

The MPA Messenger

Volume 7 Issue 1

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Special points of interest:

- ◆ MPA STUDENT CONDUCTS RESEARCH ABOUT ALASKA AND RUSSIA NATIVES
- ◆ ALUMNUS NAMED TO ANCHORAE SCHOOL BOARD
- ◆ WIN \$300 TO \$500. SEE DETAILS INSIDE
- ◆ GRANT WRITING TO BE OFFERED THIS SPRING
- ◆ SUMMER PREVIEW

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MPA Student Creates Bridge of Knowledge Between Indigenous Peoples

MPA student, Andrey Khalkachan, is one remarkable young man. He came to Alaska in 1996 on a mission: To obtain tools that will help native people of his region in Northeast Siberia transition from socialism to capitalism and maintain their native cultures. A member of the Even (pronounced "Evian") Nation in Russia's Northeast territory, Andrey is a proud member of one of nearly 30 indigenous nations of Russia, totaling approximately 300,000 people.

Andrey's community, like many Native Alaskan communities, knows the subsistence lifestyle. In his village of Gizhiga, population 700, the primary 'industry' is salmon fishing and reindeer herding. The small community gave him a strong sense of self-worth and identity. Raised by his mother, a school teacher, and father, a reindeer herder, Andrey received constant encouragement from his family to do more with his life and pursue his dream of a college education. The hard work paid off and Andrey became one of five students in his graduating



Andrey Khalkachan

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ROBYN JOHNSON NAMED ASPA PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR



Robyn Johnson, a UAA MPA Graduate, was honored by the American Society for Public Administration as the Administrator of the Year at a luncheon at UAA in October. The award recognized her work in developing a program to increase safety for Pioneer Home employees while reducing Workers' Compensation claims. For over a decade Robyn has worked to improve the Pioneer Home. She had proven her ability to deal with disparate problems and needs. Through all the challenges assigned to her, Robyn continues to smile and encourage others.

Bridge of Knowledge

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class who continued on to college.



Andrey stands in front of the University of Aberdeen Scotland

During his four-year stay here, in addition to working on his MPA, Andrey has focused on learning how Native Americans have used political and economic processes to reclaim the rights of indigenous peoples. Andrey has met with different levels of Native organizations such as tribal governments, profit, and not-for-profit corporations, including internships with both NANA and Koniag Corporations.

Andrey has also been on trips to learn about indigenous peoples in Canada, at Indian reservations in the Lower 48, and Greenland. He attended a United Nations Conference on h-

indigenous Peoples in Geneva this past summer and the Inuit Council meeting in Aberdeen, Scotland. He's also consulted at the Museum of Natural History in New York on their Even collection and helped the Anchorage Museum construct an Even reindeer camp exhibit. Andrey has greatly enriched the MPA experience for his classmates who have tremendous respect for his intelligence and his hard work. Upon completing his research, Andrey hopes to use the knowledge and the tools he has acquired to improve social and economic development in his region and help preserve his culture.



Andrey at United Nations with delegates from Africa and North America

Faculty News

Righting Wrongs: The Ombudsman in Six Continents published in Summer 2000 contained two chapters coauthored by **Dr. Steven Aufrecht**: *Ombudsman Evaluation* (with Marc Hertogh) and *Ombudsman Offices in the United States* (with Dean Gottherer and Marie Ferguson). He also edited the chapter on Alaska Ombudsman offices.

Dr. Sharmon Haley is on sabbatical in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil this year where she is studying the impacts of oil exploration on indigenous peoples.

Adjunct Professor **Steve Lindbeck**, who is teaching Social Entrepreneurship this semester, has stepped down as director of the Alaska Humanities Forum to become the new Editorial Page Editor for the Anchorage Daily News.

Dr. Protasel will present *Are Russia's Regions ready for a Municipal Bond Market?: A Comparison of the Alaska and the Russian Far East* at the Western Regional Science Association meeting in February.

Alumni and Student News

Tylan Schrock (MPA, 1997), assistant manager for Seward, has been appointed to head the Alaska Sealife Center. The center's board of directors announced recently that they chose Schrock to take over the \$56 million facility. Schrock has been a member of the board since 1997. He begins his new job immediately.

Thomas Anderson (MPA, 1996) a legal and public affairs consultant and member of Mayor George Wuerch's transition team, was chosen recently to be on the Anchorage School Board. Anderson was appointed in a 5-1 vote of the board from among 30 applicants for a vacant position and will serve until the April 2001 election. He said he plans to run after that.

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Course Offerings

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Due to popular demand, Alternative Dispute Resolution will be offered this spring. This course reviews the literature and principals of alternative dispute resolution (ADR). The focus of the course will be on resolving public disputes, but those interested in resolving individual and group conflicts will also find the material relevant. The instructor, **Dr. Greg Protasel**, Associate Professor, has written on negotiations in public disputes. **PADM 640: *Alternative Dispute Resolution*** has been highly rated by past participants.

Grant Writing

Beverly Tallman will teach students through hands-on exercises and experiences in locat-

ing funding sources, developing a plan of action, and writing a proposal. These are just some of the areas students will gain practical training by writing their own grant proposals.

Students interested in getting graduate credit for this class should contact Steve Aufrecht at 786-1908 or email afsea@uaa.alaska.edu.

Summer Preview

Jan-Erik Lane, Professor of Political Science at the University of Geneva will teach a summer elective MPA course **PADM 671 *Government, the Economy and Globalization***. The course will be taught as an intensive on Thursdays and Fridays (7/12-13; 7/26-27 & 8/9-10). Professor Lane has published widely in public management and political theory. To find out more about Professor Lane and this new course see <http://www.cbpp.uaa.alaska.edu/afgjp/summer/padm671.htm>.

Alumni and Student News

Marshall Foley (MPA, 2000) came to UAA with an intent in Athlete Management. Shortly after graduating in May he accepted the job of Assistant Athlete Director at Canisius College in Buffalo, NY. The department sponsors 21 NCAA Division sports.

Current MPA student, **Whitney Highland**, has recently been hired by Senator Loren

Leman as an legislative aide. Whitney's duties include office accounting, preparing speeches, and addressing constituency concerns. Before working as an aide she served as a legislative intern during the 2000 session. Whitney says that her experience as an aide "provided me with a greater knowledge of state issues, the branches of government and state agencies."

Garth N. Jones Writing Competition

Four Awards of **\$300 to \$500** dollars each will be offered for the best graduate papers written by College of Business and Public Policy students. Both single author and group authored papers are eligible. MPA students have won for the last two years. **Olga Paluba** won in 1999 for her paper "The Value of the Mandatory Stopover" and **Kristin Erchinger** won in 2000 for her paper "City of Seward— Finan-

cial Condition assessment: A guide to Improving Fiscal Health." Papers must be written in academic style (with footnotes) and written during the 2000 academic year. The deadline is February 15, 2001. See your instructor for details.

Keep Up With the MPA News

Want all the news and information on upcoming events, job opportunities, or internships? Visit our website www.mpa.alaska.edu.

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Spring 2001 MPA Classes

PADM 601—Public Administration in a Contemporary Society—Dr. Aufrecht's Wednesday class gives an overview of the field of public administration and develops the analytical skills necessary for graduate study. Emphasis is on understanding the underlying issues such as power, decision making, ways of knowing, measurement, organizational structure, accountability and learning to use the theoretical models in actual situations.

PADM 602—Seminar in Public Management—In Dr. Aufrecht's Monday class, students design projects relevant to their work which demonstrate their achievement of the eleven learning objectives from time management to developing personal work performance measures and improving interpersonal and group skills.

PADM 604—Research Methods in Administration—This Tuesday evening class will cover empirical methods and techniques necessary for administrators to understand complex research on public issues. Emphasis is on design of research data collection and analysis methods, survey sampling, statistical analysis including the use of computers in data analysis.

PADM 610—Organizational Theory and Behavior—Dr. Protasel's Tuesday class will review the evolution of organizational theories from the classical models to the current discussions of post-modern organizations. The class will focus on how managers can use metaphors and theory

to develop better management in their organizations.

PADM 628—Administration of Financial Resources—Dr. Protasel's Wednesday class will cover five general topics: budgeting, policymaking, accounting, financing and managing. Cases will help managers deal with the technical and political challenges inherent in managing budgets in the public sector.

PADM 640—Alternative Dispute Resolution—Dr. Protasel will teach this class which reviews the literature and principles of alternative dispute resolution. It will focus on negotiation and mediation as ways to resolve individual conflicts, group conflicts, and public disputes.

JUST 670—Administrative Law—This Wednesday evening class covers legal guidelines for adoption, enforcement, and adjudication of violations of agency regulations at federal, state, and local levels as exercised by public administrators. Legislative, executive, and judicial controls on agency action will also be reviewed.

NS 658 — Public Health Policy—Dr. Saylor will teach this class which will analyze the procedures by which government and private agencies make decisions that affect the health of population groups. The influence of lay, professional and special interest groups are explored in relation to health legislation, the allocation of resources, and the setting of health priorities.