

- Will be a first-time Freshman entering the University of Oregon in the Fall of 2010
- Are a U.S. citizen
- Are African-American, Hispanic, or Native American
- Are able to demonstrate financial need
- Are interested in contributing significantly to the improvement of his/her community
- Are academically strong enough to graduate in four years, and maintain a minimum GPA of 2.75

#### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Applications are available at:  
Office of Multicultural Academic Success  
164 Oregon Hall  
1255 University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403-1255  
or online at <http://www.uoregon.edu/~omas/>  
You may call the Office of Multicultural Academic Success at  
(541)346-3479 for more information  
**POSTMARK DEADLINE**  
**Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010**

Rural Student Services  
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University of Alaska Fairbanks  
907-474-7871 or 1-888-478-1452  
PO BOX 756320  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775

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