

Journeys 2012



UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FOUNDATION
Annual Report

Theresa Cho, UAA biology
major and UA Scholar



*The University of Alaska
Foundation seeks,
secures and stewards
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build excellence at the
University of Alaska.*



University of Alaska Foundation
Annual Report FY2012

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-------|
| Message from UA President Patrick Gamble | 2 |
| Journeys — The Impact of Giving | 4-15 |
| Scholarships | 16 |
| Lifetime Giving | 18 |
| Legacy Society | 20 |
| Honor Roll of Donors | 22-29 |
| Message from UA Foundation Leadership | 30 |
| Endowments and Distributions | 32 |
| Financial Overview | 33 |
| Condensed Financial Statements | 34 |
| Board of Trustees | 36 |
| Contact Information | 37 |



University of Alaska President Patrick Gamble

Thank you for supporting the University of Alaska with your generous contributions. Your gifts made through the University of Alaska Foundation enable us to better serve Alaska and Alaskans in many ways.

In this report, you will read about a few of the thousands of students whose journeys to an academic degree would not have been possible without the support of scholarships, as well as the encouragement and counsel of committed faculty and staff. You will see how an industry partnership is helping us to train students on the same equipment they will use when they go to work after graduation. You will get a glimpse of just some of the University's research, in part funded by private donations, which enables us to better understand the state where we live and work, and the global issues that face our society.

None of this would be possible without the belief you show in us through your investment in scholarships, research, cultural events and preservation, academic programs and departments, and so many other important activities that are helping the University to serve Alaska and change the lives of Alaskans every day.

Thank you.



“Your gifts made through the University of Alaska Foundation enable us to better serve Alaska and Alaskans in many ways.”



Emily Tyrrell

Many university students face rocky paths. But rarely are they as daunting as what Emily Tyrrell has faced over the past 10 years.

Born in Alaska and raised in Texas, Tyrrell moved back to Alaska to attend the University of Alaska Fairbanks. There she met and married Jacob Tyrrell, whose crystal blue eyes and quintessential Alaska sense of adventure had captured her heart. Jacob, a fisherman and hunter from a small rural community 300 miles north of Fairbanks, was pursuing a master's degree in justice. They opened their home to Emily's 13-year-old sister Holly, and had a baby, Anya. Just 14 months later, Jake was killed in a motorcycle accident. Emily was 23.

With no life insurance and no bereavement leave available through her part-time job, "I had a week to bury him and then back to work," Tyrrell says. She went to work full time to pay bills, moving her small family to Anchorage just a few months after the accident.

"I'd go to work, come home and cry myself to sleep. I was on autopilot. One night I lay in bed thinking: Is this it? Is this my life?"

She considered returning to school, but brushed off those thoughts until a friend encouraged her. "He told me something that really resonated: that at the end of the day,

the worst thing that would happen is I'd have a college degree. And nothing can take that away."

That was 10 years ago. The journey from then to now has been strewn with long hours, hard work and lots of support. That support included a University of Alaska grant, tuition waivers, and a UAA General Scholarship, as well as scholarships from GCI, Inc., Doyon, Ltd., Bering Straits Foundation and Sitnasuak Foundation.

Tyrrell graduated from the University of Alaska Anchorage in 2012 with a B.A. in Public Relations. Now she's working toward her M.B.A. at Alaska Pacific University while working full time at the Pebble Partnership.


"Scholarships allowed me to be a better parent and a better student. I'll always be indebted to the donors who helped me out," Tyrrell said. Scholarships allowed her to be both a focused student in her classes and a dedicated mom and sister at home.

"It's so funny how all of this ties in," Tyrrell observes. "None of this would have happened without the help I received."

And that help is paying forward. Tyrrell's younger sister, now 22, is applying to nursing school. "She and my daughter have seen how to work. It's touched their lives, too."

“Scholarships allowed me to be a better parent and a better student. I’ll always be indebted to the donors who helped me out.”





Process technology student
Stephen Weingarh opens a valve
on a working well head donated
to the program by BP Exploration
(Alaska), Inc.

*“By learning with
the real thing, our
students can be
smarter, safer, and
more efficient
operators at oil and
gas production
facilities.”*

BP Donation Provides Students With Real World Experience

Programs that train students to operate equipment typically use outdated or surplus machinery. Not so in the process technology program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks Community and Technical College (CTC). A \$4 million equipment donation from BP Exploration (Alaska), Inc. has made it one of just a few programs in the nation to offer a working wellhead in a classroom environment.

The process technology program offers a two-year associate degree that prepares graduates for employment in oil and gas production, mining and milling, transportation, refining, utilities, wastewater treatment and facilities maintenance. The program also offers one-year certificates in power generation, safety, health and environmental awareness, and instrumentation technology.

“The wellhead gives students the opportunity to train on the same equipment they’ll encounter in the field,” said Brian Ellingson, coordinator for the CTC process technology program. “It enables process technology and engineering students to learn crucial safety standards and procedures. By learning with the real thing, our students can be smarter, safer, and more efficient operators at oil and gas production facilities.”

The wellhead is composed of two parts: the wellhead itself, and the so-called ‘Christmas Tree,’ which has all the valves. BP’s donation also included electrical equipment, instrumentation and a control system, all from the gas-to-liquids research facility in Nikiski.

“Training and hiring qualified Alaskans is critical to our business and we believe this investment will help the excellent program at UAF be even better,” said John Mingé, former President of BP Exploration (Alaska), Inc.

The classroom wellhead functions just like a wellhead in the field, with production flow out and gas injection capabilities. Pressures have been reduced for safety precautions in a classroom environment.

First year student Adam Fender says the working wellhead is one of the major assets that sets the CTC program apart. Before returning to school, Fender was a crane operator at BP’s North Star Facility.

“I can tell you from experience that is exactly the tree we have at North Star. Usually in a learning environment, you’ll have outdated or surplus equipment. But this is the real thing. I feel very reassured that when I do get in the field, I will be familiar with the equipment,” he said.

“As an adult student who has worked in the oil field, I’d say two things are well known across the field: there are jobs for process technicians, and this program trains you for them. I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to learn from experienced instructors and have real-world equipment to train on. I’d absolutely recommend this program to anyone interested in process technology.”

Xavier Mason

Xavier Mason is on a life journey in more ways than one. As a student at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) he is traveling the main road toward a bright future, made possible in large part by a plethora of scholarships. But this year, he's taken a side trip, a literal world journey with Semester at Sea. It's an opportunity that he never could have foreseen a few years ago.

Mason is just the kind of person many donors have in mind when they contribute to scholarships. He's smart, energetic, incredibly hard-working – and very motivated. Mason comes from a large family – he's the middle child of seven – and his father often works 19-hour days to support the family. His mother also works hard to give her children the best chance in life.

A junior in Business Management at UAA, Mason fulfills the criteria for a First Generation Scholarship – one of many he's received – with flying colors: financial need, Alaska bred and committed to staying in the state.

"Education is the key to unlocking everything good in life. That's what my father once told me and I never forget it," Mason said.

"In high school I had good grades but couldn't go to college without the scholarships. I spend a lot of time looking for and applying for scholarships. It feels like a job itself. I work hard at school, at earning more scholarships, and at my sideline business. There's no way I could have continued school without the scholarships," he said.

The sideline he refers to is HandMade, his sole proprietorship that helps homeless people improve their

employment prospects. "HandMade supplies work history by helping clients improve their skills and adaptability in different work environments. It's a stepping stone."

But scholarships have made it all possible. Recent ones include the First Generation Student Scholarship (see page 16) and a Wells Fargo Career Scholarship.

"Coming from a low income family, scholarships are important because I'm working, have a business and am going to school full time," Mason says. "Getting a scholarship alleviates the pressure of raising money to attend college. I can now tell my peers who are living in a similar situation that there is a chance to go to college."

Mason's Semester at Sea had stops in Japan, China, Shanghai, Thailand, Myanmar, India, Ghana, South Africa, Morocco and Spain. Semester at Sea provides students the opportunity to travel the world, gaining global experience and exposure to world issues while aboard ship. Mason didn't leave everything behind, however. He sought to spread the influence of HandMade by contributing free clothes to orphanages.

"Giving clothes to orphanages is a relief effort within the company that will take place while I'm on board Semester at Sea," Mason explained. "The goal is for the orphanages to either sell the clothing to help fund their operations – because there is a huge market for used American clothes – or reuse them. I can promote self-sustainable social enterprise, and help children in Ghana and South Africa at the same time."

“Education is the key to unlocking everything good in life. That’s what my father once told me and I never forget it.”





“All the scholarships were meaningful to me. As a poor, young single person, it helps to know they saw me as worthy.”

Grace Lumba

To hear Grace Lumba tell it, she's been lucky. But hearing about her life so far, it becomes clear rather quickly that Grace Lumba has made her own luck – through hard work, diligence, smarts and not least, a great attitude.

But luckily for Alaska, the donors who make scholarships possible ensured that one of Alaska's own received the education she needed to navigate hardships on a journey marked by family challenges, perseverance, gratitude and giving back.

Grace Lumba graduated from the University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in English with an emphasis in Creative Writing. Lumba didn't have a free ride through UAS. She worked throughout her college years, mostly on campus.

Born in Juneau, Grace is a second-generation Filipina-American. She spent time in Anchorage as a child but moved back to Juneau for her final high school years. Ten years ago, when Grace was 14, her parents divorced and her mother first developed what would become long-term health problems.

"During high school it was pretty tough. We didn't always have money for food or utilities. I worked all through high school to help my mom," she said. Despite the challenges, Grace never doubted she would go to college. High school teachers provided strong moral support and she heeded the advice of a beloved and successful great aunt.

"She always told me to be very careful about taking out too many loans or getting out of control with credit cards. She drummed that into me," Lumba said. "The summer before college, I worked three different jobs. I used that money to build a tiny little cushion," Lumba recalls.

"Knowing I wouldn't have support from family, I applied for as many scholarships as I could. Looking at it now, at all the agencies that reached out, well it changed my life," she said. Lumba received scholarships ranging from a few hundred to thousands of dollars.

"All the scholarships were meaningful to me. As a poor, young, single person, it helps to know they saw me as worthy. That they felt it was worth giving their money to me. It might seem like \$300 or \$500 isn't that much, but even small amounts really help," she said.

She's now employed as family services coordinator at the Association for the Education of Young Children – Southeast Alaska (AEYC-SEA). "I adore the agency and its mission. I seem to have a compelling desire to be of service, especially to help parents and their kids."

Lumba loves her work at AEYC-SEA – she says it is a very real way to facilitate change and promote education – but she also hopes to pursue writing some day, to write about her journey and the struggles she's had. She'd like to travel, too. "But right now I'm building a foundation for all those things to happen."



Ted McHenry Biology

Heather Craig studies one of the least-known songbirds in North America, the Smith's Longspur, a migratory songbird that breeds in the Arctic.

Andy Baltensperger studies small mammals – rodents and shrews – collecting baseline data about their feeding ecology, distribution and interactions with other species.

Craig and Baltensperger are graduate students in wildlife biology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The two were 2012 recipients of grants from the Ted McHenry Biology Field Research Fund, grants that provide critical support for field research.

The Ted McHenry Biology Field Research Fund was established in late 1998 by Ruth McHenry to honor her late husband. A longtime biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Ted received his B.S. in Fisheries Biology at UAF in 1967. Upon his retirement in 1987, Ted and Ruth moved from Seward to the Copper Basin, where Ted died in 1997.

“As a biologist, Ted believed that understanding something was key to saving it,” Ruth McHenry said. “A fund with the aim of better understanding wildlife and their needs seemed like a fitting memorial to him. We also greatly appreciated our years at UAF, the quality of its natural sciences departments, our professors, and the lifelong friends we made there. This made UAF the natural choice as a home for a wildlife scholarship fund.”

First-year graduate student Craig is working to fill knowledge gaps about Smith's Longspurs by studying their breeding ecology and migratory

Field Research Fund

patterns. "This information will be used to inform management agencies so that they can develop appropriate conservation plans for the species," Craig said.

Baltensperger is a third year Ph.D. student. He's using stable isotopes to outline the feeding ecology and spatial distributions of small mammals and study how their niches may shift with climate change and other human-caused impacts.

"Not much research has been done in this area," Baltensperger said. "Yet small mammals are major food sources for coyotes, fox, marten, and raptors. I am trying to document whether there are changes in distribution or abundance of these small mammals which could affect the health of predator populations."

To qualify for McHenry grants, graduate students must be majoring in biology or wildlife and doing research on organisms whose range includes the Copper River Basin.

Each grant recipient receives about \$1,500, which can be used for field research, travel, living and other expenses.

"For a student, that's a huge amount of money. It really helps offset the costs of doing field work," said Hild Peters, executive officer for the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at UAF. "It's a big deal for students to do their own research, so this really helps fill the gaps."





Langdon has made path-breaking discoveries about the nature of pre-contact salmon fisheries of the Tlingit and Haida and how the two clans were able to sustain the salmon resource for thousands of years.

Steve J. Langdon

Steve J. Langdon, professor and chairman of the Anthropology Department at the University of Alaska Anchorage, was awarded the 2012 Edith R. Bullock Prize for Excellence, which recognizes individuals who have demonstrated excellence in support of the University of Alaska.

Dr. Langdon is recognized as one of the top social scientists in Alaska and is highly regarded in his field, nationally and internationally. He has taught at the University of Alaska Anchorage for 36 years. Over that time, Dr. Langdon has inspired many students to further their education and contribute to their communities through research and teaching.

Dr. Langdon's seminal book, "The Native People of Alaska," first published in 1986, has contributed to greater awareness and understanding of Alaska's indigenous people by making knowledge of their cultural practices widely accessible.

Dr. Langdon has conducted extensive research on Alaska Native adaptations to the natural environment. He has made path-breaking discoveries about the nature of pre-contact salmon fisheries of the Tlingit and Haida and how the two clans were able to sustain the salmon resource for thousands of years. His research on traditional knowledge of salmon demonstrated how deeply held spiritual beliefs about relationships between humans and salmon, coupled with well-

designed engineering practices, ensured the continuity of salmon populations in southeast Alaska.

Langdon's analysis of the impact of limited-entry fishing programs on rural and Native Alaskan communities has led to public policy changes in fisheries management and local economies. He has been a consultant for national and state organizations since 1978 and served on committees of the National Academy of Sciences in 1994 and 1999.

A lifelong resident of Anchorage, Dr. Langdon has long felt that more people need to be aware of the city's rich Dena'ina history. He has developed collaborative relations with the Eklutna Village Council to document traditional knowledge about places and their names in the Anchorage area. His research and influence can be found in the interpretive signage throughout Anchorage informing people of the Dena'ina history in the area and in the naming of the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center.

The Edith R. Bullock Prize for Excellence is funded from an endowment established at the Foundation by the late Edith R. Bullock, a businesswoman who served the University for 30 years as a member of both the University's Board of Regents and the Foundation's Board of Trustees. The Bullock Prize is awarded annually by the Foundation's Trustees and is accompanied by a cash award of \$15,000 to \$20,000.



First Generation Scholarship Bolstered By Generous Gift

The First Generation Endowed Student Scholarship provides scholarships to students who are the first in their family to complete a college education. The scholarship was recently bolstered by an anonymous \$2 million gift, which made the fund fully endowed. The donor has been supporting UAA student scholarships since 2000. She has been so pleased with the impact that she decided to increase her commitment to endow the scholarship.

The award is a minimum \$2,000 per academic year. Preference is given to students who are Alaska residents, plan to remain in Alaska, and who demonstrate financial need.

2011–2012 Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to all students who received scholarships through the UA Foundation during the 2011-2012 academic year. Through the generous support of university donors nearly \$2.3 million in scholarship funding went to 1,113 students in the University of Alaska system. The names of the scholarship recipients can be found on the UA Foundation website: www.alaska.edu/foundation/annual-report-FY12



*Support from
donors in 2011-
2012 helped 1,113 UA
students statewide.*

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UAF faculty member Hajo Eicken traverses the Barrow sea ice mass balance research site in June 2008, during the melt season.

Through gifts or pledges in their estate plans, Legacy Society members make commitments that benefit our students and our state for many years to come – leaving a truly lasting legacy.

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 ODS Companies
 Katherine Olson Foundation
 Oravec Law Group, LLC
 Oxford University Press
 Pacific Walrus Conservation Fund
 Patients First Medical Clinic
 PCL Construction Services
 PDC Consulting Engineers
 Pendergrast, Phyllis D.M.D., P.C.*
 Peninsula Airways
 Petro Star*
 Pioneer Air Museum*
 Play It Again Sports
 Providence Valdez Medical Center
 R & M Consultants
 Bradley Reid & Associates
 Remer Inc*
 Renewable Energy Alaska Project*
 River's Edge Resort*
 Santina's House of Flowers and Gifts
 Sitka Sound Science Center
 Slayden Plumbing and Heating
 Snow Goose Restaurant & Brewery
 Spenard Roadhouse

Stay on Track - UAF
 Student Ceramic Art Guild
 Tanana Valley Urology*
 Team Network
 UAF Department of Athletics
 United States Seafoods
 University Chevron*
 University Women's Association*
 Vanguard Charitable Endowment
 Program*
 Villa Nova Restaurant
 George Walton's Gold & Diamond
 Company
 Watterson Construction
 Ellen L. Whitcher Trust*
 Willow Garden Club
 E & C Wohlforth Living Trust
 Women of the Moose
 Wright Air Service*
 Yukuskokon Professional Services

**A complete honor roll of FY12
 donors is found at:
[www.alaska.edu/foundation/
 annual-report-FY12](http://www.alaska.edu/foundation/annual-report-FY12)**

+ Denotes deceased

* Includes contributions to KUAC.

Donations made to AlaskaOne are recognized by that organization outside the UA Foundation.





"We are grateful for each of the 6,126 donors who together contributed a total of \$17.8 million to the University of Alaska in fiscal year 2012."

Thank You

Private gifts to the University of Alaska change lives. In this report we share the journeys of just a few of the people who benefit from your generosity. Your contributions also help the University to achieve excellence in fulfilling its mission and to play an important role in the health and well-being of Alaska.

We are grateful for each of the 6,126 donors who together contributed a total of \$17.8 million to the University of Alaska in fiscal year 2012, an increase of \$2 million over fiscal year 2011. In addition to this total, the University received \$5 million in non-cash gifts, including the working wellhead given by BP and valued at \$4 million, which is highlighted in this report. (See page 7.) The Foundation transferred \$13.9 million to the University in support of scholarships, programs and capital projects. Due to the generosity of donors past and present, the Foundation has transferred \$197.1 million in spendable funds to the University over the past 27 years.

You will find an overview of the Foundation's financial position on the following pages. To view the complete Auditor's Report and Financial Statements, please visit: www.alaska.edu/foundation/annual-report-FY12/financial.

Thank you for changing lives, removing obstacles to higher education for students all across the state, and investing in Alaska through your philanthropy.

Sincerely,

Jo Michalski, Chair, Board of Trustees, UA Foundation
Carla Beam, President, UA Foundation

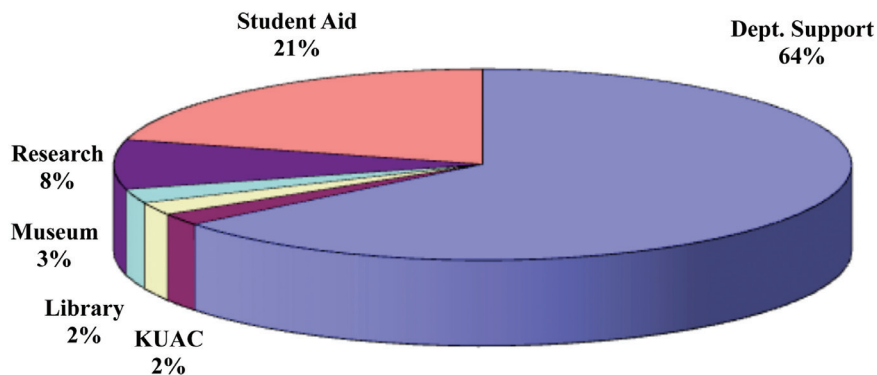
Endowments and Distributions

The University of Alaska Foundation takes very seriously its mission to **seek, secure and steward philanthropic support to build excellence at the University of Alaska**. The Board of Trustees, with expert guidance provided by its committees, and under the standards of the Alaska Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA), works to fulfill its **primary objective of maintaining the long-term viability of each endowment**.

In 2012, 44 new endowments were created, bringing the total number of endowed funds under Foundation management to 721, with another 716 unrestricted and restricted non-endowed funds providing support for current needs. As of June 30, 2012, the Foundation had \$197.5 million in total assets and net assets were \$193.8 million, increases of 2.3% and 2.0% respectively over the previous year.

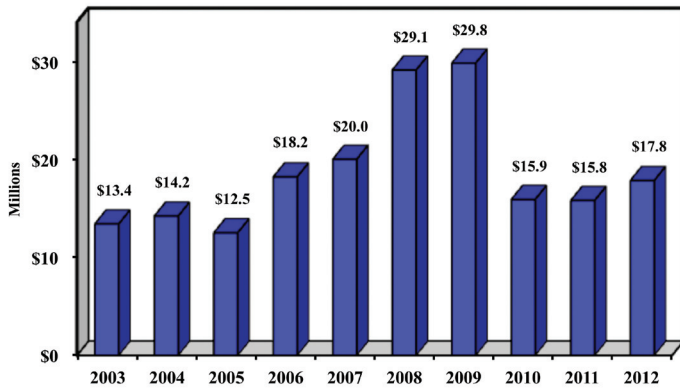
The management of funds entrusted to the Foundation requires a careful balance between risk and return. The volatility of the financial markets over the past few years has made this job more challenging than ever. In fiscal year 2012, the pooled endowment fund realized a total rate of return of 0.9%. While our return was low, according to the NACUBO-Commonfund Study of Endowments, the average return of all reporting colleges and universities in the U.S. was a negative -0.3%.

University of Alaska Foundation Distributions for the Benefit of University of Alaska Year Ended June 30, 2012



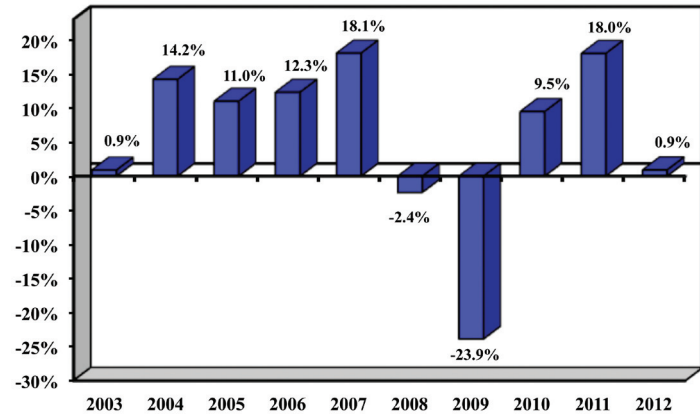
FY12 Financial Overview

**University of Alaska Foundation
Contribution Revenues**



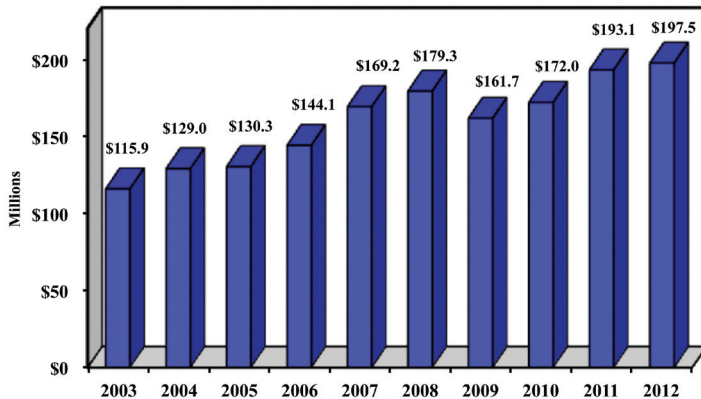
Contribution Revenues were \$17.8 M

**University of Alaska Foundation
Pooled Endowment Fund Returns**



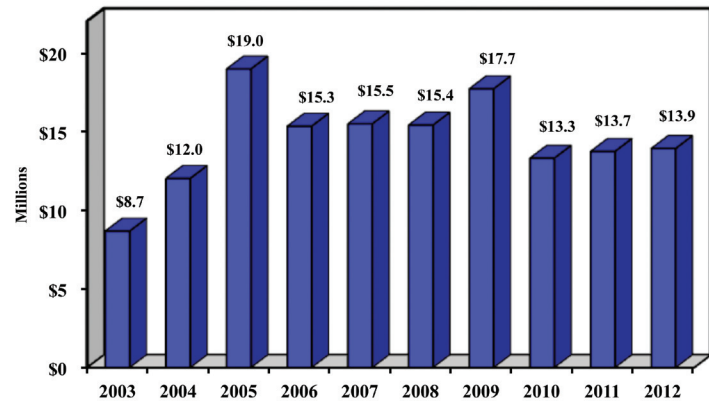
Pooled Endowment Fund Returns were 0.9%

**University of Alaska Foundation
Total Assets**



Total Assets were \$197.5 M

**University of Alaska Foundation
Distributions for the Benefit of University of Alaska**



Total Distributions were \$13.9 M

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FOUNDATION
CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

| ASSETS | <u>JUNE 30, 2012</u> | <u>JUNE 30, 2011</u> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 23,956,171 | \$ 21,608,213 |
| Contributions receivable | 8,432,336 | 13,333,203 |
| Other assets | 2,569,541 | 1,808,875 |
| Pooled endowment funds | 137,818,907 | 131,853,275 |
| Other long-term investments | 24,747,413 | 24,459,007 |
| Total assets | <u>\$ 197,524,368</u> | <u>\$ 193,062,573</u> |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Due to the University of Alaska | \$ 2,151,984 | \$ 1,775,092 |
| Other liabilities | 1,569,078 | 1,287,881 |
| Total liabilities | <u>3,721,062</u> | <u>3,062,973</u> |
| NET ASSETS | | |
| Total liabilities and net assets | <u>193,803,306</u> | <u>189,999,600</u> |
| | <u>\$ 197,524,368</u> | <u>\$ 193,062,573</u> |

To view or download the complete Auditor's Report and Financial Statements, please visit: www.alaska.edu/foundation/annual-report-FY12/financial

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FOUNDATION
CONDENSED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT

| | JUNE 30, 2012 | JUNE 30, 2011 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Contributions | \$ 17,829,325 | \$ 15,801,178 |
| Total return on investments | 702,011 | 19,785,940 |
| Other revenues and support | 1,714,240 | 1,900,588 |
| Total revenues, gains and other support | 20,245,576 | 37,487,706 |

EXPENSES AND DISTRIBUTIONS

| | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Operating expenses | 2,525,647 | 2,632,989 |
| Distributions for the benefit of the University of Alaska | 13,916,223 | 13,728,989 |
| Total expenses and distributions | 16,441,870 | 16,361,978 |
| Increase in net assets | 3,803,706 | 21,125,728 |
| Net assets, beginning of year | 189,999,600 | 168,873,872 |
| Net assets, end of year | \$ 193,803,306 | \$ 189,999,600 |

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^Emeritus Members

Contact

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UAF Development Office
Phone: 907.474.2619

UAS Development Office
Phone: 907.796.6566

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Phone 907.450.8030


UA Foundation - Anchorage
1815 Bragaw, Suite 203
Anchorage, AK 99508
Phone 907.786.1111

Toll Free: 888.907.4823
(within Alaska outside of Fairbanks)

foundation@alaska.edu
www.alaska.edu/foundation

Dancers perform at the opening procession of the UAF Commencement celebration.





The University of Alaska Foundation is a public nonprofit corporation, operated as a public charity, which was established in 1974 to solicit, manage and invest donations for the exclusive benefit of the University of Alaska. The Foundation is a tax-exempt organization as described in Subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations made to the Foundation are deductible according to schedules established under income and estate tax regulations.

The Foundation is legally separate and distinct from the University of Alaska and is organized under its own Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. It is governed by its own Board of Trustees, which establishes the Foundation's investment policy, manages donated property and oversees the distribution of the Foundation's assets to its sole beneficiary, the University of Alaska.

