



# SFOS NEWS

Institute of Marine Science • Marine Advisory Program • Fishery Industrial Technology Center • Coastal Marine Institute  
 Alaska Sea Grant College Program • North Pacific Marine Research Program • Fisheries Division • Global Undersea Research Unit

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## JASON comes to the Alaska SeaLife Center

The JASON foundation for Education, the brainchild of Dr. Robert Ballard (famous for his discovery of the wreck of the *RMS Titanic*), is a multi-discipline and fully integrated approach to bringing the most current research of earth's dynamic systems to the classrooms of students grades 4–9. Each major topic of JASON is based on the work of host researchers and combines 55 hours of live satellite feeds from each researcher's location, a classroom curriculum designed around the topic, fully interactive gated internet access and other distance learning technologies. The topic for this year's JASON expedition is Frozen Worlds. **Shannon Atkinson** will be acting as one of the host researchers and will feature Alaska SeaLife Center as one of the on-site locations.



Shannon Atkinson

Along with the most up-to-date technologies available, JASON brings teacher and student "argonauts" on an expedition to the study site of each scientist. Once there, the argonauts get to experience hands-on, meaningful science at the cutting edge of research. Each student's experience is seen, in real time, by other students and teachers via the internet or satellite broadcast in the classroom. Along with the integrated math, reading and science classwork, the expedition allows students to see research in a new and more personal way. **Shannon Atkinson's** work studying the declines of endangered or declining species of



See JASON on p.3

## SFOS welcomes new faculty

SFOS extends a warm welcome to two new faculty members who have arrived as we start the new academic year: **Gordon Haas** from Vancouver, Canada and **Alexandra de Oliveira** from Rio de Janeiro via Philadelphia, PA. **Haas** is headquartered at the Fairbanks Campus and **de Oliveira** on the Kodiak campus.

**Gordon Haas** is Assistant Professor of Marine Science/Museum Fish Collection Curator, a joint appointment with SFOS and the UA Museum. He will be teaching ichthyology, marine fishes of Alaska, a graduate course and establishing a research program in biology and systematics of Alaskan fishes. He hails from the University of British Columbia.

**Alexandra de Oliveira** and her daughter Carlolina arrived in Kodiak on September 3, 2001 and have taken up residence in one of our new apartments. **de Oliveira** prefers to be called Alex; her title is Assistant Professor of



Alexandra de Oliveira

Seafood Chemistry. **de Oliveira** is currently setting up her lab, which focuses a new CG-Mass Spectrometer. She is already involved collaboratively in several research projects funded by a USDA -Agricultural Research Service grant, researching more effective handling of byproducts of fish processing. One major contribution will be in the area of fish lipids and effective methods of handling them for the greatest value. In the public service area, **de Oliveira** will assist in issues of seafood quality, seafood byproducts and potentially natural toxins. She will

be teaching in the areas of seafood analysis, seafood chemistry and biochemistry. She has no students yet, but is actively searching for some.

## UAF Accreditation

A thirteen-member site visit evaluation team for the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges will be on campus **October 7-10, 2001**, as part of the accreditation process for the University of Alaska Fairbanks. One of their members, Dr. Jerald Ault, has been assigned specifically to SFOS. UAF has been a continually accredited institution since 1934 and we look forward to assisting the visiting evaluation team learn of our growth as an institution since the last accreditation review. SFOS as well as the rest of the UAF campus has completed and sent to the evaluation team an accreditation self study in which we share our strengths and identify areas for improvement. I hope that during the week of October 8 faculty, staff, and students alike will brighten their smile and welcome any member of the visiting evaluation team you encounter, and assist them with the information they need. The SFOS Dean's office will be assisting Dr. Ault and other members of the team to arrange any meetings that they request.



Vera Alexander

– Dean Alexander

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## Neumayer Medal Awarded

On June 24-26, 2001, an international symposium, Perspectives of Modern Polar Research, was convened in Bad Durkeim, Germany to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the birth of Georg von Neumayer, noted polar explorer and facilitator of German and international polar science, and to award the Neumayer medal to Dr. **Leonard Johnson**, SFOS Affiliate, for eminent and meritorious service in the field of polar research. Neumayer (1826-1909) was a scientist who began as a seaman in the merchant marine and, on the basis of his skill in geophysics and meteorology, rose to become the founder and director of the Flagstaff Observatory in Melbourne, Australia, hydrographer to the German Navy and director of the Hamburg Oceanic Observatory. He was instrumental in organizing the first International Polar Year (IPY) in 1882-83.

Participants came from Denmark, Germany, Norway, Russia, U.K., and USA. Presentations covered a wide range of topics including Arctic biomass calculations, effects of ice scouring on benthic communities, tectonic issues, life of the Norse in SW Greenland and the enigma of their disappearance, plus Arctic circulation and North Atlantic decadal variability. Proceedings will be published as a special edition by Pollicia in the autumn of 2001. Arising from the participant discussions was a strong consensus that a program should be formulated to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the initial IPY in 2007. The geographic focus will be the Arctic Ocean.

## Himmelbloom featured in CBC online news



Brian Himmelbloom

**Brian**

**Himmelbloom**, FITC, was recently featured in an online news article by the Canadian Broadcasting Company concerning glowing fish discovered in Holy Cross, Alaska. According to

the article, a number of people in the community of Holy Cross reported salmon were glowing in their smoke houses. A Holy Cross resident said when she checked her smoke house, rows and rows of her Yukon River smoked salmon were glowing bright yellow. **Brian Himmelbloom** says glowing sea creatures aren't uncommon: "People have seen this when they are out boating. They see luminescent bacteria out on the ocean. And they see it in particular marine

food that's been refrigerated, like squid." **Himmelbloom** says the bacteria that make fish glow is called photobacterium, a naturally occurring organism. And he says it's safe for people to eat the fish. The complete article is at: <http://north.cbc.ca/cgi-bin/templates/view.cgi?news/2001/08/31/31glow>.

## Funding

### Schiaible Enrichment Fund

The UAF Graduate School is accepting proposals from departments for a special event activity between December 2001 and June 2002.

The Arthur J. Schiaible Memorial cultural Enrichment Fund is awarded each year to provide funding in the memory of Arthur J. Schiaible for a special activity, which serves to enrich the cultural life at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Examples of activities are a lecture, performance, literary reading or publication, visiting professor or speaker, or special event. Proposals should be submitted to Department heads for signature and forwarded to the Graduate School. The Proposal should include the type of event, name of speaker, lecturer, performer(s), date of event, amount requested, and how funds will be used, i.e. travel expenses. The sponsoring department will be responsible for coordinating the event, including travel paperwork, catering, and advertising. Award Amount: \$2,000

Deadline: **October 12, 2001**. Submit proposals to: Office of the Graduate School, 304 Signers' Hall, 474-7464, [fygrads@uaf.edu](mailto:fygrads@uaf.edu)



proposal is discouraged. Guidelines available at Academic Services, SFOS Fiscal Office.

### NOAA Ocean Exploration Initiative FY2002

Deadline: **November 7, 2001**. Proposals should address pathfinding research within the themes and regions listed below. Research within areas of U.S. legal jurisdiction is encouraged. Generalized thematic focuses for Ocean Exploration proposals include: 1) exploring unknown or poorly known ocean regions; 2) exploring ocean dynamics and interactions at new time scales; 3) developing new sensors and systems; 4) exploring the Nation's maritime heritage; 5) exploring the ocean using remote sensing techniques, especially passive acoustics; and 6) exploring for living and nonliving ocean resources. Areas of geographic interest include (but are not necessarily limited to) the: 1) Eastern Pacific (from the Baja peninsula to the Bering Sea and including the Gulf of Alaska); 2)

Northwest Hawaiian Islands; 3) Arctic; 4) Antarctic; 5) Gulf of Mexico; 6) Gulf of Maine; 7) South Atlantic Bight. Federal Register Notice: [oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/about/oe\\_office/fedregnotice02.html](http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/about/oe_office/fedregnotice02.html).

### Natural Resources Fund

Deadline: **October 15, 2001**, to Office of Sponsored Programs.

In accordance with Regents Policy 05.07.01, Natural Resources Funds are made available yearly from the Land Grant Trust Fund to:

...provide a margin of support over and above what would otherwise be possible through traditional state, federal, and private sources, and used to provide funding to projects and programs necessary to establish or enhance the quality of the university's academic programs, research, or public service. . . . At least 40% of the annual allocation . . . shall be used for purposes related to fisheries, agriculture, forestry, mineral development, and education in areas related to natural resources.

Guidelines are available at the Academic Services Office, SFOS Fiscal Office.



### President's Special Projects Fund Proposal

Proposals for the next PSPF competition are due to the Office of Sponsored Programs by **October 8, 2001**. Guidelines are available at the Academic Services Office, SFOS Fiscal Office. Each request must be endorsed by department heads and ranked by dean or director.

### UAF Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program

Deadline: **October 9, 2001** to UAF Office of Sponsored Programs.

This program is designed to stimulate participation by undergraduates in research and scholarly projects at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. It is designed to encourage a close working relationship between a student and a member of the UAF faculty. The project should primarily be the student's, but a faculty member, through all stages of the project, must guide it. Inclusion of multiple students within a single

# People



Brenda Norcross

Effective July 1, 2001, **Brenda Norcross** and **Gerald Plumley**, IMS, were promoted to the rank of professor. Congratulations!



Gerry Plumley

**Gerry Plumley**, IMS, was the invited rapporteur for a special session at the Mycotoxins and Phycotoxins Gordon Conference June 24-29, 2001, Williams College, Williamstown, MA. The special session was entitled "New Frontiers: Toxicogenomics, Biochips and Electronic Noses" and dealt primarily with genomics and nanotechnologies. Prior to the Gordon Conference, **Plumley** helped organize a Satellite Workshop at Tufts University entitled "Toxicogenomics and Nanotechnologies: New Frontiers for Mycotoxins and Phycotoxins." The workshop was supported, in part, by Alaska Sea Grant.



Ole Mathisen

**Ole Mathisen**, Professor Emeritus, Fisheries, was recently profiled in the *Alaska Airlines Traveler Newsletter* (Fall 2001, Issue 55). According to the profile, Mathisen came to Alaska in 1946. While visiting, he agreed to complete a one year project, surveying streams and studying sockeye salmon. Over time, this "project" turned out to be a half-century of work dedicated to the study and preservation of salmon.



Ginny Brower

**Ginny Brower**, FITC, gave birth to Christopher Brower on August 21st, 2001 at the Providence Alaska Medical Center, Anchorage, Alaska. Christopher weighed 1 lb. 14 oz. and was 13-1/4" long at birth.

**Mark Johnson**, IMS, has been selected to hold the Arctic Chair in Polar Marine Science at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA for 2001-2002. Personnel who previously held this position are world leaders in Arctic research. **Johnson** says this "is a great chance to work with



Mark Johnson

physical oceanographers working on Arctic issues, work on science without the usual interruptions, and travel. Each year applicants from around the world apply for this position. One person is selected based upon

their leadership in Arctic research. I am honored that my national and international colleagues respect my work enough to offer me this Chair. It is a great opportunity." An interagency agreement between UAF and the Naval Postgraduate School will allow **Johnson** to conduct research while at the Naval Postgraduate School.



Joe Margraf

**Joe Margraf**, Professor, SFOS and Unit Leader, Alaska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, received the Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his dedicated service to the American Fisheries Society (AFS) in pursuit of its goals and objectives. The award was presented at the 131st Annual Meeting of AFS in Phoenix, August 20, 2001.



Richard Steiner

**Rick Steiner**, MAP, presented oral and written testimony to the Pew Oceans Commission in Anchorage August 15, 2001. Steiner's recommendations included: 1) the establishment of the Pacific Environment Council; 2) establishment of the US Marine Fisheries Commission; 3) establishment of the US Seabird Commission; 4) establishment of Regional Citizens Advisory Councils; 5) enact legislation to reduce undersea noise; 6) enact legislation to establish new and expanded marine protected areas (MPAs) and ocean wilderness; 7) mandate system redundancy on all new-build oil tankers; 8) enact legislation to reduce US carbon emissions; and 9) establish fishing fleet capacity reduction fund.

**Hector Douglas**, Ph. D candidate, IMS, with the help of his graduate committee chair, **Alan Springer**, IMS, recently received \$14,808.00 from the Eppley Foundation for his project "Evolutionary Convergence in Chemical Ecology and Multiple Functions in the Chemical Repellents of Plantivorous Seabirds".

## JASON and SeaLife Center

pinnipeds and sea ducks will be one of the highlights of this newest JASON expedition and is likely to inspire and encourage the next generation of research scientists. Information on the Jason Project at: [www.jasonproject.org/](http://www.jasonproject.org/).

## New Personell

**Shelbeye Greenway**, Accounting Technician, SFOS Fiscal Office  
**Kathleen Carter**, Publications and Proposal Technician, SFOS Fiscal Office  
**Dr. Jo-Ann Mellish**, Reseach Assistant Professor of Marine Science, Alaska SeaLife Center. Welcome all!

## Publications

**Kowalik, Z.** 2001. Basic relations between tsunami: calculations and their physics. *Science of Tsunami Hazards*, Vol. 19 (2): 99-116.

**Johnson, T.** 2001. What you need to know about recreational boat insurance. *Alaska Sea Grant SeaGram*. No. 36.



Terry Quinn and participants in his FISH621-622 course



## Alaska Sea Grant Survival



*Chris Blackburn, executive director of the Alaska Groundfish Data Bank (left), watches as Paula Cullenberg, director of the North Pacific Fishery Observer Program, helps Alaska Sea Grant's national office program monitor, Emory Anderson, don a survival suit in a race with Alaska Sea Grant science director, Susan Sugai, and Sea Grant program assessment team member, Bud Griswold. The race took place at the Fishery Industrial Technology Center in Kodiak during Sea Grant's national program assessment in July. Photo by Kurt Byers.*

Recent news for Alaska Sea Grant can be found at [www.uaf.edu/seagrant/](http://www.uaf.edu/seagrant/). The site includes an online edition of Fishlines, which includes stories on Sea Grant's recent program assessment, the upcoming 20th Wakefield Fisheries Symposium, and the recent PSP training workshop organized by Ray RaLonde.

## Editor's Corner: Got News?

Special thanks to Vera Alexander, Shannon Atkinson, Kurt Byers, Ron Dearborn, Wendy Frandsen, Brian Himelbloom, Mark Johnson, Cathy Magnusen, Kendall Mashburn, Dorothy Parkerson, Kathy Pearse, Gerry Plumley, Terry Quinn, Scott Smiley, Al Tyler and others for material used in this newsletter.

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