Achievements

University leaders and students from around the Arctic gathered at UAF in August for the fourth University of the Arctic Rectors’ Forum. Representatives from eight circumpolar nations discussed postsecondary education’s role in serving northern communities. The forum was preceded by a student workshop with a similar focus.

The UAF Bookstore is now managed by the bookstore division of Follett Corp., an expansion of the previous contract with Follett. Students can buy e-books and new and used books on site and will be able, in some cases, to rent texts instead of buying them. Customers will also see an enhanced online store and a bigger selection of UAF logo merchandise.

The Journalism Department claimed the Alaska Press Club’s prestigious Public Service Award for the second year in a row. The statewide journalism organization awarded the 2009 honor to coverage of the Alaska Stryker Brigade stationed in Iraq, written by department students and a professor, and to stories in the Skagway News about the high cost of medevac flights, written by journalism student and 2010 graduate Molly Dischner.

The Matanuska Experiment Farm in Palmer celebrated agriculture in Alaska and the 75th anniversary of the Matanuska Colony with a day of activities in August. Visitors learned about milking and precision agriculture, went on a GPS scavenger hunt, and toured the research labs. The event was co-sponsored by the School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences, the Cooperative Extension Service and the Alaska Division of Agriculture.

UAF was designated a military-friendly school by G.I. Jobs magazine. G.I. Jobs’ college matchmaker website helps veterans find the colleges that best meet their educational needs.

The UA Museum of the North received a four-star rating from travel website uptake.com as one of the best things to do in Alaska. The review also featured enthusiastic visitor comments from Yahoo! Travel, Fodor’s, Frommer’s and Trip Advisor.

Chancellor Rogers took “Learning from the past, preparing for the future” as his theme for the fall convocation address Sept. 9. A webcast provided for the rural campuses and those who couldn’t be there in person is available on the chancellor’s website.

In Progress

Scientists from the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences will spend two years studying Western Alaska king salmon runs thanks to grants from the Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center and the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund. The $615,000 project will be led by UAF fisheries faculty members from Fairbanks and Juneau.

The revised 2010 Fairbanks Campus Master Plan is now online. It builds on the foundation that was established with the 2002 Campus Master Plan and subsequent five-year update of that plan.

Michele Hébert has been named UAF’s sustainability coordinator. The position is funded through a partnership among the ASUAF Review of Infrastructure, Sustainability and Energy (RISE) board, Student Services and the Cooperative Extension Service. The program will facilitate dialogue and campuswide programs that build upon UAF’s commitment to sustainability.

Every Wednesday morning, listeners to Clear Channel stations KIAK FM 102.5 and KCBF AM 970 get to hear a UAF researcher, student, or faculty or staff member discuss events, news or research on campus. This partnership is in its third year. Interviews in coming weeks will include the nutritional value of Native foods, pre-college biomedical outreach programs offered through Alaska BioPREP, the Alaska Native Stroke Registry, and the health benefits of wild food. Past interviews are available as podcasts on the KFBX website.

What’s Next

The third annual Nanook Hall of Fame induction ceremony will take place Sept. 25. This year’s inductees are former athletic director John C. Gilmore, former vice chancellor of student affairs Harris Shelton, and former student-athletes Sigrid Aas (skiing), Mallory (Bergstrom) Larranaga (volleyball), and Melissa Mulloy-Mecozzi and Stuart Watkins (both rifle).
Hundreds of people gather in the Nenana parking lot to recycle and reuse thousands of items in this summer’s second Really Free Market, sponsored by Summer Sessions. The planning team included staff from Auxiliary Services, the Chancellor’s Office, the College of Rural and Community Development, Cooperative Extension Service, Facilities Services, Financial Aid, Marketing and Communications, Parking Services, the Provost’s Office, Summer Sessions, the Women’s Center and Wood Center.

Photos, clockwise from left:

School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences students and faculty collect fish samples from the Yukon River near the village of Eagle. The study is part of a grant from the Denali Commission to determine the potential impact of placement of a hydrokinetic generator in the river.

UAF biology professor Rich Boone meets with graduate students and K – 12 teachers in a section of boreal forest on the Fairbanks campus during a summer Changing Alaska Science Education work session.

Students in a graduate anthropology course search for ancient artifacts during a six-week field school at an archaeological site near the Gerstle River in Alaska’s Interior.