

UAF photo by Todd Paris

the (official) NEWSLETTER

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SPRING 2015

SOM Superstars!

CHANCELLOR'S CORNERSTONE AWARD

Debbie Fristoe, assistant to the School of Management (SOM) dean and University of Alaska (UAF) employee since 1997, received the UAF Chancellor's Cornerstone Award in May. This honor is awarded for outstanding contributions toward accomplishing and enhancing the UAF mission. "Debbie has been highly influential in creating a work culture that makes SOM an extremely enjoyable place to work," said SOM Economics Instructor, Sherri Wall.



Photo by Haley Reutter
Debbie Fristoe and UAF Chancellor Brian Rogers

ALASKA'S TOP FORTY UNDER 40 AWARD

Dr. Nicole Cundiff, UAF associate professor of business administration, was named one of Alaska's Top Forty Under 40 for 2015. This award, granted by the Alaska Journal of Commerce, saw its highest ever number of nominees with 160 individuals nominated for this year's class. A complete list of the 2015 Top 40 Under 40 class is available [online](#). Congratulations, Nicole!



Photo courtesy of Nicole Cundiff
Dean Mark Herrmann and Nicole Cundiff

Story continued on page 6

Investing in Excellence

TOM & RAYE ANN ROBINSON

Professor E. Thomas "Tom" Robinson was born and raised on a small dairy farm in Green Lake, Wisconsin. Money was tight in the Robinson household, so Tom helped out by getting his first paying job during grade school as a dishwasher at a golf course.

Tom received a scholarship that allowed him to earn a degree from the University of Wisconsin Whitewater. Throughout his college career, he attributes his success to working during college and the scholarship that allowed him to pursue higher education.

"Having been involved in the SOM accounting program since 1974 and now as a UAF Professor Emeritus, Raye Ann and I are proud to leave a legacy through scholarships."



Photo courtesy of Tom Robinson

Tom and Raye Ann Robinson

Story continued on page 6

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SOM Guides My Success



Photo by Julia Moore

Erin Rose McGowan

“As an alumna, I plan to continue to support SOM and the student organizations that helped me achieve my full potential and obtain a job of which I am proud.”

Erin Rose McGowan

Purchasing & Travel Program Analyst
Supply Chain Management
Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.
UAF School of Management
Class of 2015

I started college at UAF in 2010 with the goal of getting a Bachelor’s degree. Like many students, initially I struggled to select my major. To help me decide, I completed the core classes and attended various student organization meetings to get a better idea of what path I wanted to follow. When I attended my first Associated Students of Business meeting, I was hooked! I knew I was on the right track with SOM.

As an SOM student, I was proud to be involved in two of its organizations: Students Offering Leadership Development and the Associated Students of Business. Both of these organizations offered me experiential learning opportunities outside of the classroom and contributed to my personal and professional growth.

The professors and advisors at SOM go above and beyond to help their students achieve their goals. Through their support and encouragement, coupled with SOM networking opportunities, I successfully landed an internship with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, graduated with Leadership Distinction, and was offered a position with Alyeska Pipeline upon graduating from SOM.

I am certain that through my involvement with SOM student organizations, Alyeska Pipeline recognized that I wasn’t simply graduating with a business degree; I was graduating with experience I could immediately apply to the workplace. Most importantly, I feel SOM students learn work ethic and commitment to excellence. Everything I learned at SOM - including teamwork, project planning, time management, communication skills, conflict resolution, public speaking, and business etiquette - helped shape who I am today.

It is through donor support that SOM can offer students an outstanding college experience that prepares them for success. As an alumna, I plan to continue to support SOM and the student organizations that helped me achieve my full potential and obtain a job of which I am proud. Join me in supporting student organizations and the amazing students at SOM.

Erin Rose McGowan



Students Attend National Conference & Competition

In April, three members of the SOM student organization Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) attended the Northwest Human Resources Association conference at Portland State University. Ashley Moore, Zac Rohan, and Micaiah Liebhaber competed in a case competition, listened to presenters, and networked with HR professionals and other students.

The three students, along with SHRM faculty advisor Wendalyn Tisland, wrote about their experience in a recent article published in the Alaska SHRM State Council magazine, “Council Prospector.”

“The most beneficial takeaways for me were the career planning advice and sheer excitement for getting started in the field,” said Micaiah about the conference.

Article Source: [Council Prospector](#)



Photo courtesy of SHRM

Enthusiastic SHRM members pose for a group photo

UNDERGRADUATE

ACCOUNTING

Cynthia Arevalo
Chalisa Attla
Valerie Barber
Kayla Bishop
Dominique Brinson
Rebecca Burcell
Joseph Cahill
Yu-Wei Chang
Andrew Cloward
Jennifer Coisman
Amanda Duclos
Nancy Duron
Aaron Hall
Kadh Hart
Charles Hixon
Denise Howard
Amy Isaacson
Mark Isaacson

Dani Johnson
Rauchelle King
Alyssa Larsen
Fred Monrean Jr
Tameika Newsome
Hayden Nilson
Lainey Oates
Daniel Ogawa
Christopher Orris
Brett Pherson
Jessica Powers
Makala Roseberry
Kristen Rowland
Michael Stepovich
Samantha Thornton
Kayla Trickey
Mariah Ver Hoef
Elias Wheeler

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Nicholas Brodie
Nathan Erdmann
Spaennar Mats Eriksson
Jessica Frost
Jennifer Gibson
Brittany Glaeser
Suzanne Heller
Samantha Hill
Jordan Hume
Megan Jones
Nolan Kaiser
Alesia Kruckenber
Micaiah Liebhofer
Jonas Loeffler

James Martin
Philip Moore
Ryan Moritz
Catherine Olson
Jessica Ramos
Elizabeth Rocheleau
Rebecca Salmela
Kyler Shotts
Kayli Stanfill
Luke Stephens
Christina Tachick
Justin Tateson
Joseph Toffolo
Tyler Zimmerman-
Casperson

ECONOMICS

Rodney Carpluk
Mats Eriksson
Edward Hix
Katrina Miller
Paul Reinker
Nicole Stickler
Spencer Tachick
Mitchell Titus

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Colin Hadley
John Jennings II
Michael Kimball
Jeffrey McAfee
Kryston McPhetres
Jeremy Runkel
Kara Thonney

GRADUATE

MBA

Valerie Barber
Nadine Carroll
Kathryn Chambers
Robert Christe Jr
Rachel Cox
Rudiger Gens
Kirsten Halpin
Robert Hanson
Michael Kroon
Tara Larry
Jared Larson
Amy Lucke
Michael Malone

Jacqueline Miller
John Miller
Ashley Ochoa
Ian Olson
Satya Partyka
Andrew Seward
Kathleen Shannon
Charles Slater
Siri Slater
Janine Smith
Stephen Tibbs
Brandon Uzzell
Walker Wheeler

MS IN ECONOMICS & APPLIED RESOURCES

Gary Eaton
Jessie Huff
Erik O'Brien
Richard Raines

Jennifer Shriver
Samuel Tappen
Stephanie Warpinski
Kathryn Wolfley



Student Organizations - Going Strong!

Associated Students of Business (ASB)

In addition to their annual role as the lead student organizers for the Business Leader of the Year, ASB was very active this year with a full schedule of educational showcases for their members. Presenters included Russell Talvi from the Small Business Development Center, Lorna Shaw from Sumimoto Metal Mining Pogo, and Bobby Wilken from HooDoo Brewing Co. In addition, ASB hosted a banking workshop and a session titled Professionally Presenting Yourself, each featuring experts from various fields. ASB members were also busy this year giving back to the community by volunteering for the Fairbanks Concert Association, the Wood Center Food Pantry, the Interior Entrepreneurs Lions Club Small Business Expo, and the Chancellor's Gala.



ASB Members volunteer at the Small Business Expo

Great Alaskan Accounting People (GAAP)

GAAP had another great year of activities, starting with a Professional Development Day at the Westmark Hotel; about 55 people attended this event, including approximately 30 students. GAAP also held the 3rd Annual Alaska Native Corporation Seminar. At the end of the year, GAAP once again provided a number of Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sessions, where they helped community members fill out and file their tax returns.



GAAP Officers for 2015-16

International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)

IAEM was active this year hosting a series of interesting speakers at their membership meetings, including Randy Pommerville, Risk Management Officer at City of Overland Park Fire Department and David Neel from the Department of Homeland Security, Anchorage. In addition, IAEM hosted a table at the 2014 FNSB Preparedness Expo in October, which was attended by about 1,500 people.

Native Alaskan Business Leaders (NABL)

NABL President Jeff Thompson represented the organization at the annual Leadership Conference for the American Indian Business Leaders (AIBL) in New Mexico. NABL continued their award-winning streak at this conference by winning second place in the AIBL Business Plan Competition. In addition, NABL's advisor, Liz Ross, was named AIBL Adviser of the Year.



NABL President Jeff Thompson accepts an award at AIBL

Students Offering Leadership Development (SOLD)

SOLD had another successful year, hosting several workshops at UAF and within the community. They held a leadership workshop for around 100 middle school students for a program hosted by West Valley High School students. They provided workshops on the topics of volunteering and communication through the UAF Leadership, Involvement and Volunteer Experience office. SOLD also kept busy volunteering for several events in the community, including the L2: Learn Lead Alaska Leadership Conference and the Boys & Girls Club Have a Heart Auction.



SOLD members pose with guest speaker Jia Jiang

Beta Gamma Sigma

Beta Gamma Sigma is a national honor society recognizing the highest scholastic honor a student can achieve in Business Administration at an AACSB-accredited institution.

To be eligible for membership in this distinguished organization, a student must rank in the top of their class.

- » Top 10 percent of the Junior class
- » Top 10 percent of the Senior class
- » Top 20 percent of MBA students

Junior

Henry Bolanos
Sara McBride
Hope Welch
Amber Corrigan

MBA

Nadine Carroll
John Miller
Walker Wheeler

Senior

Amanda Arney
Kylie Dickerson
Nancy Duron
Shanna Entin
Edward Hix
Isabella Ivanovski
Tara McGrogan
McKenzie Mitchell
Richard Watson III



Photo by Heidi Bryan

SOM Celebrates Exceptional Leadership



UAF Photo by JR Ancheta

(Top) Andy Warwick accepts his award from ASB President Christina Tachick, while Judy Warwick looks on.

(Bottom) Students hold up thank you signs in appreciation of donor support.

The UAF Business Leader of the Year award is given to a deserving recipient based on leadership in the Fairbanks business community, business achievements, community service, and educational support. On April 17, 2015, the 39th Business Leader of the Year award was given to Andy Warwick (UAF, '66) of Warwick and Schikora, CPAs.

The event sold out for the sixth year in a row. Over 50 SOM students helped make the night a success. Students volunteered their time in order to earn a ticket to the event. They sold tickets, ironed 420 chair sashes, worked with vendors, and decorated the venue.

Funds raised through the Business Leader of the Year event support student organizations at SOM. The previous Business Leader of the Year recipients led the charge and gave directly in support of student organizations, inviting attendees to do the same. The audience, made up of the Interior community and business leaders, demonstrated enthusiastic support for our students, collectively raising almost \$50,000 - all of which will go back to the future business leaders of Alaska: UAF School of Management students.



UAF Photo by JR Ancheta

View photos, read more, and watch the "Students Give Back" video at <http://bit.ly/bloy2015>

SOM Superstars Continued...

FACULTY RETIREMENT

Professor Greg Goering is retiring from SOM after 25 years of teaching at UAF. Greg was born in Wisconsin and moved to Alaska when he was three years old. His mother, Jaqueline, and father, John, came from small towns in Kansas. His father was one of the two original faculty members hired in 1962 by the newly formed UAF Institute of Marine Science. Greg has a younger brother Brent, who lives in Anchorage, and an older brother Doug, who also works for the university as dean of the College of Engineering and Mines. In an ironic twist of fate, Greg attended grade school with a girl named Celeste who would later become his wife after meeting her through his brother Doug. Celeste and Greg share an interest in music.

Initially, Greg felt his calling was in music, and he played guitar with bands in Alaska and Los Angeles. However, with a strong family background in academia, Greg felt called back to higher education. From UAF, Greg received

his undergraduate degree in economics and his master's of science degree in resource economics. He then went on to Purdue University to receive his Ph.D., after which he came back to UAF to teach for the economics program. It wasn't always his plan to return to Alaska, but opportunity presented itself for Greg at UAF. He moved up the tenure track as an assistant, associate, and then full professor. Additionally, Greg served twice as associate dean for SOM. In retirement, Greg will continue to teach in the MS economics program at UAF. He and Celeste plan to spend their winters in Phoenix and summers in Fairbanks.



Greg Goering

Investing in Excellence

TOM & RAYE ANN ROBINSON



Tom Robinson

"As part of the committee responsible for selecting scholarship recipients, I discovered a pride, awareness, and desire to recognize and reward deserving students."

Tom is a first-generation college graduate who participated in numerous extracurricular clubs related to his accounting degree, even though club dues were paid out of pocket and were a bit of a struggle for him. After graduation, Tom had intended to join the U. S. Navy officer school with the finance program but was turned down due to medical issues. Consequently, he accepted a position at Touche, Ross, Bailey & Smart (currently Deloitte), one of the "Big Four" accounting companies in the nation. When Tom decided to take his education to new heights and pursue a graduate degree, he took sabbatical leave from the firm. While studying at the University of Wisconsin, he accepted a full-time faculty position. It was during this period that he gained a true appreciation and passion for higher education and mentoring students.

Continued...

During his tenure on the accounting faculty, Tom met the love of his life, Raye Ann, and they were wed in the spring of 1974. As an extended honeymoon, Tom and Raye Ann ventured to Alaska, where Tom accepted a position with UAF. They both fell in love with Alaska and decided to make it their permanent home.

In addition to teaching, Tom's accomplishments at UAF include starting the Associated Students of Business and its Business Leader of the Year program, funding research through the Sea Grant program, establishing salmon hatcheries, and serving as a goal judge at UAF hockey games. Additionally, Tom served on many faculty appointments at UAF, ranging from advising to scholarship committees. As part of the committee responsible for selecting scholarship recipients, he discovered his pride, awareness, and desire to recognize and reward deserving students.

Throughout his career in accounting, Tom felt fortunate to work with a number of professionals who were truly leaders in their fields. He feels a program is only as good as the individuals who make up the team. Having been involved in the SOM accounting program since 1974 and now as a UAF Professor Emeritus, he and Raye Ann are proud to leave a legacy through scholarships. Through the Robinson Family Athletic Scholarship and the E. Thomas and Raye Ann Robinson Scholarship for accounting students, they stand behind their belief in UAF and its mission to serve students with the best education available.



Photo courtesy of Sean McGee

Sean and his wife, Kelli

FAVORITE PLACE TO VACATION?

I enjoy going back to New York and visiting with my folks. It's always nice for me to go to where I grew up.

BOOK YOU ARE CURRENTLY READING?

I just finished reading "Benghazi: The Definitive Report," and now I am reading "Spy Sub: A Top Secret Mission to the Bottom of the Pacific."

YOUR LAST MUSIC DOWNLOAD?

Soundtrack from the movie "Focus."

Sean grew up on New York's Long Island and graduated from UAF with a bachelor's degree in justice in 1991. That same year, he accepted a position with the North Slope Borough as a Peace Officer. Sean served with the Borough through June of 1993, when he accepted a position with the UAF Police Department where he held the rank of officer, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and chief. Sean was a member and an instructor for the Alaska State Trooper's Specialized Emergency Reaction Team (S.E.R.T.) for 15 years. He graduated from the FBI's National Academy in 2000. Sean retired from police work in 2014. Sean has been an instructor for the UAF Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) program for three years.

What brought you to Alaska?

I was bitten by the "Alaska bug" early in life. By 7th grade, I began making plans to see Alaska and attend UAF. In 1985, I enrolled at UAF, and haven't looked back since!

What do you enjoy about Alaska?

I grew up in an area of New York that was stereotypically "New York." Coming to Alaska, I found people to be incredibly friendly, which was somewhat different from what I was used to. That is what has inspired me to make Alaska home for the past 30 years.

What is your favorite class to teach and why?

My favorite class is *Principles of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*, HSEM's introduction course. I enjoy interacting with large groups of students from around the nation who are engaged in matters associated with homeland security and emergency management for the first time.

What advice do you have for current students?

Take the time to identify the area of study that truly interests you; applying yourself in school becomes so much easier and more rewarding when you are interested in your studies, and it never hurts to be able to make a living in a field that you are passionate about.

Any SOM stories you'd like to share?

I can't get over how pleasant and professional the students, staff, and faculty are at SOM. I've been involved with UAF in one capacity or another in the past 30 years, and I can attest that what we have here at SOM is unique. "This" does not just happen; I am fortunate to be a part of this department.

Full story can be found [online](#)

Alumni Spotlight

Tim Stickel

Tim is the Student Services Manager for the UAF eLearning & Distance Education department. Tim earned his MBA from UAF in 1993.

Why did you choose to attend UAF?

I took a position with UAF Residence Life and Housing and wanted to continue my education. With great faculty, great students, and a great atmosphere, UAF offered everything I wanted.

Share with us an outstanding teacher or class.

Two of my favorite classes were Managerial Economics with Dr. Greg Goering and Corporate Strategy with Dr. Jim Collins. They were both very challenging courses and professors, but their teaching style really clicked with me.

How did SOM prepare you for your professional career?

I had plans to become a commodities broker and was offered a broker position in Missouri. I passed on that opportunity to come to Alaska to pursue my MBA and work at the university. It was one of the best decisions of my life. SOM taught me about commitment, perseverance and personable service.

What does being a UAF alumnus mean to you?

Fairbanks and Nanook Nation have been home for 25 years. It means a close community, a premier research institution, top-notch faculty and diverse, committed students.

What keeps you enthusiastic about your career?

Every day is exciting as I not only work with outstanding students, staff and faculty, but right now, I am part of an innovative and dynamic team that is always on the cutting edge. UAF eLearning continues to expand the number of course offerings and add new online degrees each year. It's an exciting time for UAF as online education is bringing access to others who might not otherwise have the opportunity for higher education.

Full story can be found [online](#)

At UAF,
everyone knows
your name.
Most friends call
me "Stick"

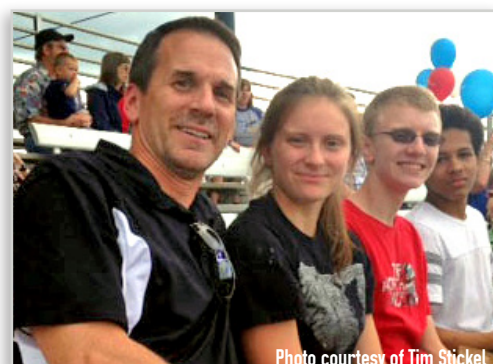


Photo courtesy of Tim Stickel

Tim with his daughter, Kaylee,
and his son, Jesse

FAVORITE BREAKFAST FOOD?

Homemade sausage, egg and cheese bagel. They are a favorite with my kids, as well.

DREAM VACATION DESTINATION?

Anywhere with warm sun, warm sand, and warm family and friends.

BOOK YOU ARE CURRENTLY READING?

"The Blessed Life" by Robert Morris.

YOUR LAST MUSIC DOWNLOADS?

Van Morrison, Zac Brown Band, James Taylor



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UAF Photo by JR Ancheta

SOM Staff and faculty at BLOY 2015

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 affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution.