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**Growing the next generation of Alaska Native corporate and nonprofit leaders:
Alaska Native Business Management minor established at UAA**

The University of Alaska Anchorage College of Business and Public Policy established the first-ever minor in Alaska Native Business Management. Courses begin fall 2014.

Forty-three years after passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971, Alaska Native Corporations have diversified into successful state, national and global companies and Native nonprofits have developed comprehensive statewide services, giving rise to a need for greater numbers of business professionals educated in the culture and management practices of Alaska Native organizations.

Through targeted education, hands-on training, research and technical assistance, the Alaska Native Business Management minor will focus on growing the next generation of Alaska Native corporate and nonprofit leaders in our state.

“Alaska Native corporations are a vital part of the Alaskan economy. It’s important for the community to understand our history and the law, in terms of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. We are your colleagues, friends and neighbors. The success of Alaska Native people and our organizations is something in which all Alaskans can take pride,” stated Sheri Buretta, Chairman of the Board of Chugach Alaska Corporation and chair of UAA’s Alaska Native Organizational Management Advisory Committee.

This curriculum will be valuable for anyone seeking to do business with Alaska Native organizations. The Alaska Native Business Management minor will be available to all UAA undergraduate students.

“The program gives students an opportunity to understand the importance and history behind one of the key economic drivers of Alaska’s economy. They learn to understand the business climate and how specific organizations run, through spending time with executives from those organizations. They also get a close, honest perspective of how these businesses perform, and learn what goals and strategies they have. Networking is huge for this program. I see that as a big benefit that opens up job opportunities,” said Daniel J. Mitchell, Senior Manager and Primary Recruiter, KPMG, LLP Alaska and UAA Alaska Native Organizational Management Advisory Committee member.

Fall 2014 Alaska Native Business Management classes will be:

- BA A201 Introduction to Alaska Native Business, a one credit introductory course - CRN: 81075
- BA A490A Alaska Native Corporation Business Management, a three credit upper division course - CRN: 75068

To learn more about this minor please contact Sharon Lind, Associate Professor at the College of Business and Public Policy, at 907-786-4166 / sglind@uaa.alaska.edu.

For organizations or individuals interested in becoming a donor to this program, please contact Roberta Rinehart, Senior Development Officer, at (907) 786-1107 / bobi.rinehart@uaa.alaska.edu. Outright cash gifts, in-kind donations of classroom materials, multi-year pledges, gifts of assets and planned gifts may be used to provide support. Companies paying taxes in the state of Alaska may also qualify for an Education Tax Credit.

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