

Chancellor's Report on Philanthropy

Inspiring Students

Joe Usibelli Jr. (right), president of Usibelli Coal Mine and 1981 UAF civil engineering alumnus, presents UAF Chancellor Brian Rogers (left) with a gift of \$141,500. This contribution will support honors students, as well as mining and geological engineering students. Partnerships like this directly impact UAF students and enhance the university's research.



Reaching Out Across Campus

Flint Hills Resources Alaska renewed their support of UAF. Their gift will touch many areas throughout campus such as the Athletics Department's Nanook Fund, Tanana Valley Campus, School of Management's visiting faculty program, engineering open house and scholarship support, the College of Engineering and Mines E-week and robotics competition, and the Alaska Summer Research Academy.



From left to right: Jeff Drake (ASRA), Doug Goering (CEM), Forrest Karr (Athletics) Chancellor Brian Rogers (UAF), Marisa Sharrah (Flint Hills Resources Alaska), Mark Herrmann (SOM), Tammy Tragis-McCook (SOM) and Rick Caulfield (TVC).

A Sustainable UAF

Rich Seifert, Cooperative Extension's "Energy Guy" for 27 years, received the 2009 Emil Usibelli Distinguished Service award. He donated his \$10,000 prize to create the UAF Honors House Retrofit Project, in tribute to the Sustainability Task Force. The UAF Campus Sustainability Task Force is dedicated to the creation of a framework for UAF's Plan for Sustainability in concert with the mission of UAF. The university defines sustainability as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability to meet the needs of the future.



In Loving Memory

At UAF and in the Fairbanks community, Professor Susan Herman touched many lives. She died of cancer June 24. Susan was the founder of the Northern Leadership Center and designer of the UAF Summer Leadership Institute, which brings together high school students from across the state to foster their leadership potential.

All who knew Susan were influenced by her willingness to serve, her ability to draw people in and ideas together, her tenacious faithfulness to a cause, and the never-ending encouragement and support she offered.

Classes are Overflowing

College of Engineering and Mines students are overflowing the classroom! Incoming freshmen at CEM are up 25 percent. Also, the number of classes (credit hours per semester) are showing a 21 - 25 percent increase. Continued support from Usibelli Coal Mine and Flint Hills Resources Alaska will play a major role in students' academic experience. And, CEM students are entering the workforce with the necessary skills and training in hand.



Achievements

The [Hugh and Jane Ferguson Foundation](#) gave \$10,000 to the Museum Exhibition Enhancement fund in support of the Last Polar Bear Exhibit.

[John duPont](#) gave \$25,000 to the UA Museum of the North's ornithology fund, supporting small projects and student research.

[Edward and Alene Christiansen](#) recently doubled their support from last year with a gift of \$50,000 to their named scholarship. The Edward K. and Alene R. Christiansen Music Scholarship is awarded to junior and senior music students at UAF.

[Sportsmedicine Fairbanks](#), the Alaska Nanooks' official sponsor, gave \$10,000 to the Nanook fund in support of areas of greatest need within the Athletics Department.

[NAPA Auto Care Centers](#) pledged a gift of \$5,050 in support of the newly established NAPA Auto Care Centers Scholarship. This is the first scholarship of its kind designated specifically for the TVC automotive technology program. The NAPA Auto Parts Stores of Fairbanks and North Pole have agreed to match the gift with an additional \$5,050 to support auto tech students.

[University Chevron](#) pledged a gift of \$5,050 in support of the Mike and Troy Thomas Auto Technology Scholarship for Tanana Valley Campus students. Mike and his son Troy own and operate the University Chevron station and are longtime UAF supporters.

The [UAF Alumni Association](#) pledged \$30,000 to the Athletics Department in support of a Nanook Hall of Fame awards display case in Patty Center and have given \$20,000 toward that pledge.

[UA Foundation](#) employee Stephanie Strandberg and her husband, alumnus Roy Strandberg, created the Warren Brown Memorial Scholarship in memory of Stephanie's late brother. The scholarship will help students seeking a degree in music.

[Wanda Chin](#), exhibition and design director at the UA Museum of the North, was selected for the Advocacy Award for the Arts. She has worked at the museum for more than 30 years, as well as serving in numerous leadership positions as an art and museum advocate.

[Rudolph Krejci](#), professor of philosophy and humanities, emeritus, and [James Kari](#), professor of linguistics, emeritus, were both honored with the Governor's Award for the Humanities.

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UAF Photos by Todd Paris, unless otherwise noted.

Joe Usibelli and Chancellor Rogers - Photo courtesy of Marmian Grimes
Susan Herman - Photo courtesy of the UAF School of Management
CEM students - Photo courtesy of UAF College of Engineering and Mines

Of Note

- [Welcome to Tammy Tragis-McCook](#), who joined the School of Management as the new director of development and outreach. Tragis-McCook, previously at KUAC, brings nearly a decade of marketing and communications experience to the position.
- [Save the Date!](#) On November 18, 2009 a reception to thank UAF donors will be held in the Regents' Great Hall, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- [The UAF Annual Giving's Young Alumni](#) flash movie was recognized nationally with the bronze medal in the category of "creative uses of technology and new media," and with the grand gold award in the category of "video fundraising" in the 2009 National CASE Circle of Excellence Awards. Annual Giving coordinator Megan Damarico made a presentation in Boston, Mass. at the "Creating a Culture of Student and Young Alumni Philanthropy" conference on the strategies behind this innovative project.



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