

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

November 2016



The Research Vessel Sikuliaq was open for public tours in Seattle in August. The Sikuliaq has since been scheduled for two research expeditions based out of Alaska. The National Science Foundation owns the vessel but it is operated by the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences. UAF photo by Todd Paris.

ACHIEVEMENTS

NASA chose Research Associate Professor Jessica Cherry as one of 120 astronaut candidates in the agency's most recent recruitment and will be interviewed. Cherry was selected from more than 18,300 people who applied in 2016. She has a dual appointment with the International Arctic Research Center and the Institute of Northern Engineering, and serves as the chief scientist of the Geographic Information Network of Alaska.

Three hundred fifty people attended the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program's open house in Gakona in August. The facility, commonly referred to as HAARP, was assumed by the Geophysical Institute in 2015 from the U.S. Air Force. Technicians are now preparing the site for two science missions in February 2017. The facility is composed of a group of high-frequency radio transmitters that can penetrate the ionosphere, a region of Earth's upper atmosphere, where auroras occur.

Retired Bethel 4-H educator Janet Athanas was inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame in October. Athanas is one of only five Alaskans to have received the honor. The Hall of Fame was created in 2002 to recognize 4-H volunteers, Cooperative Extension Service professionals, staff and others who made a significant impact on 4-H at the local, state or national level.

Professor Emeritus Donald Cook was inducted into the U.S. Army ROTC Hall of Fame.

Cook, who passed away in 2009, was a member of the first four-year ROTC class at what was then the University of Alaska. Later, Cook joined the UAF faculty and trained hundreds of engineers throughout his career. Cook retired from UAF and was named professor emeritus of mineral beneficiation. He was among 326 former cadets who were part of the first group of inductees to the ROTC Hall of Fame.

A short film produced by a UAF faculty member appeared in the imagineNATIVE Film and Media Arts Festival in Toronto. Maya Salganek served as executive producer for the film "Feels Good," which was written and directed by Andrew Okpeaha MacLean of Barrow. This is Salganek's first time representing UAF filmmakers at the imagineNATIVE festival. Salganek is the founding director of the UAF Film Reel Alaska Mentoring Experience, also known as FRAME, which provided students as the crew for "Feels Good."

IN PROGRESS

"Living Alaska: A Decade of Collecting Contemporary Art for Alaska Museums" is on display at the University of Alaska Museum of the North through Dec. 3. The exhibit showcases 25 works from 12 Alaska museums with a broad, contemporary, Alaska feel. All pieces were purchased through the Rasmuson Foundation's Art Acquisition Fund, which began in 2003.

Students are using 16 new 3-D printers added to the drafting program's downtown lab at the Community and Technical College. The CTC drafting program is shifting focus from traditional methods to a more industry-relevant combination of drafting and design technologies. The printers give students hands-on experience in those fields.

WHAT'S NEXT

Alternative Spring Break will send students to San Francisco this spring. There, students will focus on youth development, rebuilding and environmental efforts in the area. This opportunity is coordinated by the UAF Leadership, Involvement and Volunteer Experience program.

The Festival of Native Arts takes place March 2-4 on the Fairbanks campus. The event offers cultural education and sharing through traditional Native dance, music and arts. The festival is a student-led UAF tradition that began in 1973. Visit https://fna.community.uaf.edu to learn more.

The Week of the Arctic will celebrate a successful U.S. chairmanship of the Arctic Council. From May 8-14, presentations, workshops, cultural exchanges and more will draw international dignitaries and scientists to Alaska as the U.S. hands over the chairmanship to Finland. UAF will host some of the events.

THROUGH THE LENS: RECENT IMAGES

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Students lean in for a kiss at Starvation Gulch 2016. Roughly 2,000 students, staff, faculty, alumni and community members enjoyed the warmth of the Starvation Gulch bonfires and associated festivities on Sept. 24. The bonfires symbolize the torch of knowledge being passed on to a new class of students.

In 1923, students built a mock settlement on campus and named it "Starvation Gulch" as a nod to the first settlers of Fairbanks and their early trials. The settlement served as a venue for entertainment by day and, at night, it was torched. That large fire and the name, "Starvation Gulch," ignited a tradition. Now, each fall semester begins with this special celebration on the Fairbanks campus.









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Photos, clockwise from left

The sun sets over the Fairbanks campus on Aug. 8. The serene setting looks northwest to the Moore-Bartlett-Skarland Complex.

UAF 100 banners were placed around the Fairbanks campus in preparation for the university's centennial celebrations that will launch Dec. 31. Here, Facilities Services employee Ray Ward installs a banner at a light post near Constitution Hall.

"Go 'Nooks!" Students take a selfie during the men's hockey Blue and Gold game at the Patty Ice Arena. The event launched the Nanooks' 2016-2017 season in September. The Blue team, composed mostly of freshmen, won against the upperclassmanfilled Gold team in a shootout.

U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor visited UAF and spoke to a packed house in August. In a conversation-style format, KUAC reporter Robert Hannon led a discussion with Sotomayor in the Charles W. Davis Concert Hall. The event was coordinated by Summer Sessions. You can watch a recording of the event at www.uaf.edu/summer/.