

# THE LEVEL



## Welcome to Fall 2023!

Summer is over.

Time to officially  
remember what  
day of the week it is.



From all of us at the UAS Facilities Services Department, welcome back to all students, faculty, and staff! How is it already mid-October? The leaves are changing colors and the typical Southeast Alaska fall weather has started pounding on us like a kid stomping in a mud puddle. Like the colors on the leaves, change is inevitable in our lives too. If you could change something that happened in your life, would you rub the golden lamp, or would you keep

that experience with you as reminder of what you can overcome and learn that life lesson? Life is a series of changes, whether it is changing your hair color or changing your major. Change brings knowledge. Just know that you are worth it. No matter what changes come your way, keep pushing forward and try to keep your head above water. You got this. Have a great fall semester and grab a cup of coffee and check out in this LEVEL what our department has been up to. (C. Leamer/Admin. Assistant/Facilities)

## Go Where You Can Grow

During my mid-morning walks with my golden retriever, Ocean, I walk past two different patches of fireweed. The patch on the right side of the road is taller than I am with dark green leaves and bright pink blossoms like you see in those Alaskan calendars they sell downtown. The patch on the left is short, only coming up to my knee, with one or two pale blossoms and looking more like a common weed. These two fireweed patches are right across the road from each other and it makes me wonder why is one thriving while the other one is surviving. I am sure that if we asked our UAS Grounds Superintendent, David Lendrum, he would give a lengthy explanation of [ACCESS](#) to water runoff from the road, amount of sunshine, healthy soil and adjacent symbiotic plants.

I think that we are much like fireweed. Sometimes we are in a place where we are thriving with loving family, good



friends, caring professors, vigorous exercise, and nutritious food, with a warm safe place to live. Sometimes we are in a place just surviving with little support from family, toxic friends, poor food and having to live in a depressing insecure space.



Unlike my fireweed friends who cannot jump up and go over to the other side of the road, you and I can *Go Where You Can Grow*. When things are not working out for our wellbeing, we can make changes in our life to obtain **ACCESS** to the things that help us grow. We can take classes that strengthen our talents and help us embark on a rewarding career. We can choose food and beverages that will keep us healthy and able to focus on those long class lectures. We can filter what stuff goes into our brain so that our minds clear to recall the correct answers on our final exams. We can stand in places that allows us to associate with professors who care that we learn, advisors who will listen to our challenges and friends who we can support and who will support us



to reach our full potential.

This Fireweed analogy reminds me of our UAS Vice Chancellor, and my boss, Michael Ciri. Last week the UA Board of Regents recognized Michael for his nearly 40 years of pursuing **EXCELLENCE** here at UAS. In that presentation, we heard Michael's story of how he came from a harsh place that contributed to him dropping out of Juneau Douglas High School. However, Michael followed the *Go Where You Can Grow* proverb and chose to take a couple of UAS classes. Michael found here at UAS an environment that he could not just grow but could thrive. He found mentors, educators, engaging experience, supportive classmates and co-workers and Michael found plenty of opportunities to grow.



Growth rings that Michael Ciri obtained here at UAS include; student, student employee, adjunct faculty member, campus mascot, technical specialist, Director of IT, Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services and COVID Commander. Michael Ciri is a proud, three-time graduate of the University of Alaska System, receiving an associate degree in 1988, a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts in 1994, and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Alaska Southeast in 2007. For those of you who missed this presentation you can check it out the UA Board website. <https://www.alaska.edu/bor/agendas/index.php>

Michael has been my boss and mentor for the past six years while I have tried to grow into this Facilities Services Director position. It has only been through his encouragement that I have not walked out the door, and it has only been his guidance that has kept me from being thrown out the door. My advice to Michael, and all of our community campus is Go Where You Can Grow. Find places where you can obtain **ACCESS** to learn new skills, strengthen existing skills, receive support and where you can help others grow.

Remember the Chinese Proverb.

**Nathan Leigh P.E.**  
**UAS Facilities Director**



## Places here at UAS where you can Go where You can Grow

- Learning Center – for those homework assignments just do not make since. <https://uas.alaska.edu/juneau/tlc/index.html>
- Help Desk – for all those computer challenges. <https://uas.alaska.edu/helpdesk/index.html>
- Facilities Services – for when you find a building system needs repair. [https://uas.alaska.edu/facilities\\_services/index.html](https://uas.alaska.edu/facilities_services/index.html)
- NRSC – for when you need a warm, inviting atmosphere filled with opportunities to gather with peers, receive academic support, and develop leadership skills. <https://uas.alaska.edu/juneau/nrsc/index.html>
- Rec Center – for reaching your peak physical fitness. <https://uas.alaska.edu/juneau/rec/index.html>
- Counseling – for when you need some additional mental nourishment. <https://uas.alaska.edu/juneau/counseling/index.html>
- Disability Services – for accessibility assistance. <https://uas.alaska.edu/dss/index.html>
- Academic Advising – for helping you find the right career. <https://uas.alaska.edu/life/find-your-advisor.html>
- Lake Side Grill – for that tasty physical nourishment. [https://uas.alaska.edu/juneau/food\\_service/index.html](https://uas.alaska.edu/juneau/food_service/index.html)
- In addition, more than 20 other places at UAS where you can Go where You can Grow. <https://uas.alaska.edu/life/student-services.html>

# Meet Our New Crew Members



## CARPENTER:

Please help us to welcome our new carpenter, **Dusty Rautiainen**. Dusty moved to Juneau in the early 90's and since then has been on many well-known building projects, some of which are listed below. He is a certified carpenter and is familiar with our campus as he has worked on the Soboleff building, the Egan Library, and has also attended a carving class with Wayne Price. This position has been vacant since March 2023 and we are thrilled to have him on our team!



- **Dorothy Lake Hydro Project**
- **State Library & Archives Museum(The SLAM)**
- **The Walter Soboleff Building**
- **State Capital Building**
- **The Diamond Courthouse**
- **Kensington Gold Mine Water Treatment Plant**
- **Hecla Greens Creek Gold Mine Housing Building**

**GROUNDS CREW:** We have also had several students join our grounds crew this fall. They are **Alex Handlos**, **Isaiah Franzoni**, and **Reese Tolbert**. Under the guidance of the Grounds Supervisor, **Ray Roberts**, these students are not only keeping our grounds looking great, sidewalks safe and assisting in snow removal, they are UAS's primary force for providing responsible **STEWARDSHIP** of our campus grounds. Great job guys!


If you are interested in joining our team as a student worker, a temporary seasonal worker, or even in a full time position, please give us a call at 907-796-6496, or email us at [uas.facilities@alaska.edu](mailto:uas.facilities@alaska.edu). We can tell you what we have available. We are able to offer flexibility in scheduling for students.





## WHAT DOES FACILITIES SERVICES DO??

With fall semester in full swing, and a bunch of new people on campus, I thought I would take the opportunity to remind everyone that Facilities Services is here to provide responsible [stewardship](#) for our buildings, grounds and utilities. Since we do not always notice everything that goes wrong with our buildings and grounds, we often rely on students, staff, and faculty to notify us when something is broken on campus. We appreciate your help with this, and have a few ways for you to contact us.

- Scan this QR Code  to upload our contact information directly to your smart phone:
- Call our front desk at 907-796-6496 during business hours M-F, 7:30am-4:30pm.
- To reach us after hours or on the weekend please call 1-866-999-1822, and our crew will be notified.
- You can also notify us of any problems via email at [uas.facilities@alaska.edu](mailto:uas.facilities@alaska.edu).
- We also have an online service request form on our home page [www.uas.alaska.edu/facilities\\_services](http://www.uas.alaska.edu/facilities_services)

**\*\* (Call 911 for any police, fire, or EMS related emergencies) \*\***

At Facilities Services, we look forward to serving the campus community every day, and enjoy the challenges of the job. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions, comments, or deficiencies to report.

**Thank You,**

*Adam Zenger*

*UAS Facilities M&O Manager:*

## Noyes Pavilion Fiber Optic Cable



They sometimes say "you can't get there from here." In the case of finding a path for getting fiber optic cable to the Noyes Pavilion this nearly proved true...

UAS has consistently tried to maintain the highest level of communication capability throughout the Auke Lake and Downtown Juneau campuses but one area that could stand some improvement has been Noyes Pavilion and Eureka knoll. Consequently, early last spring it was suggested that UAS Facilities attempt to provide a fiber optic connection to the communication equipment at Noyes. This would allow a far better broadband capability than exists currently and would even provide sufficient capacity for instructors to conduct classes for those stout-hearted enough to attend the open air arena.

When the Pavilion was constructed in the early eighties, scant consideration for communication was given during design; few could envision the potential for the wireless transfer of data that would materialize in just a few years. So the provision for a communication line to the Pavilion consisted of a single small pipe that had been routed from the communication area inside of Noyes to a small junction box at the base of the pathway. Facilities was able to locate this box after studying the original plans and using a pointed steel staff to probe the dirt. The junction box was located buried under about 9" of vegetation and earth. And there was much rejoicing...



That proved to be the easy portion of what came to be called "The Quest for Fiber". Within this box of junction were 2 empty pipes. One clearly came from the knoll and the edifice thereon. The other? The other led into the unknown...The Quest for Fiber had begun. Assiduously, the old texts were studied. The crusaders, hoping to glean some scrap of information that would give some illumination to the path of the pipe interrogated any who might hold the knowledge to solve the mystery. Excavations of likely locations were begun, concluded and abandoned. The conduit was probed with steel wire probe until the steel was depleted. Every enshrouded coffer we could find was tested and tried while seeking the other end of the conduit that began at the base of the

knoll of Eureka...

Not all those who wander are lost but we did appear fearsome confused to the uninitiated (who said as much...). During this pipe dream much knowledge of the realm was attained and diligently recorded for posterity. And because if you write things down it's investigative and "sciencey". At long last, when all conventional avenues had been exhausted, one of their number ventured a novel idea! A chamber which could be filled with smoke would be constructed; smoke would then be forced into the vacant conduit and, with luck, sighted as it escaped its hidden vault!



Anticipation was palpable as the devices that produced the colored smoke was dropped into the vapor tank: with a mighty wind the tank was emptied and the pipe was filled with the tinted fumes. The searchers scattered and all eyes were searching for the telltale wisps that would reveal their goal... Alas, the failure was complete. Literally and figuratively, there was no smoke... Crestfallen, our heroes began to canvass the area, ears attuned for the sound of escaping effluvium and at long last the faintest sound was detected! "And then the end is known..." Huzzah!

Due to the circuitous conduit path involved when the fiber is installed it will run from Eureka Knoll to its base at the bottom of the Noyes pathway then to an enclosure in front of John

Pugh Residence hall back to another vault several hundred feet back toward the Eureka Disc Course parking area then into the communication room on the 2nd floor of John Pugh Hall. When installed the fiber route will end up being between 400% - 500% longer than a "as a crow flies" measurement to John Pugh Hall.

But Facilities found a path. The "Quest for Fiber" was complete.

**Mardis Buness**  
**Electrician**  
**UAS Facilities Services**

## Joint Use Facility Lighting Cans



Our crew is down to earth. Literally. Here we have Dana Wade and Donny Sims using a "core drill" with a water-cooled hole saw to excise the concrete surrounding some in-ground lighting "cans". The core drill is bolted to the pavement surface and carbide teeth around the rim of the red can in the picture cut through the concrete as the can spins and the water hose keeps the saw from overheating.

The lighting fixtures being removed were installed during the initial construction of the UAS/AKANG Joint Use Facility in 2005 and the years had not been kind to them. The lights had become little more than a tripping/slipping hazard as time and climate rendered them inoperable as well as irreparable; it was time for them to go...

After the can removal and some backfilling is complete, the voids will be filled with cement and finished to match the existing sidewalk around the flagpoles.

## Student Housing Lodge Furnace Repair



Dana Wade, Plumber (left) and Bernie Yadao, HVAC Tech. (above) **COLLABORATE** their work on cleaning the furnace in the Student Housing Lodge prior to repairing it.

Dana kind of resembles something out of an end of the world movie in his respirator mask. Fortunately, our guys keep us from feeling like it is the end of the world since they are able to take care of these repairs for UAS.





## Feather Friendly Windows

The University of Alaska Southeast has proudly partnered with the Juneau Audubon Society with the help of alumni and former Juneau Audubon Society intern, **Amalia Tamone**, to install window deterrents on several windows throughout the Egan Library.



Every year, millions of birds are killed by striking glass. The purpose of this treatment is to help prevent birds from striking the windows. The Tongass National Forest provides prime habitat for breeding birds. Windows that are low to the ground and reflect the surrounding vegetation pose a significant risk when birds are in flight. The dots on the window help to disrupt the reflection and prevent birds from attempting to fly through.

These dots are just one of many **SUSTAINABLE** options that can be installed in your home or office to help birds avoid colliding with your windows. For more information please visit <https://abcbirds.org/glass-collisions>

### AVIAN CONSERVATION RECOGNITION

For Outstanding Leadership In Saving Birds





**UNIVERSITY of ALASKA SOUTHEAST**

---

**UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA SOUTHEAST**

In recognition of their incredible action to prevent avian species loss from glass collisions, the University of Alaska Southeast installed Feather Friendly® mitigation solutions, alerting birds to dangerous surfaces and effectively reducing fatalities.

We thank the University of Alaska Southeast for their partnership in safeguarding wild birds for current and future generations.



**FeatherFriendly**  
For the Prevention of Bird Collisions



Installed - 2022-23

# Landscaping & Grounds Maintenance

## Native Peat, Our Black Gold

Our campus is composed of several environments, we have the wild forested portion, the Spruce Hemlock climax with its associated plants, we have the Lakeshore, with all the wetland grasses, sedges, and herbs, and we have the developed portions with the mixture of native and non-native species.

We are constantly asked by visitors, locals, and students, to explain why the landscape plantings at UAS are so rich and healthy, we can talk about the sun exposure, the constant moisture, our selection of species that will thrive here, and the careful and constant care our landscapes receive, but the most important quality for its success is even more basic, it's the dirt.

For more than 20 years we have chosen to plant in straight native peat, a soil resource that is almost 100% organic matter. It's not even really considered dirt by soil scientists since there are hardly any mineral particles. No sand, no loam, and no clay...it's all partially decomposed vegetable matter, mostly from Muskegs, or sites that formerly were Muskegs

Muskegs are areas where the water table is just below the surface, water tolerant species grow and flourish here, and seasonally they die to the ground and regrow the next season from the perennial root systems. The seasonally produced plant material falls into the wet environment, where the constant moisture prevents decomposition, over eons of time this partially broken down material is transformed into a dark, dense, still sodden material. This is peat, it can be made mostly of grasses and sedges, or mostly of sphagnum moss, but either works well for us.

We buy it from excavator operators who come across the peat as layers or lenses in the areas where they're working, and we have fingers out for news of locations where work is going on, and then we swoop down, look at the material and buy it if we can.

We place it over the more mineralized soils if they are exposed, but generally over construction soils, meaning a mixture of sand and gravels that are compacted to support the construction of buildings and roadways. The Peat is visually distinct from regular soil, it is obviously organic, when it is separated into smaller units, it tears apart rather than crumbling, and if you squeeze a handful, it always releases moisture, usually dark because of all the tannins in the peat.

This is only a physical description, the reason we use it for our planting is that it is the substrate for all the forests and meadows of our area, plants love being set in peat, they establish quickly, grow along rapidly, and they form the essential microrrhizobial associations that are essential to plant growth and survival in this climate. Contrary to most local soils, which are very acid, peat is nearly neutral, and since the water flows



*Muskeg*

through the material rather than being held into the mud, peat does not erode, or slip as in landslides.

Look at our hillside plantings of Sitka Roses in front of Novatney Building, the steep slope was originally grass, that had to be mowed, a very dangerous operation, our solution was to peel off the turf, place a foot of peat on the slope and then plant Rugosa Rose starts, within two years the canopy of roses had closed over the area, and we never have to get on it except to remove invaders, although a lot of people harvest the fruit, (called rose hips). This slope is a good example of our goal of creating low maintenance and **SUSTAINABLE** campus landscaping. We have used this same landscaping method for the Sobloeff slope, which will look the same in a few more years.

The Soboleff slope, the courtyard whale bed, and the two islands in front of the library, and the welcome bed at the Chapel entrance, are also planted in straight peat, as well as the new planting around the flag poles.

It's really a wonderful substance, and for many years it was ignored, and even discarded, dug up and thrown into gravel extraction pits, until a local woman pursued her investigations and found how powerful it was as a growth medium. UAS and our landscaping community are always improving are **STEWARDSHIP** to this land and peat. It is now in great demand and all the excavator operators know and look out for this treasure.



*Whale bed planted in peat moss.*

If any of you who are reading this article want to know more, contact the Facilities office 907-796-6496 and ask for either Ray Roberts, or myself, and we will be glad to show you this wonderful soil substance, Southeast Alaskan Native Peat.

**David Lendrum**  
**Landscape Superintendent, UAS**

**October is Campus Sustainability Month**

This is a great time to reflect on how are all connected to our environment, community and the world. UAS value #5 is Sustainability. Check out our [Sustainability Web Page](#) to see what things UAS is doing to strengthen our sustainability. Connect with our [Sustainability Committee](#) for additional ideas to improve our sustainability. Remember, your own actions can make the largest impact on our sustainability. This month keep this in mind when you make your next purchase, decide what to eat, throw

something out, choose your entertainment and programs you support.



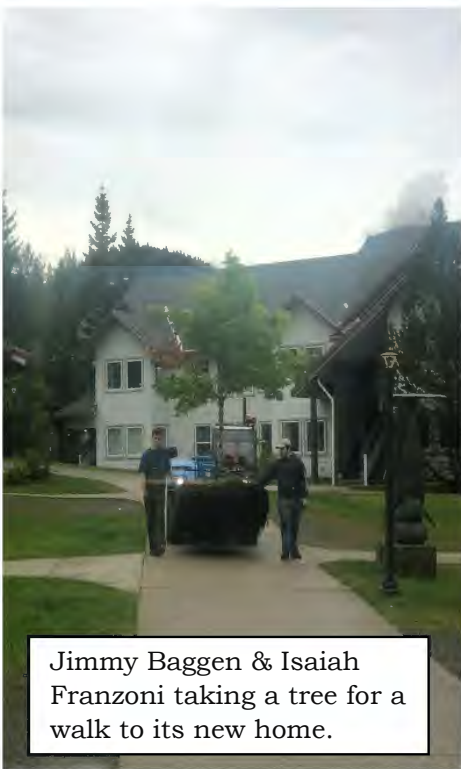
**Sustainability takes forever.**  
**And that's the point.**  
 William McDonough

## Grounds Crew



Ray Roberts & James Young planting rhododendrons in front of the flag poles.

Our grounds crew works hard to get the campus landscaping to the level of beauty it is known for. Did you know that landscaping isn't the only job they do? They are also responsible for setting up and taking down the majority of events and meetings that occur around campus. They are also tasked to maintain the parking lots and striping them. They clean gutters. Over the summer they did much of this. Now that fall has come in like a wrecking ball, and winter has reared its head at us from the mountain tops, they will be preparing with the rest of our crew to plow and sand, and all the fun winter prep things.



Jimmy Baggen & Isaiah Franzoni taking a tree for a walk to its new home.



Ray getting ready to stripe the parking lots.



**Housing Concrete Sidewalk Repair**



The Contractor has started on this project which will replace some of the most deteriorated sidewalks around housing. We had hoped to have this work completed before school started.

Unfortunately that did not happen due to staff

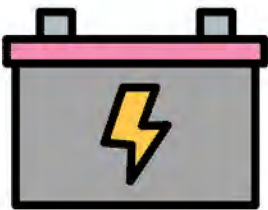
shortages. The construction work will be disruptive to many students at housing and we greatly appreciate your patience and understanding. Please keep an eye out for notices from Sean McCarthy of construction that will affect your access to housing. If rain and snow holds off for another couple of months, we will be able to get this project completed this year.

– Nathan Leigh

**IT – UPS Replacement**

This project is now complete! A big kudos goes out to the Contractor, Alaska Electric and our IT department. We were able to replace the Uninterruptable Power Service (UPS) for the UAS server with very little disruptions to campus. Most of us never knew it happened. But, now our intranet, phone system, email system, and databases have the latest technology for keeping power running to the servers.

– Nathan Leigh



**Replace Retractable Bollards**

The retractable bollards frequently break down and it takes a long time to repair.



This means they are not working for weeks and months at a time.

This

project will investigate alternatives that are more reliable in our Southeast Alaska environment. – Adam Zenger

**Mourant Window Replacement Phase 3**



This project will replace the remaining narrow windows in the Mourant Building. The new windows have arrived on campus and are sitting in the large crates out in front of Mourant. We have recently found out that some of the building framing needs to be modified to accept the new windows. The Design Team and Contractor are currently working on manufacturing some brackets as part of this modification. The contractor expects to start installing the windows in early November. The Contractors plans to reduce impact to students, staff and faculty by replacing only two windows at a time before moving to the next two but leaving a temporary enclosure for finish and painting. –Nathan Leigh



**Rec Center – Fire Alarm Replacement**

This project is Complete! This project replaced the existing fire alarm system which had reached the end of its useful life. Thank You for everyone who helped complete this project including, Begenyi Engineering, Johnson Controls, Chatham Electric and all the Rec-Center staff who have been so patient over the many years it has taken to get the project funded, designed and constructed. – *Nathan Leigh*

**NSRL - Relocation**

Most of the programs in the Natural Science Research Lab will be moved to the Auke Bay Integrated Science Building:Áak’w Tá Hít. The last remaining programs at NSRL will be relocated to the Anderson Building. This project will remodel the old scuba lab, scienc lab 108 and classroom 203 to accommodate these remaing programs. Work will start on these remodels this fall and will be completed summer 2024. – *Kristin Reynolds*

**New UAS Shuttle**

The yellow school bus shuttle will be going away soon. We have contracted with Firs Student to provide a new shulle that is the same style as our old shuttle. The new shuttle will have a nice with a nice graphic wrap that we are keeping under wrap until it arrives on campus. It should be here in several weeks. – *Nathan Leigh*

**Facilities Services Oil & Water Separator**

This project will bring our facilities mechanics garage up to current code by installing an oil and water separator in the garage floor drain. Thank You to one of our UAS Faculty who encouraged UAS to do this work, enen though upgrading an existing garage is not require by building codes. However, it is good STEWARDSHIP of this beuatfull place we live. – *Adam Zenger*



**Noyes Pavilion Roof**

This project will replace the asphalt shingle roofing on the Noyse Pavilion which has been leaking. We will also refinished the wood siding. –*Adam Zenger*

## Property Surplus & Disposal

**Coming Soon:** A collection of everything you need to know about the life cycle of property from purchasing, to disposal.

We are working very hard to get a page created to provide straight forward guidelines and easy access to the necessary forms to ensure we are operating in accordance with regulations. Stay Posted! In the meantime, some helpful pointers

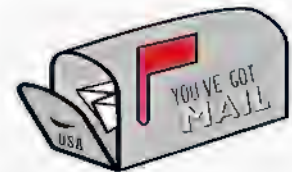
1. If you buy something expensive, review the accounting code manual to determine if it should use a 5xxx code. Using a 5xxx code ensures it will show up on our capital property report
2. If you aren't sure if the items should be capital property or not, we welcome you to call or email anytime, we are happy to talk through it with you.
3. If you move, or lose, capital property, let Facilities know. This will help keep the inventory process clean at the end of the year.
4. If you wish to get rid of University property, submit a work order. The surplus/disposal process can take up to 3 business weeks, in which items will primarily be left in their current location, so please plan accordingly and give us plenty of heads up before you need it to be out of your space.

## Sending & Receiving Mail

### Receiving mail

Everyone loves receiving mail. It becomes much less fun when you are waiting for an order that doesn't show when it has been marked as "delivered" or worse, just seems lost altogether.

Facilities wants to help with that, and here are some things you can do to help us, too



1. Include your name and mail stop in the ship to address This helps us easily and quickly identify who the order belongs to so we can get it where it needs to go. Examples can be found on our webpage [https://uas.alaska.edu/facilities\\_services/mail.html](https://uas.alaska.edu/facilities_services/mail.html)
2. Let us know of staffing changes so we can keep the mail delivery database updated. You can review this listing anytime here: [https://uas.alaska.edu/facilities\\_services/docs/mail/MailDeliveryDatabase9.20.21.pdf](https://uas.alaska.edu/facilities_services/docs/mail/MailDeliveryDatabase9.20.21.pdf)
3. Despite best efforts, some vendors will not put contact information on packages. This is especially true when there are multiple shippers involved (vendor to USPS to AML for example). The more information we know, the quicker we can piece the puzzle together and get your order to you. We have been brainstorming the best way to coordinate such information and would love to hear your opinions. If you have an idea, please share it with us at [uas.facilities@alaska.edu](mailto:uas.facilities@alaska.edu)

One important point to remember when receiving packages: Just because tracking says delivered, that doesn't necessarily mean it was delivered. When Items are shipped, especially via barge, often they will be signed for at the port, for instance when AML takes possession in Washington. This will trigger an alert to the receiver that it has been received

and signed for, but clearly will not be in UA possession yet. When questioning actual receipt of an item, it can be very helpful to ask who signed for the receipt. This will help separate out items that haven't arrived on campus yet.

### ***Sending Mail***

Always put the department org to be charged by the return address. As we approach the end of the first quarter of the year, we will soon see the first quarter invoice for mail.



The State of Alaska captures the orgs written at the top of items sent from the University, and then sends us a record of charges by month by org. Unfortunately, that is the most detail we get, so it is critical that the proper org is written on outgoing mail to ensure charges reach the correct department. If you are unsure of which org to use, please work with your administrative support team.

You can find more about UAS Mail here:

[https://uas.alaska.edu/facilities\\_services/mail.html](https://uas.alaska.edu/facilities_services/mail.html)

## **LED Lights 101**

One ongoing project the facilities department actively prosecutes is the retrofit of the HID lights on campus and pathways so these lights use the much longer lasting and energy efficient LED lamps. Most of the existing campus lights (or luminaires if you will) employ a ballast or transformer to excite a gas contained in a lightbulb or fluorescent tube causing it to glow brightly. Ballasted lighting has been the norm for many years.

LED technology has advanced to the point where it is now possible to modify most of the existing ballasted fluorescent, metal-halide, halogen, and mercury vapor fixtures to use LED lamps. During this work the ballast is removed from the fixture and the lamp socket or holder is wired directly to the incoming power. An LED lamp or tube matching the appearance, output, light color, and dimensions of the old lamp is then installed in the fixture.

Facilities Services is always looking for new and better ways to provide excellent **STEWARDSHIP** of our facilities and one good one is LED technology. Advantages gained from changing from ballasted lamps to LEDs include; fluorescent and other gas-filled lamps and their ballasts pose disposal issues as they frequently contain heavy metals and are considered hazardous waste by the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, since LEDs last so much longer than the lamps they are replacing and not needing ballasts they result in much less waste over the life of the fixture.





The main advantage to LEDs, however, and the one that recommends the retrofit of the fixtures so vigorously are the energy savings that are being realized by UAS. On June 2nd, 2023 facilities crew completed the changing of 50 ea. 70 watt fixtures and 2 ea. 250 watt fixtures in the common areas of the Egan classroom wing from using metal halide lamps and ballasts to using LED lamps only.

The LED lamps we installed promise 50,000 hours of service using 17.5 watts of electricity to produce 70 watts of light (25% of 70 watts, although the electricity usage is closer to 20%). The LED lamps facilities installed cost \$52.00 each and 1.5 (ish) man hours of labor. The LEDs will consume \$175 of electricity at 13 cents/KWH during those 50,000 hours for a rough operating/maintenance cost of these 50 fixtures of **\$17,000 for approximately 12 years of usage at 50% lamp-on duty.**

The metal halide fixtures that were retrofitted (using these same metrics) shake out thusly: 87.5 watts of electricity for 70 watts of light (ballast load is 25% of wattage). Had facilities not changed over to LEDs these fixtures would have required 5 new 10,000 hour MH lamps at \$47.44 and one new ballast per at \$237.00 for those same 50,000 hours of service. 7 man hours of maintenance would be associated with changing the MH lamps and ballasts (very conservative labor figure) and use \$568.75 of electricity per fixture. The price of continuing with the existing metal halide ballasted lights would be **\$80,147.50 for the same 12 years of usage at 50% duty.**



**The cost difference between the LED conversion and the status**

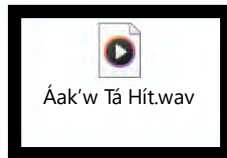
**quo would be \$63,147.00.** This figure does not take into account time spent ordering, storing, or moving of the MH lamps and ballasts or increased costs due to inflation as time goes by. Facilities has retrofitted fixtures in many locations around the Auke Bay Campus and Career Tech Center. Auke Lake Way and the trail to student housing, Egan Commons and restrooms, Raven Plaza, Noyes Pavilion area lighting and pathway lights, and the exteriors of the Marine Core and Marine Tech buildings all have been upgraded to LED lamps.



**Mardis Buness**  
**Electrician**  
**UAS Facilities Services**

# FP&C Project Updates

## Auke Bay Integrated Science Building- Áak'w Tá Hít



Click for pronunciation.

Áak'w Tá Hít, meaning “the House at the Head of the Little Lake”, is the official name for the Auke Bay Integrated Science Building (ABISB). The Board of Regent approved the requested name for the newest UAS building while in session in Juneau in August. The day before approving the new name, members of the Board of Regents, and staff from UA Statewide, UAA, and UAF toured the construction site with UA President Pat Pitney, taking in the view of Auke Bay that will soon be available to everyone.

The construction has been progressing daily, despite supply chain issues that have made an impact on the completion date. The building is expected to be complete during the spring 2024 semester. Fall 2024 will see you in the building for classes!



The photo shows the above-mentioned tour. Please reach out to Kristin Reynolds, FPC Project Manager, if you have concerns during construction at [kreynolds@alaska.edu](mailto:kreynolds@alaska.edu)

### Projects Needing a Project Manager

We have been searching for a project manager for several month. If you know of someone has a strong ingrained **STEWARDSHIP** and would like to work on our Facilities Planning and Construction team, please send them to <https://careers.alaska.edu> .We have had to place many projects on hold until we hire a project manager. Some of these projects include:

- Install Security Cameras – Sitka
- Covered Stairways at Soboleff/Mourant
- Replace Elevator in Soboleff
- Extend Fiber Cable to Noyes Pavilion
- Replace Carpet in Novatney Top Floor
- Install Sound System in Lakeside Grill
- Replace KTN Maritime Center Roof
- Install Stairway Cover at Housing
- Repair Roof and Skylight at Sitka Campus
- Install Exit Canopies at Sitka Campus
- Replace Student Lodge Fuel Tank
- Install Proxi-Card Electronic Door Locks
- Install More Security Cameras – Juneau

# Greetings from Sitka Campus



The days are getting shorter, the nights longer and the winds stronger. These are sure signs that the campus has gotten busier with the return of students, staff, and faculty for fall semester. This fall has given us a wide variety of weather which makes the sunny days that much sweeter. Our hats are off to everyone that worked hard as part of the campus beautification at the end of

spring semester. It has been a real pleasure admiring all of the beautiful flowers and fresh bed arrangements everyone worked so lovingly on. Thank you



## Sitka- Projects & Tasks

Sean, Austin, and Greg George had a productive summer and start to fall semester. We had our assortment of normal tasks but were also able to dig into some larger projects while the campus was quiet. Austin worked diligently with remote help from some of our heroes like Scott from UAF and Logan from UAS - Juneau. As a **COLLABORATIVE** team, we replaced some beyond end-of-life AV components in 3 of our high use rooms by adding new cameras, ceiling mics, and a variety of network components. Our campus is now operating as mostly web-based for hybrid and remote delivery of courses, meetings, and events.

## Sitka- Compressor Replacement

Not to forget more of our heroes, we extend a huge thank you to Bernie, Adam, and the Juneau Facilities crew for preparing and sending over a surplus compressor from their storage vault. This beauty of a compressor replaced our poor tired beast that was long overdue for some peaceful slumber. For those of us with a few years under our belts the idea of a rest is appealing with all the loose, creaky, and leaky parts and never being able to catch your breath. The compressor supplies pressurized air to our remaining pneumatically controlled HVAC system and is in place and working well.



**New Compressor**



**Old Compressor (left)**

## Sitka- On Demand Water Heater

Sometimes the small things give us the best rewards. 3 on-demand hot water heaters were added to some sinks in our Science labs this summer. These have been a welcome addition and good **STEWARDSHIP** to everyone that uses the science labs. Our Art program has an additional electric kiln wired in and available to help with the increased student enrollment numbers. Our expanding Mariculture program now has a larger shared space and has been able to add two new growth chambers with the addition of a couple new electrical circuits and some creative space management.

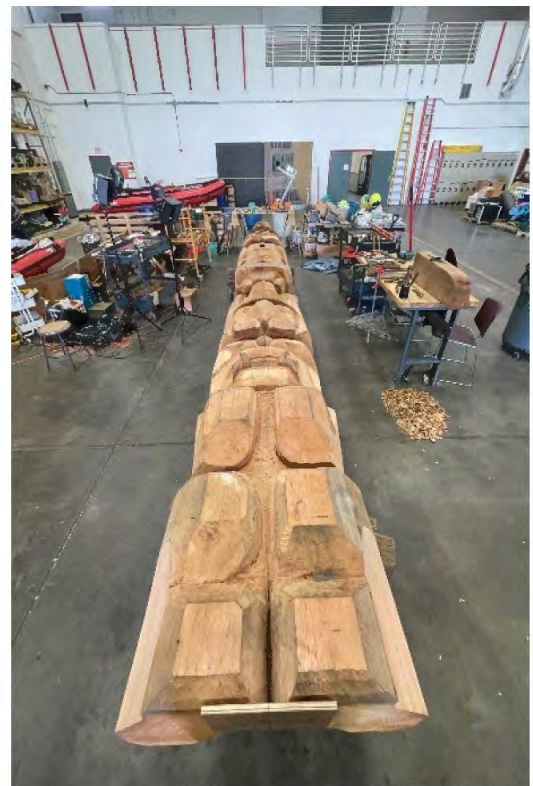
## Sitka- Welding Lab Lights

As the darker days of fall and winter arrive it is important to be able to see well. Our welding lab is going through a welcome lighting upgrade. All 16 of the welding booths now have new energy efficient LED lighting compared to fluorescent lighting for only eight booths. Now students have much better visibility for their learning experiences. The lab entry, office, and storage areas in addition to our maintenance garage are also recipients of the higher quality and more energy efficient LED lighting.

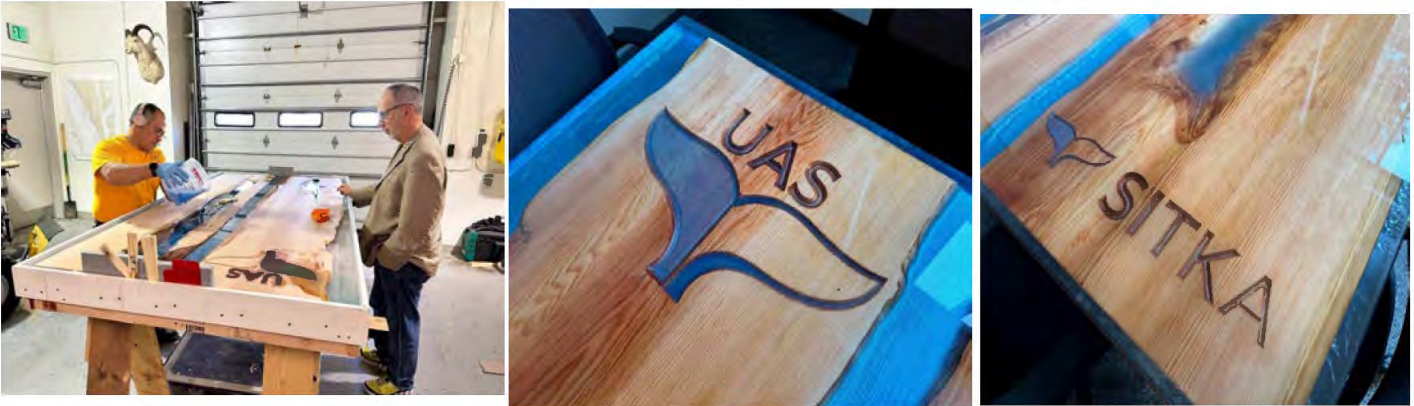


## Sitka- Woodworking

Minus splinters, working with your hands, especially when it is wood working can be very rewarding. We have furthered our **SUSTAINABILITY** goals by utilizing some left-over pieces of both red and yellow cedar from previous campus projects. Our campus was the carving site for Nick Galanin's red cedar Kaagwaantaan totem pole that is now on display on the Juneau waterfront.



Two slabs from the original log were graciously given to the campus and have been crafted into an epoxied conference table in the Campus Directors Office. Under the watchful eye and assistance of Director Paul Kraft, Sean cut, planed, and sanded the slabs into a workable size and crafted an amazing functional work of art. Our Welding Professor, Luke Gibes crafted the steel legs and Sitka High School Career and Technical Instructor Mike Viera engraved our UAS logos via CNC router. The next time you are in Sitka be sure to stop into Paul's office to check it out.



About seven years ago I used our chainsaw mill to cut some yellow cedar slabs from other leftover logs to be used as new countertops for our front desk. Due to a variety of circumstances the project was indefinitely postponed. Fortunately, plans to reorganize some office spaces made this summer the right time to reactivate the idea. Steps were planned out and the tile game of moving people and office spaces, desks, freshening up paint, lighting, and assorted pieces commenced.



The 30-year-old Formica countertop was replaced with the polyurethane coated live edge cedar slabs and the neutral colored cabinets and overhead surrounds were recoated with more vibrant university themed colors. A total of 9 office spaces were moved,

refreshed, and rearranged including the transformation at our front desk. Initial reactions to the natural cedar and bright colors were pleasant and welcoming.



**Old Front Desk**



**New Front Desk**



We aren't in a hurry, but sooner than later some of our vehicles will get their winter shoes (studded tires) installed and the snow plows and sand spreader will find themselves back in action. Until then we hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable fall and as always, we are happy to help, just shout.

**Greg George**  
Operations Supervisor  
UAS Sitka

## UAS Whale Card Gets a New Look

The new whale card is available! Have you gotten yours? If not, you can get yours at the registration desk. These cards cannot be hole-punched due to chip-technology.



## Out of COVID Test Kits

After three long years, UAS Facilities Services is out of the medical distribution business. UA was purchasing COVID Test Kits using federal emergency COVID funds. Those funds ran out about a year ago. At that time, we had a large stockpile and it was just depleted this week with the last two distributions going to the Anderson and Novatney buildings. COVID test kits are readily available at most grocery stores and there is still one federally funded place you can order them on line at: <https://www.covid.gov/tests>

Three years ago as we watched the news of COVID spreading across the world, UAS Facilities Services started stockpiling supplies that we thought our campus may need in the coming months. Looking back, we made some good predictions on supplies that we would need like face masks, disinfectant and hand sanitizer. We never predicted that panic that set in over stockpiling toilet paper and subsequent shutting down of businesses, and our university.

Here is a summary of the supplies that UAS Facilities Services accumulated and distributed to our campus over the past three years. As you can see that we made some good estimates on many of these items and have very few or no remaining stockpiles. However, when estimating Sanitizing Wipes, we estimated that each student would come in, grab a sanitizer and wipe down their chair and desk. Yes, we did that for a few months, but never made it a habit. Therefore, we still have over 100,000 sanitizing wipes in the stockpile.

**UAS Facilities Services COVID-19 Material Tracker**

Summary				
Delivered (All)				
Items	Sum of Purchased	Sum of Used	Remaining	Estimated Supply Remaining in Weeks
Paper Towels	576	520	56	1
Gloves - Disposable	11,000	1,500	9,500	42
Gloves - Food Grade	8,802	3,200	5,602	25
Water Bottle	1,000	1,000	0	N/A
Thermometer	65	36	29	N/A
Floor Sticker - 6ft apart	13	13	0	N/A
Door Stop	20	2	18	N/A
Rain X	30	20	10	N/A
Humanity Shields	500	495	5	N/A
Cloth Face Mask - UAS Logo	5,000	5,000	0	N/A
Cloth Face Mask - White	1,000	1,000	0	N/A
Safety Glasses	100	100	0	N/A
N95 Face Masks	1,280	893	387	1
COVID Test Kits	2,000	2,000	0	0

We would like to thank all of our Students, Staff and Faculty who helped Facilities Services distribute these supplies to keep our community safe. *Nathan Leigh – UAS Facilities Director*