

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NEWS

University of Alaska Fairbanks
Department of Alaska Native & Rural Development



Seventeen Graduate with Rural Development Degrees

THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM CELEBRATED ITS LARGEST GRADUATING CLASS in its 21-year history in the 2004–05 academic year. Seventeen students received either their BA or MA degrees. The faculty and staff of the Department of Alaska Native and Rural Development offer congratulations to these graduates for a job well done.

See page 2 for a complete listing of the graduates.



Robert (Bob) Bulger of Barrow Selected as 2005 Rural Development Outstanding Student of the Year

Bob joined the Rural Development program in the fall of

2002 while employed as the Grants Writer/Administrator for the North Slope Borough. Prior to that, he worked in the healthcare marketing field and in public safety, both as a police officer and a firefighter. He now serves as the Information Technology Coordinator for the cooperative effort between the Barrow Arctic Science Consortium and the National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs.

The Barrow Arctic Science Consortium is dedicated to the encouragement of

see "Outstanding Student" on page 4



UAF Chancellor Steve Jones presents Michelle Ravenmoon with her Rural Development BA diploma at the Bristol Bay commencement exercises.

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2005 RD Graduates

BA Graduates

Robert Bulger,
Barrow (RD Outstanding
Student of the Year)

Darlene Lord,
Kaltag/Fairbanks

Valerie Pingayak,
Chevak

Michelle Ravenmoon,
Illiama (Bristol Bay
Campus Outstanding
Student of the Year)

Mary Sage, Barrow

Clarence Selig, Kodiak

Vera Weber,
Anaktuvuk Pass

MA Graduates

Michelle Anderson,
Copper Center/
Anchorage

Sharon Anderson,
Ouzinkie, Anchorage

Shauna Hegna
(Dec. '04), Port Lions/
Anchorage

Edith Hildebrand,
Nulato/Fairbanks

Sarah Lukin,
Port Lions/Anchorage

Mary Jane Nielsen,
South Naknek

Gail Pass,
Dillingham/Anchorage

Dawn Salesky, Nome

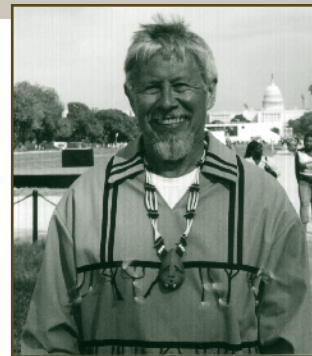
Alan Sorum
(Dec. '04), Valdez

Esther Stauffer,
Dillingham

More graduation on pages 4–5

Message from the Director

BY GORDON L. PULLAR



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL of the 2004–2005 Rural Development graduates! With seven BAs and ten MAs we had the most graduates ever. The faculty and staff of the RD program are continually impressed with the quality of our students and our graduates.

Special recognition goes to Bob Bulger from Barrow who was named the “Outstanding RD Student of the Year.” Throughout his studies Bob has been an excellent student and one who is always willing to lend a helping hand to both students and faculty. Bob also had the honor of being nominated as the graduation speaker for the Fairbanks commencement. While he was not selected it is a great honor to be among the very few nominees.

A special congratulations to Michelle Ravenmoon who was named the Bristol Bay Campus Student of the Year. Michelle graduated *cum laude* and Golden Key Society. She is working for the National Park Service, an RD partner. She is an example of a student who can take distance classes, maintain a strong connection to her culture and set high professional goals.

We are sad that some of the RD faculty members are moving on this year. Larry Dickerson is moving to his home state of Missouri. Larry played a major role in shaping the RD MA program, developing the community development component and serving on many MA student committees. Larry worked half time with the RD program and half time with Cooperative Extension Service. We will all miss Larry’s high energy and willingness to help students. We thank him for his many contributions to the RD program and wish him well back in his “homeland.”

George Charles spent the past year and a half sharing his duties between RD and serving as the director of the National Resource Center for American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians Elders for Elder Health Care at the University of Alaska Anchorage. Due to travel demands and other duties, George decided to transfer to UAA. As one of only about 30 Alaska Natives with PhDs, we were proud to have George on our faculty. We will miss his cheerful smile and quick wit. We thank him for his service. We know he will not be far away.

Rick Caulfield was named director of the Tanana Valley Campus by CRA Executive Dean Bernice Joseph on May 27. Rick has been interim director of TVC this past year and served as the half-time CRA associate dean for Academic Affairs prior to that. During this time he continued to teach RD classes. Rick is one of the founders of the RD program and the only faculty member to have been with the program its entire time of existence. An educator of Rick’s stature is not replaced easily; we will do our best to find someone who will fit the program. As with George, we know that Rick will not be far away.

We had a successful RD seminar in collaboration with the National Park Service traveling to Arizona for a rewarding educational experience. Nineteen students were able to attend and we thank the NPS staff for their continued help and support.

We are looking forward to fall semester and reuniting with our students as they move toward completing their degrees. We also anticipate a great new batch of students joining the RD program. Have a wonderful summer!

MA Program Required Focus for Nome Graduate

BY DAWN SALESKY



Dawn Salesky delivered these comments at the Northwest Campus graduation ceremony in Nome on May 12, 2005.

THANK YOU, Gordon Pullar, and greetings to all. Two years ago, I would have never imagined that I would be in another graduation ceremony.

After graduating with my Rural Development BA degree in 1993, I professed I would never pursue a masters degree. I decided that if I were ever going to add to my education, I would pursue something that was hands-on—something more vocational in nature, like appraising or computer technology.

I didn't have a regular job before attending college. When I graduated with my BA degree, I couldn't even keyboard as well as my coworkers could who had never taken a single college class.

At the time I graduated, hardly any of my coworkers at Kawerak had a college degree, but they had experience. I had the degree but I fumbled to get things done. I guess that worked for me because I'm still fumbling.

So when my college buddy, Dixie Dayo, came to Nome recruiting for the RD Program, and persuaded me to pursue my MA degree in Rural Development, I shunned the offer... that is, for about a year. She kept up the persuasion. I figured that since my fellow coworkers like Melanie Edwards, Vera Metcalf and Melissa Boeckmann were already halfway done with theirs; I might as well give it a try.

Because of the time and financial investment I put into the program, I decided to cut out some of my other volunteer activities so that I would become more focused. Whenever I became frustrated at the work or succumbed to procrastination, I would think of all the students who were in the same classes that were

also raising families, and how much more complicated it must have been for them.

In retrospect, it was much easier to pursue a degree the second time around, because having some work experience first really helped put the concepts into perspective, and I was able to apply my working knowledge toward the courses. I suppose it was more like vocational training in that regard.

One great thing about the Rural Development program is that most classes are offered after five, and are teleconferenced. In fact, almost all of my classes were after five, so I never had to miss work. You can call in from home or work, or from one of the Northwest Campus hub sites. The first year of the program, I was traveling a lot and attended teleconferenced classes from Shishmaref, Wales, Koyuk, Seattle, Anchorage, and Fairbanks.

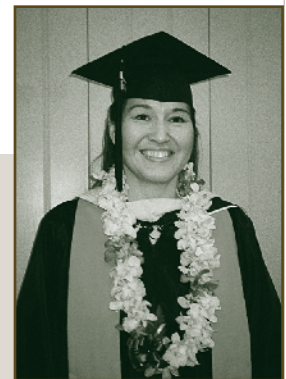
The two classes that weren't "after five," required travel to a site so everyone in the class could meet at the same time and place. Each three-credit class met for an entire week, for about 45 hours. One was a leadership and orientation course located in Fairbanks, and the other was on museum archiving, which was scheduled around the grand opening of the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian in Washington DC. That was a memorable trip. We also traveled to New York City to visit the museums there. I thought that trip was fascinating because a lot of our ancestral artifacts from Cape Nome, Sledge Island, Pt. Clarence, Sinnok River, King Island, and other areas are located on the East Coast and are not stored where everyone can view them; although there is an online public database with pictures and a description of each artifact at the American Museum of Natural History.

I'm still open to learning a vocation, and with the MA experience, I am now much more open to pursuing additional degree possibilities as well. It gets easier with experience.

Thank you and congratulations to all the other graduates here.

Dawn Salesky received her BA in Rural Development at UAF in 1993. During her undergraduate years she was employed each summer as an intern at Kawerak, Inc. working in various programs. She has been employed at Kawerak as a regular employee since 1993 and is currently the vice-president of the Education, Employment and Training Division. She is also the president of the Nome Eskimo Community Tribal Council.

2004-2005 Rural Development Graduation

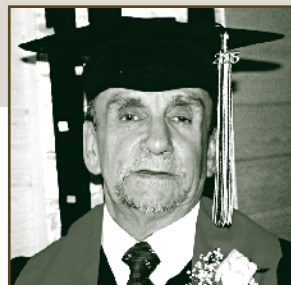


MA graduate Edith Hildebrand



BA graduates Vera Weber, Bob Bulger and Darlene Lord

Miranda Wright, Shauna Hegna, Sharon Anderson, Mary Jane Nielsen, Sarah Lukin, Michelle Anderson, Edith Hildebrand, Dixie Dayo and Gordon Pullar



*Clarence W. Selig,
BA graduate*



MA graduate Michelle Anderson

Outstanding Student, continued

research and educational activities pertaining to Alaska's North Slope, the adjacent portions of the Arctic Ocean, and Chukotka, Russia. This collaboration provides logistical support for Arctic research and strives to facilitate the exchange of knowledge between scientific researchers and the Inupiat people of the North Slope.

Very recently, during the Rural Development seminar held in Juneau, Bob testified before the University of Alaska Board of Regents regarding the benefits to students of being able to obtain a top-quality UAF education while maintaining residency and employment in their own village or town. The board was enthusiastic to hear from a student in such a situation.

Bob graduated this spring with a bachelor's degree in Rural Development and intends to continue his studies at the graduate level. In every interaction, he applies his marvelous communication skills, invigorating personality, and sense of humor as a positive ambassador for the University of Alaska Fairbanks and the Rural Development program. A natural leader, specifically in the field of technology, Bob has volunteered many hours teaching fellow RD students how to prepare Power Point presentations at seminars and is always available to lend a helping hand. Looking to the future in rural Alaska, Bob believes that his Rural Development degree serves his career aspirations.



BA grad Darlene Lord (center) with Professors Dixie Dayo and Gordon Pullar



Evelyn Pensgard and Lauri Weston-O'Brien, 2004 MA grads



BA graduate Mary Sage



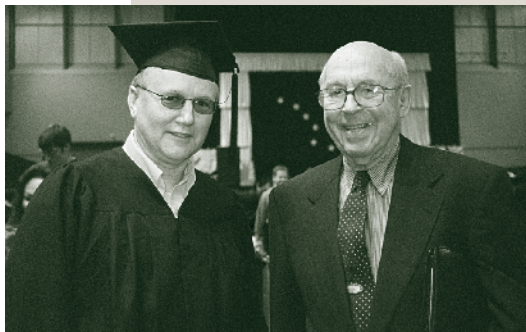
BA graduate Valerie Pingayak



MA graduate Gail Pass (left) with her happy family



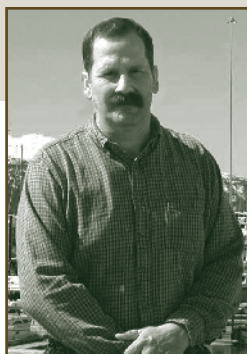
MA graduate Esther Stauffer



Mike Davis with Judge Thomas Stewart, the secretary of the Alaska Constitutional Convention



MA graduate Dawn Salesky with husband Jimmy Adams



Alan Sorum, MA graduate



Shauna Hegna, Sharon Anderson and Sarah Lukin, MA graduates

Juneau Seminar



Nancy Barnes, Professor Miranda Wright, Kathryn Martin, Andy Hope, Senator Al Kookesh, Executive Dean Bernice Joseph, Brandon Fears, Professor Theresa John and Ann Fears.



Kathryn Martin



First Lady Nancy Murkowski visits with Bob Bulger at a special breakfast at the Governor's mansion.



Governor Frank Murkowski receives a Bristol Bay Campus sweatshirt from Professor Mike Davis, a former state representative.



Students pose with Representative Woody Salmon (third from right).



Mike Davis and Theresa John, lead professors for the Juneau seminar



Senator Al Kookesh and Representative Woody Salmon speak to students



Senator Kookesh with students during a break in the legislative session



Representative Reggie Joule talks with students



UA Regent Carl Marrs and student Shirley May Holmberg



Senator Al Kookesh and Executive Dean Bernice Joseph



National Park Service Puts Fun In Learning

BY DR. TED BIRKEDAL, CULTURAL RESOURCES TEAM LEADER, ALASKA REGION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

THE PLACE IS THE DESERT MU-

SEUM, an outdoor museum just outside of Tucson, Arizona. The time is around 2 p.m. in early April. The temperature is in the mid-80s. But what is that sound? It is the sound of the "Airplane Dance," an Athabascan dance being sung and performed by 19 Rural Development

students, their faculty, and NPS hosts in the shade of a large ramada. The dance began on the spur of the moment during a rest break on a tour of the museum; it is probably the first time Alaska Native song and dance has wafted over the Sonoran desert.

After the dance, Michele Ravenmoon, a student and employee of Lake Clark National Park, follows with a Dena'ina Athabascan song of her own composition. The students now feel refreshed and happy, and ready to continue their guided tour in the hot sun. Such events are typical on the yearly NPS-sponsored seminars of the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Department of Alaska Native and Rural Development. Songs and dances and good feelings of camaraderie spring out frequently among the students. All but two of the 19 students are Alaska Natives and the two non-natives are both rural Alaskans and are well accepted by the group. Also, the three faculty members from UAF are also Alaska Natives. Most of the students are adults and range in age from their mid-twenties to their late fifties. Many are leaders in their home communities and others will become the leaders of tomorrow.

One of the students is the Mayor of Pelican, Alaska; another has just finished a stint as a village councilperson in Shishmaref, and still another is a well-known Inupiaq story teller, traditional educator, and female subsistence hunter of renown. The Rural Development Program gives these students a way to pursue their education by means of "distance education" while they fulfill their job and family obligations at home. Several of the students are working on their M.A. degrees; the rest are seeking their B.A.s. This is the seventh year that the NPS has sponsored a Rural Development Seminar. We have just entered into a new five-year cooperative agreement with UAF to sponsor more seminars along with other educational activities. Alaska Region's support of the program is in perfect step with the NPS's increasing stress on educational outreach, civic engagement, and partnerships.

Our Tucson seminar was co-hosted this year by Intermountain Region under the leadership of Sande McDermott. With the assistance of the able staff at the Western Archeological and Conservation Center (WACC), Intermountain Region put together a rich and diverse seminar program. The theme of the seminar was "Preserving the Portable Past: Saving and Researching Museum Collections". The students were first introduced to the details of the curatorial process at WACC. Then the seminar shifted its setting to other locales such as Saguaro National Park and Casa Grande National Monument. We also toured the magnificent new museum of the Akimel O'odham Indians on the Gila Indian Reservation and also saw



Cactus fruit harvesting in the desert

see NPS on next page

RD Student Touched by Arizona Experience

BY MICHELLE
RAVENMOON, 2005
RD GRADUATE

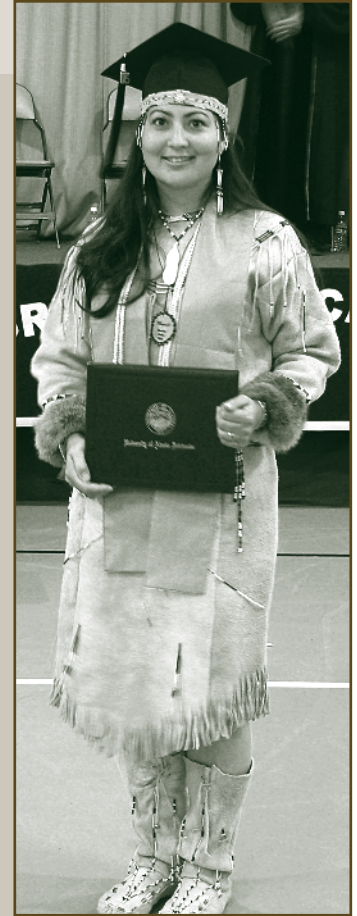
THE TRIP TO TUCSON for the Rural Development seminar, "Preserving the Portable Past" was a phenomenal learning experience. I enjoyed the company of

a great group that I became very close to. The presence of the National Park Service enriched our learning and offered a whole new realm to historical and cultural preservation. Much of what was brought up in the lectures was food for thought for a long time to come. There were issues on preservation that many of us didn't agree with and there were ways we liked as well. The advantage was being able to see the diversity. On our learning journey we walked through the Sonoran Desert, we were awed by ancient ruins of Casa Grande, we marched through collection rooms of museums and heritage centers, got up close and personal with museum curators, bumped elbows with the "big bellies," (as the Sioux used to call their leaders) sang and danced, prayed in the historical San Xavier church, and explored several different ideas of heritage preservation. The bright sun warmed us as we embarked on an experience that touched, if not changed our lives forever.

I have found that the Southwest appeals to me more so than any other place in world with the exception of Alaska. With extreme contrasts to my home, I have fallen in love with a place that feels like home. Throughout the day I found myself comparing the Tucson desert to the Lake Iliamna tundra. The beauty of a delicate cactus bloom reminded me of the fragile tiny flowers found on the tundra, such as the white blossom of the Labrador tea plant. Both come from harsh climates and appear so fragile, yet they both embody the ability to survive. I admire and respect the austerity of both environments.

What I have taken home from the desert is a better understanding of a people's survival in a place that appears pokey, inhospitable, and parched. Tribes including the Yaqui, Apache, Navajo, and Tohono

See Ravenmoon, next page



*Michelle Ravenmoon, 2005
Bristol Bay Campus Student
of the Year*

NPS continued

how the O'odham people tastefully integrated cultural teaching and ethnographic items and themes in their new hotel, Wild Horse Mesa Resort.

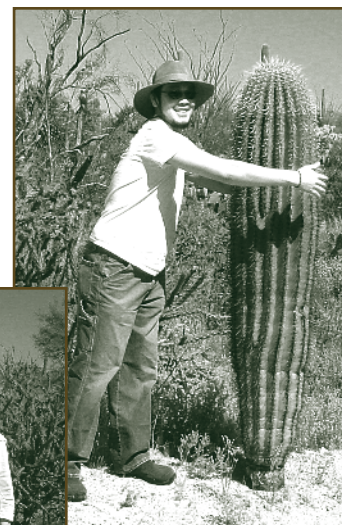
We learned how Native American stories are presented by the University of Arizona Museum and attended a session of Udall Center's Indian Nation Building conference/seminar. We even visited the Tucson landfill for a session on the many things that one can learn about the state of public health and the environment from the study of garbage (Yes, there is now a legitimate field called "garbology"). At first the students wondered how

people like the O'odham could have survived, and even thrived, for thousands of years in their desert; but by the end of the seminar they realized that the desert and tundra are actually very similar—both yield bounties to those who make the effort to know and understand them. Everyday ended with wrap up sessions where the students shared what they had learned and organized their thoughts so that they could complete their daily writing assignments. These end-of-the-day "wrap-ups" also provided additional occasions for spontaneous outbreaks of Alaska Native song and dance. There is no doubt that these seminars put fun in learning.

“Preserving the Portable Past” NPS Tucson Seminar



Kelly Eningowuk, Gordon Pullar, Michelle Ravenmoon, Shirley Holmberg and Ann Fears in the Sonoran desert



Dawson Hoover

Ravenmoon, continued from previous page

O'odham have made a living similar to my people in a land that appears stark when it first meets the eye. I was not surprised to hear how passionately the Tohono O'odham felt about their ancestral lands, some of which falls within the Saguaro National Park. I liked learning about the history of Tucson, which derives its name from the Tohono O'odham's original village name, "Tukshone." Now a large city sits where they used to hunt and gather and there is a landfill near their original village site.

We went to the Tohono O'odham's fruit harvesting camp at the Saguaro National Park. The Tohono O'odham have to acquire a permit from NPS for permission to harvest their traditional food. I felt fear seeing that their camp was enclosed in a barbed wire fence. I thought, "What if this was my fish camp?" What if this was where I hunted caribou or picked berries? I am blessed with the vast lands and freedom of Alaska, but how long will it take for that to be whittled down to a small barbed wire acre? I take what I saw as an eye opener to remember not to take things for granted. Similar to the Tohono O'odham, the Dena'ina feel strongly about our ancestral grounds and we hold sacred our traditional customs.

As a subsistence coordinator for the Lake Clark National Park, I am ever aware of the fact that Alaska is one of the few places in which subsistence is still practiced on National

Park lands. I am also aware that this does not guarantee subsistence forever. History has shown that our right to live as indigenous people slowly erodes with time, regulations, development, progress, industry, and modern economics. I felt fear because I do not want my subsistence rights whittled away any more than they already have. What gave me hope was the thought that despite the imminent highway, the limited forest and the barbed wire fence, the Tohono O'odham still harvest the saguaro fruit each year.

My last thought is of one of the questions of the day, "What works when it comes to community wellness?" I felt that the entire Tucson seminar embraced the essence of wellness. Promoting wellness to me is seeing successful Natives, surrounding yourself with positive goal oriented people, laughing often, working hard, allowing time for fun, being part of the community, empathy, tears, prayer, singing, talking to one another, learning together, eating together, sharing, and creating. Our seminar in Tucson encompassed all of this. I felt light as I flew home. I was thinking when we arrived in Arizona we were climbing out of the darkness and into the light of the hot Tucson sun, and being Alaskans we could appreciate the light and blossom in it. And that is what we did. Many thanks to the National Park Service and the Rural Development planners. It was a wonderful trip.



Ann Fears with the giant Saguaro cacti

Rural Development Faculty and Staff

New Name for Rural College

The University of Alaska Board of Regents unanimously approved changing the name of the College of Rural Alaska to the College of Rural and Community Development at its June meeting. The change is the result of a two-year effort to identify a name that more accurately reflects the broad mission of the college, which includes the urban Tanana Valley Campus, rural sites, Cooperative Extension Service and the Department of Alaska Native and Rural Development.



Inez Webb, Dianne Schaeffer, Beverly Melovidov and Kelly Eningowuk



Andria Agli, Inez Webb and Dianne Schaeffer at the petroglyphs

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Northwest Alaska Has Strong History with RD

OVER THE PAST 20 YEARS, the Rural Development program has graduated well over 150 students with BA and MA degrees. While these students have come from over 150 different Alaska communities there have been a particularly large number from the Northwest part of the state, the Bering Straits and NANA regions. This tradition continues with current students from these regions.

In 1986, the first three students graduated from the RD program and they were all from Northwest Alaska. In fact, six out of the first eight RD graduates were from this part of Alaska. They were from Nome, Wales, Shishmaref, Unalakleet and White Mountain. Since then Northwest Alaska has produced numerous RD graduates.

Among the graduates are Marie Greene (BA 1997, current MA student, Kotzebue), President and CEO of NANA Regional Corporation; Vera Metcalf, (BA 1999, current MA student, Nome), Executive Director of the Eskimo Walrus Commission; Dawn Salesky (BA 1993, MA 2005, Nome) is Vice President for the Education, Employment and Training Division for Kawerak, Inc.; Fred Smith (BA 2000, Noorvik), Director of Planning and Development at the Association of Village Council Presidents; Melissa Boeckmann (BA 1999, MA 2004, Nome), Assistant Vice President of Community Health Services at the Norton Sound Health Corporation; Linda Joule (BA 1995, current MA student, Kotzebue), Executive Director, Kotzebue IRA Council; and Jonella Quaquungaq Larson (BA 2000, Nome), Yale Law School graduate.

Besides the distinguished graduates there are current RD students working in positions impacting Northwest Alaska communities. Guy Adams, (BA student, Kotzebue) is the Executive Director of the Northwest Inupiat Housing Authority; Gladys Pungowiyi (BA student, Kotzebue) is a Vice President of NANA Regional Corporation; Helen Bolen (BA student, Kotzebue) is the President and CEO of Maniilaq, Inc.; Hannah Loon (BA student, Selawik/Kotzebue) works as a Shareholder Liaison between NANA shareholder employees at Teck Cominco Red Dog Mine; and Annabelle Alvite (MA student, Kotzebue) is a Special

Assistant to the Mayor of the Northwest Arctic Borough.

The success of the RD program in Northwest Alaska is due largely to the high quality of students from that area. Contributing to the success have been RD faculty members working with students there as well as extensive assistance from faculty and staff at the Northwest Campus in Nome and the Chukchi Campus in Kotzebue.

RD Class Works in Partnership with Entities in Rural Alaska

GEORGE CHARLES TAUGHT RD300, Rural Development in a Global Perspective, Fall semester 2004. His students worked with Bonnie Thomas, who was instrumental in making contact with the Ft. Yukon Tribal Council.

With their support the class wrote a concept paper for a multi-use building in Ft. Yukon. Gary Lawrence, Executive Director for Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government, wrote, "This letter is to thank the Rural Development students who wrote the Cultural Center Proposal for Gwichyaa Zhee and to Bonnie Thomas for presenting the proposal to the Tribal Council. It is very encouraging to see students working to protect our culture and language. Thank you very much; it was a very well written proposal. The Rural Development students did an excellent job writing the proposal and thank you so much for picking a subject that is important to the tribe and its well being. The culture/language center is an excellent project for the tribal government to pursue. We have talked about a culture center during our visioning sessions and it is an issue that is very important to us. We will pursue the funding to make it happen, thanks to the proposal written by the students. Keep up the good work! *Mah'sii Choo.*"



RD 20TH Anniversary Reception 2004 AFN Convention



Above: Mary Jane Nielsen, Steven Angasan, Chris Kiana and Patricia Lekanoff-Gregory

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK the following organizations that sponsored the 20 year anniversary reception for the Rural Development program that was held during the annual Alaska Federation of Native annual convention last October:

First Alaskans Institute
Doyon, Limited
Bristol Bay Native Corporation
Bernice Joseph, CRCD Executive Dean
Perry Eaton, Alyeska Pipeline



MA students Pat Jackson and Bob Charles



Gordon Pullar, Gail Pass, Dixie Dayo, and Graham Smith from New Zealand

Corrections from Fall 2004 newsletter:

Stacy Stasenka was listed as the "200th graduate" on the cover page. This should have read "2004 graduate." She was also mistakenly identified as a 2003 graduate on page 28. Traci Wiggins is a 2004 graduate, not 2003, as listed on page 28. Evelyn Pensgard and Lauri Weston-O'Brien of Bethel graduated from UAF's Kuskokwim Campus with masters degrees in May of 2004 and were not recognized as such in the newsletter (see photo page 5).

Gail Staudinger Receives 2005 Make Students Count Award

Gail Staudinger, administrative coordinator for the Department of Alaska Native and Rural Development, was named the recipient of the 2005 UAF Make Students Count Award by UA President Mark Hamilton. The award is for her "outstanding service to students." Gail works in DANRD's Anchorage office and coordinates RD seminars including making logistical arrangements for students attending. Gail is often referred to as the "backbone of the RD program" for all the work she does making student arrangements for seminars and other classes.



RD Faculty Highlights

MIRANDA WRIGHT, Fairbanks Assistant Professor and Academic Program Head for the Department of Alaska Native and Rural Development, recently completed an extensive three year program review for the Department of Alaska Native and Rural Development. Professor Wright serves on the UAF Strategic Plan 2010 committee, the UAF Institutional Review Board (IRB), and the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Native Education. She is actively involved in an effort to establish an endowed chair for the DANRD and is working on developing an academic consortium and partnerships with the First Alaskans Institute, Stanford University, King Kamehameha Schools in Hawaii, and their partners in New Zealand to develop

a fellows project for indigenous students. She co-authored the Alaska section in *The Indigenous World 2005*, published by the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs in Copenhagen, Denmark. She co-planned and facilitated an RD student travel seminar, in partnership with the National Park Service, on cultural preservation to Tucson, Arizona in April 2005 for a class titled, "Preserving the Portable Past." Professor Wright continues to be active on the Board of Directors of Doyon, Limited, the regional ANCSA corporation for Interior Alaska.



GORDON L. PULLAR, DANRD Director, has a chapter titled "Indigenous Self-Government and Political Institutions in Alaska," in the new book, *An Indigenous Parliament? Realities and Perspectives in Russia and the Circumpolar North*, published by the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) (Copenhagen) and the Russian Association of Indigenous

Peoples of the North (RAIPON) (Moscow). He co-authored the Alaska section in *The Indigenous World 2005*, also published by IWGIA. He co-planned and facilitated an RD student travel seminar, in partnership with the National Park Service, on cultural preservation to Tucson, Arizona in April 2005 for a class titled, "Preserving the Portable Past." In January, he gave a presentation on the RD program to

a partnership conference at the National Park Service. In April, he presented two guest lectures on the campus of the University of New Mexico as a guest of UNM's Native American Studies Department, was elected to a fourth term as President of the Woody Island Tribal Council, and attended a meeting of the Native American Advisory Group of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in Hawaii. In May, he was a keynote speaker in Fairbanks at the International Ph.D. School for Studies of Arctic Societies' seminar titled, "Resilience in Arctic Societies." The seminar, hosted by UAF's Alaska Native Language Center and the Department of Anthropology, included graduate students from throughout the circumpolar north. He also served on a UAF committee working to increase the number of Alaska Natives with PhDs.

DIXIE MASAK DAYO, Fairbanks Assistant Professor and lead recruiter for the RD program, traveled to the Bering Straits and NANA regions meeting with potential RD students. She co-authored the Alaska section in *The Indigenous World 2005*, published by the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs in Copenhagen, Denmark. She co-planned and facilitated an RD student travel seminar, in partnership with the National Park Service, on cultural preservation to Tucson, Arizona in April 2005 for a class titled, "Preserving the Portable Past" and presented two guest lectures on the campus of the University of New Mexico as a guest of UNM's Native American

Studies Department. Professor Dayo facilitates the RD400 Internship program requirements working with private companies and organizations to give students work experience. She continues to serve on the Board of Directors for Bean Ridge Corporation, the ANCSA Corporation of Manley Hot Springs. As editor of the RD newsletter she encourages you to submit articles, photos and information via email to her at dixie.dayo@uaf.edu.



Richard Caulfield New Director at TVC

BERNICE JOSEPH, EXECUTIVE DEAN of the College of Rural and Community Development at UAF, announced May 27, 2005 that Richard Caulfield has been named director of the UAF Tanana Valley Campus.

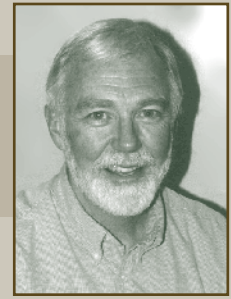
"The search committee produced an exceptional group of finalists," Joseph said. "But Rick clearly stood out. During his tenure as interim director, he has earned great confidence from faculty, staff and advisory council members based on his administrative effectiveness, his vision for the campus and his personal qualities."

Caulfield has been serving as TVC's interim director since September 2004. Prior to that, he served as a professor of rural development and associate dean of academic affairs for the CRCD. Caulfield began teaching with UAF in 1985, and has taught at both the main campus and rural campuses. He earned his master's degree in education from UAF and his doctorate in development studies from the University of East Anglia in the United Kingdom. A 30-year resident of Alaska, Caulfield has written several books and numerous articles on Arctic resources management and community development.

"I am excited by this opportunity to continue working at TVC with outstanding faculty and staff in preparing Alaskans for Alaska's jobs," said Caulfield. "TVC is all about community-driven education—a goal that I believe in strongly."

TVC is a branch campus of the College of Rural and Community Development. The campus offers more than 40 certificate and associate degree programs in courses ranging from applied business to process technology. The campus is headquartered out of the Tanana Valley Campus Center at 604 Barnette Street with additional locations at the TVC Downtown Center, UAF University Park Center, Hutchison Institute of Technology and the Bunnell House Early Childhood Lab School.

UAF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS PRESS RELEASE



Message from Rick

"You may have heard by now that I was offered the job of TVC director by Bernice and I have accepted. I can't tell you how much I have appreciated working with all of you over the years. The good news is that I expect that we'll continue to have much to work on together in the years ahead. One of the positive aspects of this job is that it is still within CRCD and therefore I'll continue to have contact with you, Bernice, campus directors, and our students. I certainly want to continue helping out with the RD program in any way that I can. It remains near and dear to me. Have a terrific summer."

Rick



Mary Pete Named Director at KUC

MARY CIUNIQ PETE has been named director of UAF's Kuskokwim Campus in Bethel.

Pete has served as the director of the subsistence division for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game since 1996, overseeing the research program with a statewide permanent staff of nearly 40 employees, as well as 70 part-time subsistence monitors in as many rural communities.

"Mary Pete will be a great addition to the College of Rural and Community Development," said Bernice Joseph, executive dean of CRCD. "Her experience in coordinating

a statewide program and her knowledge of the Yukon-Kuskokwim region and its challenges make her a natural candidate. I am very pleased about her willingness and enthusiasm to serve as the director."

After earning her master's degree in cultural anthropology from UAF in 1984, Pete worked out of Bethel as a researcher in the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta region as a subsistence resource specialist for the ADF&G division of subsistence. The division is the applied social science research arm of the department, and is responsible for helping management boards implement the state's subsistence priority law.

see Mary Pete on next page

Drugs are Breaking Barrow's Heart

BY PATUK GLENN, RD BA STUDENT



I REMEMBER A TIME WHEN BARROW

was known for its cold weather, good basketball and strong Inupiaq whaling tradition. In 2004 the realities of suicides, crime and murder have darkened Barrow's reputation.

My name is Patuk Glenn and I am a 20-year-old college student pursuing a degree in rural development through the University of Alaska Fairbanks. I have lived in Barrow for most of my life, although I now live in Bethel with my fiancé and 6-month-old daughter. I still consider myself a Barrow community member, and I care about the place I call home. Although it seems hard for me to contribute to my community from Bethel, I do plan to move back to Barrow after I have completed my education.

I want to give back to Barrow because I can remember a time in my childhood when Barrow meant the world to me. Although the phrase "it takes a village to raise a child" may be overused, it was true for me. If I was doing something wrong, the people around me wouldn't hesitate to scold me. Although it hurt my feelings from time to time, those reminders of proper behavior shaped me into the person I am today. I loved growing up in Barrow, from the Styrofoam boating to the *anaragaraq* at the Browerville playground, but things seem different in Barrow now. Change is inevitable. Cultures around the world change for both good and bad.

The two major changes that I see in Barrow today are a lot more people and a lot more illegal drugs. Barrow has grown tremendously during the past century, especially since the time of big oil money. A lot of new people

have brought diversity to Barrow which some people are still adjusting to. Outsiders brought with them many new things, a lot of which I think we are blessed to have. For example, where would we be without the English language in this English-speaking world? How about all those little necessities that we take for granted, such as gas heat and vehicles?

Illegal hard drugs, however, are anything but a blessing. The use of methamphetamine and crack cocaine apparently is widespread among Barrow residents, especially the youths. It breaks my heart to acknowledge this. I believe this is one of the major contributing factors for an increase in suicides, crime and even murder. It is obvious to me why this is so because these drugs too often come with deadly addictions and sleepless nights, which can lead a person into a psychotic rampage or a deep depression.

I have seen these drugs affect some of my close friends and family members, and it makes me sick. Sadly, after the good time is over and the addiction sinks in, I feel helpless. I feel as if I have been completely shut out of their world.

So what can we do to stop it? Frankly, I'm not quite sure. I think just speaking out and becoming aware is a step forward, although not the entire journey toward a drug-free community. There are some things we can't change, but for the things we can, we should try.

Patuk Glenn wrote this commentary for a media studies class taken through UAF's Chukchi Campus. It originally appeared in The Arctic Sounder and the Anchorage Daily News.

Mary Pete, continued from previous page

"Mary is already an asset to the region," said Bing Santamour of the Bethel Native Corporation. "The campus and the university will benefit from her Native view and her educational background. Mary has personal qualities needed in the quest to help people in culturally relevant ways."

Pete served as an instructor for the applied field-based rural development bachelor's degree program at the Kuskokwim Campus for nearly

three years and helped to expand and enhance the program with focused and intensive seminars. The experience instilled an appreciation for the potential that the campus has to offer the region and UAF.

Pete was born and raised in Stebbins, Alaska along the Bering Sea coast, she is familiar with the region, speaks Central Yup'ik, and looks forward to serving as Kuskokwim Campus leader. She will take up her new post on July 11, 2005.

BA Student Highlights



Patricia Phillips



Hannah Loon



Okalena Patricia
Lekanoff-Gregory

GLADYS PUNGOWIYI is the Vice President, Shareholder Relations for NANA Regional Corporation. She provides overall management, direction, and guidance for the delivery of services impacting NANA's 10,000 shareholders.

PATRICIA (PATTY) PHILLIPS serves on the Federal Subsistence Southeast Regional Advisory Council and as Mayor for the City of Pelican in Southeast Alaska.

SHIRLEY HOLMBERG is the Team Leader for the TCCC Americorp Program in Nenana.

GUY ADAMS is the Executive Director of the Northwest Inupiat Housing Authority in Kotzebue.

NANCY BARNES is the President of Eyak Corporation, the ANCSA corporation for Cordova, and continues to serve as a Legislative Aide to Senator Albert Kookesh, Sr.

HANNAH LOON works as a Shareholder Liaison for NANA Regional Corporation. She provides outreach activities to promote employment and career development efforts at the Red Dog Mine site. Hannah's role is to plan and implement a Cross Cultural Awareness program for the Teck Cominco mine management team.

OKALENA PATRICIA LEKANOFF-GREGORY of Unalaska received her certificate in Tribal Management in May.

MINNIE NAYLOR has been in Australia for the past year taking classes in tourism, sociology, cultural industries and human resources. She finds the classes interesting, the weather very warm and reports she is having a great time!

GEORGE INKSTER (Fort Smith, Northwest Territories, Canada) is an instructor in the Social Work Program at Aurora College.

EDWINA LANGENBERG-MILLER (Healy) (BA '03 [History] and BA '03 [Women's Studies], George Washington University) works as a Legislative Aide for Senator Lisa Murkowski in Washington, D.C.. She is Sen. Murkowski's primary staff person for women's issues and also works on military, rural and Alaska Native affairs, National Park Service, land claims and many other national issues.

APRIL LAKTONEN COUNCELLER (Kodiak) (BA '02 Brown University) is the Language Programs Manager for the Alutiiq Museum & Archaeological Repository in Kodiak.

JOELLA HOGAN (Mayo, Yukon Territory) (BSC Environmental Planning U of Northern British Columbia/Prince George '00) is employed by the first Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun in the Lands and Resources Department as a Lands Policy Manager.

MA Student Highlights



April Laktonen
Counciller

What Rural Development Graduates Are Doing Now



Melissa Boeckmann



Nicholas "Bob" Charles

STEVEN ANGASAN (BA '02 , current MA student, Naknek) works as the Tribal Development Director for the Bristol Bay Housing Authority and serves on the Board of Directors of the Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation, the Community Development Quota (CDQ) organization representing 17 Bristol Bay communities.

MELISSA BOECKMANN (MA '04, BA '96 Nome) is the new Assistant Vice President, Community Health Services, Norton Sound Health Corporation. She had a successful spring semester as an Adjunct Professor for the RD program, teaching RD450, "Managing Rural Projects and Programs."

BARB JOE (BA '93 University of Victoria Law School in '00) Whitehorse, Yukon Territory works for the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations (CAFN). Barb is a board member with the Yukon Development Corporation and the Dakwakada Development Corporation.

NICHOLAS "BOB" CHARLES, JR. (BA '02 current MA student, Bethel/Anchorage) is the Vice President for Government and Corporate Relations for Calista Corporation, the regional corporation for western Alaska formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Charles also sits on the Board of Directors of the Alaska Native Heritage Center.

EDITH HILDEBRAND (MA '05, BBA UAA '89 Nulato/Fairbanks) is the Chief Financial Officer for the Yukon Koyukuk School District and is also participating in the Doyon Management Training III sponsored by Doyon, Limited.

ANASTASIA (ANA) COOKE HOFFMAN (MA '02, BA Stanford '95 Bethel) is the new Chief Operating Officer for Bethel Native Corporation. BNC is the sixth largest Native village corporation in Alaska and is active in real estate development, property management, environmental remediation and federal government contracting. She previously served as a magistrate for the Alaska Court System in Bethel.

LINDA JOULE (BA '95 Kotzebue, current MA student, Kotzebue) is the Executive Director of the Native Village of Kotzebue IRA Council.

CHRIS KIANA, SR. (MA '02, MBA APU '99, BA Fort Lewis College, '74 Selawik/Anchorage) is Vice President, Contracts and Public Affairs, for Denali Biotechnologies, LLC. Denali Biotechnologies is test-marketing an Alaskan berry nutraceutical health encapsulated pill. Kiana is also an author and his published books can be found at Amazon.com, including Alaska Crying Baby, a 73,000-word shaman thriller book; Wally the Lost Baby Walrus, a children's book illustrated by Kiana's mother; and Original 100 Alaska Eskimo Yo-Yo Stratagems, an Eskimo Yo-Yo instructional book. He is also busy working on the publication Bright Eyes, Alaska Baby Seal, an illustrated children's book.

DARLENE LORD (BA '05, BS UAF '94 Fairbanks) was promoted to Chief Executive Nurse at the Chief Andrew Isaac Health Clinic in Fairbanks.

BEVERLY MELOVIDOV (BA '04 and current MA student, St. Paul Island/Fairbanks) has served as an Administrative Assistant for the Division of Information Systems at the Alaska Fire Service for the past three years. The Alaska Fire Service is a Bureau of Land Management agency that is responsible for wild land firefighting. Her flexible work schedule has allowed her to work and go to school full time.

EVELYN PENSARD (MA '04, BA Alaska Pacific University '01 Bethel) is the Project Development Coordinator for the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation Facilities and Planning Department in Bethel. Evelyn says, "I sure miss you guys in the RD program!!! I feel like I am missing something! Your program is absolutely wonderful and I brag about it every chance I get."

GABE SAM (BA '96 and current MA student, Huslia/Anchorage) recently started a new job with MTNT, Limited of McGrath as Land Manager. MTNT represents the four villages of McGrath, Telida, Nicholai, and Takotna that merged under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

FRED SMITH (BA '00 Noorvik) is the Director of Planning for the Association of Village Council Presidents in Bethel. He continues to be supportive of the Rural Development program serving as a mentor and supervisor for an RD intern this spring semester. Thank you Fred!

ALAN SORUM (MA Fall '04, BS Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University 1988, MPA UAS 2002 Valdez) will have his Masters project, titled, "Operational and Maintenance Concerns of Small Craft Harbors" published by UAF's Alaska Sea Grant program with funding from the Alaska State Department of Transportation. It will be ready for the annual Alaska Harbormaster's meeting in October. His recent projects include developing a business plan for the Port of Shepard Point that is being built by the Native Village of Eyak and the Clean Harbors Program for Alaska.

STACEY STASENKO (BA '04) has returned to Shishmaref and is "loving being back in the village." She is employed by the Norton Sound Health Corporation as a Village Based Counselor (VBC). Stacey writes, "I get to work with people of all ages in a rural setting. I think the RD program did a good job of preparing me to work in Rural Alaska."

VERA WEBER (BA '05) is sewing Inupiaq clothing for sale, *atigluuraq* (Eskimo snow shirts) and *atigi* (parkas). Originally from Anaktuvuk Pass, she is currently residing in Shungnak in the NANA region.

TRACI WIGGINS, (BA '04) is the Executive Director of the Railbelt Mental Health and Addictions Treatment Program in Nenana. She writes, "Since graduation, through experience working with astounding and considerate classmates in the Rural Development department at UAF, I have learned to navigate State systems in a more professional manner. I have expanded my role in planning and integration in the behavioral Health arena, and have been named as a Commissioner for ACCDPC (Alaska Commission for Chemical Dependency Profession Certification) as well as a member of the External Integration Task Force for the State of Alaska, Division of Behavioral Health."

BERDA WILLSON (BA '96) is enjoying retirement and busier than ever volunteering on many committees and for various organizations in the Bering Straits Region.



Linda Joule



Vera Weber



Berda Willson

Fairbanks Rural Development Has a New Home

THE DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA NATIVE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

offices has moved to a new location on the Fairbanks campus, Suite 107 of the Brooks Building. This spacious suite houses Fairbanks-based faculty as well as office space for

visiting RD faculty members, a small meeting area, and a welcoming atmosphere all of our own. Office numbers for Fairbanks faculty are: Ralph Gabrielli 107A, Dixie Dayo 107B, and Miranda Wright 107C with Frances Bedel in the reception area.

Fall 2005 Class Schedule

Course	Title	Instructor
RD300W	Rural Development in a Global Perspective	Mike Davis
RD350O	Indigenous Knowledge and Community Research	Theresa John
RD400	Rural Development Internship	Dixie Dayo
RD401	Cultural Knowledge of Native Elders	Theresa John
RD451	Human Resource Management for Indigenous Communities	Miranda Wright
RD465	Community Healing and Wellness	Dixie Dayo
RD475W	Rural Development Senior Project	Ralph Gabrielli
RD492	Rural Development Leadership Seminar	Dixie Dayo, Ralph Gabrielli, Gordon Pullar
RD600	Circumpolar Indigenous Leadership Symposium	Ralph Gabrielli, Gordon Pullar
RD601	Political Economy of the Circumpolar North	TBA
RD625	Community Development Strategies: Principles and Practices	TBA
RD698	Project Research	RD Staff
RD699	Thesis	RD Staff

Department of Alaska Native & Rural Development

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