

*40th Annual*

**Business Leader of the Year Banquet**  
*honoring*

*Bob Hajdukovich*

of Ravn Air Group, Inc.



*Saturday, April 23, 2016*

5 p.m. Cocktails

Westmark Hotel

6 p.m. Dinner

Gold Room

Fairbanks, Alaska

*Proudly hosted by the*

**UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS**

*School of Management*



# *Bob Hajdukovich*

In 1984, Bob Hajdukovich was one of 12 employees at Frontier Flying, the company owned by his father, John Hajdukovich. Today, he is CEO of Ravn Air Group, Inc., the parent company for Frontier Flying Service, Corvus Airlines (previously known as Era Aviation), and Hageland Aviation Services.

Bob has vast experience in numerous aviation jobs working his way up from ramp agent, computer programmer, office manager, general manager, first officer, pilot in command, vice president, and finally to the current CEO of Ravn Alaska. Ravn has been flying for about as long as Alaska has been a state. Bob took the family commuter and freight airline business from a small affair to a regional airline with nearly 1,000 employees serving 100 communities across Alaska.

Bob is active in several aviation-based community organizations. He serves on the Governor's Aviation Advisory Committee and is also active in progressive safety programs and innovative risk management. He served as president of Alaska Air Carriers Association (AACCA), as a board member of the Medallion Foundation, and as chair of the AACCA Joint Safety Committee. However, not all of Bob's accolades are aviation-based. In 2011, the Fairbanks Hockey Hall of Fame recognized the Hajdukovich family as having the Best Backyard Rink.

Bob received his BA in business administration from the University of San Diego. Although Bob did not graduate from the UAF, two of his sons, Alec and Connor, are current students and will graduate from UAF. His eldest son, Nick, graduated from University of Alaska Southeast.

As a part of a well-respected aviation family, Bob is keenly aware of the importance of giving back to the community that means so much to him. Whether it is donating \$100,000 to the UAF Aircraft Maintenance School Program, giving to the Fairbanks Community Food Bank, or helping to deliver emergency food and supplies to neighboring villages, Bob's philanthropic contributions are an example to all who know him. In 2013, the first University of Alaska themed commercial airplane in the world was welcomed to the fleet, affirming the strong partnership between Ravn and the UAF and UAA campuses.

Somehow, Bob juggled raising a family of three boys while running an airline that was continually growing and made it all look easy. He has the ability to conquer anything set before him. He's mastered parenting, basketball, skiing, ping-pong, and was even the first one at Monroe High School to solve the Rubik's Cube.

While we all know Bob is a tremendous businessman, he is also an outstanding father and husband. Bob and his beautiful wife, Leslie, enjoy spending time in the great outdoors. Bob is truly someone who has balanced work and family well, and has gone to great lengths to spend as much time as possible with those he loves even more than aviation.

Bob Hajdukovich, a pilot, a leader, a family man, and a man of great wit, compassion, and modesty, couldn't be a better example to School of Management students and the Fairbanks community to receive the 2016 UAF Business Leader of the Year Award.

# BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR BANQUET

5 p.m. *No-Host Cocktails*

6 p.m. *Welcome*

Jamie Boyle  
Hayden Nilson

*Invocation*

Bishop Chad Zielinski

*Dinner*

7 p.m. *Opening Remarks*

UA President Jim Johnsen  
UAF Chancellor Mike Powers  
SOM Dean Mark Herrmann

*Fly into the Future*

Alec Hajdukovich  
UAF Vice Chancellor Mike Sfraga

*Guest Speakers*

Bill Renfrew, First National Bank Alaska  
Walter Dallis, Ravn Air Group, Inc.

*Pin Presentation*

Andy Warwick  
Connor Hajdukovich

*Acceptance Remarks*

Bob Hajdukovich

*Door Prizes*

Jamie Boyle  
Hayden Nilson

*Closing Remarks*

Alex Springer

# UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

## *School of Management*

THE UAF SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT (SOM) was formed in 1975 as one of five professional schools at UAF. SOM is one of only 182 of all national and international business schools to hold the prestigious Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation for both the school and the Accounting program. This is the top level of accreditation and represents the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide.

Four main disciplines comprise the School of Management: Accounting, Business Administration, Economics, and Homeland Security and Emergency Management. SOM offers both undergraduate and graduate degrees. Faculty in these programs work together as an integrated team to provide challenging and fulfilling education to our students in order to produce stellar Alaska business graduates.

## *Degrees Available*

### Undergraduate

- Accounting
- Business Administration
- Economics
- Homeland Security and Emergency Management

### Graduate

- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Security and Disaster Management
- M.S. in Resource and Applied Economics
- Ph.D. in Natural Resources and Sustainability

## *Minors Available*

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Accounting                 | Marketing  |
| Economics                  | Military Science & Leadership (ROTC)             |
| Emergency Management       | Military Securities Studies                      |
| Finance                    | Occupational Endorsement in<br>Homeland Security |
| General Business           | Sports Management                                |
| Leadership                 |  |
| Management & Organizations |  |

# *Business Leader of the Year Committee*

## **Committee Co-Chairs**

Jamie Boyle

Hayden Nilson

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## **Decoration Committee**

Stephanie Sztajer, Co-Chair

Christina Tachick, Co-Chair

Irina Brown

Pomi Chafin

Tara McGrogan

Chelsea Roehl

Alex Springer

## **Marketing Committee**

Amy Isaacson, Chair

Pomi Chafin

Huckleberry Hopper

Tara McGrogan

Chelsea Wells

## **Social Media Committee**

Chelsea Wells, Chair

## **Door Prize Committee**

Katie Antal, Chair

Lyz Allen

Jacob Mooty

## **Ticket Sales Committee**

Johanna Bocklet, Chair

## **Special Consultants**

Heidi Bryan

Bobby Desrochers

## **Volunteer Committee**

James Gilcrest

Pat Lassell

Damaris Li



# *It's the 40<sup>th</sup>!*

THE UAF SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT (SOM) awarded the Business Leader of the Year to the first recipient in 1977, just two years after it became one of five professional schools at UAF. That makes this year's event extra special, as we honor the 40<sup>th</sup> recipient of this prestigious award.

To celebrate **4 DECADES** of business leaders, here are a few fun facts about some of our **40 BUSINESS LEADERS**.

## **Three couples were honored.**

Jim and Jinx Whitaker (1993)

Norm and Angie Kruckenberg (1996)

Steve Frank and Linda Anderson (2001)

## **Two brothers were honored.**

Jeff Cook (1985) and Mike Cook (2004)

## **A father and son were honored.**

Paul Gavora (1977) and Dan Gavora (2012)

## **Two people from the same business were honored.**

Ralph Seekins (1990) and Margaret Russell (1998)

**Rumor has it the event was at one point held at Ivory Jacks.**

“As a business leader, Bob Hajdukovich demonstrates a commitment to his employees, the success of his employees, but above all else a deep commitment to service for the people of the Great State of Alaska.”

~ CLINT WEASE,

FAA, ALASKAN REGION FLIGHT STANDARDS DIVISION



# Congratulations Bob Hajdukovich!

## LEADERSHIP THROUGH EXAMPLE

As the 40th Business Leader of the Year, Bob Hajdukovich, a leader, family man, pilot, and a man of great wit, compassion, and modesty, couldn't be a better example to the students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Thank you for your loyalty to the employees of Ravn Alaska and to the success of our company. And, above all else, thank you for your deep commitment to supporting the people of the great state of Alaska.

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**CONGRATULATIONS**  
to  
**Bob Hajdukovich**  
Business Leader of the Year

**Northrim Bank**

northrim.com

**CONGRATULATIONS, BOB!**  
Thank you for your leadership.



“For as long as I have known Bob, I have always admired him for his ability to conquer anything set before him. As a lifetime friend, I can’t think of anyone better to deserve this nomination.”

~ **GENE SANGER, FRIEND**



“The group of people lucky enough to receive the Business Leader of the Year recognition are legends in their own right, beacons of success, and great role models for the aspiring students of the School of Management”

~ **BOBBY HANSON, FOUNTAINHEAD DEVELOPMENT**



*Congratulations to the  
2015 UAF Business Leader of the Year  
Bob Hajdukovich*



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“Bob just didn’t want to succeed; he wanted to do it in the right way to achieve the right results.”

~ JEFF COOK, THE GREATER FAIRBANKS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

## CONGRATULATIONS

*Bob Hajdukovich*

**2016 UAF BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR**

From Your Friends At the Fairbanks Hospital Foundation



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congratulates **Bob Hajdukovich**  
on his selection as the 2016  
Business Leader of the Year!



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**CONGRATULATIONS**

**Bob Hajdukovich**

*From all of us at the*

**Daily News-Miner**  
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# *Congratulations, Bob Hajdukovich!*

*2016 Business Leader of the Year*

You make our community great!



Jim Dodson



Andie Levesque



Juliet Shepherd



Kristen Gagné



Samantha Reynolds



Julie Emslie



Jomo Stewart

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## **Leadership matters.**

Congratulations to Bob Hajdukovich, CEO of our partner airline, Ravn Air Group, on being honored as 2016 UAF Business Leader of the Year. Alaska Airlines is proud to salute Alaskans dedicated to serving our community.



**Alaska**  
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[alaskaair.com/club49](http://alaskaair.com/club49)

“Bob will be a respected ambassador for UAF and the School of Management, and someone the next generation of leaders can look up to.”

~ **MARILYN ROMANO**, ON BEHALF OF ALASKA AIRLINES



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**Congratulations!**  
**2016 Business Leader of the Year**  
**Bob Hajdukovich**

**Kyong Hollen**  
**2011 Business Leader of the Year**



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**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**BOB HAJDUKOVICH!**

**DAVID HALE**  
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# CONGRATULATIONS

GCI congratulates *Bob Hajdukovich* on being selected as the *2016 UAF Business Leader of the Year!*



Flying high or digging deep,  
Fairbanks is full of hardworking leaders.  
Congratulations to the 2016 Business Leader of the Year  
Bob Hajdukovich.

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*Congratulations  
Bob Hajdukovich!*

GARRY HUTCHISON, GARY CORRICK,  
AND LAURIE GIECK



## Congratulations Bob Hajdukovich!

Best wishes for much  
continued success

*From your locally owned  
community bank*



**CTC thanks  
Bob Hajdukovich for his  
commitment to  
Aviation education.**

*"Bob is well-deserving of this  
recognition as Business Leader of  
the Year. As a long-time leader  
in the Aviation community,  
Bob's hard work, integrity and  
community engagement is an  
inspiration to all."*

- Michele Stalder, Dean  
UAF Community & Technical College



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## Congrats Bob Hajdukovich!

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# PETRO STAR INC.

**Congratulates Bob Hajdukovich  
2016 UAF Business Leader of the Year**

“A life-long Alaskan, parent, and business leader - Bob is committed to a strong economy and education system.”

~ SUSAN BELL, McDOWELL GROUP PRINCIPAL



**CONGRATULATIONS,  
BOB HAJDUKOVICH!**

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***CONGRATULATIONS, BOB HAJDUKOVICH!***  
***40TH UAF BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR***

# Congratulations Bob Hajdukovich!

2016 UAF Business  
Leader of the Year



## Congratulations!

### **Bob Hajdukovich**

2016 UAF School of Management  
Business Leader of the Year

Accolades to the  
UAF School of Management  
students, staff, and faculty  
for your continued success.



Cary S. Keller MD, F.A.C.S.M.  
2009 Business Leader of the Year



First National Bank  
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Here's to Bob Hajdukovich  
UAF BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR

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## Congratulations Bob Hajdukovich

*UAF School of Management  
Business Leader of the Year*





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**CONGRATS, BOB HAJDUKOVICH!**



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You're in good hands.

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**CONGRATULATIONS, BOB HAJDUKOVICH!**

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**Congratulations Bob!**  
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**2016 Business Leader of the Year**

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# *Community Nomination Letters*

Nominations for the Business Leader of the Year are taken year round with the deadline in November. Candidates are chosen on merits of their leadership, business accomplishments, community involvement and educational support. It starts with one simple nomination and often additional letters are provided to support the nomination.

Kyong Hollen, 2011 Business Leader of the Year, nominated Bob Hajdukovich and the following community members submitted letters of support:

**Susan Bell**, McDowell Group Principal

**Jeff Cook**, The Greater Fairbanks Community Hospital Foundation and 1985 Business Leader of Year

**Bobby Hanson**, Fountainhead Development and UAF SOM Class of '09 & '15

**Kyong Hollen**, Santina's Flowers and Gifts and 2011 Business Leader of the Year

**Marilyn Romano**, on behalf of Alaska Airlines

**Gene Sager**, Friend

**Clint Wease**, FAA, Alaskan Region Flight Standards Division

“Bob has done incredible things for the airline industry within the state of Alaska. He has been involved in all aspects of his industry groups... mostly focused on safety.”

~ KYONG HOLLEN, SANTINA'S FLOWERS & GIFTS

# *Thank You*

*We would like to give a warm thank you to the following individuals and organizations who purchased a table for this event:*

Aaron Plumbing & Heating Company  
Alaska Airlines  
Allstate Insurance Max Roberts  
Alyeska Pipeline Service Company  
BP  
Cook & Haugeberg  
Denali State Bank  
Doyon Utilities/Fairbanks Sewer & Water  
Everts Air Cargo  
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner  
Fairbanks Economic Development Corp.  
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital  
First National Bank Alaska  
Flowline Alaska  
GCI  
Hajdukovich Family (2)  
Hale & Associates  
Kohler, Schmitt & Hutchison

Mt. McKinley Bank  
Northrim Bank  
Petro Star Inc.  
Ravn Air Group, Inc. (2)  
Ron's Service & Towing/Gundersen Painting  
Santina's Flowers & Gifts  
Seekins Ford Lincoln  
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Sportsmedicine Fairbanks  
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Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo  
The Greater Fairbanks Community  
Hospital Foundation  
UAF Community and Technical College  
Usibelli Coal Mine  
Walsh, Kelliher and Sharp  
Warwick & Schikora, CPAs

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*The School of Management would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the following individuals and organizations who sponsored student tickets:*

Anonymous  
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Doyon Utilities/Fairbanks Sewer & Water  
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner

Fairbanks Ice Dogs  
International Aviation Services  
Kohler, Schmitt & Hutchison  
Peggy and Jim Lund  
Northern Alaska Tour Company  
Richard and Bonnie Reem  
Spirit of Alaska Federal Credit Union  
Sportsmedicine Fairbanks  
Christopher Wright

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# *Student Organizations*

Active and Innovative Minds (AIM)

Associated Students of Business (ASB)

Cadet Club (ROTC)

College Entrepreneurial Organization (CEO)

Great Alaskan Accounting People (GAAP)

International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)

Native Alaskan Business Leaders (NABL)

Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)

Sports Recreation Management Association (SRMA)

Students Offering Leadership Development (SOLD)

Students Who Enjoy Economic Thinking (SWEET)

PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT BENEFIT **SOM** STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS.  
THANK YOU!

# *Thank You!*

*We would like to extend our special thanks to the following businesses and organizations.*

*Alaska Universal Productions (AUP) - for lights and sound*

*Aurora Balloons & Decorating - for draping*

*Florcraft Carpet One - for runway carpets*

*Grayling Media - for event videography and video tutorial*

*Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce - for chair covers*

*Green Star of Interior Alaska - for vintage electronics*

*Interior Graphics & Printing - for tickets and program*

*Latitude 64 Photography - for event photography*

*Source One Digital - for backdrop*



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ALASKA  
FAIRBANKS

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# *Previous Business Leader of the Year Award Recipients*

1977	Paul Gavora	1997	Morris Thompson*
1978	Joseph Usibelli, Sr.	1998	Margaret Russell
1979	Ron Nerland*	1999	Rhonda Boyles
1980	Wally Burnett	2000	George E. Gordon*
1981	Ray Kohler*	2001	Steve Frank & Linda Anderson
1982	Marc Langland	2002	Bart LeBon
1983	Judy Robertson Divinyi	2003	John Hill
1984	Lawrence Heiner	2004	Michael Cook
1985	Jeff Cook	2005	Ginger Stock-McKenzie
1986	William Green*	2006	Jim Lund
1987	Mike Kelly	2007	Jack B. Wilbur
1988	Walt Schlotfeldt	2008	Jyotsna "Jo" Heckman
1989	Captain Jim Binkley*	2009	Dr. Cary S. Keller
1990	Ralph Seekins	2010	Bernie Karl
1991	Tim Fargo	2011	Kyong Hollen
1992	Gary Roth	2012	Dan Gavora
1993	Jim & Jinx Whitaker	2013	David Hale
1994	Larry Doll	2014	Lorna Shaw
1995	Gary Wilken	2015	Andy Warwick
1996	Norm & Angie Kruckenberg		

*\*Deceased*

The UAF School of Management would like to  
**THANK YOU** for sharing this evening with us.

It is a great pleasure to honor **BOB HAJDUKOVICH**  
as the **40<sup>TH</sup> RECIPIENT** of the

# *Business Leader of the Year*