



UNIVERSITY *of*
ALASKA ANCHORAGE™

BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE
ALASKA RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MARCH 26, 2026

YOUR JOURNEY. YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR IMPACT.

BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE

ALASKA RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



**Chancellor
Cheryl
Siemers**



**Provost
Denise
Runge**



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AKRDC BREAKFAST BRIEFING:

“Collaboration and communication have served as the foundation for the shared work and the progress we have made. In that capacity, I have been fortunate to bring my perspectives and specialized expertise into the conversation as we lean into our identity and responsibilities as Alaska’s dual mission university.”

Cheryl K. Siemers



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AKRDC BREAKFAST BRIEFING: UAA: Building Alaska's Talent Pipeline

OVERVIEW

UAA's Dual Mission

WORKFORCE

Building Alaska's Talent Pipeline

PARTNERSHIPS

UAA and Industry



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We are UAA:



Chancellor

**Cheryl
Siemers**



**Provost &
Executive Vice
Chancellor**

**Denise
Runge**



**Vice Chancellor
Administrative
Services**

**Ryan
Buchholdt**



**Interim
Vice Chancellor
Student Affairs**

**Tom
Green**



**Vice Chancellor
Research**

**Aaron
Dotson**



**Vice Chancellor
University
Advancement
Acting Athletic
Director**

**Tanya
Pont**



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We are UAA:



**Vice Provost &
Dean, Honors
College**
Ray
Ball



**Vice Provost &
Interim Dean,
Graduate School**
Colin
McGill



Vice Provost
Susan
Kalina



**Director,
Matanuska-Susitna
College**
Marie
Gardner



**Director,
Kodiak College**
Jacelyn
Keys



**Interim Director,
Kenai Peninsula
College**
Brian
Partridge

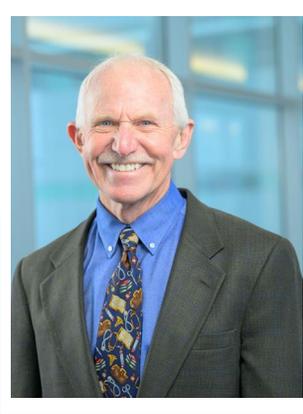


**Director,
Prince William
Sound College**
Dennis
Humphrey

We are UAA:



Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
Jenny McNulty



Dean, College of Health
Jay Butler



Dean, College of Engineering
Kenrick Mock



Dean, Community & Technical College
Raymond Weber



Interim Dean, College of Business & Public Policy
Terry Nelson



Dean, School of Education
Tonia Dousay



Dean, Consortium Library
Tom Rosko



Strategic Engagement & Government Relations Officer
Evan Steinberg



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UAA's DUAL MISSION: We Are UAA

We are proud to be Alaska's dual mission university. This means we serve all learners. We offer accessible, affordable education for all Alaskans — whether they're just starting out, returning to school or pursuing an advanced degree.



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UAA's DUAL MISSION:

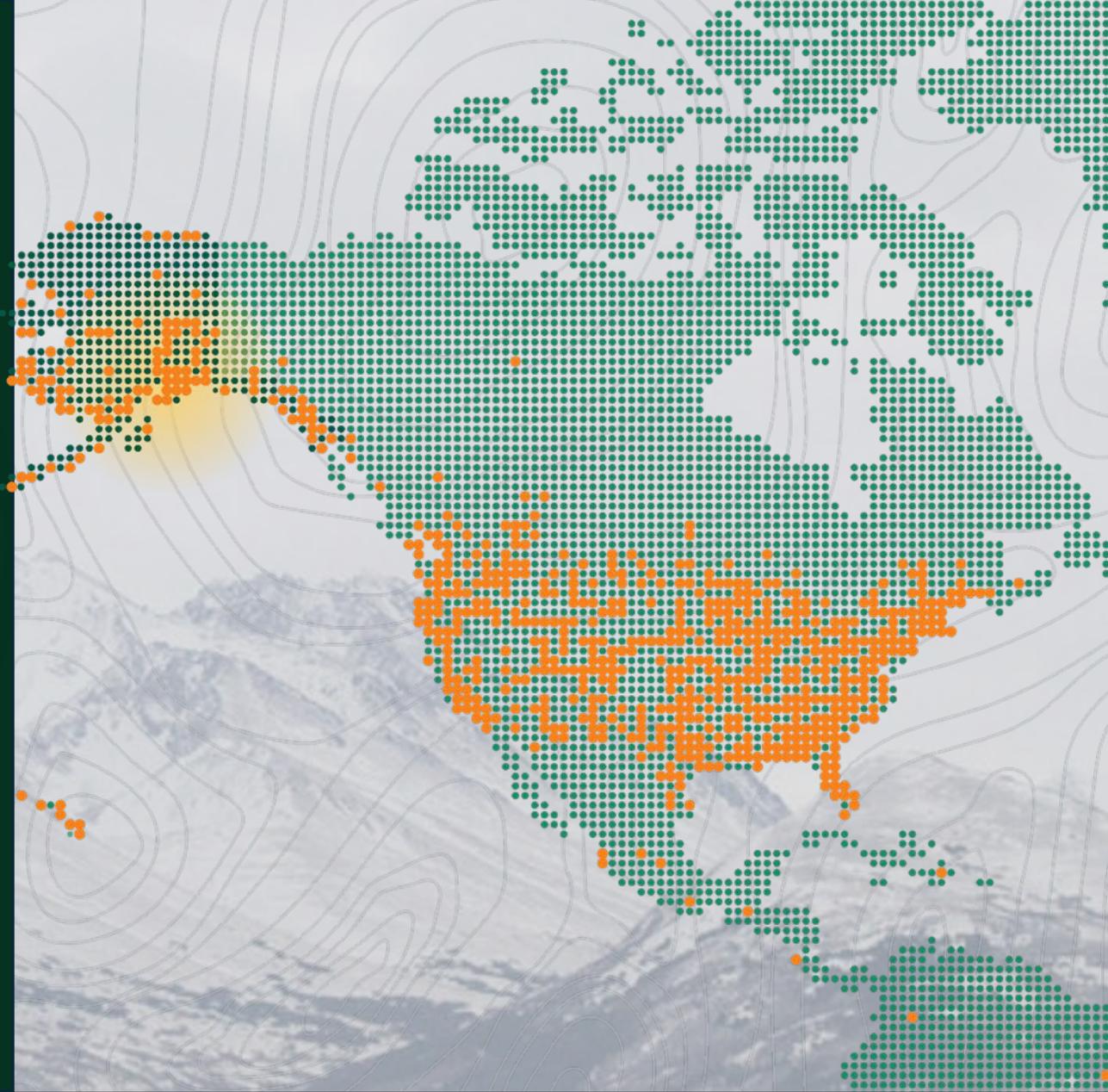
Alumni Impact

33%

Of people working at the state capital (including legislators) are UAA alumni.

72,000+

UAA alumni around the globe are making meaningful contributions in their communities and carrying forward the university's legacy of excellence.



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UAA's DUAL MISSION: UAA's Reach

Responsive to Community Needs

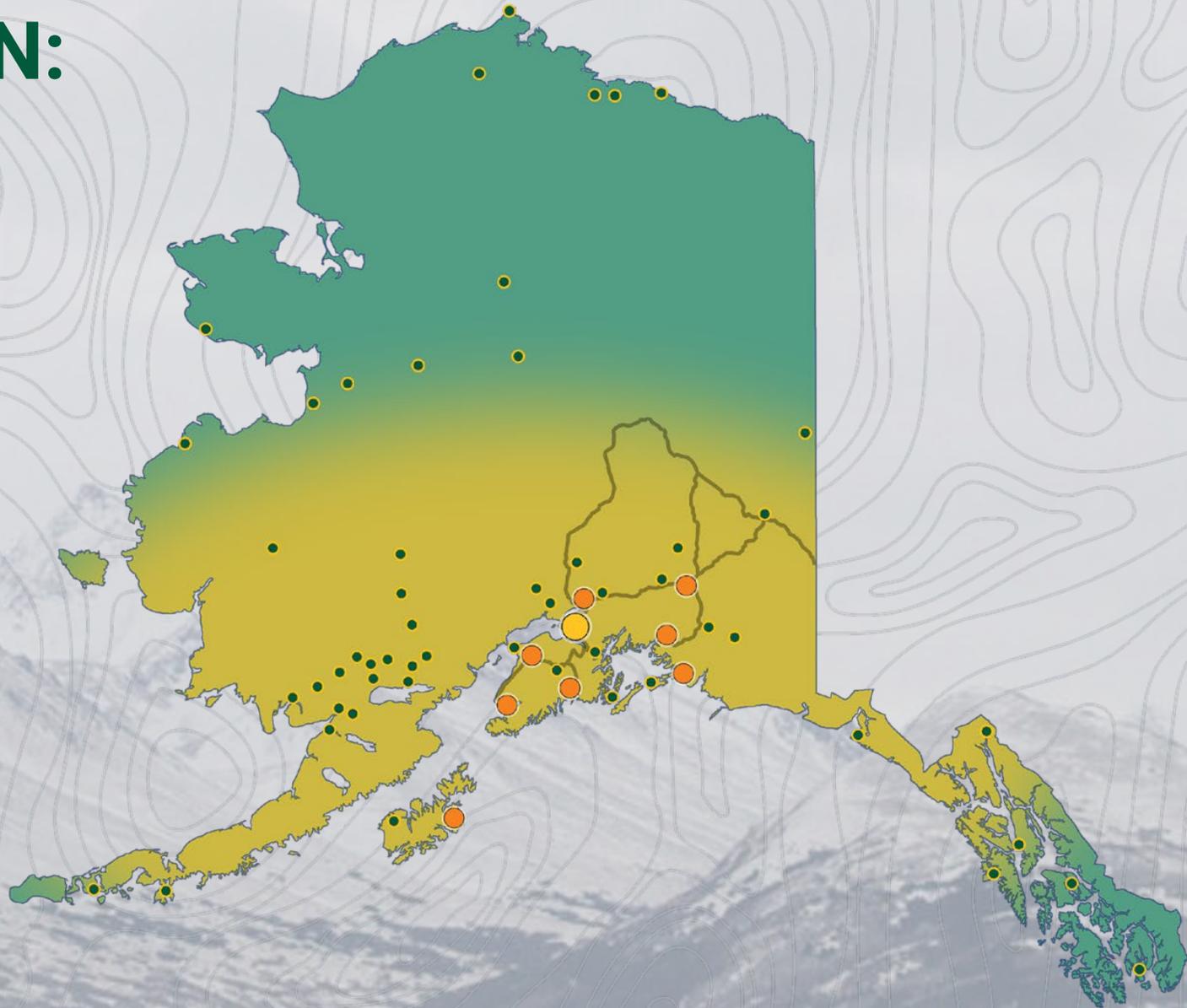
● University of Alaska Anchorage

● Prince William Sound College
- Copper Basin Extension Site
- Cordova Extension Site

● Mat-Su College

● Kodiak College

● Kenai Peninsula College
- Kachemak Bay Campus
- Resurrection Bay Extension Site
- Anchorage Extension Site



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UAA's DUAL MISSION: North to the Future



WORKFORCE



COMMUNITY



APPLIED RESEARCH



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: University of Alaska Anchorage

At the University of Alaska Anchorage, we don't just grant degrees; we build Alaska's talent pipeline. From the North Slope to the Gulf of Alaska, UAA's dual mission model effectively closes critical workforce gaps. Validated by our recent Carnegie Community Engagement Classification and surge in enrollment numbers, it is clear UAA is a vital hub for Southcentral and an economic driver for all of Alaska.

Construction & Transportation



Timber & Lumber



Corporations & Business



Tourism & Travel



Oil & Gas



Critical Minerals & Mining



Fisheries & Maritime



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Cross-industry Workforce Needs



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE:

Cross-industry Workforce Needs

“The debate program was so instrumental in how I think about problems and solutions. It makes you have this 360-degree view on different problems, issues and challenges, and I leverage that every day in almost everything that I do.”

Corey Hester, UAA Alumni, B.A. Journalism and Public Communications '14, COO for the Iditarod Trail Committee



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE : Alaska's Flagship Health Campus

Our Envisioned Future: UAA offers over 45 Healthcare programs at 14 locations throughout Alaska. From CNAs to our WWAMI Medical School partnership, UAA trains more healthcare workers for both urban and rural Alaska than anyone else in Alaska.



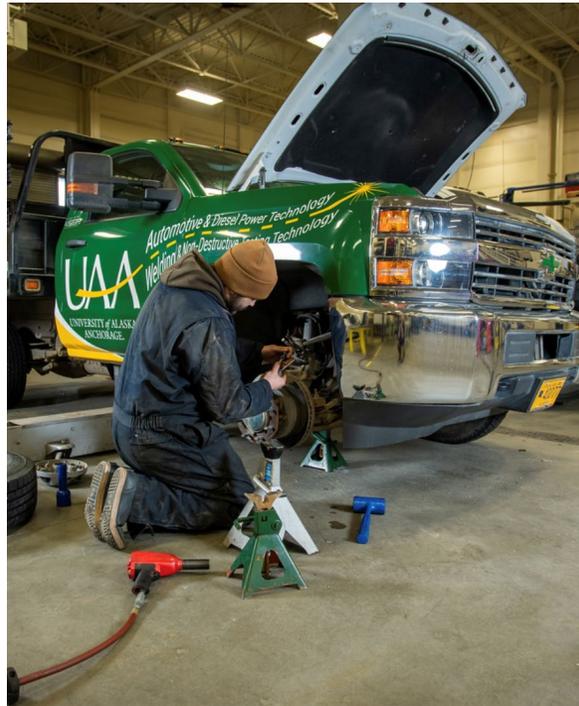
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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Construction and Transportation



UAA's Program Offerings



UAA's Applied Research



UAA's Joint Opportunities



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Construction and Transportation



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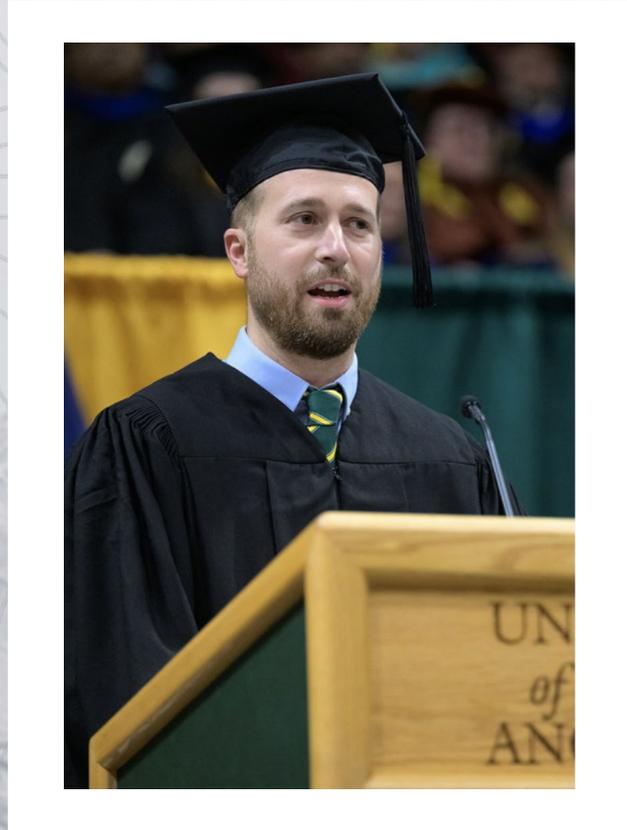
BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Timber and Forestry



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Professional Development & Executive Leadership



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Alaska Native Business Management Programs



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Alaska Native Business Management Programs

“Training together across these various organizations brings positive results both regionally and statewide. Although we have differing missions among Tribes, ANCs and Alaska Native non-profits, we are one and we do have one mission: Our People.” - Sharon Guenther Lind, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Management, CBPP





BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Hospitality, Tourism and Travel



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Hospitality, Tourism and Travel

"I'm extremely grateful that I get to be a part of it this year. I learned so many different types of piping skills while I was here and different decoration ideas." *Sophie McCabe, UAA Student*



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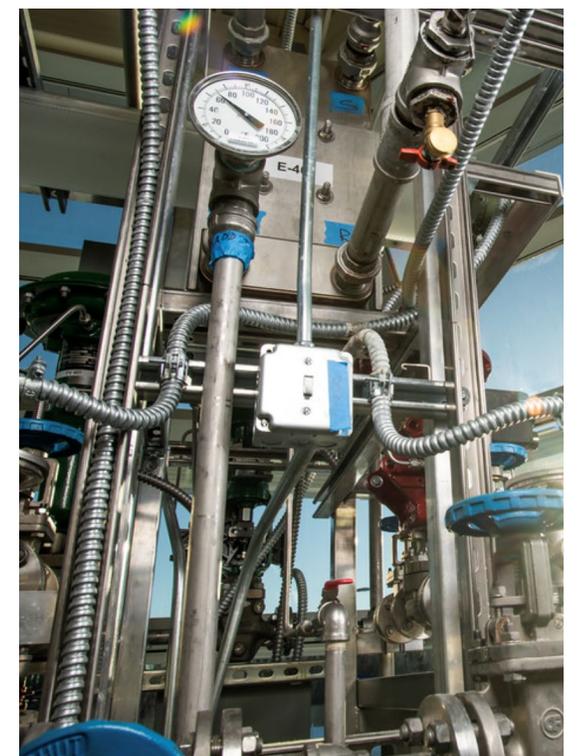


BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Oil and Gas



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Oil and Gas



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Critical Minerals and Mining



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE:

Critical Minerals and Mining

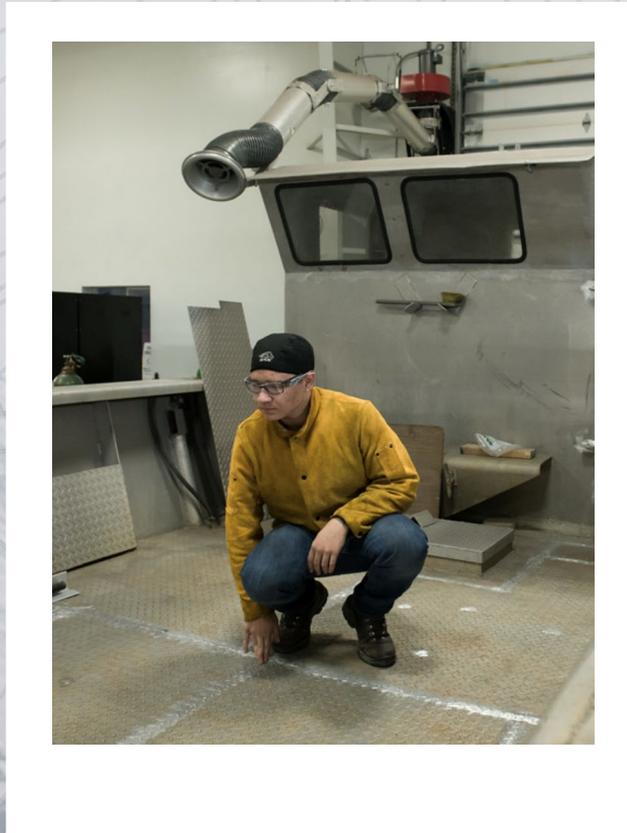
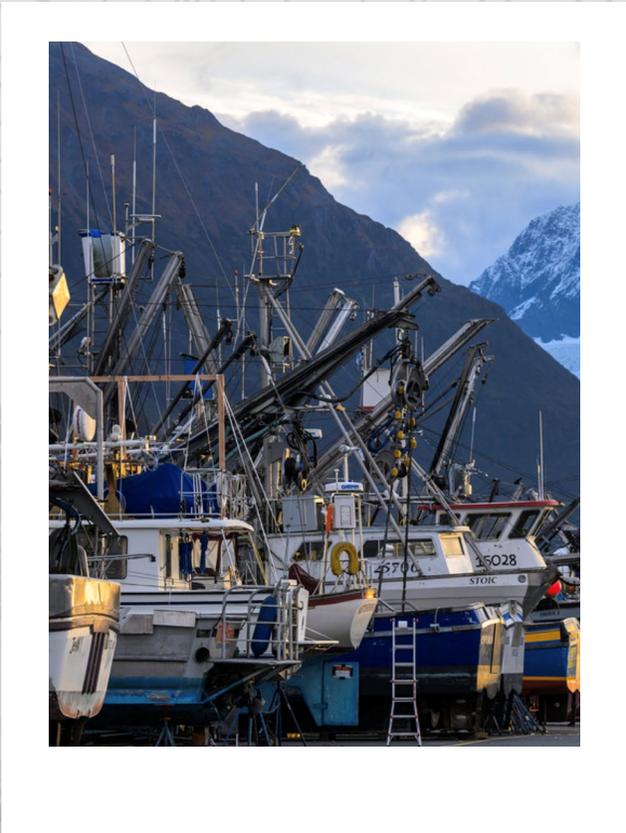
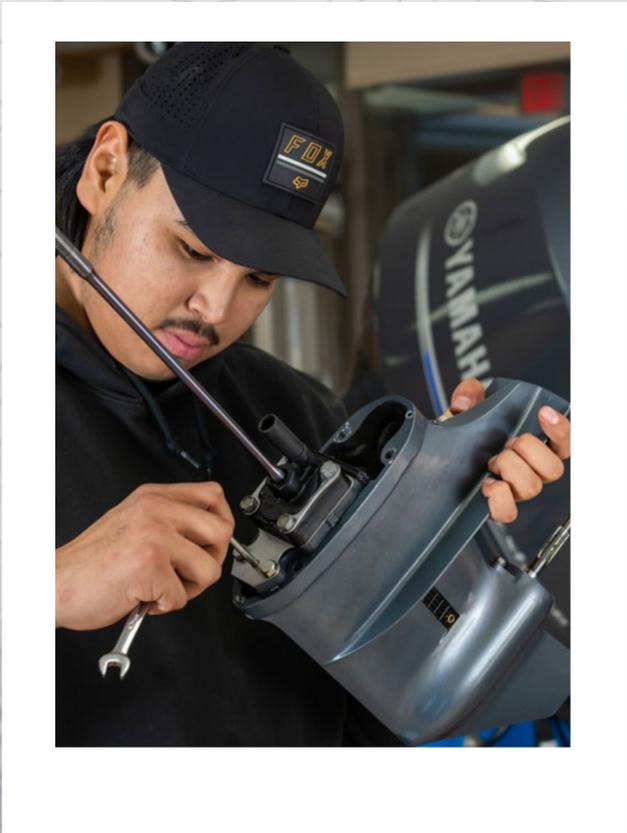
D'Lynn Gleason's thesis '[Binding Activity of Glacier Bacteria Towards Rare Earth Elements](#)' took an approach known as biomining, which involves using microbes to extract metals from ores. According to Gleason, "the field of biomining has gained momentum as researchers seek environmentally sustainable alternatives to traditional mining methods for critical minerals."



Gleason was a master's candidate in biology at the time, while also simultaneously serving as lab manager and an adjunct faculty member at Mat-Su College.



BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Fisheries and Maritime



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BUILDING ALASKA'S TALENT PIPELINE: Fisheries and Maritime

“There’s not many other places where you can have such in-depth research projects They’re really important programs and I think anyone who enjoys the natural world, enjoys natural sciences, should really consider coming to Prince William Sound College.” *Sean Mueller, Marine natural sciences student at UAA's Prince William Sound College*



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UAA AND INDUSTRY: Partners in Applied Research

2025 Seawolf Engineering

Capstone Projects – Department of Civil Engineering

Special Thanks to our Lead Professional Mentor:
Sean Baski, PE - AK DOT&PF



UAA College of Engineering
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

Funny River Boat Launch Facility

Client ---- Rys Miranda, PE, Department of Natural Resources
Professional Mentor ---- Eric Voorhees, PE, DOWL
Faculty Advisor ---- Joey Yang, PhD, UAA
Firm ---- Last Frontier Engineering
Student Members ---- Sam Huff, EIT (Student Project Manager),
Jom Sumaang, EIT, Paco Leshan,
Camden Adkins

This project evaluated the suitability of a parcel located at mile 43 of the Kenai River in the Funny River community for the development of a boat launch facility. A hydraulic analysis was conducted to determine the optimal location for a concrete plank boat ramp. Two conceptual site plans were developed to illustrate potential layouts for circulation, parking, and amenities. Each plan included 30 truck-and-trailer stalls as well as 30 passenger vehicle stalls.

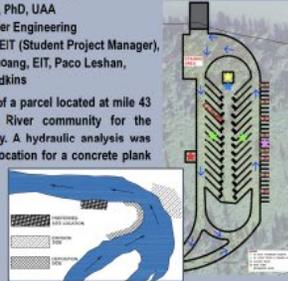


Photo by University of Alaska Anchorage

AMATS: Fireweed Lane Rehabilitation

Client --- Connor Eahleman, P.E., Alaska DOT&PF
Professional Mentors --- Chris Post, P.E., Alaska DOT&PF
Joe Taylor, P.E. & Susan Acheson, P.E., Lounsbury & Associates
Faculty Advisor --- Vinod Vasudevan, P.E., PhD, UAA
Firm --- SUCCESS Solutions
Student Members --- Chelsea Knight (Student Project Manager), Robert Weber,
Hudson Horwath, EIT, Sean Gonzales, EIT, & Jacob Snyder, EIT

Fireweed Lane is a 1.25-mile minor arterial running through the heart of Anchorage, Alaska. The existing corridor has limited active transportation facilities, no designated snow storage, an aging storm-drain system, and utilities located within the sidewalks. Our client, the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, contracted us to perform an alternative analysis, select a chosen alternative, and develop 35% Design Documents to recommend improvements for the corridor.



Whittier Slide Zone Avalanche Mitigation

Client ---- Brian Geise, PE, Alaska Railroad Corporation
Professional Mentor ---- Brian O'Dowd, PE, Alaska Railroad Corporation
Faculty Advisor ---- Scott Hamel, PE, PhD, UAA
Firm ---- HTR Consultants, Inc.
Student Members ---- Denali Russell (Student Project Manager), Aaron Hippler,
Peter Hinds, Job Thomas

This project presents a solution for avalanche mitigation of Slide Zone F7 outside of the Door 4 Portal (Whittier Tunnel). The project's objective was to research mitigation alternatives and produce an alternatives evaluation. From this evaluation, a locally preferred alternative was developed to 35%. Evaluation showed the Wyssen Remote Avalanche Control (RAC) Tower System satisfied project requirements. Optimal tower locations within Slide Zone F7 were selected and tower foundation design elements were calculated based on loading.



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UAA AND INDUSTRY: THANK YOU



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UAA AND INDUSTRY



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UAA AND INDUSTRY: Opportunities for Partnership [RECAP]

- **UAA and Industry: Partnerships in building a stronger talent pipeline.**
- **UAA and Industry: Partnerships through joint emphasis on workforce education and flexible learning.**
- **UAA and Industry: Partnerships in ensuring curriculum and facilities match industry standards.**
- **UAA and Industry: Partnerships in enhancing community engagement.**
- **UAA and Industry: Partnerships through participation in advisory boards.**
- **UAA and Industry: Partnerships in ensuring UAA is a front door for learning.**





UAA AND INDUSTRY: Partners in Community Engagement

Seawolf Athletics

Open, Accessible Education

Carnegie Classification

Community-Oriented Facilities

Military and Veteran Friendly

Applied Research



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AKRDC BREAKFAST BRIEFING: In Conclusion

We are UAA.

We are Alaska's largest university.

We are Alaska's dual mission university.

We are Alaska's talent pipeline university.

We are Alaska's community engaged university.

We are Alaska's flagship health university.

We are Alaska's industry-partnered university.

We are YOUR university.



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QUESTIONS?

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Strategic Engagement &
Government Relations Officer
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954-756-0348



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THANK YOU

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