



# Alaska WWAMI

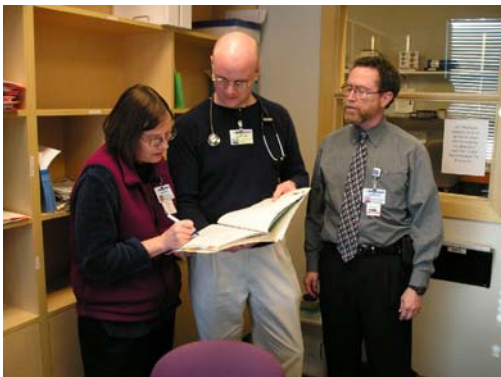
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## New Alaska WWAMI Director Named

We are looking forward to the arrival of our new permanent director of the WWAMI Bio Medical Program at the UAA. Dennis Valenzano, Professor of Molecular and Integrative Physiology at the University of Kansas Medical Center, has accepted the position.

Dennis has more than 25 years teaching physiology to medical, nursing and graduate students and a variety of allied health students. He has a special interest in photobiology (<http://www.photobiology.info>) and has been a pioneer in using web-based learning tools in medical education.

Dr. Valenzano and his wife, Marsha, will join all of us in Alaska in early May.



Doctors consult, left to right: Jean Snyder, Faculty, Seth Scott, Resident, and Mike Herndon, Community Faculty.



Left to Right: Dr. Dave Driggers, Sandy Cohick, Ray Pasterino, Ph.D., Dr. Barb Doty, Dr. Dwight Smith participate in a noon meeting at the Family Practice Residency

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## News from the Residency

Next year's chief residents have been announced; Heidi Baines and Ty Vincent will share the honor.

Some of you may not know that the class size at the Residency will be expanding from 8-10 residents per year. This expansion will start with the incoming class. This year's interview season has been very promising. We have had over 35 interviews with some very exciting candidates.

All 8 graduates from last year's class accepted positions in either a rural / underserved / or IHS setting making this program one of the most successful rural family practice training programs in the country. Here is the list of graduates and where they located:

- Bayne French, Juliana King, Leif Thompson--Dillingham
- Marin Granholm, Ellen Hodges--Bethel
- Andrea Grout, Jeff Wilt--ANHC
- Jeremy Larson--Kotzebue

We wish last year's class success, and look forward to the new interns.



From left to right:  
Miryah, Jenny, Jessica,  
Kristen, Marissa and  
Melissa.



### Current First Year Class

We have had a very successful first semester for the first year WWAMI students at UAA. As in the past, they come from a wide variety of backgrounds and schools. We thought you might be interested:

#### ENTERING CLASS OF 2003

Name	Home Town	Undergraduate College
Jessica Arasmith	Matanuska Susitna	Central Washington University
Miryah Baker	Anchorage	North Park University
Kristen Iagulli	Anchorage	Hanover College
Jeff Knox	Anchorage	University of Alaska Anchorage
Jenny Lessner	Fairbanks	Reed College
Peter Lunoe	Anchorage	Pacific Lutheran University
Marissa Matarrese	Kenai Peninsula	Wittenberg University
Michael O'Brien McGinty	Anchorage	Georgetown University
Melissa Vallee	Anchorage	University of Alaska Anchorage
Johannes von Alvensleben	Anchorage	Pacific Lutheran University



Left to Right:  
Marissa, Miryah, Johannes  
and Mike. Skeleton remains  
un-named.

### Successful Summer R/UOP Program

#### Rural Underserved Opportunities Program (R/UOP)

First year medical students can participate in a 6 week summer real world clinical experience (R/UOP) by being paired with clinicians throughout the State. Alaska physicians have consistently and enthusiastically participated in this program and it has provided meaningful and long lasting experiences to our students. With the revision in the medical student's research requirement, students can also complete the required Independent Investigative Inquiry (affectionately known as triple I) during this time using a research methodology embodied in community orientated primary health care. This year we have had more applicants than ever. The following is a list of last year's students and preceptors that participated and their locations:



Dr. Nighswander oversees  
Resident Janet Kan.

Student	Preceptor	Clinic Site
Christina Anagick	David Head, M.D. & Colin Hickanluper, M.D.	Nome/Unalakleet
Shane Coleman	Peter Marshall, M.D.	North Pole
Leah Halhway	Joe Dente, M.D.	Metlakatla
Ferritha Leoncio	Paul Forman, M.D.	Anchorage
Lindy McLandress	Kevin Creelman, M.D.	Kodiak
Kacie Pauli	Laura Walters, M.D.	Kodiak
Tor Sandven	George Khoury	Unalaska
Jessica Scott	Murray Buttner, M.D.	Juneau



## Current Third Year Rotations and Their Coordinators

The Alaska WWAMI program now offers the complete package of 3rd year required clerkships. These clerkships are made possible by the dedicated preceptors listed below:

<b>Clerkship</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>Location</b>
Family Practice	Mic LaRoque, MD	SCF
Pediatrics	Jon Lyon, MD	Anchorage
Psychiatry	Duane Hopson, MD	API
Ob/Gyn	Hedrick Hanson, MD	Providence
Internal Medicine	Norman Wilder, MD	Anchorage
Family Practice	David McCandless, MD	Wrangell
Surgery	Tim Teslow, MD	Fairbanks
<b>WRITE Program</b>		
	Barb Doty, MD	Palmer/Wasilla
	Kay Sheridan, MD	Kenai/Soldotna
	Kristin Mitchell, MD	Kenai/Soldotna



First year students Mike, Kristen and Melissa with heart.

## New Clerkships in Alaska

Beginning last year, we expanded the 3rd and 4th year clerkship offerings in Alaska. Our long sought after third year required surgery clerkship is now successfully in place at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital under the direction of Dr. Tim Teslow. It is receiving rave reviews by students and the surgical faculty at the University of Washington.

Our newest clerkship is the revived internal medicine 3rd year rotation in Anchorage, being coordinated by Dr. Norm Wilder. It will involve internists who practice at all the Anchorage hospitals. The medicine rotation will begin in the fall of this year.

A new addition to the medical school curriculum is a required four week neurology clinical rotation. This will be offered at the Alaska Native Medical Center under the direction of Dr. Tom Gordon.

These new offerings now make it possible for our medical students to spend most their entire 3rd and 4th years of medical school in Alaska. Those who elect to do this will be called the Alaska Track students, a program that was first pioneered by our colleagues in Idaho. This year we expect 6 students to enter in the Alaska Track program.

## Admissions 2004

We are in the middle of the admissions process for the fall of 2004. Again, we have 50 plus applicants for only 10 slots. The first round of interviews was held in January in Seattle. The interviews, as always, were very interesting and inspiring. The Alaska Admissions committee; Drs. Jack Hickle, Molly Southworth and Peter Marshall, report an excellent group of applicants from around the state. They will be able to announce the entering '04 class in May.



Dr. Ray Bailey and first year student, Johannes Von Alvensen

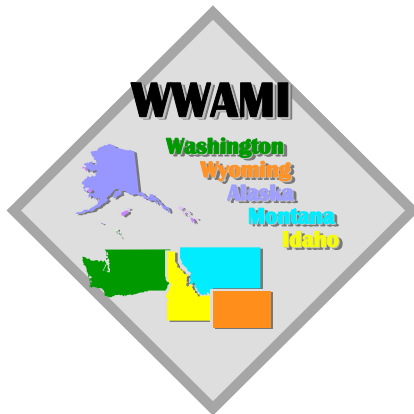


Medical school applicant, Paul Forward, joins the current first year class for pizza during a noon presentation.

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## Staff Profile: Brett Linder

### WHAT DO I DO?

Under the direction of the Director of the WWAMI Program, the Program Assistant provides administrative and logistical support for medical students and professional staff members involved in various WWAMI programs including but not limited to the WWAMI educational program and the Della Keats/U-DOC Program.

### WHAT EXCITING IS HAPPENING NOW?

Currently, the WWAMI Program is gearing up for the 2004 Della Keats/U-DOC Summer Enrichment Program. Once again, John Gregoire is directing UAA's chapter of this awesome program which exposes Alaskans to the medical field and college life. Summer after summer this program continues to improve and this summer will be no different.

### HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WWAMI?

The University of Alaska Anchorage WWAMI Program is proud to announce that we have a new updated website thanks to the hard work of Chris L. Schlotfeldt. Information regarding Admissions, Alaska Residency, Curriculum, Pre-requisites, the application process, our faculty, and contact information with concern to WWAMI can be found at

<http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/biomed/>.



The WWAMI Office at ENGR 331 in the Bio Medical Dept at UAA. From left to right: Brett Linder, program coordinator, Dr. Ray Bailey, Interim Director, Polly Olsen, Native American Center of Excellence, UW, Dr. Robert Wilson, Pathologist.