Achievements

Higher-education consultant Terry MacTaggart has completed an external review of UAF. The report affirms many existing priorities and provides suggestions for how to better position UAF as one of the nation’s best student-focused research universities.

Four students — Molly Dischner, Amy Snider, Gretchen Garcia and Eli Sonafrank — are the first recipients of the chancellor’s award to recognize students who work to encourage sustainability on campus. Each will receive $500 or a 6- or 12-credit tuition waiver.

Staff from the Geophysical Institute’s Unmanned Aircraft Program at Poker Flat Research Range used remotely controlled aircraft to survey Bering Sea ice floes for seals in May and June. The project, a collaboration with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, proved that the aircraft can operate in snow and icing conditions.

The Tanana Valley Campus automotive technology program earned general service technician certification from the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation. The certification is awarded by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence.

The Alaska Summer Research Academy and Rural Alaska Honors Institute programs for high school students had record enrollments this summer. ASRA’s 146 students came from 13 states and 58 communities to take part in a two-week, hands-on research program. RAHI’s 65 students from 43 communities across Alaska spent six weeks living in UAF residence halls, learning firsthand about college life and earning up to 10 college credits.

What’s Next

UAF Provost Susan Henrichs selected Carol Diebel as the new director of the University of Alaska Museum of the North. Diebel currently serves as the director of natural environment at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa. She will begin her new duties at UAF in October. Diebel will serve a joint appointment as professor of marine biology with the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences.

The chancellor’s convocation address Sept. 15 at 1 p.m. in Davis Concert Hall will focus on sustainability.
Photos, clockwise from far left

A pedestrian walked through the circle of flags early on a foggy July morning on the Fairbanks campus.

Chancellor Rogers flipped burgers in the UAF alumni booth at the Tanana Valley State Fair.

Fairbanks Garden Club members Betty Higbie, left, and Phyllis Church volunteered during Flower Planting Day on the Fairbanks campus in early June.

Simeon Yukluk from New Stuyahok was one of a group of rural students enrolled in the Upward Bound program this summer. He helped build a hand-made umiak held together with wooden pegs and twine as part of a six-week summer project on the Fairbanks campus.

Engineering students Chloe Malveaux and Matt Anctil put the finishing touches on a robot they helped build and program in May before shipping it off for testing to NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. The UAF team of five College of Engineering and Mines students cooperated with other participants at the University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins University and NASA to develop and test software which would allow robots to navigate on the lunar service using a light detection and ranging, or LIDAR, unit.