

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

on Philanthropy



Office of the Chancellor · Interim Chancellor Dana Thomas · uaf.chancellor@alaska.edu · www.uaf.edu/chancellor/

Fall 2016

Usibelli Coal Mine — Generations of support

Usibelli Coal Mine (UCM) has been an enduring advocate of academic excellence at UAF for decades. Recently, UCM gave a generous gift to support the Usibelli Mining Scholarship, the Usibelli School of Management Scholarship and the School of Management Arctic Innovation Competition — promoting education and innovation in the Interior. This is in addition to their lead (and generous) gift that was made two years ago in support of the Engineering Learning and Innovation Facility. Since partnering with UAF, UCM has established five named endowments and given generously to an incredible array of academic and enrichment areas throughout campus.

UCM has been an integral part of mining in the Interior for over half a century. From a startup enterprise in 1943, UCM is now a fourth-generation company that has grown alongside UAF, establishing a long and proud relationship. UCM and the Usibelli Foundation sponsor many community events and activities, fund numerous scholarships and provide grants to more than 100 organizations annually.



Usibelli's four generations of miners in Alaska. Photo courtesy of UCM

Kinross Fort Knox celebrates 20 years

Kinross Fort Knox has pledged a tremendous gift to start a new scholarship at the College of Engineering and Mines coinciding with the company mine's 20-year anniversary of operations in the Fairbanks area. Mining is rooted in the heart of our community's history and identity, and UAF takes great pride in the bond between our shared tradition. The ongoing support of community-minded industry leaders like Kinross has helped students achieve their educational goals and led to rewarding careers — something UAF alumnus and Kinross Vice President and

General Manager **Eric Hill '08** values greatly. Kinross' new scholarship, established with its recent gift, will benefit students in the mining-related engineering fields. For more on supporting a scholarship or fellowship, please visit www.uaf.edu/giving/centennial-initiatives/.

Eric Hill presented a check to Interim Chancellor Dana Thomas at a recent Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce luncheon.



Putting Fairbanks mining on the MAPTS

The School of Natural Resources and Extension's Mining and Petroleum Training Service program (MAPTS) is a physical manifestation of foresight and investment by UAF and industry partners. **Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo** recognized the potential of MAPTS, bolstering its resources with a generous six-figure gift. SMM Pogo's advocacy extends into employment, having hired 13 MAPTS graduates to date.

With an expected growth rate of 24.8 percent in the Alaska mining industry by 2022, creating an expected increase of 4,400 jobs, the workforce partnership between Alaska's mining community and MAPTS is long-term and sustainable. This significant employment opportunity for Alaskans and the resources MAPTS provides are critical to the success of future mining operations in the Last Frontier.

Giving greatly



Grace Berg Schaible '49, '91 (shown here in 1985 as a UA Regent) has dedicated a lifetime to Alaska. As the first female Attorney General in Alaska, she has been an integral part of our history. Her recent gift of art to the UA Museum of the North is another brick in the path she has paved for UAF and its innumerable alumni, friends and family. For more of Grace's incredible story, visit www.alaska.edu/uajourney/regents/1985-1987-grace-schaible.

The **Rasmuson Foundation** recently supported the UA Museum with a gift to the renovation of "The Place Where You Go to Listen," curated by composer John Luther Adams. Rasmuson Foundation also supports the Artist Residency Program and KUAC.



Recently, **Dr. Cary Keller** (second from left) gave to Nanook Athletics via **Sportsmedicine**

& Orthopaedics Fairbanks. The check was presented to University and Student Advancement Vice Chancellor Mike Sfraga (left), Athletics Director Gary Gray (second from right) and Nanook Men's Hockey Head Coach Dallas Ferguson (right).



Alan Straub '66 reunited with Professor Bill Mendenhall 50 years after Straub's graduation during the UAF Alumni

Association's Nanook Rendezvous Reunion in September.

Save The Date:
UAF Blue and Gold Gala,
February 11, 2017
Details available soon! Visit
www.uaf.edu/chancellor/gala/

Alaska Federation of Natives



The AFN Conference has been a culminating annual event for the past 50 years, consistently drawing people from across the state to gather in celebration and community. The AFN Welcome Reception was held at the University House in Fairbanks. At the reception, **UA President Jim Johnsen** and his wife, **Mary**, announced their gift to the Troth Yedha' Legacy Initiative, demonstrating their commitment to the university and Alaska's heritage. The Johnsens had earlier pledged to donate the president's entire performance bonus to a university project or program.

Additionally, during the conference, the UAF Alumni Association presented the Alumni Achievement Award for Business and Professional Excellence to **Sen. Lyman Hoffman '74**, of Bethel. Evon Peter, Vice Chancellor for Rural Community and Native Education, served as moderator for a panel titled "Rethinking Indigenous Education: Our Responsibility to Future Generations," which addressed change in educational institutions and programs and the prospect of using education as "a tool of cultural revitalization, indigenous self-determination and community prosperity." UAF looks forward to future collaboration with AFN. For more information on AFN, please visit www.nativefederation.org/.

Generous gifts over \$25,000*

CORPORATION

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company supported the Alyeska Pipeline Native Fellowship, supporting MBA students in the School of Management.

BP gave to the UAF GeoFORCE Alaska program and the College of Engineering and Mines, the School of Management, and the College of Natural Science and Mathematics.

Chugach Alaska became a Nauta founding member of the Troth Yedha' Legacy Initiative.

CoBank gave to the Marine Advisory Program Development fund at the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences.

Flint Hills Resources Alaska made a gift to the UA Museum of the North's Discovery Field Trips and Homeschool Day.

The **Pollock Conservation Cooperative** gave to the Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center Endowment and the Ted Stevens Distinguished Professorship of Marine Policy Fund — (Starbound, American Seafoods Company, Glacier Fish Company and Trident Seafoods).

TOTE Maritime gave to the TOTE Maritime Alaska Scholarship and the UA Museum of the North Family Days program.

Wells Fargo gave to the Rural Alaska Honors Institute and the UA Museum of the North Military Appreciation Program and KUAC.

* This report reflects gifts and donations of \$25,000 or more to the University of Alaska Fairbanks between May 8, 2016, and Oct. 31, 2016.

Bringing John home

John Mitsuru Ebisu was born in Wailuku, Hawaii, and was a professional civil engineer. He was a two-time UAF alumnus, earning a bachelor's degree in civil engineering in 1969 and a master's in engineering management in 1979. After graduation, he went to work for Bechtel as an engineer and then returned to Alaska. John loved challenges in Alaska, working in offshore oil exploration and pipeline construction. His legacy includes highways, dams, bridges, buildings and other structures all over the world. Alaska was his home until 1996, when he moved to Hawaii. John died May 12, 2013, at Maui Memorial Medical Center. He dedicated a portion of his estate to UAF to support civil engineering students.

Kinuye Nihei and her husband, Akio Nihei, recently visited campus from Hawaii while finishing the details of a scholarship in memory of her cousin, John. "It feels like I'm bringing John home," Mrs. Nihei said. John wanted to give back to the university that provided him with a remarkable education that helped him throughout his life, and assist others in their goal of obtaining this kind of quality education. Engineering students will benefit from John's generosity for years to come with an estimated scholarship award of \$6,000 per year starting in 2021. For information on how to make a legacy gift, visit www.uaf.edu/giving/ways/planned/.



John Ebisu '69, '79.
Photo courtesy Kinuye Nihei

M.J. Murdock: 40 years of changing lives

M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust hosted its 40th Founder's Day celebration at the UAF Murie Building auditorium and UA Museum of the North on June 23. The trust began operations in 1975 and has granted nearly \$800 million to worthy causes since. UAF was proud to host this gathering with such a dedicated partner. For more information on the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, visit www.murdock-trust.org.

INDIVIDUAL

An **anonymous donor** gave generously to the UA Museum of the North Gallery of Alaska.

Michelle Aubry and Peter Christensen continued their support of the Harvey Shields Fellowship in Archaeology.

Don Bray and his family, along with support from friends, established a memorial scholarship in memory of his beloved wife, Annette Bray.

E.R. Dolly Dieter gave to the Dieter Family Tsunami Bowl Endowment, the Ken Turner Memorial Scholarship and the Dieter Family Marine Science Research Scholarship.

The estate of **Donald H. Eyinck '51** made a gift to the UAF Annual Fund.

Janet Porter '59, a graduate of the UAF School of Education, gave to the Chancellor's College Completion Scholarship.

Joe Usibelli '59, '96 and Peggy Shumaker gave to the Alaska Literary Series and the UA Museum of the North Gallery of Alaska.

Ronald N. Zeek dedicated a gift from his estate to Nanook Athletics.



UAF's alumni, friends, and family gave an incredible \$20,591 through this year's Pick.Click.Give program.

Thank you for your incredible support of UAF!

Of Note

In Memory — We take a moment to acknowledge and remember our lifetime donors who have passed away recently: **Ronald Cosgrave '58, Ruth Hewett, Katherine Gust, Fannie McDaniel, Nancy Mendenhall '53 and Ron Zeek.** Their contributions to the university have made it a better place, and we honor them in remembrance.

Alumni Relations — UAFAA will host the Governor's Cup pre-game reception in Fairbanks at the First National Bank of Alaska, Dec. 10, 5-6:30 p.m.



The University of Alaska Fairbanks is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. UAF is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution. 11/2016

To learn more about the impact of giving, contact **UAF Office of Development and Alumni Relations**, P.O. Box 757530, Fairbanks, AK 99775. Call 907-474-2619 or visit www.uaf.edu/giving/.

Save The Date:
Scholarship Breakfast,
April 18, 2017