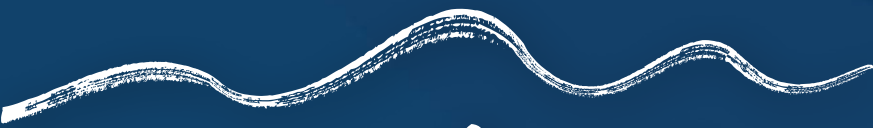




Inform your instructors of allergies

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for alaska

CAMPAIGN UPDATE



UNIVERSITY of ALASKA

Many Traditions One Alaska



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UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
FOUNDATION

executive team

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UA Chief Development Officer

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Campaign Director &
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Chief Donor Relations Officer

Stan Mishin

Director of Finance

David Woodley

Chief Data Officer



I am pleased to share a University of Alaska Foundation report about ways generous donors are shaping Alaska's future through higher education.

Donor support is having a broad, profound impact on Alaska's three distinguished public universities: University of Alaska Anchorage, University of Alaska Fairbanks, and University of Alaska Southeast. Philanthropy and charitable giving are accelerating our universities' ability to create world-class programs, attract and retain top faculty and staff, and underwrite important research.

Each and every gift is ultimately reflected in the success of our students, who will be our nurses, pilots, business managers, teachers, artists, and many other leaders contributing to the success of our economy and communities.

I am thrilled to report that For Alaska, the University of Alaska system's first comprehensive philanthropic campaign, is close to achieving its \$200 million goal. We are grateful to each of the more than 18,000 donors who have propelled us forward with their generous contributions. The campaign officially ends in June 2024 making it likely that we will exceed our goal, which is good news. Funds raised through the campaign have touched every area of the UA system, supporting education that is so vital to our state's future.

In September UA is celebrating an important milestone in its history marking 100 years since the first student walked into a university classroom. Over the past 100 years the rate of societal and technological change has been exponential. What remains constant is our steadfast focus on doing what is best for our students, our Alaska's economy, and the future of our state.

As I reflect on the past year, I'm reminded of and thankful for the incredible people like you—the generous and dedicated members of the UA system community who rise to the occasion time and time again. Thank you for everything you do to support our three universities and the UA Foundation.

TOD A. BURNETT, ED.D.

President | University of Alaska Foundation

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Notable accomplishments and milestones through December 31, 2021, include:

\$185.8M RAISED OF \$200M GOAL



18,149
TOTAL DONORS

8,872+
NEW DONORS



+22%

INCREASE IN ANNUAL
AVERAGE TOTAL GIVING



+54%

INCREASE IN ANNUAL
AVERAGE ALUMNI GIVING



186

NEW SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS



137

NEW ENDOWMENTS



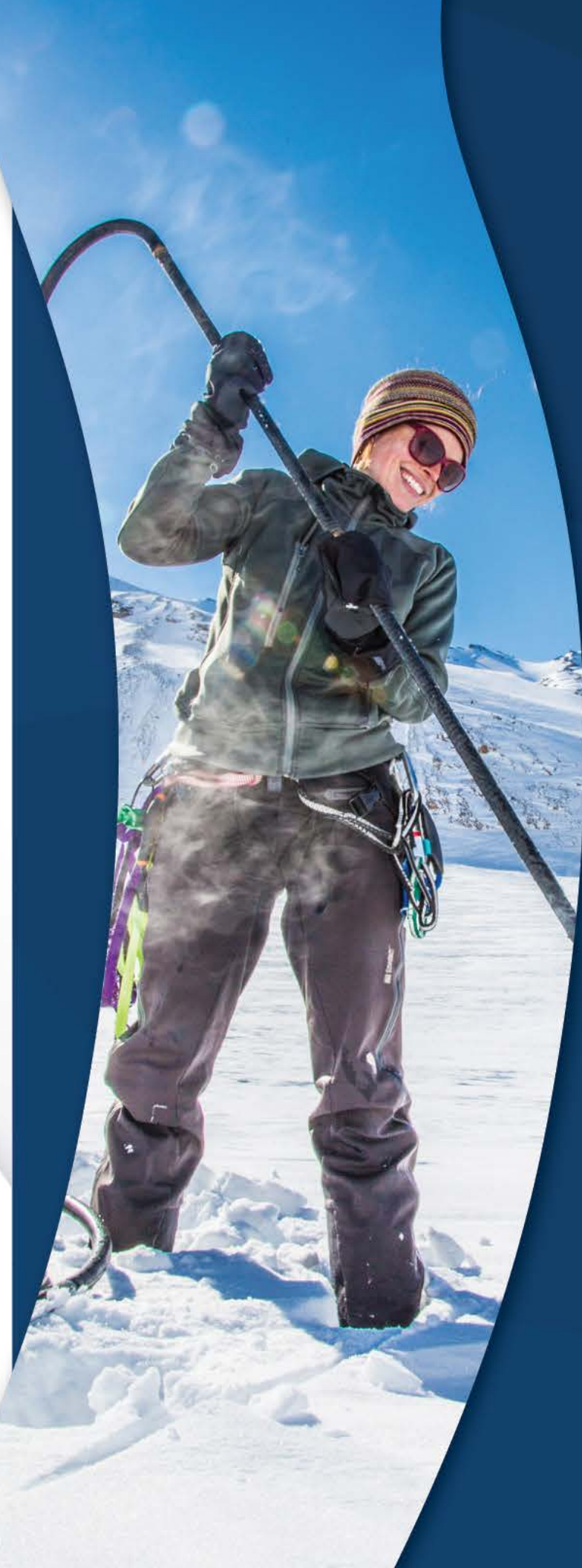
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NEW FACULTY CHAIRS



180+

NEW FUNDS FOR ACADEMIC
AREAS AND PROGRAMS



for alaska

ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN

Our vision is a vibrant, bold tomorrow for all Alaskans. Our path must be built upon our shared Alaskan spirit of determination and resilience that encourages us to achieve new heights. To forge ahead with an unwavering persistence for a better and brighter tomorrow.

The areas highlighted in this annual report represent Alaska's greatest opportunities:

- Expanding **ACCESS TO EDUCATION** for all and empowering students to achieve their dreams;
- **TRAINING AND PREPARING OUR WORKFORCE**, propelling Alaskans to lead the way in the job market now and in the future;
- **ADVANCING CRITICAL RESEARCH** across disciplines that directly benefit Alaska and the world;
- And preparing now for the Alaska of tomorrow by **STRENGTHENING OUR ECONOMY** and supporting innovation and emerging industries.

For Alaska is the University of Alaska system's first-ever comprehensive system-wide fundraising effort to generate private support in these four vital areas. **Spanning an 8-year period that began in FY17 and with a goal to raise \$200 million**, the public phase launched on March 25, 2021. Thanks to your generosity, this campaign is generating incredible momentum for the UA system and for Alaska. ■



TRAINING A SKILLED *workforce*



We want the abundance of jobs in healthcare, engineering, science, business, and other in-demand professions in Alaska to be filled by our graduates, to strengthen Alaska's economy from within.

At the University of Alaska Anchorage, a particular focus is the critical need for healthcare workers. The need for medical services combined with a skilled workforce shortage affects all Alaskans, and the WWAMI Medical Program works to address this issue.

Now in its 50th year, WWAMI is a collaboration between Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho to provide a medical school program allowing

students to train all four years in their home state. Accomplished through dual enrollment at the UAA and the University of Washington School of Medicine, the program provides active learning from day one. An innovative combination of classroom, outpatient, and hospital settings allows students to learn through an integrated curriculum. A key component of the unique model is the inclusion of rural health care earlier in medical education.

Local hospitals demonstrate their commitment to building a skilled workforce for Alaska through their support of WWAMI. Among the supporters are Providence Health and Services, Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, Mat-Su Health Foundation, Alaska Regional

Hospital, and Alaska Native Tribal Health. Providing funding for student awards and scholarships along with research and programmatic support, these donors provide Alaskans with opportunities to fill critically needed positions in healthcare.

Since WWAMI's inception, 550 Alaskans have earned their medical degrees, and nearly 14% of the state's active practicing physicians are graduates of the program. WWAMI is consistently ranked among *US News and World Report's* listing of the Top 10 US Medical Schools and, for more than 20 years, has ranked number one in Best Medical Schools: Primary Care. It provides high caliber in-state education to Alaska's brightest minds, fueling the next generation of leaders in medical care. ■



CREATING ACCESS TO *education*



Jeri Cary and Michael Ciri

Education is life-changing. Education puts opportunities in reach and turns dreams into realities. But all too often, barriers stand in the way of pursuing educational ambitions.

Long-time UAS employees and alumni **Michael Ciri '87, '94, '07**, and **Jeri Cary '90, '94** know first-hand what it is like to overcome obstacles to obtain a degree.

“We know from personal experience the psychological and emotional barriers that can prevent a GED recipient from feeling like higher education is possible for them. For many, including us, the award of a GED does not entirely erase the feeling of being less-than. When I first set foot on campus, I felt like a trespasser – like someone who was not entitled to be here,” Michael stated.

To help others like them, Michael and Jeri established a scholarship specifically for Alaska GED recipients. They note that many of these students would qualify for financial assistance if they applied, but the barriers make that seem impossible. “A scholarship can be a powerful way of combatting this. A scholarship is what the deserving, ‘good’ students get.” he continued, “By creating a scholarship that explicitly says, ‘You have achieved! We want you here!’ we can do a lot to remove life-long barriers.”

Once endowed, the scholarship will be available to anyone who has ever received an Alaska GED, no matter when, and is open to students at any UAS campus. ■



REALIZING A *dream*

The shifting demands of family and work-life often lead to taking a break from educational pursuits. At UAA, we want to help Alaskans return to college and attain their degrees.

The 49th Finishers Scholarship was established to encourage the more than 100,000 Alaskans who have college credits but no degree to complete their degrees. Renewable for up to four years, the scholarship is a testament to UAA's commitment to keep Alaska thriving.

Attaining a degree increases earning potential and positions graduates—Alaskan graduates—as the best candidates to meet workforce demands.

The 49th Finishers Scholarship recently benefitted from an anonymous gift of \$100,000, bolstering our ability to assist students in reaching for their dreams. ■



strengthening FROM WITHIN

The path to educational success begins as early as kindergarten, and an entire community is influenced when young people are educated. Recognizing the enormous impact teachers have on students and communities, the University of Alaska system places a high priority on preparing education majors to become outstanding teachers in Alaska's K-12 public school system.

Through the Teach Alaska initiative, targeted efforts are made by all three universities to encourage more students to become teachers. The initiative also provides paths for current teachers to further their studies and advance their skills, including opportunities for distance delivery and summer residencies so they may remain in their classrooms.

Keeping the curriculum of our education certificate and degree programs on the leading edge of academic methodology and technology is a must, along with supporting the faculty charged with training the next generation of educators. An emphasis on culturally responsive education is also critically important.

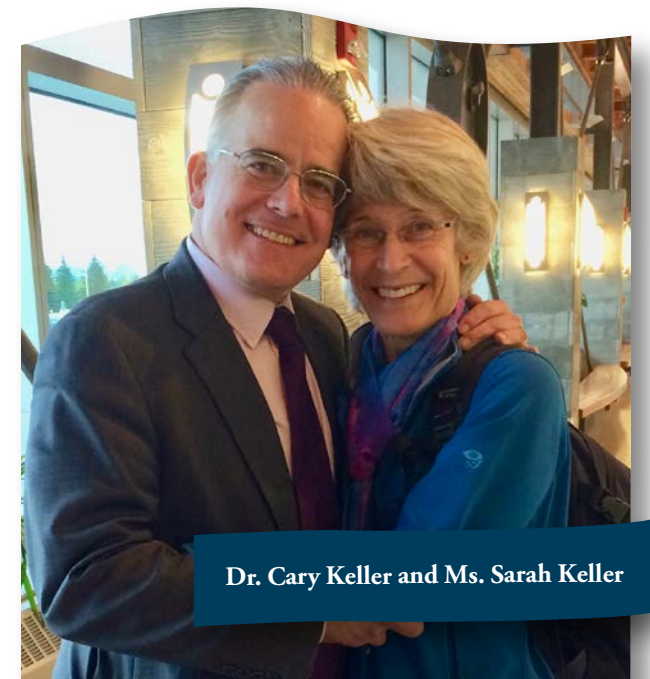
These key areas benefitted from the generosity of Dr. Cary Keller and Ms. Sarah Keller '90. Cary, a member of the UA Foundation Board of Directors and long-time volunteer for Nanook Athletics, and Sarah, who received her master's degree from UAF, firmly believe that success in life is multiplied through education. To that end, the Kellers gave \$100,000 to support teacher education efforts throughout the university system.

"Sarah and I value education, mentorship, and compassion, the sharing of history, art, science, and culture," Cary shared. "This is the process by which we all acquire the

skills to integrate into and contribute to society and by which we develop the tenacity and grit to persevere through adversity," adding that for 25 years, Sarah worked to promote science in the schools through the annual district-wide science fairs. The Kellers hold teachers in high esteem, noting that teachers serve as role models much like family members.

Why invest in teacher education? To the Kellers, the answer is simple: education equals opportunity for all, and teachers are essential. And the return on investment is unmatched.

"The ability of Alaska to staff its own schools, the return of students who have become teachers to their communities, and ultimately the nurturing of life skills leading to employment opportunities," Cary said. "Nothing is more important to the future of Alaska and its people." ■



Dr. Cary Keller and Ms. Sarah Keller



ADVANCING
research
AND
innovation

The University of Alaska is focused on actionable research that directly affects Alaska, our region, and beyond. Research provides essential information and solutions to issues faced by Alaskans and Alaskan industries. From mariculture farming techniques and conservation and management best practices for the fisheries industry to understanding the socio-economic challenges unique to our state, our research concentrates on how to best respond to the situations faced daily in Alaska.



DID YOU KNOW?

Recently, people around the world were able to experience a 4-D whale necropsy through the use of a drone. When a dead humpback whale was spotted by the US Coast Guard on Kruzof Island, near Sitka, in March 2021, drone images were collected that same day, and the necropsy occurred just a few days later. The whale was scanned repeatedly, starting with the initial discovery of the whale through a full necropsy and complete decomposition.

With funding provided by a NIH grant and a cross-university effort between UAF and UAS, the necropsy is accessible online via a free portal. The ability to look inside a whale is something most people—including the most dedicated whale biologists—are unlikely to ever experience in person. The necropsy has been incorporated into distance-delivered UA system courses, including Biology 175: Current Topics in Marine Research.

Learn more about the Sitka Whale Lab and the 4D Virtual Whale Necropsy by visiting:

<https://uas.alaska.edu/research/whalelab/>

Being a global leader in arctic research is a key emphasis for UAF. Among the noted institutes and programs housed at UAF is the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aerial System Integration (ACUASI). ACUASI is a world-class research center with a particular emphasis on arctic and sub-arctic regions. ACUASI has drones, unmanned aircraft, tools, and technology that provide pivotal data through its efforts, such as marine and land mammal surveys, atmospheric sampling, and wildfire surveillance.

ACUASI weaves together research, fieldwork, and technology and serves as a critical resource for other university departments, government agencies, and the private sector. An example includes a 3-D model of the Aialik Glacier created for the National Park Service with mapping information gathered by an ACUASI drone. The model contributes to the Park's glacier monitoring efforts and is displayed at the Kenai Fjords National Park Visitors Center.

ACUASI Director Cathy Cahill notes that the Center collaborates with the FAA to monitor volcanos for flight safety, to predict where volcanic ash plumes will go. Additionally, a new effort is underway with the FAA to allow unmanned aircraft to drop cargo such as medical supplies to remote communities. Finally, in January 2021, the FAA named Cahill one of 12 new members of its Drone Advisory Committee. The committee provides advice and recommendations for drones' safe and effective integration in the national airspace system.

The innovative work of ACUASI has garnered the interest and philanthropy of numerous individuals and organizations. Among

the donors is UAF alumnus Richard "Dick" Reeve '60. Dick's father, Robert "Bob" Reeve, founded Reeve Aleutian Airways and Dick worked alongside his father in a variety of roles, including as a pilot, and then served as CEO of the company for many years. Dick sees unmanned aircraft as "the future of aviation," noting that ACUASI's place as a leader in this cutting-edge technology is significant for Alaska.

ACUASI

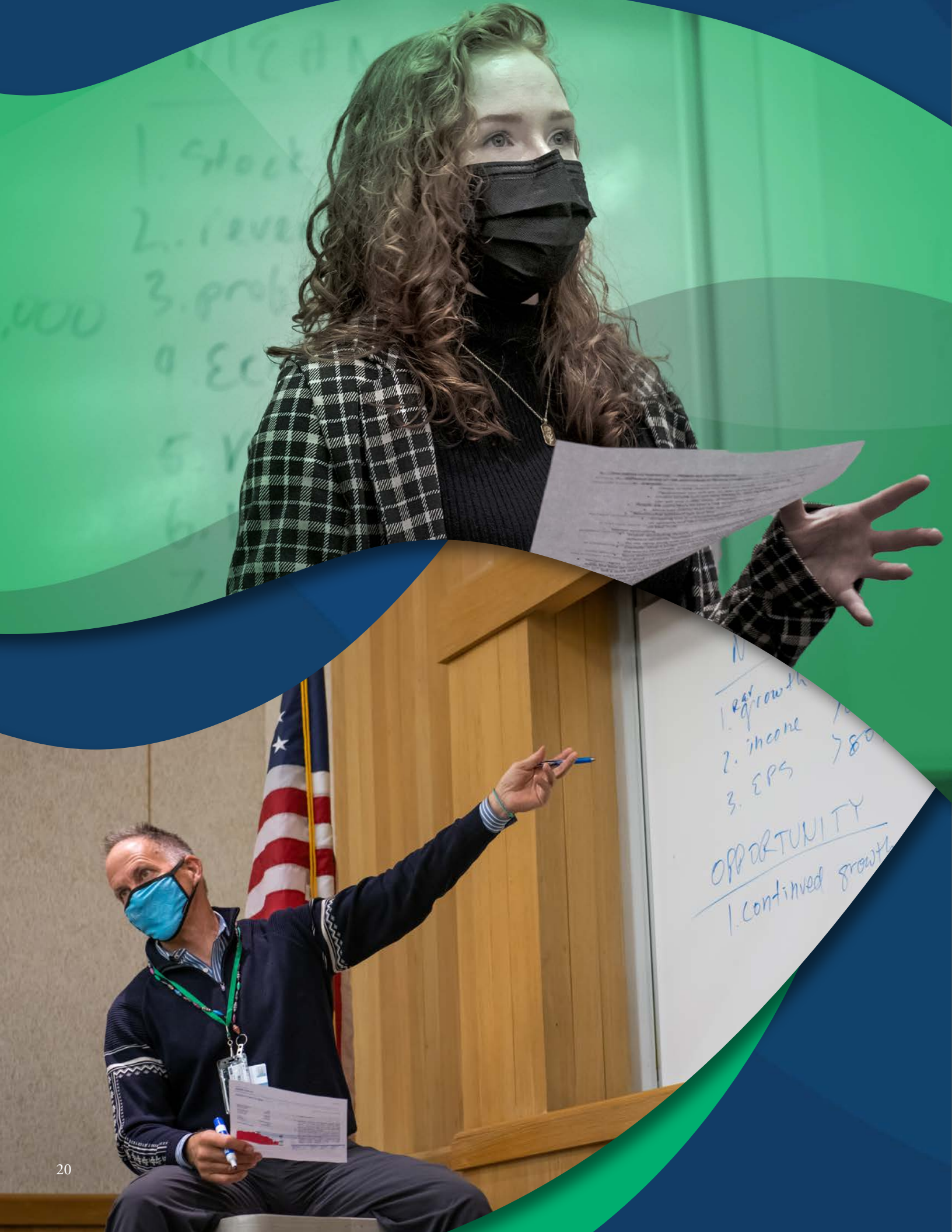
Usibelli Coal Mine, a UAF benefactor of note for more than forty years, also supports ACUASI. UCM uses drones in its operations and realizes that furthering technology to broaden the capability and use of drones—particularly beyond the visual line of sight—has a tremendous ROI for commercial

industries throughout Alaska. The Usibelli family, known for their commitment to philanthropy and the betterment of Alaska, champion the Center's efforts to push innovation and research that impacts the state and beyond.

"We need to ensure a trained and skilled workforce is available to support the growing drone industry," said Joe Usibelli Jr., President of Usibelli Coal Mine. "The Usibelli Coal Mine Drone Advancement Endowed Scholarship will support future leaders in Unmanned Aircraft Systems technology in Alaska and will help shape the future of drone technology, infrastructure, manufacturing, and operations in the state."

Cahill, a recipient of the Emil Usibelli Distinguished Service Award at UAF and a generous donor to ACUASI herself, sums up the mission of the Center best: "Our real goal here is to help the people of Alaska." ■





PREPARING NOW FOR THE *economy* OF TOMORROW

Preparing students to enter the workforce is a goal of any university. The University of Alaska system wants to do more than that. We want to provide students with experiential learning opportunities that position them as sought-after candidates for jobs, and private support helps make this possible.

The UAA College of Business and Public Policy (CBPP) is committed to preparing today's students to be tomorrow's business leaders. UAA actively engages in conversation with industry and business leaders to stay abreast of their needs as Alaskan employers. And what do these employers need? Qualified interns with the potential to become permanent hires. This makes timely, relevant educational and training programs even more critical to connect students to opportunities.

CBPP identified a need to enhance its Finance education offerings to meet workforce and economic demands. UAA accounting alumnus and long-time community leader and entrepreneur Gary Klopfer '81 knew the perfect way to provide hands-on, real-world finance experience. Klopfer and his wife, Jane Cuddy Klopfer, gave \$1M in June 2021 to create the first-ever UAA student investment fund.

With the support of faculty, students in finance classes and the Finance &

Investment Club will participate in the investment decisions for the fund, but the gift's impact extends far beyond this group. Two courses center around the ongoing student-led management of the fund. UA Foundation Board member Alex Slivka is teaching the first portfolio management class.

Additionally, student investment fund portfolio proceeds will be designated for student scholarships and support program needs.

Klopfer, himself an undergraduate scholarship recipient in the early 80s, never forgot the generosity awarded him. He wanted to give back to UAA by paying it forward. As business owners and investors with strong ties to the hospitality industry, the Klopfers know that by helping students, they are ultimately investing in the state's future and its economy.

A strategic initiative of the College of Business and Public Policy is to contribute to Alaska's economic development by becoming a driving force for innovation and entrepreneurship through collaboration with statewide business leaders.

The college has significantly benefitted from long-time partnerships and support from

banking and finance leaders. As the Alaskan economy, historically defined by the narrow scope of oil and gas, diversifies, the need for finance leaders grows exponentially.

Efforts are underway to fulfill a multi-phased finance initiative that includes a finance lab, a state-of-the-art stock ticker for Rasmuson Hall, and long-term enhancements to attract and retain exemplary faculty and students.

The finance lab will replicate trading rooms providing more opportunities for students to apply classroom instruction in a real-world scenario. The stock ticker will allow students to track their investments in real-time and further immerse them in a business setting.

UA system's long-time philanthropic partner, First National Bank Alaska, now celebrating its 100th year serving Alaska, has generously led this effort with support to these projects. First National envisions UAA to serve as a 'finance hub' for the state of Alaska with the goal of fueling Alaska's future workforce.

By graduating students with practical, relevant experience, the University of Alaska system will serve both the business community and our economy, working to keep Alaska thriving now and for generations to come. ■

PARTNERING IN SERVICE *for alaska*

“No public services in which I have been engaged have been more rewarding than my association with the university,” said the late Elmer Rasmuson as he contemplated his 19 years of service on the University of Alaska Board of Regents.

Elmer’s appointment to the Board of Regents in 1950 would mark the beginning of a partnership between the Rasmuson family and foundation and the University of Alaska system that today spans seven decades and three generations. It is a commitment that, to date, features 33 combined years of leadership on the Board of Regents, including 15 years as chair, and personal and foundation giving approaching \$60 million.

Elmer and his wife, Mary Louise, provided a number of transformational gifts to the university that significantly advanced fisheries science and research, the library and museum at UAF, and economics education. When the bulk of his estate transferred to Rasmuson Foundation in 2000, robust support for higher education and the intellectual life of Alaskans would continue.

Today, Rasmuson Foundation, with the third generation leading the way, is the single largest private contributor to the UA system and a lead contributor to the For Alaska fundraising campaign.

More than \$30 million in grants to our universities have advanced programs, supported research, improved facilities, and empowered Alaska’s unique cultures and creative expression.

While the support of fisheries, economics, museums, and the library has continued, new partnerships address current and evolving opportunities, including \$14 million to establish the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program as one of the most successful models in the country to improve academic outcomes for Alaska Native students.

Hundreds of grants and gifts to the UA system have supported projects such as these:

- Faculty research including an analysis of Alaska’s state budget, a study on education models of the seafood industry, research on factors influencing personal philanthropy, and a study of Mt. Edgecumbe High School alumni.
- Support for academic programs, institutes, and facilities, including ISER at UAA and the undergraduate fisheries program at UAF.

- Facility and capital improvements, including equipment for the seawater lab and Native Language Lab at UAS, expansion of the Bristol Bay campus, facility improvements at both the Kenai and Kuskokwim campuses, and support for student-athletes and the debate team.
- Support for dozens of University of Alaska Press publications, including a history of the Treadwell boomtown, an underwater photo journey of Aleutian sea life, and a history of Russians in Alaska.
- Support for university arts education, events, and facilities, including a digital organ and dance studio flooring in Anchorage, a mural project in Fairbanks, an arts festival on the Mat-Su campus, a literary festival at the Kachemak Bay Campus, and a sculpture at UAS.

Recognizing that university assets are community assets, the foundation has also supported university programs and projects that bring people to campus, such as the Japan Center Tea Room at UAA, the UAA Planetarium and Visualization Theater, the Georgeson Botanical Garden at UAF, and trail construction projects at UAS’ Ketchikan and Juneau campuses.

Today, 72 years after Elmer Rasmuson first became a regent, the UA system is thriving. UA is leading the country in climate science and climate change research, incubating business innovation and generating \$1 billion in economic activity each year. Students around the globe are engaging with UA faculty every day through online education. The UA Foundation awards \$3.6 million in scholarships annually. We are close to achieving our \$200 million goal in the UA system’s first comprehensive fundraising campaign – with help from Rasmuson Foundation.

“Money spent on education is not an expense, but an investment in the greatest resource we have - our children,” Elmer Rasmuson frequently reminded Alaskans.

UA system’s partnership with Rasmuson Foundation has uplifted Alaska’s public universities and the communities they serve. Together we have prepared tens of thousands of students to assume their place as our state’s historians, healthcare workers, teachers, scientists, fishers, engineers, and artists, all of which are truly the resources that will build a brighter future for all Alaskans.

We can only say thank you, and we look forward to partnering for generations to come—For Alaska. ■



remembering

EDWARD B. RASMUSON (1940-2022)

At the root of philanthropy is a love of humankind, and Ed Rasmuson's love for his fellow Alaskans forever changed the University of Alaska system, positively influenced the lives of tens of thousands of students, and ultimately made the state he loved more vibrant today and for the future.

Ed was a third-generation Alaskan, business leader, and philanthropist. He served as a UA Foundation board member for 10 years and was a regent for 14, including three years as chair.

A banker by trade, "his love was really the humanities, literature, and the arts," said Diane Kaplan, president of Rasmuson Foundation. "He loved history; he read an enormous amount. He had a great appreciation for learning. Spending all the time that he did with the university over the years was important, and he made it a priority."

As chairman of the National Bank of Alaska, Ed hired many UA graduates. The connection between education and business was clear to him, Diane said. Education was the key to helping Alaska develop its own talent, manage its own resources, and chart a prosperous future.

The role of service-based leadership is one that Ed exemplified. In 2005, the regents honored Ed's service to UA by naming the UAA business and public policy building the Edward & Cathryn Rasmuson Hall—a bright and visible testament to their impact.

In what would be his last annual letter as Chair of Rasmuson Foundation, Ed noted a good rule for life. "Focus on what matters most." To Ed, that meant improving the quality of life for Alaskans. UA is forever thankful for Ed's service, leadership, and generosity—For Alaska.

Photo by Kyle Seago for "Magnetic North: The Alaskan Character"

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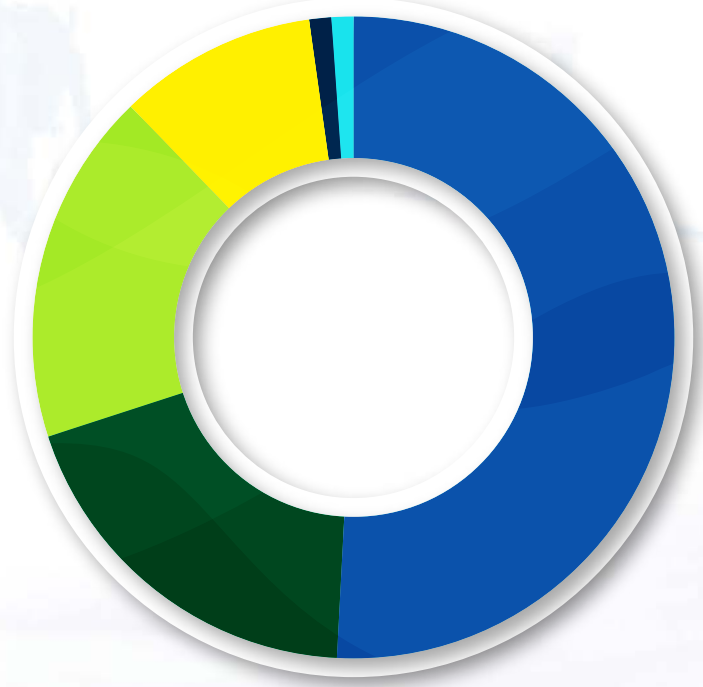
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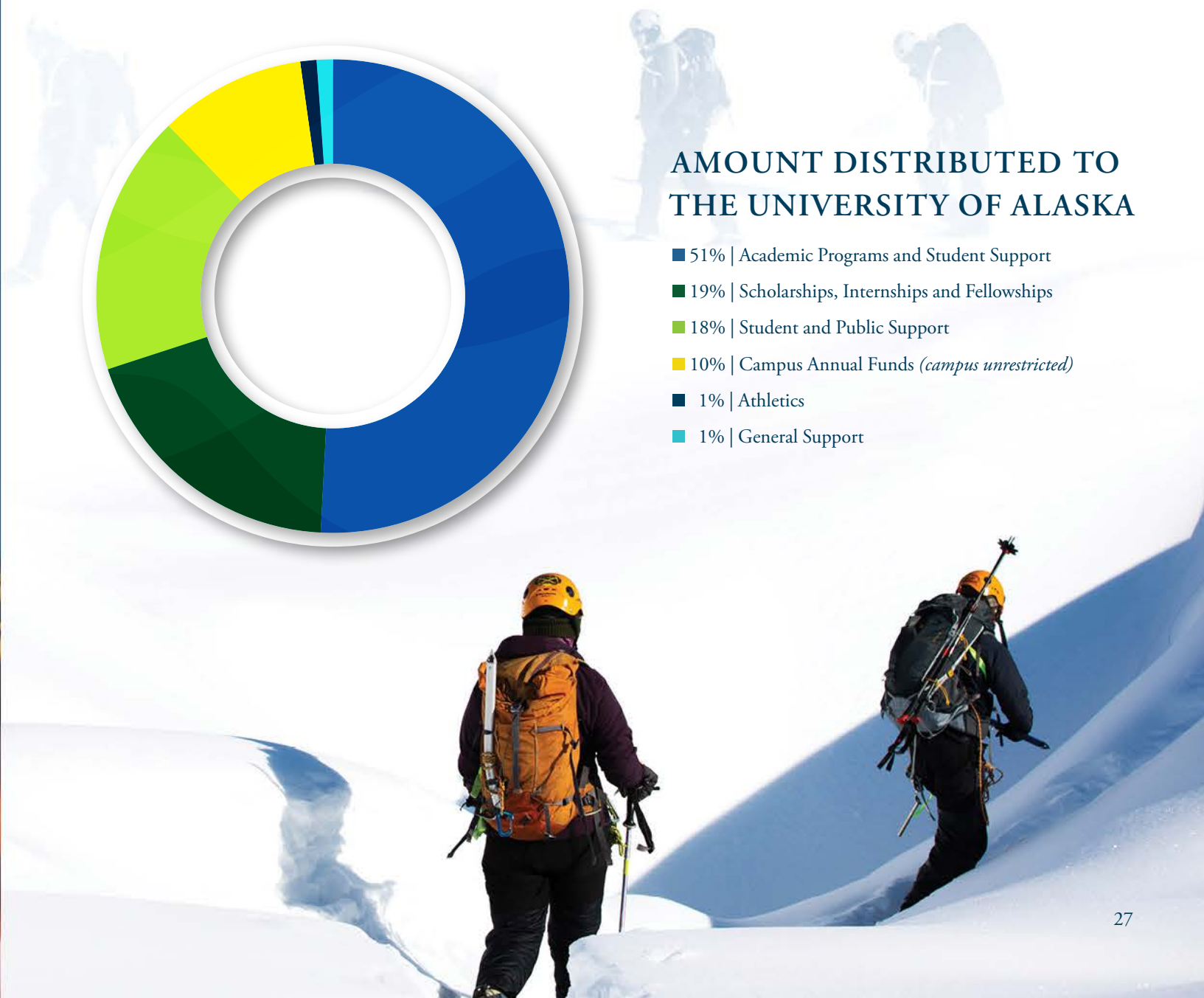
FY21 FINANCIALS

<p>UA FOUNDATION NET ASSETS</p> <p>\$367,288,048</p>	<p>UA FOUNDATION POOLED ENDOWMENT FUND NET RETURNS</p> <p>32.9%</p>	<p>AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED TO UA FY21</p> <p>\$13,734,374</p>	<p>STUDENT SUPPORT AWARDED FY21</p> <p>\$4,273,029</p>
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AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

- 51% | Academic Programs and Student Support
- 19% | Scholarships, Internships and Fellowships
- 18% | Student and Public Support
- 10% | Campus Annual Funds (*campus unrestricted*)
- 1% | Athletics
- 1% | General Support



with gratitude

Thank you for your commitment to the University of Alaska system. Your generosity opens doors of opportunity through education, advances critical research, strengthens our workforce, and reinforces our economy.

Your support fosters positive change for Alaska, and we are deeply grateful for your partnership.

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE

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