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Newsletter
[Southeast Arts & Sciences]

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Serving the coastal environments, cultures, economies, and communities of Alaska

September, 2022, Issue 1

Dear Friends of UAS Arts and Sciences,

I am writing to introduce myself to those of you I haven't yet had the opportunity to meet. Last July, 2021, I arrived in Juneau from Chicago, and have been busy getting to know UAS, our programs and people. Now that I am living in Juneau permanently, I am feeling settled in my new role, and as I learn more about our amazing A&S community, I am eager to share them with you – our alumni, donors, faculty, staff, students, retirees, community partners, and university champions.



Carin Silkaitis
Dean of Arts & Sciences

One of the many reasons I chose to move to Alaska was our outstanding Arts & Sciences faculty and staff. During my interview process, I was so impressed with their dedication to our students. Over and over, faculty described opportunities for undergraduate research (even as early as freshmen year), artistic endeavors, conference attendance, internships, lab work, outdoor adventures, and so much more.

Speaking of our students: Fall is my favorite time of year! The air is absolutely electric with the energy of new and returning students.

As I write this letter, new students are arriving on campus, the dorms are filling up and parents are on campus walking around, buying sweatshirts, moving their students in, and saying those tough goodbyes. There is so much hope and excitement in the air. This is the reason I do this job.

I am so proud to guide a School that teaches our students about teamwork and collaboration, critical-thinking, and problem-solving in a diverse learning environment. These skills will prepare our students to be informed, involved,

transformative leaders over their lifetimes.

I will be emailing this newsletter quarterly, and I look forward to sharing student and faculty spotlights. I also want to hear from you! I love having coffee and/or “get to know you” Zoom meetings. I welcome your feedback and hope you’ll join us at future in-person events.

Warmly,
Carin Silkaitis



Free AKLA Non-credit Courses - In partnership with the Sealaska Heritage Institute, UAS is offering free Alaska Native Language classes this fall with no tuition or fees. Classes are offered in Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian languages at all levels — beginner, intermediate, and advanced. The free classes are for our non-credit courses, but credit can be received if a student chooses to pay tuition and fees.

[Free AKLA Courses - Learn More](#)



New Master's Degree in Marine Policy - The University of Alaska Southeast and the University of Alaska Fairbanks are offering a new Master of Marine Policy degree. The program commences in the fall 2022 semester. While the degree is offered via a joint program, admissions are through the UAF Graduate School and the UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences.

[Master's in Marine Policy - Learn More](#)



Indigenous Language Podcast - Created and hosted by X'unei Lance Twitchell, professor of Alaska Native Language courses at UAS, The Tongue Unbroken (Tiél Wudak'óodzi Kaa L'óot') is a podcast about Native American language revitalization and decolonization, as seen through the eyes and mind of a multilingual Indigenous person who is Lingít, Haida, Yup'ik and Sami. This podcast explores complex concepts of identity, resilience, erasure, and genocide and features guests involved in language revitalization and decolonial efforts in Alaska, the United States, Canada, and New Zealand.

[The Tongue Unbroken - Learn More](#)

Student Spotlight - Sean Price

Sean is the President of the Student Activities Board, where he leads a team of five student leaders in creating engaging opportunities for UAS students. His contagious energy brings so much fun to the campus; from Whale Wednesdays to being dunked in the annual Spring Carnival Dunk Tank, Sean is magnetic.

Sean embodies the idea of giving back, and has been very involved through events like the UAS Take Back the Night walk and bonfire, marching from upper housing to main campus bringing awareness to the prevalence of rape on college campuses. He listened intently as we read victim stories and fully participated in the event - building the bonfire to keep everyone warm on that chilly evening.

After talking with Carin about the #Enough event to be held on campus in collaboration with Perseverance Theatre to raise awareness about the direct impacts of gun violence, he volunteered to take part. He took on difficult roles in the short plays, and recruited other students to help. He was a major reason the event was a success! More recently, Spike the Whale made an appearance at the Ironman finish line on campus, working in several shifts for hours to celebrate the athletes as they completed the race. It was none other than Sean Price, tirelessly volunteering his time to contribute to a warm and welcoming environment for the visiting triathletes.

Sean cares about UAS, but he also cares about people and the issues that plague our society. Sean embodies our UAS mission and values and he's a wonderful member of this community. Thank you, Sean!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 23, 7:00 pm - [Evening at Egan](#) (Egan Library)
- September 29, 2:00 pm - [Staff & Faculty Title IX Training](#) (Glacier View Room)
- October 7, 7:00 pm - [Evening at Egan: Ecosystem Researcher Logan Berner - research on boreal forest and Arctic tundra ecosystems including ecosystem responses to climate change](#) (Egan Library)
- October 13, 7:30 pm - UAS Student Night at Perseverance Theater; stay tuned for more information!
- October 21, 7:00 pm - Evening at Egan: "Lessons from Indigenous Tourism for a Regenerative Future" with Dr. Alexis Buntun (Egan Library)

- November 1, 11:59 pm - [Senator Ted Stevens Legislative Internship Program applications due](#)
- November 4, 7:00 pm - Evening at Egan: Dr. Melissa Dolese (Egan Library)
- November 18, 7:00 pm - Evening at Egan: [UAS Creative Showcase](#) (Egan Library)

Submit research, project, or event information



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