

September 22, 2023

Chancellor's Office

Chancellor Aparna Palmer

I am so excited to be here with you! I've been in the position of Chancellor since July 1 and I still feel the way I did on the day that I accepted the job: This is a dream come true! I feel so grateful to have been offered the position and I'm thrilled to have found a home at UAS!



Since July I have been able to take part in a number of exciting things:

- I participated in the 4th of July float for the Juneau and Douglas parades.
- I attended a week-long New President's Seminar at Harvard.
- On August 2 I flew up to Nome with members of the UA Arctic Steering Committee, where I spent the day touring the research vessel Sikuliaq, the UAF Northwest Campus, the City of Nome, the Kawerak organization, the Katirvik Cultural Center & Carrie McLain Museum, and the Norton Sound Hospital.
- I was able to speak at the Juneau Chamber of Commerce meeting on August 10, and was joined by Deans Cory Ortiz and Carlee Simon.
- I have visited the Ketchikan and Sitka campuses a few times now to meet with the staff and faculty there, and was able to take part in a few community events, including the Ketchikan NOAA Port Facility ribbon cutting ceremony on August 21.
- We welcomed the Board of Regents for their Juneau meeting on August 31. During that week I was able to take part in a wonderful and detailed campus tour organized by Vice Chancellor Lori Klien, and we impressed them with an event at the Anderson building, where faculty and students showcased their research to the regents.
- September 12-14 I flew up to Fairbanks to attend the UA Foundation Board of Directors meeting, and also attended a retreat with the President's Executive Council.

- This week I attended and spoke at the Southeast Conference annual meeting in Sitka.

I have been getting out and visiting the departments and school offices here on the Juneau campus, meeting faculty and staff where they work. My goal is to meet each and every UAS employee, and I am slowly working on this endeavor. Thank you for welcoming me into the UAS community and for helping me learn more about each of our amazing campuses.

Development & Alumni Relations

Megan Riebe continues in her role as Interim Director while the search is underway for an Executive Director of Development & Alumni Relations. Brittany, Jasper, and Lucas are doing a great job, especially in this time of leadership change, keeping our development and alumni relations efforts moving forward. The team is working with our leadership – Chancellor Palmer, our three deans, and other UAS leaders to identify fundraising priorities and opportunities to engage more alumni and donors in all the great things happening at UAS. Chancellor Palmer has been meeting with donors and community leaders to grow those partnerships to support our students, research, and programs. Read the [September 2023 Philanthropy Report](#) here.

Equity & Compliance / Title IX

Mitzi Anderson will join us as the new Director of Equity & Compliance and Title IX beginning Tuesday, September 26. She will be working remotely from Iowa until she is able to move to Juneau in mid-October.

Emergency / Risk Management & Safety

Ryan Sand, Director

I am happy to announce that we will finally have the Environmental Health & Safety Officer position filled after a 10 month vacancy. Please look for an official welcoming and introduction announcement coming soon.

Public Information Office

Keni Campbell, Public Information Officer

We have a web page for [Chancellor's Office Communications](#) which includes Messages from the Chancellor, Press Releases, and issues of this publication, Chancellor's Cabinet Updates.

Radio

I can help you connect with the radio stations to be a guest on one of their programs if you would like to promote something you are working on, like a special lecture, or a class you are trying to promote, or students you'd like to highlight.
(collaboration/excellence)

Our schedule for regular appearances:

- KINY Capital Chat - last Friday of each month (program is at 8:30 am)
- KINY Action Line - these are about quarterly, no set date
- KTOO Juneau Afternoon - 3rd Wednesday of each month (program is from 3-4 with them having 4 guests, and our normal spot is 3:45)

Recent UAS guests on the radio:

KTOO's Juneau Afternoon

- [September 6: Dean Carin Silkaitis and Dr. Shingo Hamada](#), Fulbright scholar in residence and Evening at Egan speaker on the topic "Eating the Herring: Rifts and Responses in the North Pacific"
- [August 17: Dr. Cory Ortiz](#), Dean of Career Education, introducing himself to the community and talking about programs in the School of Career Education
- [June 15: Dean Carin Salkaitis with UAS Updates, and Jonas Lamb](#), with the Egan Library on "Illustrating Alaska: Artists Making Children's Books"

KINY Capital Chat

- [September 6: Dr. Shingo Hamada](#), Fulbright scholar in residence and Evening at Egan speaker on the topic "Eating the Herring: Rifts and Responses in the North Pacific"
- [June 26: Chancellor Aparna Palmer](#), Community Introduction
- [May 25, 2023: RONALDA CADIENTE BROWN](#), Associate Vice Chancellor for Alaska Native Programs and PITAAS program director

Press releases

- UAS Evening at Egan Fall Lecture Series Begins September 8 with Fulbright Scholar Dr. Shingo Hamada
 - JoMarie Alba selected as UAS Student Retention Specialist
 - Dr. Cory Ortiz named UAS Dean of the School of Career & Technical Education
 - Dr. X'unei Lance Twitchell and Shu Guyna Donna May Roberts honored for distinguished service
 - Illustrating Alaska: Artists Making Children's Books Exhibit on display @ UAS Egan Library, June 2023
 - UAS Celebrates Student Success Chancellor's and Dean's Lists – Spring 2023 Semester
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Provost's Office

Dr. Maren Haavig, Provost & Dean of Research & Sponsored Programs

- Lots of great start up activities last month: Convocation, New Faculty Orientation, Adjunct Orientation, Provost Council Retreat. Thanks to all who helped organize, present, or attended (*collaboration, excellence, sustainability*)
- The Strategic Enrollment Task force finalized the FY24 SEP plan. VC Lori Klein and I meet regularly with Chancellor Palmer to discuss tactics to move our strategies forward (*collaboration, sustainability, excellence, access*)
- Worked with the Faculty Senate to revise the Annual Program Assessment Template (*collaboration, sustainability*)
- UAS has been accepted to participate in the Gardner Institute's cohort opportunity: *Transforming the Foundational Postsecondary Experience*. The UAS Core Team (Kristen Handley, Lori Klein, Glenn Wright, and I) have been meeting with our Gardner contact, Brent Drake, to begin working on the project. Our first activity will be to launch two surveys this fall, Institutional Transformation Assessment and Readiness, Willingness and Ability. All UAS faculty, staff, and administrators will be invited to complete the survey (*collaboration, sustainability, access, diversity*)
- Outer Coast College Executive Director Bryden Sweeney-Taylor and I provided an informational update to the Board of Regents Academic and Student Affairs committee on August 30 (*collaboration, access, diversity*)

Research & Sponsored Programs

Dr. Maren Haavig, Dean

- Met with UA Internal Audit to follow up on results related to the COI in Research Questionnaire (*stewardship, collaboration*)
- Convened a search committee to begin recruiting for a Director of Research, Sponsored Programs, and the Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center (*sustainability, excellence*)
- UAS was accepted as a new member of UArctic at their General Assembly held last May. One of the many opportunities for faculty to get involved in UArctic is through the [Thematic Network](#) system. If any faculty are interested, please don't hesitate to reach out (*collaboration, access, diversity*)

Institutional Effectiveness

Kristen Handley, Director

- **FYI: I will be on family leave starting in late November, and will be unavailable until Spring term. Additionally, I will be working limited hours**

in the Spring term. Please contact me as soon as possible with any data requests for this time.

- Fall Open freeze is on September 20th - all dashboards and fall opening data reports will be completed in the following 2 weeks, including our Core Objectives.
 - This summer has been busy with the following activities:
 - Working regularly on our partnership with Gardner Institute, Transforming the Foundational Postsecondary Experience, including regular meetings and a large data project
 - Participating in the SIS modernization project and on the Institutional Research Data Warehouse Modernization RFP
 - Completing reports based on the Spring Student Experience Survey
 - Working with internal stakeholders on ad hoc and automated data requests, including projects with financial aid and dual enrollment
 - Annual reporting requirements, including NWCCU, NC-SARA, US News, and preparing for changes to IPEDS
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School of Education

Dr. Carlee Simon, Interim Dean

- Access and Funding: The School of Education had the privilege of granting more than \$179,000 in UA Teacher Internship Scholarships to aspiring teachers who were nearing the completion of their educational programs.
- CAEP Accreditation: Our team of faculty and staff are working hard this semester to complete our Self-Study Report for our accreditation. This report serves as a critical component in the accreditation process and provides a detailed account of the program's practices, policies, and evidence of its adherence to CAEP standards. The CAEP self-study report is of utmost importance, highlighting our dedication to excellence.
- Faculty and staff invest substantial time and effort to ensure our educator preparation program surpasses CAEP standards, demonstrating their commitment to shaping future education.
- Partnerships: We are thrilled to announce the finalization of our MOU with SHI. This partnership is a pivotal step in supporting the Indigenizing Education for Alaska (IEA) project, which aims to improve Alaska Native student outcomes by fostering culturally reflective education through the recruitment, preparation, and retention of Alaska Native educators.
- Marketing Revamp: Our marketing strategy is specifically designed to have a significant impact on a broad spectrum of communities, including rural areas and larger municipalities. The goal is to reach and benefit diverse educational settings across the region. We have been filming in both Juneau and Kake as part of this initiative to ensure our outreach spans various community types.

- Continuous Program Improvement: We are dedicated to continuous improvement, regularly enhancing curriculum and pedagogical approaches to ensure that graduates are well-prepared to excel in the ever-evolving field of education. We are focusing on access, course sequence, time to degree, and exploring apprenticeship opportunities.
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School of Career & Technical Education

Dr. Cory Ortiz, Dean

- **New Academic Advisor and Administrative Manager join School of Career Education! *Ashley Morehouse***, is originally from rural Northeast Oregon and spent the majority of her life in the PNW. She is extremely excited to be here in Juneau and to be advising for the Technical Education Center. ***Catherine Pusich*** has spent the last 13 years at the Juneau School District. She has always wanted to work for UAS - her alma mater and is thrilled to join the staff at the TEC. (*Excellence*)
 - Coeur Alaska Inc - *Donation The school of Career Education and the Center for Mine Training received a generous donation of high visibility work shirts from Coeur Alaska.* (*Stewardship*)
 - Last week the Dean attended the Alaska CORE-CM Stakeholder Input Meeting in Fairbanks. During this meeting, stakeholders in critical minerals from around the country met to discuss technical topics as well as Workforce Development. (*Collaboration*)
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School of Arts & Sciences

Carin Silkaitis, Dean

- This year, I have embarked on a project to meet any/all UAS Alums. I met with one of our Health Sciences alums in Chicago and I'm looking forward to meeting with alums each time I travel. I am hoping to get folks connected back to our campus, our students and our story. If you'd like to help me with this endeavor, let me know! (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity*)
- The first volume of our [SEAS Newsletter](#) was released this month. If you didn't have a chance to read it, [here is a link](#). (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity*)
- Submitted a paper for publication with two colleagues. (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Sustainability*)

- Trained SHI's Staff in Antiracism/Restorative Justice, Gender Equity/Safezone, and Green Dot/Bystander Training (*Excellence, Collaboration, Stewardship, Access, Diversity*)
- Trained Perseverance Theatre Company Artists & Staff in Green Dot Bystander Training (*Excellence, Collaboration, Access, Diversity*)
- Joined the Board of the Juneau Arts and Humanities Council (*Collaboration, Access, Diversity*)
- Joined the Board of The Partnership for the new JACC. (*Collaboration, Sustainability, Access, Diversity*)
- Re-negotiated our MOA with Perseverance Theatre Company
- Discussed our MOU with Theatre Alaska (increasing the number of shows they do on campus next summer)
- Met with Liz from Travel Juneau
- Met with the State of Alaska Corrections and Lemon Creek about a new program in the Correctional Facilities in Alaska including Lemon Creek (*Collaboration, Stewardship, Access, Diversity*)
- Re-Launched the Search for an Associate Dean (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity*)
- Served as Acting Provost and Dean of Research & Sponsored Programs while Maren was out this summer (*Excellence, Collaboration, Stewardship*)
- Mentored our new Dean of Career Education (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship*)
 - Met with Coeur Kensington, Hecla Greens Creek and other community partners.
 - Assisted in establishing a mining advisory board
 - Met with candidates for new Career Ed Admin position
- Presented on UAS to folks from statewide and various constituents from across the state who were involved in an Arctic Leadership meeting (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability*)
- Continued to meet with Outer Coast working on gathering/organizing syllabi. Facilitated matching syllabi with A&S faculty. (*Collaboration, Stewardship, Access, Diversity*)
- Attended ANDORE Training with First Alaskans (*Excellence, Collaboration, Access, Diversity*)
- I have appeared on KINY Capital Chat and KTOO's Juneau Afternoon plugging Evening at Egan, new programming, new personnel, and WHY UAS! (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity*)
- Participated in the search committee for two new A&S Academic Advisors. Those positions were successfully filled! We are so happy to announce that Suhiedy (Su) Reyes, and L. Dallas Cosculleula will be starting on September 25th (remotely.) They are both in the process of securing housing and plan to move to Juneau in October. Dallas has an in-person Juneau start date of October 8 and it looks like Su will have a Juneau in-person start date closer to the end of October.

- A&S has started sponsoring Evening at Egan! We had a wonderful first lecture by Dr. Shingo Hamada. Our next lecture is on October 13 by Dr. Rosellen Rosich on Brain Health. *(Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity)*
- Planned the BOR Event/Showcase after the BOR Meeting. This event featured our wonderful Natural Science faculty members and students who had the opportunity to highlight their work while BOR members and guests toured the Anderson Building. *(Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship)*
- Met with Sarah Niecko and Goldbelt Heritage Foundation about collaborating on Health Science and their ANEP grants. *(Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity)*
- Introduced GHF to Cory Ortiz - for increased collaborations between Goldbelt and Career Education *(Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity)*
- Chaired the Naming Committee for the new Auke Bay Integrated Science Building. Our committee came up with the name: **Áak'w Tá Hít** *(Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity)*
 - A memo was presented to Pat Pitney and the BOR and the name passed a vote by the BOR at the fall meeting.
 - Here was the rationale presented for the name:

Áak'w (Little Lake) is the most important name of this area, so it makes sense to tie the name of this building to that lake. Then, we thought about the specific location of this building and what features we wanted to highlight. **-tá** is the head of a bay, and is the name of that area so that made a lot of sense to our group. Lastly, **hít** means “house” so these Lingít words together allow our new building to be the little lake house at the head of the bay.

The Lingít people of this area are the **Áak'w Kwaan**. So this **hít** will truly be reflective of the people who have lived and worked here for tens of thousands of years. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the value we have for indigenous knowledge in science and attract more Alaska Native students into the STEM fields. The committee would like to remain consistent with other UAS signage, and here is how they proposed the new signage would read:

New building:

Main Blue/White Sign: **Áak'w Tá Hít**

Green Bar Sign: **Environmental Science**

Actual Translation: House at the Head of the Little Lake

Natural Sciences

- John Harley (ACRC) and Eran Hood co-authored a paper entitled “Tree-Ring Derived Avalanche Frequency and Climate Associations in a High-Latitude, Maritime Climate” that was published in the *Journal of Geophysical Research - Earth Surface Processes*. (Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship)
- Jason Fellman (ACRC), Eran Hood, and former UAS postdoc Gavin McNicol co-authored an article entitled “Small, coastal temperate rainforest watersheds dominate dissolved organic carbon transport to the northeast Pacific” that was published in *Geophysical Research Letters*. (Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability)
- Eran Hood and UAS undergrad Abby Watts were featured in a KTOO story on the glacier lake outburst flood that was republished in the ADN: [Why this year's record glacial outburst flood likely won't be Juneau's worst](#) (Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship)
- Eran Hood was interviewed for an AP article about changes at the Mendenhall Glacier and what they mean for tourism: [Crammed with tourists, Alaska's capital wonders what will happen as its magnificent glacier recedes | AP News](#) (Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship)
- David Tallmon, CFOS MS grad Erika King, Prof Megan McPhee, and UAS Bio alum Josh Russell published a paper on [life history contributions to genetic effective size of Auke Creek coho in Evolutionary Applications](#) (Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship)
- Jason Amundson presented a talk at the International Glaciological Society's British Branch Meeting in Cardiff, Wales, on modeling dense packs of icebergs in fjords. (Excellence, Sustainability)
- UAS undergraduate student Hunter Kaufman received an Undergraduate Research Experience award from BLaST to work in Carolyn Bergstrom's lab to study trophic discrimination factors of the eye lens of starry flounder. (Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship)
- UAS Biology senior & NSF STEM scholar Ricardo Medina-Soler attended the 2023 Annual S-STEM Scholars Meeting hosted by AAAS in Washington, D.C., Sep 14-16. (Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship)
- Sonia Nagorski co-authored a paper with Brian Buma (former UAS Prof), and Adam Booth (Portland State University) entitled, “Effects of Landslides on Terrestrial Carbon Stocks With a Coupled Geomorphic-Biologic Model: Southeast Alaska, United States” in *Journal of Geophysical Research-Biogeosciences*. (Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability)
- Heidi Pearson published a paper with UAF and NOAA colleagues on humpback whale reproductive hormones. Atkinson DeMaster S, Melica V, Mashburn K, Teerlink S, Moran J, Pearson H. 2023. Use of hormones in assessing reproductive physiology of humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) from Juneau, Alaska. [Theriogenology Wild: Special Issue on Endocrine Biomarkers. 3: 100050](#). (Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability)

- Heidi Pearson published 2 papers as part of large, collaborative efforts on cetacean photo-identification.
 - Cheeseman T,Pearson HC, Clapham, P. A collaborative and near-comprehensive North Pacific humpback whale photo-ID dataset. [Scientific Reports 13: 10237](#).
 - Patton PT,, Pearson HC,,Bejder L. 2023. A deep learning approach to animal recognition demonstrates high performance on two dozen cetacean species. [Methods in Ecology and Evolution](#). (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability*)
- Heidi Pearson traveled to Mazatlán, Mexico in August to conduct dolphin research aboard a Mexican tuna purse-seiner. The goal of this project is to determine if calves become separated from their mothers as they are chased into purse seine nets to capture the tuna swimming underneath them. This work is funded by the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission. (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability*)

Business & Public Administration

- BPA met with Dr. Michele Thornton to complete a final review of the BPA strategic plan, to be finalized and shared the week of September 25. First year implementation milestones with faculty champions to work with Dr. Thornton on creating and driving plans. (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship*)
- BPA Contracted Cedar Group to assist with marketing and rebranding. (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Access*)
- The business faculty submitted the four-year ACBSP Quality Assurance Status Report to continue to show compliance with accreditation. (*Excellence, Collaboration, Stewardship*)
- Kristy Smith and Colleen McKenna will be representing UAS at the AK State Chamber Fall Forum. (*Excellence, Collaboration, Stewardship*)
- Kristy was appointed Chair of ACBSP Region 7, Chair of the Council of Regional Chairs, and a member of the ACBSP Board of Directors. (*Excellence, Stewardship*)
- Kristy created a Blackboard training site for BPA faculty as we have new adjunct faculty coming on board in fall / spring to fill the gaps of losing a full-time, tenure-track faculty line. (*Excellence, Collaboration, Access, Stewardship*)
- Paulette Schirmer attended Campus Kickoff and met many students, other UAS employees, and visitors. (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Diversity, Access, Stewardship*)

Social Sciences

- Dr. Melissa Dolese spent the summer in the Adirondack mountains of Northern NY, finishing a 200-hour yoga teacher training and getting Wilderness First Aid (WFA) certified. She used her professional development to lead hiking and yoga excursions in Adirondack Park and the trails of St. Lawrence County, with the hopes of doing something similar in Juneau. The WFA training also serves as a stepping stone to becoming a certified Wilderness Therapy Guide. *(Excellence, Collaboration, Access)*
- Dr. Melissa Dolese presented her work on viewing art and compassionate actions at the International Association for DrEmpirical Aesthetics Congress in Philadelphia, PA. *(Excellence, Access)*
- Dr. Sarah Niecko met with the Dean and Goldbelt Heritage Foundation regarding future collaborations surrounding her Health Science programs and their ANEP grants. *(Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity)*
- Dr. Sarah Niecko built a new MOA between UAS and SEARHC to document our partnership around the Peer Support Professional Training courses that will happen in Sitka. SEARHC will fund their students to take these courses, along with UAS faculty to teach. *(Excellence, Collaboration, Access, Stewardship)*

Humanities

- Emily Wall won an Individual Rasmuson Award. She will use the funds to research and write a new book of poems. *(Excellence, Stewardship)*
- Jeremy Kane has been invited to an “Artist Invite Artist” summer session at the Red Lodge Clay Center in Red Lodge, Montana. For three weeks he will collaborate with five other Professors from Ohio, Mississippi, Kentucky, and Calgary. They will all have a show together as well as create their own work during this residency. *(Excellence, Collaboration, Stewardship)*
- UAS Ceramics will be hosting a Visiting Artist workshop from Sept. 26th-Sept. 28th 2023 with Professor Matt Long from The University of Mississippi. *(Excellence, Collaboration, Access, Stewardship)*
- X'unei Lance Twtichell was nominated for and received a Language Award from the Constellations Culture Change Fund & Initiative, housed at The Center for Cultural Power. *(Diversity, Access, Excellence, Collaboration, Stewardship)*

- **Wayne Price** (right) was nominated and awarded the 2023 Kathy Kolkhorst Ruddy Awards for the Arts in “Excellence in Arts & Cultural Education. [Read about it here](#). (*Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Diversity, Access, Stewardship*)
- Xéetl'ee Katelyn Stiles's film collaboration with K'asheechtlaa Louise Brady, titled Yee eedé tooshí áa. [We sing to you], is being screened nationally as part of the touring exhibit “Protection: Adaptation and Resistance.” The film is related to Xéetl'ee's dissertation research, which centers the resurgence of Herring Lady performances and protocols that generate deep relationships to Yaaw [Pacific Herring] and interconnected ecosystems. (*Excellence, Diversity, Access, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship*)



Sitka Campus

Dr. Paul Kraft, Campus Director

- We are off to a good start with solid enrollment in all the sections offered. Our one-day Sitka convocation was productive and provided an opportunity to reconnect after the summer break. (*Collaboration, Stewardship*)
 - The aquaculture semester-intensive class is at capacity for the first time and the program was highlighted during the Did You Know portion of the recent Board of Regents meeting in Juneau. (*Excellence, Access, Sustainability*)
 - Two new dual enrollment classes are being offered at Sitka High School; Tlingit language and Intro to Health Science. Interest from local high schools in expanding dual enrollment options continues to be high. (*Collaboration, Access, Diversity, Excellence*)
 - Representatives from the campus attended the Coast Guard Resource Fair and informed many Coast Guard family members about course and program options on our campus. An on campus Open House specific to the Coast Guard is now being planned for later in the fall semester. (*Collaboration, Access*)
 - Welding instructor Luke Gibes earned the Certified Welding Inspector certification over the summer. This is a difficult achievement but one that will benefit our students and the program. (*Excellence*)
 - Planning for the upcoming Indigenous People Day is well underway with partnerships with multiple organizations being established and deepened. (*Excellence, Collaboration, Diversity*)
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Ketchikan Campus

Dr. Priscilla Schulte, Campus Director

- Lisa Dale, Chris Boss, Priscilla Schulte, and Chancellor Palmer attended the NOAA ribbon cutting ceremony for their new dock and facility. NOAA officials toured the Maritime Training Center to discuss training opportunities.(collaboration, stewardship, access, diversity, excellence)
 - The Ketchikan Campus faculty and staff participated in the Blueberry Festival with a booth promoting classes and training.(Collaboration, Access)
 - Priscila attended the Provost Council Retreat in Juneau. (Collaboration, excellence)
 - The Ketchikan Campus started the semester with a strong enrollment in fall classes. The Maritime Training Center has many classes full to capacity. (Collaboration, Access, Diversity, Excellence).
 - The Ketchikan Campus held an informative Faculty Staff Development Day on August 18th, (Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Excellence)
 - The Ketchikan Faculty Orientation was held on August 22 and attended by adjunct and full time faculty.(Collaboration, Access, Diversity, Excellence)
 - The Ketchikan Campus library hosted the first “Ask UAS” presentation of this academic year with a talk by Asst. Professor Larry O’Loane on Maritime Careers on Sept. 12. (Access, Diversity, Excellence)
 - The Ketchikan Campus Advisory Council met on Thursday, Sept. 14th. (Collaboration, Access, Diversity, Excellence)
 - Jessica Driscoll and Chris Boss represented the Ketchikan Campus and UAS programs at the US Coast Guard Welcome Night held at the Ketchikan Coast Guard base. (Collaboration, Access, Stewardship, Diversity)
 - Jessica Driscoll met with counselors at the Ketchikan Gateway Borough High Schools. (Collaboration, Access, Diversity, Excellence)
 - Barbara Morgan’s class for Ketchikan Indian Community’s Tribal Scholars program is underway. (Collaboration, Sustainability, Access, Diversity, Excellence)
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Egan Library

Elise Tomlinson, Dean

Library

- Egan Library’s longtime Administrative Specialist Jeri Cary will be retiring at the end of September. A going away party will be held for her and her partner (baker of beloved bread and English muffins) Michael Ciri, on Sept. 29 from 4-5:30 in the enclosed corridor between Sobelof and Whitehead buildings.

- We are currently recruiting for Jeri's replacement. [The position](#) is open until filled; the search committee is at the interview stage for the current batch of applicants.
- Egan Library's Interlibrary Loan and Outreach Library Assistant Mary Graves has moved on to an exciting new career opportunity. In her absence, please use our online [Event Space Request Form](#), and contact Jennifer Ward with any questions regarding event bookings. We are currently recruiting for her replacement. If you are interested please see the [job posting on Careers@UA](#).
- This year's One Campus One Book is [Disability Visibility: First-Person Stories from the Twenty-First Century](#) edited by Alice Wong. The first activity of the year was a workshop held Sept. 19th in Egan Library. Participants explored their lived experiences through writing. Generative prompts helped jumpstart creativity to create poetry, personal essays, songs and other forms to answer the question: What stories do we have to tell about ableism, identity, intersectionality, culture, media, and politics from the perspectives of those living with a disability? Keep a lookout for additional upcoming activities. (*Collaboration, Access, Diversity*)
- Egan Library held our annual Open House on Wednesday September 13th. We offered 5 activities: finding books in the library, finding ebooks using online library resources, using the Cyril George Collection, Course reserves / low-cost textbooks, poetry activities in the Writing Center, and math games in the Learning Center. 35 students completed the required (at least three) of the activities to be included in the prize drawing. (*Collaboration, Access, Diversity*)
- [Evening at Egan Lectures](#) will be in person and live-streamed from the Egan Library on the Juneau Campus. Thanks to Arts and Sciences for hosting this series of lectures which are free and open to the public. All lectures begin at 7p.m. Live Stream links can be found next to the lecture descriptions. Lectures will be recorded and available on YouTube on the UAS Channel at: youtube.com/uasoutheast (*Collaboration, Access, Diversity, Excellence*)
- Egan Library's banana trees have again produced a bunch of bananas. Stop by the Circulation Desk for a taste (while supplies last). (*Excellence*)
- Egan Library has had to continue reducing collections due to ongoing funding shortfalls. For a full listing please see our updated budget reductions guide: uas.alaska.libguides.com/budgetreductions (*Sustainability, Stewardship, Access*)
- For more information on what Egan Library has been up to since our last Chancellor's Report please see our newsletter [@Egan](#).

Writing Center

- The Writing Center participated in Egan Library's annual Open House which kicked off their inaugural Magnetic Poetry Contest, which will run through Oct.1.

- Writing Tutors are working from the NRSC twice a week, on Wednesday from 4-5pm and Thursday from 2-4pm. (*Collaboration, Access, Diversity, Excellence*)
- Writing Specialist Jessy Goodman has made several visits to classes both in person and on Zoom to promote Writing Center services, and has welcomed a number of professors and their classes to the WC space for informational sessions. (*Collaboration, Access, Diversity*)
- The Writing Center has begun a tutor-led training program revolving around the book [Stop Talking: Indigenous Ways of Teaching and Learning and Difficult Dialogues in Higher Education](#) to aid in ongoing efforts of Indigenizing the WC. (*Diversity, Excellence*)

Learning / Testing Center

The UAS Learning and Testing Center welcomes a new Testing Supervisor, Kendall Brookhart. Due to this new hire, the Learning/Testing Center hours will resume to normal levels: Monday-Thursday 9am to 7pm, Friday 9am to 4pm, and Sunday 2pm to 7pm.

CELT

The CELT team continued to provide support to faculty addressing faculty needs and questions related to instruction, especially on important recent pedagogical concerns related to accessibility and generative AI. CELT supports faculty via three main formats:

- Presentations and interactive workshops
- Provided one-on-one help in-person, virtually via Zoom, and by email and phone
- Updated website materials and Youtube channel

Over the summer and into the fall, CELT worked closely on a special project with IT services to get faculty involved as early adopters for a new option for the Blackboard LMS interface: Ultra Course View.

In the summer of 2023 CELT welcomed two new instructional designers: Ramona Broussard on the Juneau campus and Nicholas Utterback on the Ketchikan campus.

Workshops and Programming:

CELT has received a lot of interest in generative AI programming and resources. The September presentation to help faculty improve accessibility was well-attended. CELT hosted and co-hosted the following programs in summer and early fall:

- Decolonizing Our Spaces PLC Panel (Ongoing)
- Blackboard Ultra Basics (August 15th)
- CELT Open House (August 16th)
- CELT Drop-in Help / Blackboard Gradebook set-up - (Friday, Aug. 18th)

- ANDORE Training (Aug 22 and 23)
- Navigate Training: Submitting Alerts, Drop for Non-Attendance, & Kudos through EAB (three sessions: September 1-6)
- Tech Tips roundup (September 14)
- Improve Accessibility with Blackboard Ally and other Technology Tools - (Aug 15th, September 21)
- Alternative Grading workshop (Sep 28)
- DSS/Deaf Navigator Presentation (Oct. 10)
- Conversations about Generative AI (August 15th, upcoming on Oct 12)

One-on-one help:

CELT's two main areas of focus for one-on-one help were accessibility and troubleshooting technology. The most common technology topics were questions about Zoom and the Blackboard gradebook. The team worked with over 30 faculty in the summer and early fall, to answer over 90 individual questions.

CELT Website updates:

- Added training on using Respondus LockDown Browser & Monitor.
- Added video training on ScreenPal.
- Added documentation for the 3Play Media process for getting captions for videos.
- Updated documentation on PDF accessibility.
- Added pages with information on helping students outside the classroom.
- Continued monitoring siteimprove.
- Added generative AI guidance, resources, and optional syllabus statements.
- Updated the syllabus template according to the 2024 Faculty Handbook. (*Access, Excellence*)

Special project: Blackboard Ultra Course View Update:

UAS currently has 7 individual faculty with 11 total courses in Ultra Course view.

Overview of layout and differences:

- More modern look and better on smaller screens.
 - Fewer fonts and colors, these are more accessible, and there are options for more images.
 - Easier to add content (less clicking).
 - Some content types and features (e.g. blogs, wikis) have been simplified/removed.
 - Students can track their progress and easily find where they left off in a course. (*Access, Excellence*)
-

Alaska Native Programs / PITAAS

Ronalda Cadiente Brown, Associate Vice Chancellor

- *PITAAS UPDATE Fall 2023 PITAAS Program scholarships support 20 students in professional certificate programs and both undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Institutional Effectiveness data through summer 2023 increases the total number of graduates to 241, up from 237. We are updating the "Where Are You Now PITAAS Graduate" data to document the number of graduates employed in Alaska and Alaska School Districts. (Access, Diversity, Excellence)*
 - *I received an invitation to submit a proposal to Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies organization in support of post-secondary success, in particular one that represents their strategic work of increasing institutional commitment to Native students and/or increasing Native student collegiate success. This proposal is by invitation only and solicits proposals in the range of \$150,000 to \$300,000 in support of a two year grant cycle , 2024-2026. I've been networking with staff aligned with student services and the Alaska Native Success retention priority. (Collaboration, Sustainability, Access, Diversity)*
 - *Routine organization meetings including Executive Cabinet, Chancellor's Cabinet, Juneau Campus Advisory Committee. Participation in Wooncheen and AAPI student club meetings on planning and initial meetings has been rewarding with terrific student energy. (Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Excellence)*
 - *I served on a hiring committee with UA peers of the Alaska Native Success Initiative in search of an(ANSI) Executive Director position. The hiring committee reviewed a range of applicants and refined the final selection to interview and standing by for a possible next step. (Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Excellence)*
 - *I am a member of the Arctic Leadership internal planning committee led by Susan Bell and UA President Pat Pitney, member. (Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Excellence)*
 - *UAS activity includes serving on the New Science Building Naming Committee as a member. Gunałchéesh Professor X'unei Twitchell for opening the door to Áak'w Kwáan representation to provide input on place names and suggesting names from traditional land use and features. The proposed name was adopted by the Board of Regents in August 2023.(Collaboration, Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Excellence)*
 - *Honorary Doctorate Meritorious Service Award held the first meeting of the academic year in August during convocation. I anticipate another rich roster of possible awardees.(Collaboration Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Excellence)*
 - *CACANE, the Chancellor's Advisory Committee of Alaska Native Education. I look forward to the first committee meeting of the academic year.(Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Excellence)*
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Administrative Services

Michael Ciri, Vice Chancellor

- All areas of Admin Services (IT, Facilities, Business operation & Budget) continue to operate with multiple vacancies. If you know of good candidates, please encourage them to apply.
- I'm making the problem worse in that I will retire at the end of the month (creating another vacancy). The recruitment for my successor is underway now. I have complete confidence in our UAS team to keep things on track through the uncertainty.
- We do not yet know what the overall structure for IT services will be. The current approach is to fill our Vice Chancellor position and then see what structure will work best given their talents.

Business Services

Jon Lasinski, Director

- The Office of the Bursar and Student Accounts is still recruiting for the Associate Bursar position. Please share with others.
- The Business Office is still recruiting for a UAS Accounts Payable & Travel Auditor Lead position.

Grants, Contracts & Budget

Julie Vigil, Director

Nothing to report this month.

Human Resources

Louisa Cryan, UA Senior Business Partner for UAS

We are excited to announce that the HR offices are now in the Novatney Building! You can find us in Rooms 107, 117 and 119. (*Collaboration, Access, Diversity, Sustainability*)

All University employees (including regular, term, temporary, student and full and part-time faculty and staff) are responsible for complying with the Alaska Executive Branch Ethics Act (Alaska Statute 39.52).

- Outside activity is to be disclosed within 30 days of starting (or resuming) University employment. Thereafter, any additional outside employment is to be reported prior to beginning that non-UA employment (bearing in mind that if your UA supervisor finds that an adverse effect from your outside

- employment is possible, you may not start that outside employment unless and until your supervisor or the designated ethics supervisor gives approval). Updated outside employment forms are required as significant changes in that outside employment occur. Outside employment is also to be reported every July 1, even if a form was previously submitted. The supervisor makes an initial determination about possible adverse effects on employment and forwards the form to the designated UAA, UAF, UAS, or SW ethics representative for review. The disclosure form is available [through NextGen](#). (*Collaboration, Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Sustainability*)
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Enrollment Management & Student Affairs

Lori Klein, Vice Chancellor

Admissions, Recruiting, & Exchanges/Study Abroad

Lori Klein, Interim Director of Admissions

- Recruiting is underway for Spring 2024 and Fall 2024. UAS will be present at all locations of the Alaska College and Career Fair, will attend the Youth & Elders Conference in October, and recruiters are doing outreach to School District and homeschool organizations across Alaska.
- Exchange and Study Abroad is hosting WorldStrides - an organization supporting Faculty Led programs abroad next week on Monday, September 25. Please contact Miranda Barril @ 796-6359 for more information
- UAS is sending a delegation of students and employees to Prague in June of 2024 for a cultural exchange. Please contact Miranda Barril @ 796-6359 for more information
- We are in the final stages of the Director of Admissions search process.

Military & Veteran Services

Deb Rydman, Military & Veteran Advisor

- Collaborated with regional VA Health Care and Veterans Readiness & Employment (VR&E, formerly VA Voc Rehab) agencies to host two Town Halls for both local students/residents as well as live streamed by UAS Information Technology Services for attendees outside of Juneau (*Collaboration, Access, Diversity, Excellence*).

- Attended Western Associate of Veteran Education Specialists (WAVE) three day conference in Reno Nevada with over 1,500 attendees. Gained additional insight into best practices and important updates for policy changes and potential impacts from the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) that will in turn benefit UAS military connected students (*Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Excellence*).
- In collaboration with our Registrar's Office, Creative Agency/Marketing, Financial Aid, Office of the Provost, Enrollment Management & Student Affairs, our 2023-2024 Academic Catalog was approved by our State Approving Agency (SAA) for continued funding of academic programs by the Department of Veteran Affairs (*Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Excellence*).
- Welcomed 13 new military connected students using the GI Bill® fall semester and 5 guest students from UAA & UAF taking classes at UAS. Hosted Fall Semester Welcome Back meet and greet for staff and VA Benefits Orientation for students (*Sustainability; Diversity; Access*).

Career Services

Aimée Richards, Career Services Manager

- Met with President Pitney and the UAA & UAF Career Services Directors to discuss the Alaska Fellow position, Handshake, career services collaborations across the UA system, and embedding career development into every step of the academic journey (collaboration, stewardship, access, excellence)
- Hired an Alaska Fellow who will be working for UAS, UAA, and UAF career services teams for the 2023/24 AY (collaboration, excellence)
- Presented a session at faculty convocation on career development tools and resources for faculty and staff advisors. If your department missed this, I am happy to present to your faculty. (collaboration, stewardship, access, excellence)
- New Student Orientation - presented about career services, Handshake account activation and on-campus jobs (collaboration, stewardship, access)
- Campus Kickoff - promoted on-campus jobs and activation of Handshake accounts. Special thanks to Kailey Pritzl for staffing assistance (collaboration, stewardship, access)
- Arts & Sciences Dean's Council presentation - orientation to Handshake and career development resources for faculty. Thank you Carin S. for the invitation! (collaboration, stewardship, excellence)
- ANS S101 - presented to students about activating their Handshake accounts, starting career development early and support services they can access through Career Services. Thank you Forest H. for the invitation! (collaboration, stewardship, access, diversity)

- Assisted alumni and students with applying for positions and preparing for interviews. If your area is still in need of a student employee, please let me know! (access, excellence)

Financial Aid

Janelle Cook, Financial Aid Director

- Kayla McLoughlin started in August as our Financial Aid Advisor
- We are actively looking for a Financial Aid Technician
- 2024-2025 Scholarship Application opens up on October 1, 2023
- As a reminder, the FAFSA for the 2024-2025 school year is not available until sometime in December.

Registrar's Office

Trisha Lee, Registrar

No updates at this time.

Creative Agency

Alison Krein, Creative Manager

- Integrated calendars on UAS Connect with website calendar. (*Collaboration, Access*)
- Completed campus photoshoot for recruitment and marketing. (*Collaboration, Diversity, Excellence*)
- One Campus, One Book marketing/display (*Collaboration, Diversity, Excellence*)
- Social Media coverage of Welcome Week/Campus Kickoff (*Collaboration, Diversity, Excellence*)

Students and Campus Life

Nathan Bodensadt, Dean of Students

- The Dean of Students Office is currently working to complete the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report for the 2022 calendar year, which must be shared with the campus community before October 1, 2023 in order to remain in compliance with the Clery Act. - *Excellence, Stewardship, Collaboration*
- Welcome to a # of new staff in Campus Life, including Lauren Proels, Associate Director of Residence Life, and Devin Tatro, Case Manager. - *Excellence, Collaboration*

Residence Life, Housing, and Dining

Sean McCarthy, Director of Residence Life

- We are so excited to show off all of the positive changes in Dining this year! A few highlights:
 - New partnership with Schoolhouse Fish Co, to provide smoked coho as a market item. *(Access, sustainability, diversity, collaboration)*
 - New partnership with Barnacle Foods to provide salsa's, jellies, hot sauces, and more to our market as well as in bulk for use in our cooking! *(Access, sustainability, diversity, collaboration)*
 - Increased shelving and market offerings with a focus on health, gluten free, and vegetarian additions. *(Access, diversity)*
 - New monthly menu featuring Vegan Mondays! October's menu will be out soon!! *(Access, diversity)*
- Students are moved in and settling into life at UAS. Housing is sitting at about 80% occupancy so there is still space for any students looking for late admission. *(Access)*
- Banfield Hall has been taken offline as a student Residence Hall for the Fall and Spring Semesters. Instead we will be utilizing this space for year-round conferencing with a variety of campus partners until a time where our enrollment increases to support the cost of operating another building. *(Stewardship, sustainability, collaboration)*

Native & Rural Student Center

Kolene James, Student Equity and Multicultural Services Manager

(Collaboration, Access, Diversity, Excellence)

NRSC Events past/present/future:

- Welcome Reception for Staff & Faculty, 8/15, 1st Floor Maurant, sponsored by the Widmark/NRSC Foundation and Students, 8/28, in the NRSC, sponsored by the NRSC.
- Relative Lunch w/Carrie Kline & Kolene James, and Guest Speakers, 9/6 & 9/20, 1pm-2pm, GVR, lunch sponsored by the Widmark/NRSC Foundation.
- Coffee Language Hour, 9/22, 1pm-2pm, near Spikes Cafe, join us to learn some Tlingit language related to serving/drinking beverages and serving/eating snacks, snacks and beverages sponsored by SHI's Our Ancestors' Echoes Grant. Everyone welcome!
- 15 Aak'w Rock student day passes, 9/23, starting at 2pm, sponsored by SHI's Our Ancestors' Echoes Grant, will be available to students during the coffee language hour event

NRSC Events (continued)

- Juneau community Orange Shirt Day event will happen 9/29, 5pm-8pm at Harborview school for a community gathering and Indigenous market, and 9/30, 9am-11am at the Mendenhall Wetlands for the Morning Wave. Everyone is welcome!

Clubs have started:

- AAPI meets every other Friday starting 9/22, 1:30pm-2:30pm in the NRSC
 - 1st Club event: *9/13, 5pm-8pm, GVR, Dinner and a Movie
- Woosheen meets every Friday starting 9/15, 2:30pm-3:30pm in the NRSC
 - 1st Club event: *9/10, 3pm-4pm, Upper Housing Trail, Herbal Tea Harvest
 - 2nd Club event: *9/22, 2:30pm-3:30pm, lower Maurant, Rosehip Harvest
- AISES meets once a month, date and time TBD
- (Stewardship, Sustainability, Collaboration, Access, Diversity, Excellence)
- Volunteer tutor sessions have started in the NRSC:
 - Tuesdays, 1pm-3pm with Dr. Julie Schram, she focuses on science related courses, and is available to help with cover letters, and scholarship letters.
 - Wednesdays, 4pm-5pm with Writing Center Student tutor, available to help with writing and edits to papers.
 - Thursdays, 2pm-4pm with Writing Center Specialist Jessy Goodman

Student Engagement & Leadership

Nathan Bodensadt, Dean of Students

- Hiring for a Student Engagement & Leadership Manager is underway. Ideally we will have the office staffed by the Spring 2024 Term. Many thanks to the talented student staff that are keeping the office active during the Fall 2023 term - *Excellence, Access, Stewardship*
- The physical office space for SE&L was refreshed this summer, including new paint and furniture. Please stop by and check it out while we are open! - *Excellence, Stewardship*
- UAS has invested in a new campus engagement software, [UAS Connect](#). All students, staff, and faculty can log into this system with their UA ID and password. - *Access, Stewardship, Sustainability*
- Upcoming events are posted in [UAS Connect](#) (and via UAS Connect, on the [Juneau Campus Calendar](#)). Highlights include [UAS Night at Perseverance Theatre](#), [Movie Nights](#), and other events put on by [Campus Departments and Clubs](#). - *Excellence, Diversity, Access, Collaboration*
- Elections for SGUAS-JC are underway. We're looking for a Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Public Relations Officer, and two Senators. - *Excellence, Stewardship, Diversity, Access*

Disability Services, Health Clinic & Counseling

Disability Services, Jenny Malecha

- Disability Services is actively collaborating with both new and returning students, faculty, and Residence Life staff to facilitate accommodation requests for the Fall semester. This semester, 61 students have registered with DS for academic, housing, and meal plan accommodations. (Excellence, Diversity, Access, Collaboration)
- For the third consecutive year, DS is partnering with the UAA and UAF DS Offices to prioritize Staff and Faculty training UA wide to promote inclusivity and accessibility. This year, DS is offering a monthly training series. [The first training session is scheduled for September 21st, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM.](#) Senior attorney Amy Kim from the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) will lead the session, providing insights into recent OCR cases related to student accommodations, including Pregnancy Discrimination, Remote Attendance, and Academic Adjustments. (Excellence, Diversity, Access, Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Sustainability)

Counseling, Carrie Kline, Lead Counselor

- On-boarding and training for the new Case Manager, Devin Tatro, is underway. Devin works with the Counseling, Health, and Disability services team to provide problem-solving support, resources and assistance to students as they navigate systems and adjust to campus life. (Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Sustainability).
- Counseling groups and workshops are posted on the [UAS website](#) and on Campus Groups (Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Excellence.)

Health Clinic

No updates

Recreation Center

Dave Klein, Associate Director of Campus Recreation

- Summer long fire panel installation project is completed. The project included the addition of 137 sensors through the facility. (Sustainability, Stewardship, Access)
- Summer membership revenue saw a 600% increase in revenue when compared to Summer 2022. Increase was due to the increase in guest membership rates, newly remodeled weight room, and increased communication with guests prior to arrival. (Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Diversity, Excellence)

- With upcoming changes to climbing wall flooring standards, campus recreation is beginning the process of replacing our flooring. Current flooring (now over 25 yrs. old) was designed for playground use and will soon be considered out of compliance when compared with the industry. Target date for installation is June 2024. (*Collaboration, Sustainability, Stewardship, Access, Excellence*)
 - Soon to arrive is a new winter outdoor rental item, hockey skates. With our changing climate and student access to CBJ facilities, ice skates will be a popular item currently not available to our students/membership.
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Facilities Services

Nathan Leigh, Director

Look for my email on Friday September 22, 2023 for the next edition of the Facilities Services “[The Level](#)” In this edition our team covers; Go where you can grow, Help us help you mail, Feather friendly windows, Property management, Landscaping in the fall and Construction project updates. (*excellence, collaboration, sustainability, and stewardship*)

We are still looking for people to work on our grounds crew, trades crew, and project management crew. They can be part-time, temporary, students, full time etc.. If you know of anyone who may be interested send them to careers.alaska.edu.

Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Cultural Safety (DEICS)

Dr. Math Trafton, Chair

- At the end of AY23, the committee met for a full-day retreat in Juneau to reflect on its work thus far, in its first 1.5 years of existence. From that retreat, we wrote and subsequently published the [AY23 Annual Report](#) (*excellence, diversity, access, collaboration*)
- As of now, there have been no volunteers to fill the role of staff co-chair, so Math Trafton, formerly faculty co-chair, is presently serving as the sole chair of the committee until a staff co-chair can be found.

- Math Trafton met with Chancellor Palmer to ensure the chancellor and the committee are on the same page, particularly with regard to the committee's proposed restructuring and selection of AY24 priorities. Chancellor Palmer is on-board and has charged the committee to restructure its focus and develop its priorities as the committee sees fit—and the chancellor will attend the first half of the next meeting (9/29) for further conversation on the matter.
 - The committee had its first AY24 meeting on Friday 9/8 in which the group collectively reshaped its committee structure, following what it's learned from its experience over the past 1.5 years, and it also developed a list of priorities that will be ranked by committee vote before the next meeting (9/29).
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Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Alaska Native Education (CACANE)

Heather Burge and Janelle Cook, co-Chairs

- *Heather Burge is our new faculty co-chair for the 2023-2024 school year.*
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Alaska 529 Plan

Do you have a loved one you want to help with their future? Consider [Alaska 529](#). Below are some tips on how to help:

IMPORTANT DETAILS ABOUT OPENING AN ACCOUNT FOR A LOVED ONE

- Contributions to an Alaska 529 are removed from your taxable estate and considered a gift to the beneficiary. However, you remain in control of the assets.
 - You can select investment options best suited for helping your loved one achieve their education goals.
 - You can adjust your contributions as needed.
 - You control when distributions are taken.
 - You determine if and when the beneficiary is ready to manage his or her account.
 - For 2023, the maximum annual gift amount is \$17,000 per individual per year without paying gift taxes. With a 529, you can contribute up to \$85,000 (or \$170,000 for a married couple) to a beneficiary in one year and average the gift over five years without paying gift taxes, as long as no other gifts are made to the beneficiary during the five-year period. Consult a tax professional for details, as gift and estate taxes can be complex.
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