Dear friend,

Thank you for your continued commitment to the University of Alaska Fairbanks. As a donor, your investment demonstrates that you have a personal understanding of the importance of giving to UAF. Because of you, we are able to help reduce student debt, increase research opportunities, help outstanding pre-college prep programs and much more. Your gift immediately helps our students by supporting the areas of greatest need. We pledge to challenge students by continuing to provide a stimulating, well-rounded academic experience. When you give to UAF, your donation makes the difference between a basic college education and a remarkable one.

At the heart of University of Alaska Fairbanks’ accomplishments are its students: individuals like Sierra and JR, whose distinctive contributions to the university preserve its academic mission every year. Donations to the Annual Fund allow UAF to be the place where hands-on opportunities and transformational research create a rich and worthwhile experience. Your support of the Annual Fund inspires our students, and they in turn inspire others. By investing in our students, you achieve something meaningful and lasting.

I am deeply grateful for your support of UAF. The Annual Fund is a keystone of unrestricted support that goes to the areas of greatest need at UAF. In light of recent budget cuts, unrestricted support is more important than ever — please join Sherry and me in giving to the Annual Fund today.

Sincerely,

Brian Rogers
Chancellor

P.S. We are grateful for your ongoing commitment and continued support of UAF. Your gift of any size will be a welcome donation.

Annual Fund

Why should I give?
Giving is a personal decision, and we each have our own reasons for supporting UAF. Ultimately, your participation is a vote of confidence in the university, our students and their future.

Tuition only covers about 50 percent of what it costs to educate one student. The university relies on the remaining funding from government agencies and private giving.

Why give to the Annual Fund?
The Annual Fund plays a vital role in sustaining UAF year in and year out — the Annual Fund represents the combined power of donors giving at all levels. Annual Fund gifts support:

• Student scholarships
• Computer/laboratory equipment
• Special library and departmental acquisitions
• Facility improvements
• Special academic initiatives and projects
• College and school units
• Student organizations

Phonathon

Entering its fifth year, the UAF phonathon is a bi-annual program that runs for seven weeks each semester. Student callers contact alumni and friends of the university, provide updates, verify contact information and ask for donations. Phonathon is a meaningful, vital program that builds lasting relationships between current students and UAF alumni and friends.
The smell of the summer air in Alaska has an energizing effect. I feel invigorated out in the wild, whether it’s on the water, commercial fishing with an elder in Unalakleet, perched on an observation tower counting salmon, or most recently this summer as a research assistant, flipping our boat while scouting — I know I made the right choice as a fourth-year student pursuing a bachelor’s of science in biological sciences.

I was raised in Unalakleet, Alaska, and in high school attended the summer Rural Alaska Honors Institute on the Fairbanks campus. When I first began attending UAF in 2011, I had the intention of earning a biology degree and then continuing to graduate school in the Lower 48 to become a veterinarian. After studying at UAF for about a year, I realized I was far more interested in learning about and researching what Alaska has to offer through natural resources, fisheries and wildlife.

I chose UAF because I appreciate the small-town feel of the campus, I enjoy the challenging cold of Fairbanks winters, and, most importantly, I believe that UAF has an exciting program for my chosen major. Had I gone to a school elsewhere, I would not have had the unique opportunity to study in the wilderness of Alaska, or to see how actual Alaskan researchers do their studies.

Because of scholarships, I haven’t taken out any student loans and can focus on my studies instead of worrying about mounting debt. I am extremely thankful for donors like you — lowering students’ costs during this time in their life is one of the greatest gifts anyone can give to them. As a phonathon student caller in the fall of 2013, I was so pleased to have the opportunity to call and thank donors directly.

UAF is an impressive and remarkable research university, and I think that it is due to generous donors like you that UAF has so much to offer today. Thank you for supporting UAF and students like me.

Sierra Corsetti
BS Biological Sciences, '15

In December 2011, as a UAF student, I was an embedded photojournalist with the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment of the 1-25th Stryker Brigade Combat Team from Fort Wainwright in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. Cheryl Hatch, the 2010-2011 Snedden Endowed Chair of Journalism at UAF, and I made the tough decision to finish a story we were working on about soldiers deploying to Afghanistan. While my trip was not sponsored by the university, it would have been improbable without the support and encouragement by the faculty and my peers. This galvanizing collaboration with Cheryl was made possible by the generous donation of the Snedden family. The roster of past Snedden chairs includes some of the most accomplished reporters in the country, including 11 Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists.

At UAF, I was given room to discover what I have to contribute to the world. I tried and failed and explored — something I strongly encourage other students to do.

Thanks in part to the mentorship I received at UAF, I discovered what propels and inspires me the most. My mentors here have encouraged, supported and nurtured my love of photography and the French language. I have been awarded a number of scholarships as a student at UAF, mentored high school students for two summers with the Visual Art Academy at UAF and received two Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activity grants and am the President of the French Club. I work as the assistant photographer for UAF Marketing and Communications. I was named journalism student of the year for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Please consider renewing your support to UAF and offer students the opportunity to explore and discover their passions. I am so grateful for your continued support.

JR Ancheta
BA Journalism, BA French, '15