



FEATURED STORY *Business Leader of the Year*

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. As a business leader, Bob demonstrates a commitment to his employees and the success of his company, but above all else a deep commitment to service for the people of the great state of Alaska.

Bob has vast experience in numerous aviation jobs working his way up from ramp agent, operations agent, computer programmer, office manager, general manager, first officer, pilot in command, director of operations, 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 Hajdukovich is the 40th Business Leader of the Year

Story continued on page 6

Arctic Innovation Competition

SOM awarded more than \$25,000 in cash prizes in October after the final round of presentations in the 2015 Arctic Innovation Competition (AIC). The competition, now in its seventh year, invites innovators to propose new, feasible, and potentially profitable ideas for solving real-life problems and challenges.

Cameron Gackstetter took home the \$10,000 first prize in this year's AIC. His award-winning idea is *The ThawHead*, a portable machine that quickly and safely thaws the metal canisters that house airport runway light transformers and wiring.

New this year was the addition of the "Fan Favorite" award. Members of the audience voted for their favorite idea in each division and the winners received a \$100 prize and special Lego trophy. Other activities included a comedian, a robotics presentation, balloon art, and guest speaker Wylie Rogers, the 2014 AIC Alaska Student Kicker winner for his idea to build a better goal post for ice hockey, called The Wylie Post.



Wylie Rogers with Cub Fan Favorite and 2nd Place Winner Corbin Becker

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Tradition of Excellence



Heather Rauenhorst

"Join me as I give back and enable SOM to continue its tradition of excellence, so today's students have the opportunities they need to develop into tomorrow's leaders."

Heather Rauenhorst

Director of Grants and Special Projects
FNSB School District
MBA 2003
Chair, SOM Business Advisory Council

Heather Rauenhorst

My name is Heather Rauenhorst (formerly Lesko), and I am the current chair of the SOM Business Advisory Council. I received my MBA from SOM in 2003, and it was a life-changing experience. It enabled me to achieve my personal goals and also prepared me for opportunities I never imagined. Not a day goes by that I don't apply the knowledge and skills I gained through the MBA program in my leadership position at the school district. I hear far too many people say they don't feel their college experience adequately prepared them for their careers. I had a different experience, and am thrilled I didn't have to leave my hometown to do so. How lucky are we as Interior residents to have such a high caliber school in our own backyard?

I found my MBA classes challenging and relevant. Then, as now, there were brilliant faculty members who truly cared their students learned. And I can say without any bias, my classmates at SOM were the very best and brightest in all of UAF. Actually, one classmate in particular was a bit unique. My dad returned to school later in life, and the last year of his bachelor's degree was my first year in the MBA program. We took a marketing class together, which was a memorable experience for both of us!

SOM also offers incredible opportunities outside the classroom. I signed up for an internship course when the program

was just beginning, and it allowed me to experience a completely different type of business than any of my previous jobs. I believe so much in the value of these experiential learning activities, and in the potential benefits for both the student and the host business, that I created an internship position in my own small department. I've had two terrific SOM interns so far, and my coworkers have been very impressed with the caliber of the students and the quality of the work they've done.

So that was then, but what about now? In my opinion, the school has only gotten better. Today, SOM boasts even more engagement with local businesses, more student organizations and activities providing practical experiences, and more opportunities for students to make meaningful connections in the community.

I am thrilled to be an SOM alumna, and grateful for the time invested in me by the faculty and staff. I ask you to join me as I give back and enable SOM to continue its tradition of excellence, so today's students have the opportunities they need to develop into tomorrow's leaders.



Emergency Management Programs Keep Expanding

SOM's Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) program now offers a new online master's degree in security and disaster management. This new degree supports students already studying homeland security and emergency management, as well as professionals looking to advance their careers.

"Based on the popularity of the undergraduate HSEM program, which has grown from four to 180 students in five years, there clearly exists both a need and a strong interest in a graduate-level degree," said Cameron Carlson, program director.

The master's program will give homeland security and emergency management practitioners the education

needed to lead and manage at the operational to strategic levels. With its online delivery option, the master's program takes advantage of emerging technology while attracting students from around the world.

It develops the skills to succeed in emergency and disaster professions in the military, civilian government agencies, or industry.

In addition, the undergraduate Bachelor of Emergency Management degree now offers a new concentration in emergency medical management.



SOM Students Represent

What sets SOM apart from other schools are the extensive opportunities available for hands-on experiences outside the classroom. Each year, students help run major statewide events such as the Arctic Innovation Competition and the Business Leader of the Year. Students are encouraged to join at least one of ten SOM student organizations with focuses ranging from entrepreneurship to leadership to accounting. These groups provide more opportunities to give back to the greater Fairbanks area and gain the type of experience employers desire. This semester, students were invited to present on the effectiveness of their out-of-classroom experiences.

FAIRBANKS DOWNTOWN ROTARY CLUB

In October, students presented at a meeting of the Fairbanks Downtown Rotary Club.

Heidi Bryan, a senior business administration student majoring in marketing, shared her experiences working on the Arctic Innovation Competition. Heidi was able to gain substantial leadership skills, saying, *"Before I got to UAF, I thought leadership meant that the boss was in charge and you did not ask questions. I now see leadership as setting the direction for the team, motivating others, and inspiring vision."*

Alec Hajdukovich, a senior business administration student majoring in finance, shared his experiences with the Student Investment Fund (SIF) course. Alec came to UAF with hockey as his primary interest. When he enrolled in the SIF course in his junior year he initially felt completely out of his depth. However, he quickly found himself learning more than he ever thought possible, decided to major in finance, and his mother calls it the "turnaround story of the century."

James Gilcrest, a junior majoring in emergency management, touched on his experiences with the Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) program. James applied to UAF after seeing a Facebook ad for the HSEM program while stationed in Guantanamo Bay. Once he arrived on campus, he felt immediately supported by SOM. James believes the greatest contribution made by SOM instructors is to mentor future leaders, and said, *"The School of Management inspires me to be fearless."*

ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF ALASKA (AGC)

Jamie Boyle, a senior business administration major moving on the MBA program, presented to AGC about her experiences as a first-semester student in SIF. A generous donation is provided by AGC in support of a SIF scholarship. Jamie shared how the SIF course helped her learn how to value a stock, think differently about a company beyond the numbers, and be comfortable and confident in presentations. She said, *"I look optimistically toward the future equipped with a quality degree and ample real-life experiences."*



Amy Isaacson, Heidi Bryan, Jamie Boyle, and James Gilcrest

UA BOARD OF REGENTS

In December, students accompanied Dean Herrmann for a presentation to the UA Board of Regents, where Heidi, James, and Jamie shared stories similar to those they brought to the Rotary and AGC events.

Amy Isaacson, an MBA student who also holds an accounting degree, shared how glad she was to earn prestigious degrees from a university in her own hometown, and how critical her non-classroom experiences were to her education and growth. In particular, the Great Alaskan Accounting People helped connect her to the accounting field and secure employment, and participating in the Business Leader of the Year advanced her skills in teamwork, professionalism, and leadership.



Heidi Bryan



Alec Hajdukovich



James Gilcrest

SOM Nationally Recognized by



Dean Mark Herrmann was invited to present to the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) Annual Accreditation Conference this fall. SOM was one of two schools selected from over 600 business schools as a shining example of offering a learning environment that integrates knowledge, practice, and professional development. SOM's experiential learning, community engagement, and

professional development opportunities set the standard for business schools across the nation.

The AACSB review board stated that *"SOM's engagement in the community is exemplary. The relationship between SOM and the community is strong and provides an opportunity for students to use their skills and knowledge to give back to the community."*

*Judi Slajer*

After making a career in local government, Judi Slajer, at the age of 39, enrolled at UAF to finish her degree. Her eldest daughter, Veronica, had graduated from high school, and her youngest daughter, Francie, was entering middle school. Judi and her daughters packed their bags and headed to Fairbanks. Judi and Veronica both attended UAF and even lived on the same floor in Bartlett Hall at one point. Veronica returned to UAF in 2013 for her M.A. in rural development.

The big move and the pursuit of a degree came after 18 years of residency in Ketchikan and employment with the Ketchikan Gateway Borough. Judi moved to Ketchikan in 1962 and became the borough's first employee, working as municipal clerk and then as borough manager. Judi was the first woman to hold a borough manager position in Alaska. She says it was the best job she ever had.

Just before graduating, Judi left two months early to accept a job at the Municipality of Anchorage as a budget director, and worked for Mayor Tony Knowles for the next four years. She finally received her diploma that summer of 1982.

Judi met her husband, Tom Rosadiuk, at a Gold Kings hockey game in Fairbanks. Tom (UAF '59, College of Engineering) founded a Fairbanks engineering/surveying firm which he grew to become PDC Inc. Engineers, with offices in Fairbanks and Anchorage. Judi moved back to Fairbanks to join Tom and develop and teach governance courses in rural Alaska for the UAA's extension program. After a spring and summer of teaching, she accepted the chief financial officer position at Fairbanks North Star Borough.

Judi and Tom both retired in 1997 and took off on a road trip that fall. When Judi's replacement at the borough did not work out, Mayor Sampson called and asked her to come back to work. After another nine months on the job, Judi's successor was hired.

While Judi and Tom thought that they could relax in retirement and enjoy their travels, more challenges lay ahead. Returning from a trip to New Zealand and Australia in 2000, Judi found a registered letter waiting for her from her doctor. The letter said that her mammogram results were alarming and that she needed to consult with a surgeon. Within three days, she was diagnosed with cancer and made arrangements for surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Judi continued her treatment in Fairbanks and Palm Springs, California.

With only one grown child now living in Alaska, Judi and Tom decided in 2002 to make parallel moves, one by purchasing a winter home in La Conner, Washington and the other to make a rural lot on an island 25 miles southwest of Ketchikan their permanent residence. Developing the remote lot as a residence has been a major project. Judi and Tom purchased a historic float house—built sometime between 1928 and 1938—for the property. Tom has spent years improving the house and adding outbuildings, including a greenhouse, as well as water, sewer, and electrical generating systems, a ramp, and a 40-foot dock.

Always grateful for her second chance at higher education, Judi has contributed to UAF for years through donations to the School of Management and through her membership in the American Association of University Women. She and Tom also invest money into 529 College Savings Plans for all of her and Tom's eight grandchildren. Maintaining her connection with UAF, Judi said that education plays a large role in determining how she and Tom approach life and all of its challenges.

For the immediate future, Judi and Tom will maintain their Alaska residency, travel to their south Kona fruit and macadamia nut farm in Hawaii, and monitor their health. Judi also looks forward to spending more time with her children, grandchildren, and friends, enjoying them as much as possible. She stays busy volunteering for several community committees, after spending nine years on the board of directors. She tries not to worry about the future, and just enjoys the adventures that life brings!

*Old float house revamped outside of Ketchikan*

Scholarship Recipients

2015-2016

5

Scholarships are one of the most powerful ways to impact the lives of students. Scholarships reduce the financial uncertainties that may get in the way of a student pursuing his or her academic career.

Thanks to generous donors, you were able to help 46 students with over \$99,000 in private funding this academic year.

Apply for scholarships by
Monday, February 15
www.uaf.edu/finaid/scholarships

INVEST IN
STUDENTS
TODAY!

Contact
Tammy Tragis-McCook at
(907) 474-7042 or
tammy.tragis@alaska.edu

OR GIVE ONLINE AT
www.uaf.edu/som

"Receiving the Alyeska Pipeline scholarship has helped balance my schedule. I am now able to work fewer hours at my job, allowing me to devote more time to my classwork. Additionally, it is because of the scholarship I can take classes during the summer, which I would otherwise not be able to afford. I will now be able to graduate on time and then move on to pursue my MBA."

- *Tara McGrogan*

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION SENIOR,
SOM STUDENT EMPLOYEE, AND

ALYESKA PIPELINE NATIVE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Janice Agwiak	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship
Henry Bolanos	Totem Ocean Trailer Express Scholarship
Jamie Boyle	R.M. and Katherine Boyd
Heidi Bryan	Associated Students of Business
Soren Butler	Green Island Scholarship
Shannon Demientieff	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship
Adam Dewey	Associated Students of Business
Agatha Erickson	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship
Erin Rabon Ethridge	Student Investment Fund
Hannah Evans	Jean B. Schmitt
Mattew Friese, Sr.	Usibelli School of Management
James Gilcrest	Student Investment Fund
Alec Hajdukovich	Association of General Contractors Alaska
Elizabeth Herzner	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship
Rorey Hughes	Marion Weeks and Bill Stroecker Scholarship
Nolan Huysmans	Dorothy Pattinson Accounting
Joye Jackson	Marion Weeks and Bill Stroecker Scholarship
Jamie James	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship
Brynn Johnson	Dorothy Pattinson Accounting
Chelsea Jones	Ron Nerland Memorial Scholarship
Jesse Kaczmariski	KeyBank Scholarship
Beau McClain	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship Lois E. Meier Accounting Scholarship
Laura McCready	Marion Weeks and Bill Stroecker Scholarship
Tara McGrogan	Alyeska Pipeline Native Fellowship
Ana Rodriguez Moreno	Cook & Haugeberg CPAs/Tom Bartlett
Michaela Murphrey	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship
Alexis Nardone	KeyBank Scholarship
Cassandra Nashookpuk	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship
William Paneak	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship
Harmonie Peters	Fred Smits MBA Business Scholarship
Heidi Pichler	E. Thomas and Raye Ann Robinson
Kathryn Pound	Marion Weeks and Bill Stroecker Scholarship
Haley Reutter	Green Island Scholarship
Kristen Rowland	Fred Smits MBA Business Scholarship
Selina Sam	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship
Emily Sawyer	Hulda Huhttula Elieff Memorial Scholarship
Mohammad Shubair	Student Investment Fund
Sonja Sommer	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship
Colton Sparrow	Marion Weeks and Bill Stroecker Scholarship
Richard Stout	Student Investment Fund
Christina Tachick	Associated Students of Business
Julita Tomasic	E. Thomas and Raye Ann Robinson
Amber Vaska	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship
Vanessa Versandi	Lois E. Meier Accounting Scholarship
Mary Weinard	Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship
Casey Youngblood	Chris Knudson Northrim Accounting Award

6 Business Leader of the Year Continued...

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 together. 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 SOM students and the Fairbanks community to receive the 2016 UAF Business Leader of the Year Award.



Roast & Boast Showcases Local Businesses

Local coffee roasters and cafés showcased their specialty items at the 2015 Roast and Boast in November. For the fourth year, the School of Management partnered with Northrim Bank to host this community event. Over 150 people ventured out to enjoy the music, food, door prizes, and abundance of hot beverages and homemade baked goods.

Students in the UAF Principles of Marketing class helped organize and market the event, gaining organizational management, budgeting, team building, and event-planning experience.

"Usually you don't get to put on an event of this caliber unless you are working for a company. When an employer looks at your resume and sees you've done something like this, it shows involvement beyond the classroom," said business administration student Pat Lassell. *"All in all, stress and homework aside, I had a blast and a great experience."*

This year's event featured specialties from Great Harvest Bread Co., McCafferty's Coffee House, North Pole Roasting Co, Take 5 Bakery and Café and The Fudge Pot.



Pat Lassell, Chelsea Roehl, Lyz Allen, and Jake Mooty at Roast and Boast 2015



Kim McGinnis

NEXT TV BINGE WATCH IN QUEUE?

Archer and House of Cards are my two guilty pleasures.

YOUR LAST MUSIC DOWNLOAD?

The latest addition to my Spotify playlist was “Hotline Bling” by Drake.

IF I GRANTED YOU ONE WISH TO CHANGE THE WORLD WHAT WOULD IT BE?

I’d wish for every single person to live in a culture other than his or her own for a while. I think it would go a long way toward breaking down the barriers between us.

Kim grew up in Miami, Florida and San Diego, California. Her career started at the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, where she represented American businesses operating in China. She went on to work in emerging markets asset management at HSBC, then moved to General Electric, where she led GE Capital’s global public affairs function.

- Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Vanderbilt University
- Master of International Affairs from Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs
- MBA from the University of California Berkeley’s Haas School of Business

What brought you to Alaska?

While completing my MBA, I went on a spring break cross-country skiing trip in Alaska’s White Mountains. I fell in love with the area and all the great things you can do outdoors. I also fell in love with a very special Alaskan guy, Sam Alexander, who runs his own adventure travel company when not teaching. Sam didn’t have to do much convincing to get me to move.

What do you enjoy about Alaska?

Two things strike me most about Alaska - first, this state offers boundless opportunities for someone with an entrepreneurial mindset. Second, the sky is amazing! The Lower 48 doesn’t get brilliant sunrises and Northern Lights like we get here.

You have a good amount of professional experience in finance, leadership and marketing.

How does that translate into the classroom?

I relate examples from my own work experience. One of the first lectures I gave was on mergers and acquisitions. Having gone through a number of acquisitions and divestures at GE, I can share a practitioner’s perspective to complement the academic view. I’m connecting with my former colleagues and professional contacts to come to Fairbanks so students can hear their perspectives, as well.

What advice do you have for current students?

Stay curious and approach your career - and your life - with an open mind. As a corollary to that - if you get the opportunity to travel, do it.

What would you like to tell us about your family?

Sam and I live in a dry cabin. I’m hoping to add a puppy to our family soon. And maybe running water some day!

Alumni Spotlight

Chris Marok

Chris is the owner of Allstate Insurance, Chris Marok Agency. He earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration in 2010 and an MBA in 2012.

Why did you choose to attend UAF?

There were many factors, but one of the biggest was the ability to stay in my hometown, close to family and friends. I was also able to continue enjoying the outdoor activities unique to Alaska while working on my degree.

How did SOM prepare you for your professional career?

The best preparation I got from SOM was my time working as the President of the 2011 Arctic Innovation Competition. It was the culmination of everything learned in the classroom and putting that information to use in the real world. I led a team, met deadlines, maintained a budget, and accomplished all the goals necessary to put on a successful national event. That experience helped me grow as a leader and translates to all the things I do on a daily basis in my own business.

What does being an alumnus mean to you?

For me, being a UAF alumnus means I am a part of something huge - a gigantic family with ties all over the world. I love telling people from the Lower 48 that I am a Nanook, and watching the look of confusion take hold.

What keeps you enthusiastic about your career?

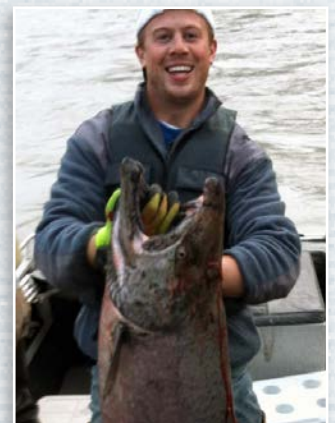
The constant ability to learn and grow. With the changing needs of my clients, corporate policies, and industry regulations, I am constantly driven to learn new things, otherwise I’ll get left behind.

What’s the number one skill or practice that has contributed to your success?

Being able to visualize a completed goal, no matter how big or small, and formulate the necessary steps to get there.

What advice would you give to current students?

Ask questions. Don’t ever be afraid to ask for clarification or further information. Knowledge is power and questions keep the lines of communication open to gain more knowledge.



Chris Marok

FAVORITE BREAKFAST FOOD?

Toss-up between French Toast or a Philly Cheesesteak omelet.

WHAT BOOK ARE YOU READING?

Re-reading “Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything,” by Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner.

GO TO MUSIC STREAMING CHANNEL?

The Black Keys Radio on Pandora.



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The SOM Staff says... May the Force Be With You!



Naturally Inspiring.

SOM is one of only 182 colleges and universities in the world to hold the prestigious Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation for both the School of Management and its Accounting program. UAF is an AA/EQ employer and educational institution.

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