

Summer Sessions & Lifelong Learning

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Summer 2013 was filled with very warm days, the ones we dream about during the winter. This was an excellent summer of educational opportunities. One of the ways we like to make those happen is through partnerships. Thanks to Robinson and Associates and Fairbanks Memorial Hospital we were able to double the number of Thursday night concerts in the Georgeson Botanical Garden. Rain or shine, hundreds gathered in this beautiful setting to enjoy live music throughout the summer.

The Healthy Living Lecture series, developed with Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, proved to be a hit as evidenced by the weekly crowds in the new Murie auditorium. The National Park Service assisted with courses in two beautiful, remote Alaska locations.

Summer Sessions & Lifelong Learning (SSLL) is not only about summer. There are programs going all year round including WINTERmester, the Weekend College, lectures, concerts, family events, and educational travel programs. We appreciate the fact that thousands of students, Fairbanks community members, and visitors take part in SSLL courses and events each year.

We are always open to new suggestions so if you have an idea and wondered if we could implement it, give me a call. Summer Sessions can only be more responsive and effective with shared wisdom and creativity.



Michelle Bartlett, Director,
Summer Sessions & Lifelong Learning

NEW IN 2013

Healthy Living Lecture Series — In response to a suggestion made to Chancellor Brian Rogers, the 11-week Healthy Living Lecture Series was initiated. We collaborated with Mike Powers CEO, Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, and his team to develop a program that addressed a variety of health concerns facing the Fairbanks community. During the lectures, healthcare professionals shared their knowledge on many issues from nutrition, to Alzheimer's to the Affordable Care Act. The lectures were recorded, and are available via YouTube on the Summer Sessions website. The lectures series was co-sponsored with generous support from Cooperative Extension Services.



Summer+ app created

Summer Sessions developed an app called Summer+ for both iPhone and Android. It was created to allow ease of access to information regarding Summer Sessions' courses, financial aid and summer events. The app can be accessed through UAF's mobile app, which can be downloaded at the Apple iTunes store or through Google Play.

Field Photography on the John River — A joint venture between the National Park Service and Summer Sessions, this course was an eight-day exploration of photographic field techniques while floating the wild and scenic John River in Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve. The 2013 Snedden Chair in Journalism, Richard Murphy, shared photographic techniques throughout the day and provided in-depth lessons at the evening campsites. Students described it as a true Alaska adventure mixed with learning and team building.



ACADEMICS

Summer@UAF offered seven summer field schools in six disciplines giving students the unique opportunity to experience Alaska's wilderness and wildlife while earning credits. The summer field schools were offered in Anthropology, Art, Geological Engineering, Geoscience, Marine Science and Limnology, and Natural Resource Management.

Archaeological Field School at the Mead Site — Professor Ben Potter led this annual five-week long, camp-on-site field school in the Tanana Basin, near Delta, Alaska. Students studied artifacts, tested hypotheses, and put their archeological skills into practice. The field school included guest lectures from eminent Alaska archeologists who not only shared a breadth of knowledge, but also offered a few student internships upon completion of the course.



Field-painting at Coal Creek
Over the course of four days, Professor Emeritus Bill Brody and 15 students enjoyed painting in this one-of-a-kind wilderness setting, a restored mining camp located in the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve. The course was made possible by a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service.

Field Methods and Applied Design I and II — College of Engineering and Mines' Professor Paul Metz led this year's geological engineering field methods course on the Parks, Richardson, Elliott, and Dalton Highways. Students learned techniques such as geological mapping and geotechnical instrumentation. The unique arctic location and subsequent use of specific tools lends itself to a great learning experience.

International Volcanological Field School — Attracting participants from across the US, Australia, Canada, Malaysia, Poland, Russia and the UK. This program featured some of the best examples of volcanic processes: the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes in Alaska and Mutnovsky & Gorely Volcanoes in Kamchatka, Russia. With exceptionally good weather, the students and instructors persevered and challenged their physical limits to reach the most distant localities, exploring volcanic environments, discussing products of volcanic activity and enjoying abundant wildlife. Professor of Volcanology Pavel Izbekov led the field course this summer.

Field Techniques in Interdisciplinary Sea-Ice Research — In early May, Professors Hajo Eicken, Rolf Gradinger and Richard Collins led this ten-day field school in Barrow,



Alaska. Arctic climate and ecosystem changes were addressed. Topics included instruction on sea ice, field experiments and lab analysis. Seventeen students had a hands-on opportunity to understand the close relationship between ocean, ice and biosphere processes in the polar regions and the critical role of ice cover in the climate system.

Marine Field Course at Kasitsna Bay — Marine Lab Professor Katrin Iken led a four-week field course at Kasitsna Bay Laboratory, in Kachemak Bay, Alaska. The area is one of the most diverse in coastal Alaska and offers access to systems such as rocky intertidal, sea grass beds, salt marshes, mudflats, and water column and seafloor communities. Daily lectures and lab exercises were complemented with field trips to learn about the marine environment, the organisms inhabiting it and the scientific ways to study it.

Alaska Soil Geography — In a field course conducted along the Dalton Highway, Professor Chien-Lu Ping led 21 students through hands-on learning about soil morphology and the effects on soil by various ecological factors in the Arctic.

Course Highlights

- The Justice Department offered the Restorative Justice Series, comprised of three, one-credit weekend courses. Topics addressed included restorative justice processes and practices in juvenile cases, non-conventional arbitration, and training in the theory and skills to use dispute resolution techniques in the field. The target audience was students who are pursuing justice degrees and community members currently working in justice-related positions across Fairbanks.
- Assistant Professor Maya Salganek received a grant that created the Film Reel Alaska Mentoring Experience (FRAME). Summer 2013 saw the launch of FRAME as a hands-on training program that paired UAF students with industry professionals to create the film “Mining for Ruby” which will be released in 2014. Students worked on the set in all aspects of film production including directing, producing, art, camera, sound, script supervising, location management, grip/electric, hair/makeup, wardrobe, editing, and as onscreen talent. FRAME will be offered again through Summer Sessions in 2014.
- Our annual Mammoth Award is presented to the instructor of the course with the highest enrollments of the summer. This year’s award recipient was visiting math professor Dr. Andrei Ghenciu, who taught Differential Equations to 53 students.



FELICIA BURD

50 travel awards were given to qualifying summer faculty for professional development.

110 qualified summer students received Summer Sessions financial aid.



Music in the Garden
This year we increased our offerings to 10 concerts. Our initiative called *Help Our Garden Grow* raised over \$1100 for the Georgeson Botanical Garden from folks attending the concerts.

ARIEL KIMBLETON

EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL

Educational travel programs have been an integral part of SSSL for the past nine years with inbound as well as outbound programs.

Inbound Travel — Summer Sessions hosted a group of 50 students from Japan's Fukuyama City University for an intensive two-week, English language program that was combined with an extensive Alaskan cultural experience. Students participated in language classes during the morning and attended lectures by UAF faculty on various Alaska topics in the afternoon. They also visited Denali National Park, World Eskimo-Indian Olympics, the Permafrost Tunnel, and other sites.

Outbound Travel — Each fall, SSSL travels to a new destination across the globe in search of educational and cultural enrichment. This fall a group will travel to India to learn about its natural, political and cultural histories. During this journey, travellers will experience ancient cultures infused with royal traditions, visit ancient temples and the iconic Taj Mahal.



Ireland in April 2014

This journey will span the natural wonders of the north coast to the rugged seacoast of the Southwest. Participants will walk the Walls of Derry and explore the Neolithic burial site Bru na Boinne, to name just a few destinations. To see the itinerary, visit the Summer Sessions website.



LECTURE AND CONCERT SERIES

Twelve years in the making, the Margaret Murie building was available for use this summer. All Summer Sessions' lectures were held in this state-of-the-art auditorium and were recorded for viewing from the Summer Sessions' website. Look under Events>Summer to find the YouTube videos.

Family Cultural Nights were designed to provide insight for Fairbanks' families to understand various foreign cultures from the perspective of members of the international community at UAF. Ten lectures presented by UAF students, faculty and staff shared information about life around the globe, from Ghana to India to Thailand and beyond. Family Cultural Nights lectures were presented in cooperation with the Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity.

Discover Alaska continues to be a popular summer lecture series. Professionals from various departments across campus shared their expertise and perspectives on Alaska with programmatic support provided by the Geophysical Institute. The lecture topics varied from *Flying for Science* to *Alaskan Brain Foods* to *Oil-eating Microbes of Alaska*.

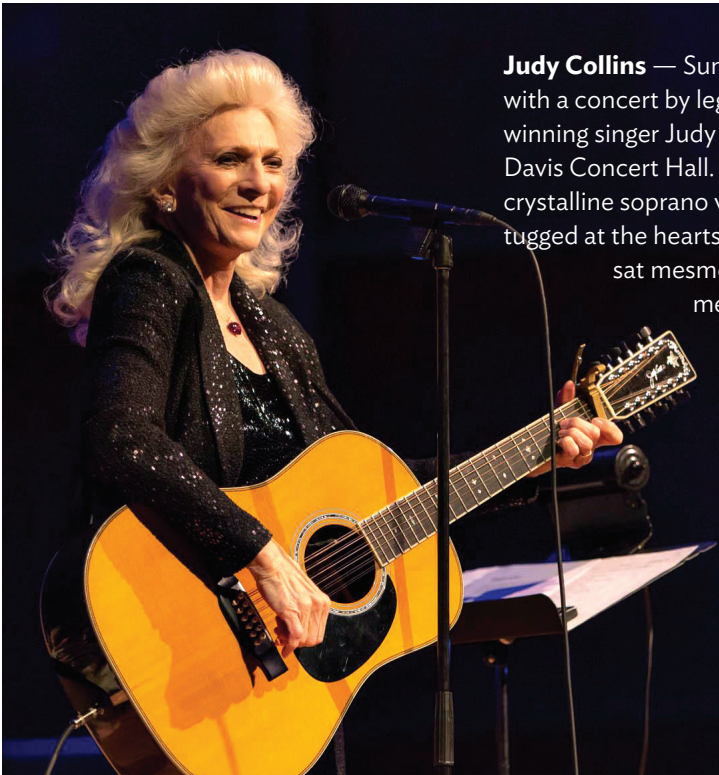
SPECIAL EVENTS

WINTERmester Lecture 2013 with Cory Borgeson

— In 2010, Summer Sessions initiated a new tradition with our very first WINTERmester community lecture featuring retired professor Neal Brown. Keeping with tradition, this year, Cory Borgeson, CEO of Golden Valley Electric Association and adjunct faculty with the UAF School of Management delivered this year's lecture entitled *Energy Issues for the Interior: The new Rubik's cube*. His talk explored the challenges and opportunities facing our community. If you missed the lecture, the video can be found on our website under Events > Winter.



Legacy Lecture with Vera Alexander — Each June, Summer Sessions hosts the Legacy Lecture, which honors a UAF graduate who has gone on to make significant contributions in their field. This year's honoree was Dr. Vera Alexander, the first woman to receive a PhD at the University of Alaska and a distinguished expert in the field of biological oceanography. Veteran newsperson Robert Hannon interviewed Dr. Alexander as she shared her experiences of growing up and receiving an education at UAF. Dr. Alexander also commented on the changing landscape for women in higher education. The UAF Alumni Association co-sponsored this lecture.

A photograph of Judy Collins, an older woman with blonde hair, wearing a dark sequined jacket, playing an acoustic guitar and singing into a microphone on stage.

Judy Collins — Summer Sessions 2013 began with a concert by legendary Grammy Award-winning singer Judy Collins on May 5, in the Davis Concert Hall. Ms. Collins, known for her crystalline soprano voice, performed songs that tugged at the heartstrings of long-time fans who sat mesmerized listening to familiar melodies. Ari Hest, a well-known east coast-based musician, presented the opening act. Due to the popularity of his performance, he has been invited to do a solo concert in June 2014. The Judy Collins concert was presented in association with Sophie Station Suites and KUAC.

2014 Calendar

- WINTERmester January 3 – 15
- MAYmester May 12 – 23
- Full Summer Session May 27 – August 15
- Six-week Summer Session I May 27 – July 2
- Six-week Summer Session II ... July 7 – August 15



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