AIC: CHANGING THE WORLD ONE IDEA AT A TIME

The School of Management’s Arctic Innovative Competition (AIC) was held for the first time on October 23, 2009. Thanks to the dedication of Director Ping Lan and his students, the event was a great success. The AIC drew exceptional ideas and inventions not just from Alaska, but from around the world.

Cont’d on pg. 6

BERNIE KARL
2010 BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR!

UAF School of Management and the Associated Students of Business (ASB) are pleased to announce Bernie Karl as the 2010 Business Leader of the Year. Bernie is the owner of K&K Recycling and Chena Hot Springs Resort.

When Bernie and his wife Connie purchased Chena Hot Springs Resort from the state of Alaska in 1998, their vision was to keep the resort’s natural surroundings and add capacity with a new 40-room Moose Lodge. The outdoor hot springs rock lake was later added, offering a place to relax and enjoy the peaceful setting.

Bernie has always had a passion for business recycling. He wanted to make the resort more environmentally friendly and use geothermal technology for power. As a result, an engineer was hired and they went to work. Patents were issued, new technology developed, and new business partnerships formed. Today that vision not only provides heat and electricity for the resort, but it also keeps the Aurora Ice Museum at a cool 20 degrees Fahrenheit year-round, while the greenhouses produce lettuce and tomatoes for the resort’s restaurant, with a few fruits grown for good measure.

Bernie has contributed hugely to the state of Alaska, not only by running the successful and much loved Chena Hot Springs Resort, but also by investing into both research and implementation of a unique renewable energy source Alaska has to offer—geothermal energy. His recent endeavors towards building a sustainable community at Chena Hot Springs are both timely and a great example for others to follow.

This will be the 34th year SOM has presented the annual Business Leader of the Year award. Recipients are selected on merits of leadership, business excellence, educational support, and community service.

Save the date! The ASB Business Leader of the Year banquet is on Friday, March 19, 2010 at the Fairbanks Riverside Lodge. For more information about tickets, please call 474-7042 or email tammy.tragis@alaska.edu.
FROM THE DESK OF THE DEAN:
WRAPPING UP A SUCCESSFUL SEMESTER

This semester has seen several exciting developments as we continue our efforts to form meaningful partnerships with the Alaska business community, students, and alumni.

Bringing the best minds of our business community together, the School of Management (SOM) hosted the inaugural Arctic Innovation Competition. The winner was Chris Hunter, with an innovative and dynamic plan for battery controllers.

Paving the way for further collaboration between UAF and the business community is SOM Professor Jim Collins. Dr. Collins was recently named the UAF Director of Entrepreneurship and is helping the university and the business community support each other and aid in Alaska business development.

SOM is proud to have hosted major players who are shaping Alaska’s economic future. Students Who Enjoy Economic Thinking (SWEET) sponsored Governor Sean Parnell, who unveiled his Governor’s Performance Scholarship, an important proposal aimed at keeping Alaska’s brightest students here in the state.

On March 19, we’ll continue our tradition and honor another great Alaska business leader. This year’s Business Leader of the Year is Bernie Karl, owner of K&K Recycling and Chena Hot Springs Resort. He’ll be an excellent addition to our distinguished list of great Alaska business leaders.

As we begin our Spring 2010 semester, the School of Management would like to thank everyone who makes our school, and our community, a great place to live, work, and learn.

Mark Herrmann, Dean
School of Management
Local entrepreneur Kyong Hollen recently made a $10,000 donation to the UAF School of Management. The Kyong Hollen Business Scholarship will be available beginning the 2010 fall semester and allows two students to receive an annual disbursement of $5,000 each.

Kyong is the owner of Santina’s Flowers and K Janitorial. In addition to operating two businesses, she finds time to volunteer in a variety of service organizations. Kyong has served as the treasurer for the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce (GFCC) and Big Brothers Big Sisters, as well as serving on the board of directors for Girl Scouts of America, Fairbanks Downtown Rotary Club, United Way of the Tanana Valley, and the Red Cross of America Council. Kyong’s commitment to the community has inspired her to write several community perspective pieces for the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner.

In 2004, Kyong was honored as a recipient of the Girl Scouts Annual Women of Distinction Award. In 2006, Kyong was presented The Golden Nugget Award by the GFCC. This award is one of the Chamber’s most visible recognitions for contributions to the economic growth and strength of our community. In September 2009, Santina’s Flowers received the GFCC Bill Stroeker Outstanding Business of the Year Award.

Kyong’s employees include current and former UAF students. As a businesswoman she knows there are no shortcuts to success and believes that a proper education is one of the surest paths to meet desired goals. “I truly respect the students at UAF and the School of Management,” Hollen said. “I am sure some of the brightest minds are on the UAF campus right now. This gift will help two of them complete their education and prepare to take their proper place in the business world. This is my way of giving back and I’m proud to be able to do it.”

Thank You to Our Corporate Donors!
Students Who Enjoy Economic Thinking (SWEET) hosted Governor Parnell in UAF’s Davis Concert Hall on October 6. Parnell discussed his merit-based “Governor’s Performance Scholarship” which helps pay the tuition of eligible Alaska high school students. This is the second time SWEET has hosted Parnell on campus; previously he visited in 2008 when he was Lt. Governor.


Congratulations to Craig Wisen, whose picture made the front page of the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, and to Craig and the students who dominated the section. Craig’s work with the Student Investment Fund continues to highlight our commitment to active learning. His hard work on behalf of our students is greatly appreciated by SOM and greatly admired throughout the community.


In the Sunday, October 11, 2009 edition of the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, BAC member Charlie Dexter wrote a very thoughtful article titled, “Charity does not necessarily begin at home.” The entire article can be found at:


“Green Innovation in Energy: Product, Process and Business Innovation Gains for Competitive Advantage,” a paper by Shiva Hullavarad (OEM), Nilima Hullavarad (OEM), and Ping Lan (SOM), was accepted for publication in the 2009 Materials Research Society Spring Meeting Symposium R proceedings.


Wayne Marr (SOM), gave an interview on KRLD NewsRadio of Dallas-Fort Worth on Sept. 5 about things taught in finance or economics class that the average investor should know. Marr’s Twitter site is also one of the top three followed in the Alaska Twitter Directory.
Nelson Carpluk is one of two recipients of the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company’s Alaska Native MBA Fellowship. Nelson received his BBA in Finance from UAF in May 2009. He feels motivated to further his education and is pursuing his MBA. Although Nelson hasn’t chosen his emphasis for the MBA yet, he is currently taking Financial Statement Analysis, Quantitative Methods for Managers, and Marketing Management to test the waters before he chooses General Management or Capital Markets. When he’s not in the classroom, Nelson works part-time for Alaska Airlines. His hobbies include basketball, hiking, and traveling.

Nelson was born in Bethel and has two younger siblings, Rodney and Joanna. He was raised in Mountain Village, where his mom, Lenora, is from. The Carpluk family moved to Fairbanks in 1992, when Nelson was in first grade so that Lenora could finish her education and the kids could attend school. Nelson went from living in a village with 800 people to attending an elementary school with 600 children. He attended Monroe Junior and Senior High School, graduating in 2004. Both his parents have degrees from UAF and Lenora currently works for UA Statewide recruiting rural teachers. Nelson’s brother Rodney is in his second year at UAF, working towards his business degree while also working part-time at Alaska Airlines. Nelson’s sister Joanna is also attending UAF. With the Carpluk family, it seems education is key.

Rachel Roy is also a recipient of the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company’s Alaska Native MBA Fellowship and graduates this semester. Rachel transferred to UAF from Sheldon Jackson in 2007. She received her BBA from UAF in May 2008. Rachel chose UAF for her MBA because she understands the UAF system, is comfortable with the small classroom sizes, and the program is only three semesters for someone with an BBA degree. While attending school, she also works full time at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital as a Senior Administrative Assistant, providing support to CEO Mike Powers and CFO Jim Lynch (SOM ’94 alumni).

Rachel is originally from Sitka and has a 7-year-old daughter, Madison. Rachel feels it is essential to show her daughter the importance of education and how to meet the challenges life presents. She feels the Fellowship made an impact not only for her, but also for her daughter, and it enabled Rachel to pursue her graduate degree. Rachel especially enjoyed attending the UAF Scholarship breakfast last spring as she was able to bring her daughter to a special event where they both got to meet Linda Sather, Fairbanks Communication Manager for Alyeska Pipeline Service Company.

Get help with your education costs! You can apply for privately funded scholarships for the 2010/2011 academic year with the click of a mouse on the UAF Financial Aid site. https://ssl.uaf.edu/giving/forms/scholar_app.html

The deadline is Feb. 15.
Originally conceived by Professor Ping Lan, the AIC originated from Professor Lan’s research into the methods for stimulating, packing, and trading innovative ideas. Based on three basic principles, the AIC’s purpose is to help promote a thriving economy by introducing bold new ideas. These principles are:

**Openness & Wide Engagement**—Anyone with a marketable idea can enter the competition.

**Two-Way Communication**—By bringing in and publicizing new ideas, AIC also brings to light accompanying challenges, problems, and available technologies. This leads to “mass innovation” and the possibility of solving practical problems.

**Idea/Enterprise Incubation**—AIC provides basic training in innovation and idea commercialization and is able to “cultivate, celebrate, and harvest people’s creativity.”

These principles were put into practice last semester, leading to contestants submitting over 200 original ideas. The submissions were judged on novelty, feasibility, usefulness, and potential for profitability. The top twenty contestants then presented their ideas and inventions to a panel of judges made up of local business and engineering leaders. After careful deliberation, the panel chose Chris Hunter, with his battery controller invention, as the winner and recipient of the $10,000 first place prize. There were cash prizes for second, third, and fourth place as well, and sixteen $100 winners.

The inaugural Annual Arctic Innovative Competition was a great opportunity for the unearthing of breakthrough ideas to solve real life problems and challenges. We are excited to see what outstanding ideas will vie for first place at the Second Annual Arctic Innovation Competition.

Congratulations to all the AIC winners and we look forward to seeing you next year! This year’s competition is on October 22, 2010. For more information on the AIC, go to [www.arcticinno.com](http://www.arcticinno.com).

### AIC SPONSORS

- Anchorage Economic Development Corporation
- Arctic Region Supercomputing Center
- Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation
- Fairbanks North Star Borough
- Juneau Economic Development Council
- UAF Advancement
- UAF College of Engineering and Mines
- UAF College of Natural Science and Mathematics
- UAF Provost
- University of Alaska Academic Affairs

### AIC WINNERS

Congratulations to our $10,000 First Place winner, Chris Hunter and his idea on battery controllers.

Also congratulations to our other finalists:
- $5,000 Second Place: Bruce Kraft, Efficient Refrigeration
- $2,500 Third Place: Franklin Eagle, Restaurant Seating
- $500 Fourth Place: Jared Post, Snug Plug

Another round of applause to all of the $100 winners!
Meet Amy Cooper, the newest member of the Accounting program. Amy is from Birmingham, Alabama and received Bachelor degrees in French and Accounting from Birmingham Southern College. She went on to earn her Master’s degree in Taxation from the University of Washington and passed her CPA exam in 2003. Amy began her professional career at Arthur Andersen in Seattle. She later moved to Fairbanks to work for Walsh, Kelliher and Sharp. Amy worked in Anchorage for three years but came to realize Fairbanks was home.

Prior to teaching at SOM, Amy taught accounting classes for UAA and UAF Summer Sessions. She currently teaches two sections of Managerial Accounting and is also the faculty advisor for the Great Alaska Accounting People (GAAP) and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program.

Amy met her husband of five years, Matt, while in Seattle where he was attending law school. They welcomed their son, Oskar, into the family last February. When she’s not teaching, Amy enjoys traveling and ocean kayaking. Her favorite place to kayak is at Whittier in Prince William Sound. Her favorite thing about UAF and Alaska is the friendliness of the people.

Thad Curtis, SOM class of 2008, with his children Joy and Hyrum. Thad and his wife Beth, UAF class of ’03, recently welcomed their third child, a son named Spencer, into the family and moved into a new home. Thad is currently the manager of Anytime Fitness.

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Spring semester classes start Thursday, January 21. Are you ready?
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