Achievements

The American Association for the Advancement of Science Arctic Division and the Alaska Chapter of Sigma Xi honored six people for their contributions to arctic science research, education and outreach at a reception during the AAAS Arctic Division’s annual conference in September. Honorees from UAF included professor emeritus Neil Davis, media relations manager Carla Browning and professor and Alaska Statewide High School Science Symposium director Gary Laursen.

UAF received a gift of a nine-foot Yamaha concert grand piano after Eduard Zilberkant, professor of piano, director of the Fairbanks Symphony and internationally renowned classical pianist, signed on as a Yamaha Performing Artist. The piano will be used in concerts by guest performers as well as by Music Department faculty.

Alaska Nanook skier Einar Often was selected as the male winner of the 2008 NCAA Division II Sportsmanship Award. There are 80,000 Division II student-athletes but only two receive sportsmanship awards.

The UA Museum of the North received a 2008 American Architecture Award from the Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design, the European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies, and Metropolitan Arts Press Ltd.

The Lena Point fisheries facility in Juneau started welcoming UAF faculty and staff the first week of November. At approximately 30,000 square feet, the three-story building houses nine laboratories, two classrooms, a teaching lab and large saltwater tanks for studying live sea creatures. The facility creates the infrastructure for a world-class center for studying Alaska’s marine resources.

In Progress

Chancellor Rogers appointed Paul McCarthy to implement recommendations from UAF’s economic development transition team. McCarthy will work to integrate UAF’s economic development activities with Fairbanks, Interior and Western Alaska communities.

What’s Next

A move to Google Applications for Education at UAF and UA Statewide by staff, faculty and students will consolidate e-mail service and save money. Savings are expected to be significant. Office of Information Technology staff will redirect the savings toward projects backlogged due to lack of resources. The changeover will be phased in over the academic year.

The UA Jazz Band performs Mingus et. al. Dec. 10, the UAF Wind Symphony performs Musicals, Musicals! Dec. 12 and the University Chorus presents Christmas Around the World Dec. 13. All performances are in the Davis Concert Hall.

A new exhibit opening at the UA Museum of the North in December will examine the scientific principles, technology and processes that have allowed the Yup’ik people to survive. “Yuungnaqpiallerput — The Way We Genuinely Live — Masterworks of Yup’ik Science and Survival” features artifacts from national and international collections, including 19th- and early 20th-century tools, containers, weapons, watercraft and clothing.
Photos, clockwise from top

A chilly Karl Holt takes a header into Ballaine Lake after losing his birling match during the Farthest North Forest Sports Festival sponsored by the School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences.

Sophomore Max Bartlett studies for an early assignment in natural resources management during the first week of classes.

Cartoonist and adjunct professor Jamie Smith signs a copy of his book for fellow alumnus Tricia Brown at the annual Alumni Luncheon.

Students walk between buildings on the Fairbanks campus during the first week of the fall semester.