

*The winning team and business plan. Team members were (left to right) Charles Allen, Derek Miller, Mickela Threlkeld, Allison LeBon, Buffy Kuiper, Jason Miller, and Michele Pope.*

## Student Business Plans Win Big

The first School of Management Business Plan Competition was held in April. Teams of students crafted business plans and presented them to a panel of judges, competing for more than \$4,000 in prize money. Allan Johnston, with the Entrepreneurs and Mentors Network, and Brad Feld provided funding for the prizes.

Business plan topics that won \$100 honorable mentions included a website design business, a non-profit which provides educators with art supplies, and a luxury wilderness lodge. The third place, \$500 winner was Anne Vance, who revealed her idea for Anne Kathrin Wedding Planning. Second place, and \$1,000, went to a team of three students who explained their FLK

Irrigation plan. The grand \$2,500 prize winner, taking first place at both the SOM and state-level business plan competitions, was a business plan for Alaska Glass Recycling, designed by a team of seven students.

The Alaska Glass Recycling business plan is for a diversified glass recycling company based out of Anchorage. The company would collect recycled glass and transform it into mixed color cullet. Glass cullet is crushed glass that ranges in size from a small pebble to a fine powder and can be used for a variety of applications: construction aggregate, abrasives, traction, and other niche markets such as landscaping, mulching, craft projects, and glass

## Students Mind Their Manners

Partnered with KPMG and Lavelle's Bistro, the School of Management (SOM) and its student organization, Great Alaskan Accounting People (GAAP), organized the first Spring Etiquette Seminar and Dinner.

Brainchild of GAAP president Amy Facklam, the Spring Etiquette Seminar and Dinner was begun to help students learn valuable lessons in the social graces. Once students graduate, they are expected to know how to act in formal situations, such as business dinners and social functions. Students were looking for the tools needed to conduct themselves as well-rounded professionals.

At the SOM and KPMG Spring Etiquette

Seminar & Dinner, students from all of the SOM student organizations learned from top business professionals in Alaska. The seminar was held at Mt. McKinley Bank, where Daniel Mitchell from KPMG gave a business etiquette presentation. The

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# From the Desk of the Dean

The School of Management (SOM) experience goes beyond excellence in the classroom. Working with the Fairbanks community we are able to host many SOM events and support our six student organizations. Our students' education is enriched emphasis on pragmatic skills and teamwork, along with leadership, creativity, and critical thinking. Let me share just a few examples with you.

This year the Students in Free Enterprise partnered with Northrim Bank as part of the National "teach kids to save day". SOM students taught elementary students about money, reasons to save, and even shared a few energy-saving tips.

SOM also partnered with KPMG to host a Spring Etiquette Seminar and Dinner. Students learned valuable lessons in the so-

cial graces, skills that will give them a leg up when they are expected to know how to act in formal, professional situations.

Finally, the Great Alaska Accounting People provided free income tax assistance, preparation and electronic filing to student and community members. This program gives students the opportunity to enhance their knowledge of accounting and taxation.

In the end, participation in these extra-curricular activities allows students to meet new people and explore ideas to which they might have never otherwise been exposed.



**Mark Herrmann, Dean  
School of Management**

Photo courtesy of Mark Herrmann.

*SOM Dean Mark Herrmann and his twin boys enjoy fishing together.*

## School of Management's 2011 Graduating Class

Marissa Anderson  
Jennifer Bartolowits  
Leah Billups  
Nicole Bozek  
Zhijin Chen  
Amy Facklam  
Jennifer Giles  
Skye Greer  
Melissa Pearson  
Azlynn Reese  
Katherine Ridenour  
Aurora Suchland  
Shaun Tacke  
Patrick Tanner  
Kayla Warnick  
Lilia Wingerter

Nadine Carroll  
Sara Cunningham  
Travis Duft  
Max Frey  
Isabelle Green  
Sharon Gutierrez  
Alicia Hamsley  
Tonya Helmuth  
Magen James  
Felina Kelly

Derek Klassen  
Cole McNabb  
Joshua Norum  
Kevin Petovello  
Vencent Robancho  
Marie Sorensen  
Michele Stringham  
Kristin Thompson  
Sasha Vale  
Anne Vance

Peter Burton  
Nicole Heiter  
Camilla Kennedy  
Victor Kubanyi Jr.  
Kinsey Laine  
Benjamin Newman  
Richard Raines

Trever Ferrin  
Timothy Hatfield  
Matthew Mattson  
Paul Miranda

Nakeda Allen  
Jenny Barrett  
Cara Brunk  
Melissa Croan  
Tatiana Krupina  
Buffy Kuiper  
Allison LeBon  
Tripti Macias  
Derek Miller  
Jason Miller  
Michelle Pope  
Henriot Previlor Jr.  
Dona Rule

Zachary Boyd  
Dominique Pride



# Featured Donor: BIRCHWOOD HOMES

Birchwood Homes provides rental housing adjacent to Ft. Wainwright for military and civilian families. The convenient location and family-friendly atmosphere provide a high-quality living environment for the families, while the philanthropic endeavors of the Birchwood Homes management create a community.

Birchwood Homes partners with the School of Management through support of our Northern Leadership Center (NLC). A central resource for leadership programs, the NLC focuses on developing leaders throughout Alaska.

Besides philanthropic support, Birchwood Home employees give time and lend their expertise to the university. Site Manager Renee Staley serves on the UAF School of Management Business Advisory Council, providing support and guidance to the Dean on issues pertaining to the school's academic excel-

lence. She additionally participates in experiential learning activities with students. President/CEO Dick Fischer has been invited to speak, along with several other business leaders, to students attending this year's NLC Summer Leadership Institute.

Renee and Dick believe strongly in nurturing community, military and university relationships. In addition to SOM, Birchwood Homes also supports:

- Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce as a Gold Investor
- Morale Welfare Recreation, Ft. Wainwright
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- HIPOW as Family Night Sponsor
- Fairbanks Light Opera Theatre
- Habitat for Humanity
- And many others

**Thank you to Birchwood Homes!**

NLC Director Nicole Cundiff and Renee Staley of Birchwood Homes.

## Fac G d S a

### Jungho Baek

"Inflation and Intramarket Price Variability: Empirical Evidence from U.S. Food Products" *Journal of Rural Development*

"Demand Analysis for Coal on the United States Inland Waterway System: Fully-Modified Cointegration (FM-OLS) Approach" *Journal of the Transportation Research Forum* (with J. Chi)

"Trade Liberalization, Economic Growth, Energy Consumption and the Environment: Time Series Evidence from G-20" *Journal of East Asian Economic Integration* (with H.S. Kim)

### Lily Dong

"Consumer-Citizens of China: The Role of Foreign Brands in the Imagined Future China Routledge" (with K. Tian)

### Greg Goering

"Gun Buybacks and Firm Behavior: Do Buyback Programs Really Reduce the Number of Guns?" *Review of Economics & Finance*

### Wayne Marr

"State Revenues: A Dependence on Black Gold and Government" *Alaska Politics and Public Policy* (with J. E. Turo)

### Doug Reynolds

"A Probabilistic Economic Analysis of the Transportation of GTL Blends Through TAPS" *Energy Sources, Part B* (with A. Ibrionke, S. Paul, G. Chukwu, A. Dandekar, and S. Khataniar)

### Doug Reynolds and Jungho Baek

"Much ado about Hotelling: Beware the Ides of Hubbert" *Energy Economics*

### Liz Ross

"Physics of Failure Approach as a Foundation for the Reliability of Logistics Management" *Logistics Spectrum*

### H. Charles Sparks

"Feasibility Study for the Proposed South Denali Visitor Center"

"Economic Impacts of the Implementation of the Proposed South Denali Visitor Center."

### Craig Wisen and Thomas Zhou

"Investor Sentiment and Closed-End Country Funds" *International Business and Economics Research Journal* (with K. C. Chiang)

Congratulations to **Kate Gramatico** who received the Dean's Award for Outstanding Service to SOM. Kate has been instrumental in our record-setting enrollment increases and has recruited intensively for the Bachelor of Emergency Management & Homeland Security program.

Congratulations to Accounting faculty member **Charlie Sparks** who has been promoted to the rank of Professor. Provost Henrichs wrote in her letter supporting his promotion, "Dr. Sparks has a strong record of service. Both the Dean and the unit peers note his important effort to renew the AACSB accreditation of the accounting program. Dr. Sparks stepped up to lead and do much of the large amount of work required." Dr. Sparks joins a relatively small group of faculty at UAF who have achieved this highest rank.

# Faculty Spotlight Liz Ross

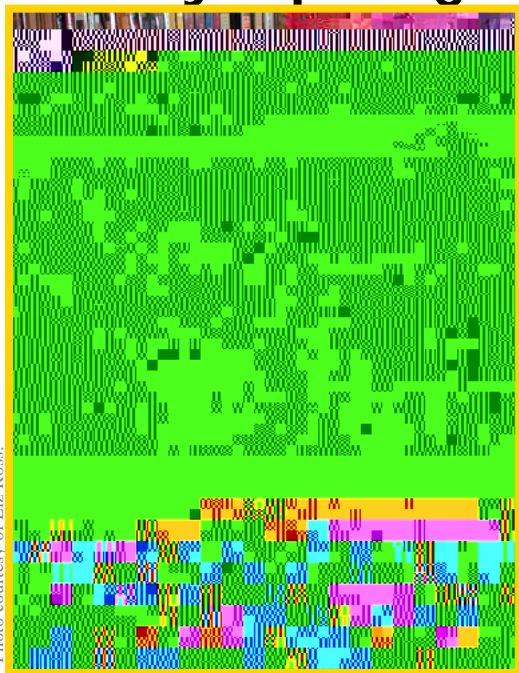


Photo courtesy of Liz Ross.

SOM instructor Liz Ross practices her kata form.

An instructor of Business Administration at SOM, Liz received her BS at Granite State College, her MBA at Southern New Hampshire University, and her DBA from Nova Southeastern University. Liz recently moved to Alaska for her family, the Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI), and SOM. What she enjoys about Alaska is the weather, the people, and her synagogue.

W a . . . fa . . . e ca . . . eac a d ?

Operations Management is my favorite class to teach because there are a variety of topics covered—from accounting to finance to mathematical decision-making.

W a e ea c /a ec a e . . . ?

Currently, I am working on a couple of areas of research. One study is on team effectiveness within a high-tech organization. Another project is compilation of data on how early engagement of rural Alaska native students leads to the pursuit of higher education.

W a ad ce d a e f c e . . . de ?

The only advice I have is the advice my grandmother gave me: there are three things in life you can never take back: your spoken word, your actions, and time. Therefore, think before you speak and act, and always use your time wisely.

## Snapshot

B . . . a e c e . . . ead . ? *The Torah*  
 Y a . . . c d . . . ad? I have never downloaded music  
 O e . . . b c e . . . ? To go to Israel  
 Fa . . e I . . a . . a Q e? "Learning is a treasure which will follow its owner everywhere." -Chinese Proverb

# Alumni Focus Jo Heckman

Jo Heckman is President & CEO of Denali State Bank. Jo is the recipient of the UAF Alumni Association's William Cashen Service Award and the Distinguished Alumnus Award, the Farthest North Girl Scouts Council Woman of Distinction Award, and was selected as the 2008 Business Leader of the Year by the UAF School of Management. Recently Jo was appointed to the UA Board of Regents.

W a . . . e . . . ea ed a SOM f d ef . . . fe . . a ca ee ?  
 SOM teachers and staff were very accessible and allowed me to communicate with them frequently. They were always helpful and gave good advice. I suppose that was groundwork for working with people and dealing with issues which every organization faces.

W a d e be a UAF a . . a ea . . ?

I am very proud of UAF and the quality of education it provides. We are fortunate to have a fine university here with respected teachers and researchers. I am proud to be a product of this institution. UAF alumni should give back and support their alma mater in each and every way they can. In my opinion, a university loses a lot if the alums are not engaged. Alums have a duty to be good ambassadors for their universities.

W a ad ce d e c e . . . de ?

Work hard and take on every opportunity to learn in and out of your major. Engage with professionals outside of academics.

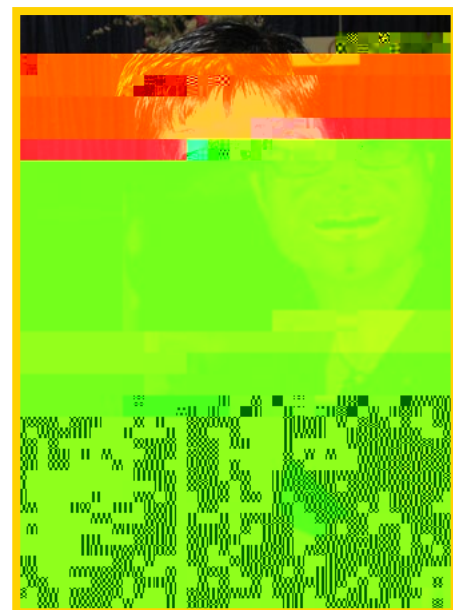


Photo courtesy of Jo Heckman.

SOM alumna Jo Heckman used her education to build a successful career.

## Snapshot

B . . . a e c e . . . ead . ? *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen and *Age of Greed* by Jeff Madrick  
 Y a . . . c d . . . ad? Stevie Nicks' "In your Dreams"  
 Fa . . e . . ace . . aca . . ? Italy, been there once, would love to go again.  
 W a . . . e . . ? My father—his ongoing passion to give back to the community and to advocate for senior and elder issues is inspiring and sets a good role model for all.

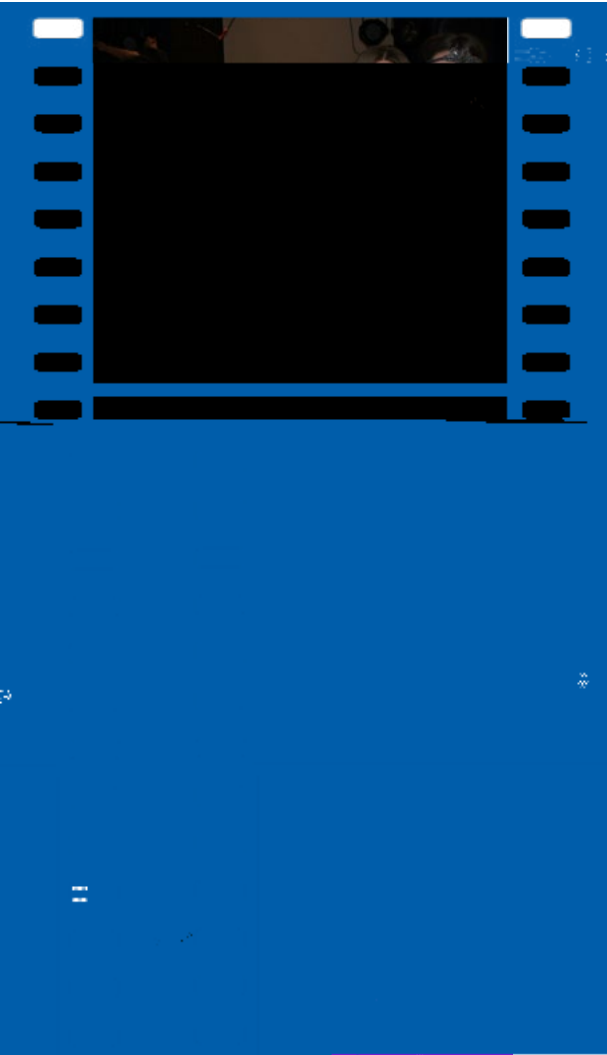


Fred Smits, Executive Director of Infrastructure Technology Services at OIT, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday,





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SOM is one of only 175 colleges and universities in the world to hold the prestigious Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation for both the School of Management and its Accounting Program.

Photos on this page (top to bottom): Photo courtesy of Nicole Cundiff and UAF photos by Tammy Tragis-McCook.

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