

**Rasmuson Foundation Fisheries Education Grant
Monthly Report
University of Alaska Fairbanks
School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences
October 2007**

***Preface:** To keep faculty and administrators at UAF, UAS and the Rasmuson Foundation aware of the ongoing activities of the Rasmuson Foundation grant to UAF for enhancing academic programs in fisheries and ocean sciences, a very brief monthly report will be prepared. This report is intended to be informal and informative. Questions regarding activities in this report should be directed to Dr. Trent M. Sutton (e-mail: tsutton@sfos.uaf.edu).*

1. Curriculum Review, Planning, and Development

- a.** Denis Wiesenburg and William Smoker held a conference call with the Rasmuson Fisheries Excellence Committee on 15 October 2007 to discuss the final draft of the Bachelor of Arts in Fisheries and Minor in Fisheries. Participants included Diane Kaplan, Ricardo Lopez, Andy Rosenberg, Jim Murphy, and Mark Herrmann. The FEC agreed the material was ready to go to the UAF Faculty Senate for review.
- b.** The Bachelor of Science in Fisheries, Bachelor of Arts in Fisheries, and Minor in Fisheries curricula have been finalized, and all paperwork completed and reviewed by the SFOS Curriculum Committee. The documents were submitted to the Faculty Senate on 16 October 2007.
- c.** On 22 October 2007 we received notice that our courses and degree programs were under consideration by the UAF Faculty Senate and that “unless objections are received prior to November 6, 2007 the following academic course and degree requests will be reviewed/approved by the Curriculum Review Committee of the Faculty Senate.” The SFOS courses were listed in the Faculty Senate memorandum.

2. New Course Offerings

- a.** New courses (submitted to Faculty Senate in October)
 1. Fisheries Techniques
 2. Fish Ecology
 3. Experiential Learning-Fisheries Internships
 4. Experiential Learning-Senior Thesis
 5. Management of Renewable Marine Fisheries (graduate level course)
 6. Steve Grabecki from UAA will be offering LOG494K Seafood Logistics as a distance-learning course for UAF students during the spring 2008 semester.

b. Revised courses

1. Fisheries Management (changed number and added oral intensive designator)
2. Marine and Freshwater Fisheries of Alaska (changed from junior to sophomore level course)
3. Introduction to Seafood Science and Nutrition (changed title of course)
4. Fisheries Science dropped; other courses were covering the same material

c. BA, BS and Minor paperwork submitted for Faculty Senate review

3. Development and Renovation of Physical Facilities and Infrastructure

- a. The construction of the new classroom (201 O'Neill Building) is completed and the room is operational and in use. The video conference equipment should arrive and be installed by mid-November.
- b. Access has been provided to the undergraduate teaching laboratory complex in Arctic Health Research Building. Trent Sutton has met with university physical facilities personnel to discuss the renovation of these laboratories. An estimate for the demolition/renovation is being developed and the actual implementation will take place during the spring 2008 semester.
- c. Construction of the new facility in Juneau at Lena Point continues to be on schedule for late summer 2008 occupation. Exterior covering is progressing, to allow interior work during inclement weather. Interior framing has begun to allow electricians and plumbers to begin conduit and piping rough-in. Visit <http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/lenapoint> to learn more about the facility.

4. Expansion and Engagement of Faculty

Searches for three fisheries position, two marine biology positions, and three ocean observing positions are ongoing. The initial review date of applications has been delayed from 01 November 2007 to 07 December 2007 due to the late posting of the position announcements. This delay may push back the interviews for some of the positions by one month. Job ads are posted at <http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/employment/>.

5. Undergraduate Student Recruitment and Retention

Recruitment Events

- Katie Murra traveled to Lathrop High School to visit with UAF Admissions Coordinator, Jessica Bennett (October 16)
- Katie Murra met with prospective undergraduate student Christina Goethel and her mother, Cindy Goethel (October 12)

- Katie Murra coordinated contact between Trent Sutton and Cindy Beale (West Valley High School Advanced Placement Biology teacher) to organize Alaska High School Science Symposium opportunity/project for high school student, Maddie Wade.
- Katie Murra met with Jeff Werner (Alaska Future Farmers of America (FFA) state advisor) to coordinate recruiting trip to Indianapolis for the National FFA convention.
- Trent Sutton and Katrin Iken met with a recruit to the UAF hockey team (and his parents) on October 26 to discuss the fisheries and marine sciences program. The student is a junior at Culver Military Academy in Indiana and is very interested in coming to UAF to pursue a degree in fisheries or marine sciences while playing college hockey.

Retention Events

- Katie Murra and Amanda Rosenberger attended the UA Scholars event on October 30 and represented the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences.

University Events

- Katie Murra met with UAF Admissions coordinators to disseminate information on our fisheries programs and scholarships
- SFOS submitted its Enrollment Management Plan to UAF Student Enrollment Services (SES)
- Katie Murra met with UAF Career Services to plan upcoming Natural Resources, Fisheries and Sciences Career Day on November 8

6. Participation of FITC/Kodiak and Other SFOS Sites and Programs

There have been no new developments in the past month with SFOS sites outside of Fairbanks and Juneau. Discussion of the minor in Seafood Science and Technology will resume late this fall or winter.

7. Articulation Opportunities to Existing AA and Certificate Programs

The draft articulation agreement with the University of Alaska Southeast – Ketchikan is still under review

8. Allocation of Rasmuson Budget and Matching Funds

Budget:

Rasmuson: \$1,500,000
 UAF Match: \$500,000

Spent and encumbered (as of 10/28):

Rasmuson: \$606,187.17
 UAF Match: \$460,418.27

9. Status of Fundraising for Match

Denis Wiesenburg, UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences Dean, Bill Smoker UAF SFOS Fisheries Division Director, and Diane Kaplan, President of the Rasmuson Foundation traveled to San Francisco to meet with Dr. Michael Webster of the Moore Foundation. The meeting was held at the Moore Foundation offices at the Presidio (Building 38) in San Francisco. Diane Kaplan requested this meeting to discuss the potential for the Moore Foundation to partner with the Rasmuson Foundation to help support the fisheries education initiative of the UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences. We had a good discussion with Mr. Webster and invited him to Alaska to learn more about our progress and plans.

Denis Wiesenburg and SFOS Financial Manager Jennifer Harris met with University of Alaska Vice President for Planning and Budget Pat Pitney on October 8 to discuss the University of Alaska request to the legislature for the \$1.0 million per year in matching funds for Fisheries. The request is a high university priority this year under Priority Program Enhancement and Growth. VP Pitney discussed the strategy for working with the legislature to assure the funding was included in the FY09 university budget.

Prepared by Denis Wiesenburg, Trent Sutton, and Katie Murra