

Summer Sessions & Lifelong Learning

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



My granddaughter Savana greets each day with one word "morning" accompanied by a great smile. What a wonderful way to begin the day. Looking back on this year, I am smiling. It was a good year. It began in fall 2013 with the planning for Summer Sessions 2014. We created the Weekend College with Saturday-only classes for working students, and our educational travel program went to exotic India. WINTERmester began the first week of January with 155 students, each completing a three-credit class in two weeks, helping them 'Stay on Track'. A WINTERmester Healthy Living Lecture was added. Springtime brought registration for our summer classes as well as a travel program to Ireland.

Summer Sessions 2014 offered over 275 courses and 47 public events on campus, attended by hundreds of people. We created educational programs for inbound groups from the University of Alabama Huntsville and from Japan's Fukuyama City University. Five new day camps were created to the delight of 200 elementary students.

It was a busy year, and planning for 2015 has begun. There will be a spring trip to Morocco and on June 12, Gloria Steinem will be speaking at the Davis Concert Hall. And of course there will be summer classes, kids camps, concerts, and free lectures.

All of this could not be done without an amazingly talented and dedicated group of people that I am privileged to work with every day. No wonder I am smiling.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Michelle Bartlett".

Michelle Bartlett, Director,
Summer Sessions & Lifelong Learning



NEW THIS YEAR

Scholarships for high school students — Tuition awards for high school students were added to our Summer financial aid program this year. The ten students who qualified came from the Fairbanks North Star Borough. They had to be eligible to take the course, secure instructor permission and meet financial need criteria. All ten students successfully completed their course and reported a very positive first-time college experience.

Magical Mondays — Every Monday evening was a free hands-on science night for families with children age five and over. It was an opportunity to explore how scientists collect information and interpret various scientific phenomenon. Topics included aerial photography, the physics and chemistry behind everyday life experiences, the aurora, squids and much more. Over the course of ten weeks, 500 people attended the program, which was generously sponsored by the Institute of Arctic Biology and a grant from Holland America.



Kids day camps

Kids Day Camps — Summer Sessions is known for innovation and this year as a part of that tradition, we added five new half-day Kids Camps for students entering grades 2-6. Each camp offered a fun-filled adventure, whether it was art, cooking, dinosaurs, bugs, music or ipads. Over 200 children participated in at least one camp. One parent reported that her daughter “loved the archaeology tools and learning how they were used. And, she was thrilled to touch actual dinosaur bones. She’s been looking at rocks very closely ever since.” The Kids Camps will return next summer with a variety of themes. (Pictured: Dinosaur Camp)



ACADEMICS

Expanded Biology offerings — This summer, biology students had the opportunity to study Animal Physiology with Dr. Michael Harris. This complements the continuing summer biology courses: Anatomy & Physiology I and II, Fundamentals of Biology I and II, Beginnings in Microbiology and Natural History of Alaska.

Math Boot Camp — Many first-year students at UAF are math deficient. In order to address this issue, Math Boot Camp was created. The camp integrated the content of two courses, DEVM F105 Intermediate Algebra along with DEVM F065 Mathematics Skills. Math Boot Camp met three hours a day, five days a week for six weeks. This intensive program combined classroom instruction, computer lab and tutoring assistance. Those who successfully completed the courses with a grade of 'B' or better received a \$500 tuition credit to be used at UAF this fall semester. Math Boot Camp provided UAF students the opportunity and incentive to be ready for MATH F107x this fall.

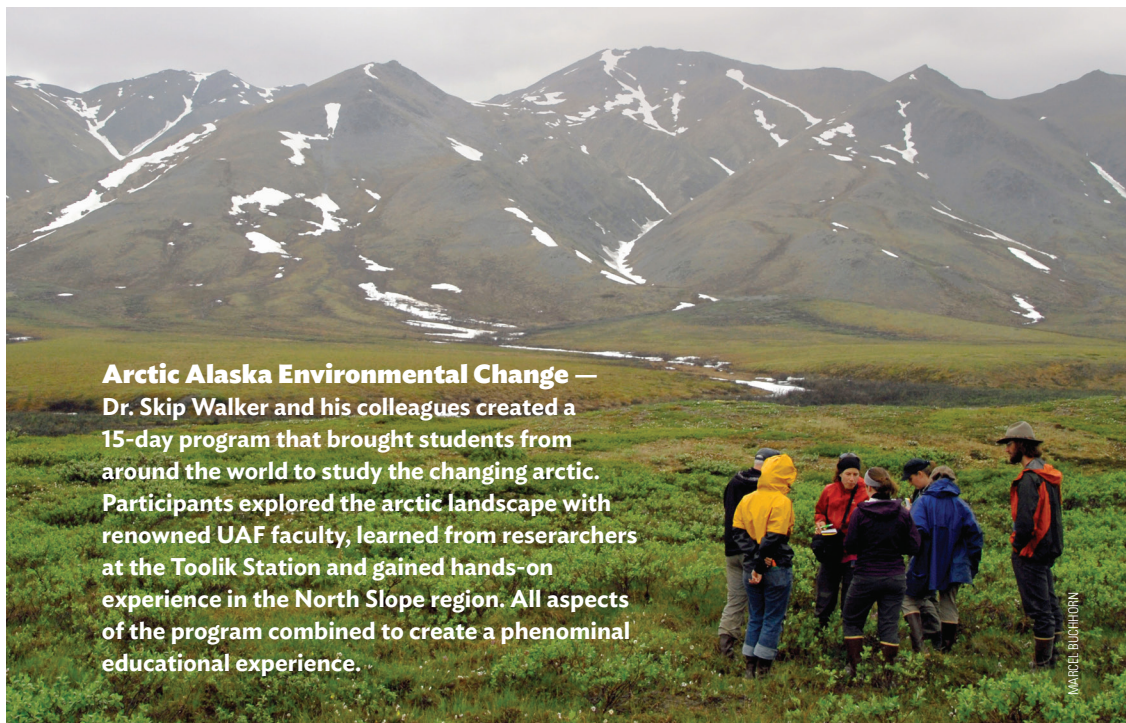
Dr. Shashank Joshi — Child psychiatrist Dr. Shashank Joshi, director of the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford University, was invited by the UAF School of Education to teach a course entitled "Culturally Adapted School-Based Suicide Prevention in Youth," which explored depression in teens, developmental tasks in adolescence and why culture matters. In addition, Dr. Joshi presented a lecture for the community encouraging the creation of a resource network aligning home, school and counselors to provide the buttress for dealing with depression in teens, dealing with depression in teens and to provide school-based suicide prevention.



Emily Iland — Emily Iland, an award-winning author, advocate, researcher and leader in the autism community shared her expertise in the course, "Be Safe: Teaching Community Safety Skills to Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder". She also provided a lecture for the community that was sponsored by Family Centered Services of Alaska, Autism Society of Alaska, UAF School of Education and Fairbanks Resource Agency.

Arctic Alaska Environmental Change —

Dr. Skip Walker and his colleagues created a 15-day program that brought students from around the world to study the changing arctic. Participants explored the arctic landscape with renowned UAF faculty, learned from researchers at the Toolik Station and gained hands-on experience in the North Slope region. All aspects of the program combined to create a phenomenal educational experience.



TRAVEL

Summer Sessions' educational travel programs visit and welcome visitors from unique destinations each year. With every destination, the knowledge of our world is expanded further.

Outbound — This spring, a group of 25 went to Ireland to learn about the natural, cultural, and political history of that fascinating country. The 16-day program began in Belfast and ended in Dublin. One traveler commented, "Add-on lectures and presentations with the locals provided a candid representation of the country. We learned so much about the North and the South — we thought the troubles were over. They really aren't."

Inbound — In July, 36 students from Japan's Fukuyama City University came to UAF 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. In addition they took interesting field trips that included Poker Flats, the Musk Ox Farm, Chena Hot Springs, Fort Knox, Creamers Field, and Denali National Park.



"This picture is my best shot. The layout of Caribou's antler in front and mountain range in background makes viewers to feel deep harmonization. The scattered cloud in the sky expresses the dynamic movement."
— Satoshi Kamei



IN MEMORIAM

Summer 2014 brought a profound loss to our community of teachers. Joseph Thompson, our beloved faculty member who was known for his love for teaching and dedication to his students, passed away. We offer a tribute to him and his beloved Trina and express our gratitude for all that he has given to Summer Sessions over the years. We treasure his memory and are grateful for the time he was a part of our world.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Ken Rudin's Political Junkie — The road show version of “Political Junkie” came to UAF on July 11. Hosts Ken Rudin, formerly NPR’s political editor, and Neal Conan, final host of “Talk of the Nation”, conducted a witty and raucous analysis of key political races in Alaska and across the country. Nearly 300 people crowded into the Wood Center ballroom for this event.

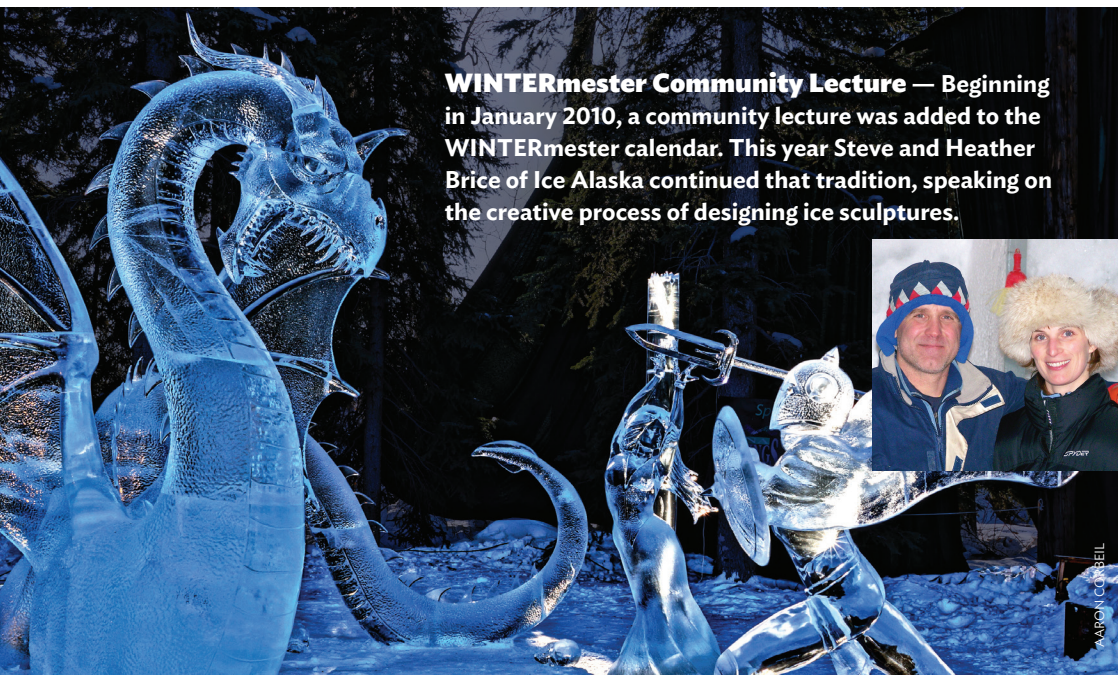


WINTERmester Healthy Living Lecture — A Healthy Living Lecture was added to the WINTERmester line up. Clinical dietician Tiffany Ricci shared how dietary changes can help counter wintertime blues. Tiffany’s presentation was so persuasive, she actually had everyone in the audience chanting, “Healthy food is tasty!”

Ambassador Alan Katz — In May, Ambassador Allan Katz, former U.S. ambassador to Portugal, spoke on “Incivility and Gridlock in Washington, D.C.: Why America Needs the Village Square.” Katz explained how the concept of The Village Square promotes the idea of agreeing to disagree and doing so in a respectful and civil manner when making important political decisions.



UAF Legacy Lecture — On the first Monday in June, Summer Sessions hosts the Legacy Lecture, which honors a UAF alumnus who has made significant contributions in their field. This year Helen Atkinson was honored. Videographer David Selle and interviewer Robert Hannon spent hours recording and talking with Helen about her very interesting life. Sadly, Helen passed away before the scheduled presentation at UAF so the recorded interview was shown to an audience of over 175. Robert Hannon referred to Helen as “a true Alaskan.”



WINTERmester Community Lecture — Beginning in January 2010, a community lecture was added to the WINTERmester calendar. This year Steve and Heather Brice of Ice Alaska continued that tradition, speaking on the creative process of designing ice sculptures.



SUMMER SESSIONS NUMBERS

TUITION AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS

173✓

GRADUATE

12

UNDERGRADUATE

151

HIGH SCHOOL

10

SUMMER SESSIONS FACULTY TRAVEL AWARDS

95✓

NUMBER OF COURSES OFFERED

285✓

SUMMER 2014 EVENTS WERE SPONSORED BY

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Denali Center
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital
Community-Owned



GEORGESON
BOTANICAL GARDEN



Holland America Line

2015 Calendar

WINTERmester January 3–14
MAYmester May 11–22
Full Summer Session May 26–August 14
Six-week Summer Session I May 26–July 1
Six-week Summer Session II July 6–August 14

Summer@UAF

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