From the President and the Foundation Chair

Dear Alaska Pacific University Community and Friends,

This past year has been an exciting year of growth and commitment. We are achieving many of our targets as our strategic plan sunsets. Enrollment climbed in 2022-23, reaching our goal of 700+ students for the year as well as the highest Fall enrollment of the past seven years. Our Alaska Native student population has grown to nearly a third of our student body, and we have increased faculty engaged with Elders and communities in our goal to serve our people and communities through relevant instruction and research.

Expansion in research, community engagement, and program development continued. We are a partner in the national Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledge and Science and are hosting the Navigating the New Arctic community office. The Kellogg campus has increased our involvement in agriculture education and Tribal conservation initiatives through partnerships. A Master of Fine Arts degree was launched, the Alaska Rural Management certificate was funded for revision, and Nursing program expansion was funded to grow our nursing graduates from 40 per year to 140 per year in five years. Many more enhancements are underway.

Financially, APU remains in good health. We have kept tuition rates down through a balanced plan including investment, grants, and gifts. Together with donors and community partners, we have been able to meet our commitment to accessibility; an average undergraduate student earns $15K in scholarships, keeping APU affordable. New members have joined our Denali Society of committed donors. Gould Opportunity scholarships, supporting our promise to students with financial need, has grown. Significant grants have allowed for program and research expansion.

The entire APU community has been committed to the strategic plan and good stewardship of the university’s resources. This annual report aligns with my first year at Alaska Pacific University, and I look forward to working with our full community in revising our strategic plan and setting new goals for the next five years. We appreciate your interest in and support of APU as we continue to progress and serve our students and Alaska communities.

Thank you!

Dr. Janelle Vanasse, President

Dear APU Community and Friends,

I am pleased to be sharing the financial status of the Alaska Pacific University Foundation (APUF) with you. The APU Foundation is a statement of the value the APU community has placed in the future of the University and its students. In particular, individual donor funded scholarships have seen increased giving, and a new fund has been created for the Paul F. Twardock Outdoor Studies Endowment Fund to support O.S. faculty and students through retiring APU professor Paul Twardock and friends.

The Shel ch'naq'ahnilu Fund for the Alaska Native student fund was established for Indigenous student support. The fund, whose name means ‘sharing our experiences for the benefit of the next generation’, has been growing, and it provides for Indigenous Student Scholarships, cultural activities, and indigenization efforts. Additionally, the third annual Blue & Gold Benefit and Auction took place in-person this year on May 11 and contributed $83,871 to the Leah J. Peterson Legacy Fund, endowed merit-based scholarship, and $15,000 to the Gould Opportunity Fund, endowed needs-based scholarship. The event hosted over 200 people and included both live and online auctions.

The APU Foundation recognizes that amazing growth happens when people come together for a mission they believe in, especially one that benefits the local community and is educating future leaders and members of the communities throughout Alaska. We are grateful to all those who support APU through the APU Foundation.

Sincerely,

Chris Swalling, Board Chair
Alaska Pacific University Foundation
APU At-a-Glance

758
Students enrolled

1:8
Faculty-to-student ratio

170
Graduates this year

8,000+
APU Alumni

400+
APU Nordic Ski community participants

8
World Cup Skiers from Nordic Elite Team

33%
Alaska Native/American Indian enrollment*

34%
Students receive federal Pell grants

500+
Donors

$2.7+ Million
in donations and support

$2.8 Million
in sponsored program grants

86%
Students from Alaska*

14%
Students were from 31 U.S. states and 9 countries in Fall 2022*

*Self reported and/or Tribal affiliation.
Who We Are

Meet APU Student Tayler Beard

Tayler Beard is a senior in the Marine and Environmental Science program minoring in Marine Biology at APU. As a recipient of the Promise Tuition Grant, the remainder of her tuition not covered by other grants or scholarships is fully paid for by the university. Beard is the Vice President of The Associated Students of Alaska Pacific University (ASAPU), an aquarium technician, and has gained true fieldwork experience from various hands-on academic endeavors throughout her time at APU.

“I love the faculty at APU. They are super great at giving you one-on-one time, and they really care about what’s going on with you in and out of the academic world.”

ANELP Marks Its 10-Year Anniversary

The Alaska Native Executive Leadership Program (ANELP), a graduate certificate tailored for Alaska Native Corporations and related organizations, celebrated its 10-year milestone at Alaska Pacific University on June 23, 2023. ANELP is designed to prepare future executives by equipping them with the expertise needed for Alaska’s dynamic business landscape and beyond. The program stems from a collaboration between APU and prominent Alaska Native Corporations like Afognak, Bristol Bay, Chugach, the Aleut Corporation, and CIRI. The decennial celebration, held after the 2023 cohort’s graduation, included an alumni networking event in the Grant Hall lobby and was capped off with a concert on the Carr Gottstein Academic Center lawn.

Twardock and Lane Conferred Emeritus Status

In a year of commendations, Alaska Pacific University proudly conferred emeritus status on two stellar university professors. Paul Twardock, who started his journey with APU in 1988, transformed his passion for the outdoors into a guiding light for students. From heading Outdoor Programs to pioneering the MSOEE Program at the Kellogg Campus, Twardock’s legacy is cemented in blending a world-class education and mentorship with the outdoors. His work with the NOLS, hosting the Outdoor Explorer on KSKA, and fostering community outreach are landmarks of his dedication. Dr. Robert A. Lane, with over 30 years in academia, has dedicated two decades to APU. His roles span from directing multiple psychology programs to pioneering APU’s Counseling and Wellness Center. His commitment shines brightly in the accolades he’s received, notably the Faculty Merit Award for Service in 2014. Together, Twardock and Lane’s indelible marks were foundational in making APU the institution it is today.
APU is partnering with the Lower Kuskokwim and Yupiit School Districts to address rural Alaska Native college readiness and attendance. Because APU recognizes that a positive cultural self-identity can assist students in making the transition to post-secondary education, this program centers on exploring cultural identity in writing and math courses and other college preparation activities for 9th and 10th grade high school students. The goal of the program is for participants to be proficient in college-level math and writing by senior year so that they can participate in APU’s Early Honors program or other post-secondary opportunities.

Navigating the New Arctic Community Office (NNA-CO)

Selected as one of the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) “10 Big Ideas,” the Navigating the New Arctic (NNA) program catalyzes interest and investment in fundamental research, which is the basis for discovery, invention, and innovation. The Community Office (NNA-CO) is a cooperative agreement with the NSF to support this NSF initiative that strives to address challenges in the rapidly changing Arctic. Through partnerships with Alaska Pacific University, the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and the University of Colorado Boulder, NNA-CO builds awareness and creates resources for collaboration within inclusive research projects while increasing the recognition of Indigenous knowledge and data sovereignty. By centering research on relationships and values, the APU NNA Community Office helps to support Arctic research towards an equitable and honorable future.

MFA Program Celebrates Alaskan Literary Roots

In FY23, APU launched its newest program, the Low-Residency Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing. The MFA provides one-on-one mentorship and guidance, as enrolled students dive into the works of Northern writers and hone their own poetry, fiction, or literary nonfiction. Through residencies on APU’s campus, the program strives to honor the Dena’ina people and their traditional lands upon which APU sits, as well as Alaska Native storytelling and literary traditions that have thrived and continue to inspire.

“Low residency allows students a lot of flexibility,” explained David Onofrychuk, MFA program director. “This past July, we hosted a 12-day on-campus residency for our first cohort, featuring morning talks, craft lectures, panels, readings by over a dozen Alaska writers and poets, and workshops for students and MFA-for-a-Day participants alike.”

Tumyaraa: The Path Bridging Program

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APU’s faculty and academic programs provide state-of-the-art classroom instruction and hands-on, culturally responsive teaching and learning, alongside groundbreaking research opportunities.
Fiscal Year 2023
Results of Operations

FY22 Operating Revenue
- Net Student Tuition and Fees: 28%
- Net rental income: 7%
- Government Grants and Contracts: 7%
- Private Gifts, Grants, and Bequests: 16%
- Auxiliary Enterprises: 17%
- Other: 17%

FY22 Operating Expenses
- Instruction: 34%
- Research: 20%
- Academic Support: 17%
- Student Services: 14%
- Auxiliary Enterprises: 10%
- Institutional Support: 3%
- Public Service: 2%

$2.5 million
Awarded in institutional aid

$460,000
Awarded in donor-funded scholarships
APU Foundation
Investing in Our Future

$16.4 million
Total Assets

37 2
Endowments New Endowments Added in FY23

What is the APU Foundation?
Founded in 1994, Alaska Pacific University Foundation’s (APUF) objective is to operate exclusively for charitable and educational purposes for the benefit of the University.

As of FY23, APUF is the collective investment of 37 endowments. These donor-funded endowments provide annual support to APU in the form of scholarships and institutional aid to students, endowed chairs and professorships (titular and honorific positions for outstanding faculty), maintenance of facilities, and operations.

APU Foundation Total Investments
Fiscal Year 2019-2023

- Contributions
- Investment Income
- Support to APU
- Total investments

Millions of Dollars

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FY23 Denali Society
The Denali Society recognizes our philanthropic leaders at various levels of giving.

**Summit Club ($25,000+)**
- Advanced Physical Therapy
- AK Victory Inc
- Alaska Airlines
- Alaska Permanent Capital
- Management Company
- Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association
- American Seafoods Company
- Atwood Foundation
- ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.
- First National Bank Alaska
- Golden Alaska Seafoods
- Johnson Scholarship Foundation
- Leader Creek Fisheries, Inc.
- M/V Savage, Inc.
- North Pacific Seafoods
- North Star Fishing Company
- Northrim Bank
- Obi Seafoods, LLC
- O’Hara Corporation
- Rasmussen Foundation
- Silver Bay Seafoods, LLC
- Trident Seafoods Corporation
- William and Elizabeth Armstrong

**Denali ($10,000-$24,999)**
- Alaska General Seafoods
- Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
- Arctic Fjord, Inc.
- Chugach Alaska Corporation
- E & E Foods, Inc.
- Kanaway Seafoods, Inc.
- Richard and Diane Block Foundation
- Rick Sasek

**Mt. Foraker ($5,000-$9,999)**
- A. Robert Twardock Trust
- Andrew Eker and Mary K. Hughes
- Borah Teamwear
- Bristol Bay Native Corporation

**Mt. Hunter ($2,500-$4,999)**
- Alaska Conference of The United Methodist Church
- Catherine-Marie Caxton-Abshire
- The CIRI Foundation
- Cook Inlet Region, Incorporated
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council
- Darcie Larson
- Edward and Glynn Strabel
- Fred Jr and Linnea John
- Greg & Jenny Loudon
- Hilton Hallock
- HZA Engineering
- James Temte
- Kelsey Lellig
- Kodiak Area Native Association
- Koniag Incorporated
- Kristine and Scott Hutchin
- Mia Heavener
- Michael and Diane Moxness
- Sheila King
- Southcentral Foundation
- Tasha Lucas
- William and Bonnie Mehner

**Mt. Hayes ($1,000-$2,499)**
- A-Team
- Alaska Hospital and Healthcare Association
- Aleut Corporation
- AMAC LLC

**In Memoriam:**
- Joseph Senungetuk

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**THE DENALI SOCIETY**

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**Elders Council**
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- Mike Harper
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