

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date: 7-21-98

Submitted by: Assemblymember WUERCH, Abney, Von
Prepared by: Assembly Office Gemmingen, Kendall, Murdy
For reading: July 21, 1998 and Bell

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR NO. 98- 250

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY URGING THE EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL TO WORK WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA TO CREATE A GENERAL ENDOWMENT TO THE UNIVERSITY FROM THE EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL RESTORATION RESERVE FUND

WHEREAS, the northern Gulf of Alaska was impacted by the Exxon Valdez oil spill, which damaged the biological resources in the Prince William Sound area, and disrupted the economic and social life of many of the local residents; and

WHEREAS, the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council is in charge of restoring, rehabilitating, replacing, enhancing or acquiring equivalent resources and services in the oil spill region, and the accumulation of scientific knowledge to manage any future oil spill must be placed in a high priority within the Council's program; and

WHEREAS, the EVOS Trustee Council is currently accepting public comments on how to spend the \$150 million EVOS Restoration Reserve Fund; and

WHEREAS, one idea that promises many benefits for Alaskans is to use these funds to establish endowed research centers and chairs within the University of Alaska, especially since these funds represent the last chance to create a university endowment with the oil spill settlement money; and

WHEREAS, such endowments would allow research for restoring and protecting spill affected areas, and for developing and marketing educational courses and patents for oil spill cleanup technology; and

WHEREAS, use of the EVOS Reserve Fund would go a long way in creating a self-perpetuating environment of teaching and learning.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly resolves:

Section 1 That the Assembly urges the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council to work with the University of Alaska to create a general endowment to the university from the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Reserve Fund.

Section 2: That, upon passage, the Municipal Clerk provide copies of this resolution to the EVOS Trustee Council and the EVOS Public Advisory Group.

PASSEDD and APPROVED this 21st day of July, 1998.


Chair

ATTEST:


Municipal Clerk

July 13, 1998

Anchorage Assembly

E-mail: wwmas@ci.anchorage.ak.us

Fax: 343-4780

Dear Assembly:

A rare opportunity exists this week only to help the University of Alaska obtain several million dollars. This letter is a request for your help and support. A deadline for public comment occurs very soon. Comments from the public including associations and the assembly need to be submitted before July 21.

The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council will be meeting very soon to review public comment and make decisions on how to spend the \$150,000,000 EVOS Restoration Reserve fund. One idea from the public is to establish endowed research centers and chairs at the University of Alaska. These funds are the last chance for creating an endowment at UA with EVOS funds. Otherwise, the funds will very likely be spent to purchase more land. About \$500,000,000 of the \$1 billion dollar EVOS settlement has already been spent to purchase land.

A WEB site has been set up to help the public support the idea. The WEB site address is:
<http://www.alaska.net/~baker/evos.htm>

A 1997 EVOS survey showed that about 50% of responses on how to use the funds were from outside Alaska and mostly from special interest organizations. That can be compared to a similar 1993 EVOS survey that showed that only 10% of responses were from outside Alaska. So, the outside groups are more organized now. If Alaskans do not speak up, the funds will go to buy more land and end up spent by outside agencies including outside universities.

In 1993, the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce submitted a resolution supporting the establishment of a UA endowment with EVOS funds. Supposedly, those EVOS funds were not available to make endowments and so it did not happen. However, the \$150,000,000 EVOS Reserve is different in that it can be used to make UA endowments if there is support for it. I have faxed a copy of the 1993 Fairbanks resolution to the main Assembly office for your review. Maybe the Anchorage Assembly could come up with their own resolution to meet the needs of UAA.

I urge all of you to take the time now and act on this issue. It is a very rare opportunity and this is the last of the EVOS funds. Some members of the EVOS Public Advisory Group (PAG) support using the entire \$150 million for a UA endowment. But, even if 30, 40 or \$50 million were obtained, that would be an inspiring and proud accomplishment of the public and the Assembly.

I think that obtaining funds for UA endowments is a very real possibility. But public comment supporting it must be submitted in order for the Trustee Council and the PAG members to vote for it. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Grant Baker

UAA faculty and PWS commercial fisherman
786-1056

JUL 13 '98 09:45AM FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Greater Fairbanks

Chamber

of Commerce

709 Second Avenue

Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

(907) 452-1105

FAX: (907) 456-6968

**RESOLUTION 93-0712****A RESOLUTION URGING THE EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL COUNCIL TO
WORK WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA TO CREATE A GENERAL
ENDOWMENT TO THE UNIVERSITY AND TO ENDOW A SUBSTANTIAL
NUMBER OF ACADEMIC CHAIRS IN THE SCIENCES TO FULFILL THE LONG
TERM GOALS OF THE SETTLEMENT**

WHEREAS, the biological resources of the northern Gulf of Alaska were impacted by the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and

WHEREAS, the Exxon Valdez oil spill disrupted the economic and social life of many of the local residents in the Prince William Sound area, and

WHEREAS, baseline scientific data was inadequate to positively assess the damage, manage major spills, and restore the environment, and

WHEREAS, future accidents and oil spills in this area and other areas of Alaska waters are a possibility, and

WHEREAS, Alaska has more coast line than any other state in the union, making it imperative that the State of Alaska take the lead in utilizing the accumulation of scientific knowledge and promoting the advancement of scientific technology now as well as in the future, and

WHEREAS, with scientific advancements in the decades ahead eventual enhancement of many of the biological resources will be possible, and

WHEREAS, the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council is in charge of restoring, rehabilitating, replacing, enhancing or acquiring equivalent resources and services in the oil spill region, the accumulation of scientific knowledge to manage any future oil spills must be placed in high priority within the Council's program, and

WHEREAS, any spill of this magnitude not only effects the wildlife and fish habitat, it has economic, social and psychological effects in rural Alaska where local populations, including the native population, whose traditional life styles may be disrupted, and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska has taken a leadership role in many of these areas of study and is strongly committed to working in rural Alaska as well as attracting students from rural Alaska, and

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WHEREAS, the University of Alaska, is a statewide system with locations in Valdez, Cordova, Petersburg, Homer, Seward, Kodiak, Juneau, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Bethel, Dillingham, in addition to many other locations in Rural Alaska, and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska currently is doing research in fisheries and oceanography and has a research vessel, and

WHEREAS, a general endowment will permit the University to fund specific projects and studies that may only require a limited time to answer, and to be flexible to fund new studies as new questions or problems arise, and

WHEREAS, endowed academic chairs will provide continuing quality scientific investigation, scientific publications, and excellence in training that will be needed by the agencies and industry responsible for resource management and development into perpetuity, and

WHEREAS, endowed chairs attract the highest quality applicants because they are not affected by the annual fluctuations of the University's budget process, and

WHEREAS, high caliber of endowed professors attract the highest quality graduate students and most often have a competitive edge in securing grants and contracts, and

WHEREAS, concentrating a major center for the advancement of sciences at the University of Alaska is in the best interests of all Alaska, since agency and industry research is normally directed to the public and may suffer from short term funding, and

WHEREAS, endowed university research is normally broader in scope, produces peer-reviewed publications, has long term continuity and produces an outflow of trained professionals, and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska already has an appropriate Foundation for managing endowed chairs thus eliminating the cost of a new bureaucracy, and

WHEREAS, the combination of a general endowment and endowed chairs allows the University of Alaska both flexibility and long term funding with an irrevocable commitment to continue the study of all of the effects of this spill and any future spills that may happen in Alaskan waters or any other waters on this earth,

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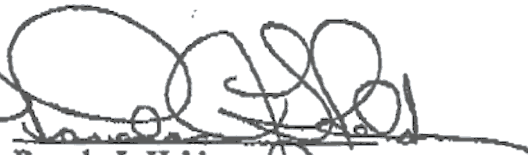
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors urges the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council to instruct their Restoration Team to contact and cooperate with the University of Alaska in developing a plan for establishing a general endowment to the University of Alaska and to endow a substantial number of chairs in the sciences that will fulfill the intent of the settlement, and that such a plan be included in the Restoration Plan and Environmental Impact Statement being prepared this year by the Restoration Team.

Dated this 12th day of July, 1993.

By


Margo Goodhew
President

By


Pamela J. Held
Chairman of the Board



UAF Geophysical Institute Presents Science for Everyone Lecture Series

Alumnii! If you live in Juneau, Fairbanks or Anchorage, be sure and enjoy the special *Science for Everyone* lecture series, sponsored by the UAF Geophysical Institute. The GI is bringing you the latest information about Alaska's volcanoes, earthquakes, mountains, glaciers and the dancing Northern Lights. You and your family can appreciate any and all of the free after-dinner lectures given by professors in terms all ages can understand.

Fairbanks

All programs at Noel Wien Library, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.

- Jan. 17: Predicting the Aurora - Syun Akasofu '61, GI Director, *with a special dedication of the series to Dr. & Mrs. William R. Wood.*
- Jan. 24: Alaska's Erupting Volcanoes - John Eichelberger, Professor Volcanology/GI
- Jan. 31: How Old is Alaska: Lasers Unlock the Secrets of Time - Paul Layer, Associate Professor Geophysics/GI, Geology & Geophysics Dept. Head.
- Feb. 7: Climate Change: Is Alaska Getting Warmer? - Glenn Shaw, Professor of Physics/GI.
- Feb. 14: How the Pieces Came Together: Building Alaska & Her Mountains - Keith Crowder, Associate Professor of Geology
- Feb. 21: Earthquakes that Shake Alaska - Doug Christensen, Assoc. Professor of Geophysics/GI
- Feb. 28: How Ice Carves Alaska - Willy Weeks, Professor of Geophysics/GI

Anchorage

All programs at Z.J. Loussac Library, Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.

- Jan. 16: Alaska's Erupting Volcanoes - John Eichelberger, Professor Volcanology/GI
- Jan. 23: Predicting the Aurora - Charles Deehr '68
- Jan. 30: Climate Change: Is Alaska Getting Warmer? - Glenn Shaw, Professor of Physics/GI.
- Feb. 6: How the Pieces Came Together: Building Alaska & Her Mountains - David Stone, Professor of Geophysics/GI
- Feb. 13: How Old is Alaska: Lasers Unlock the Secrets of Time - Paul Layer
- Feb. 20: How Ice Carves Alaska - Will Harrison, Professor of Geophysics/GI
- Feb. 27: Earthquakes that Shake Alaska - Doug Christensen, Assoc. Professor of Geophysics/GI

Juneau

All programs at the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center, Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.

- Jan. 30: Watching the Northern Lights - Tom Hallinan, GI Professor Physics
- Feb. 6: How Old is Alaska: Lasers Unlock the Secrets of Time - Paul Layer
- Feb. 13: Alaska's Erupting Volcanoes - Steve McNuu, GI Volcano Seismologist
- Feb. 20: Earthquakes that Shake Alaska - State Seismologist Roger Hansen, GI

Board Passes Resolution to Endow Chairs from EVOS

-by Chip Wagoner

What does the UAF Alumni Association Board, the American Ornithologists' Union, the Wildlife Society, the Pacific Seabird Group, the Alaska District of the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists and the American Bald Eagle Foundation all have in common? All have endorsed using funds from the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) civil claims settlement between the state and federal governments and the Exxon Corporation to endow academic and research chairs at the University of Alaska.

The settlement funds are managed by the EVOS Trustee Council composed of six state and federal governmental officials. The Council's mission is to "efficiently restore the environment injured by the oil spill to a healthy, productive world renowned ecosystem, while taking into account the importance of quality of life and need for viable opportunities to establish and sustain a reasonable standard of living."

The Alumni Board joined University of Alaska President Jerome Komisar and James King '49, a member of the EVOS Trustee Council Public Advisory Group, in urging the Council to provide for the long term needs to monitor and study the impacted resources, communities and populations by endowing academic chairs at the University of Alaska. As a public at large member of the advisory group, Jim King is proposing that the Trustee Council ask the EVOS Restoration Office and the University of Alaska to prepare a detailed plan to use a portion of the restoration reserve to endow chairs designed to fulfill the EVOS settlement obligation.

The UAF Alumni Board asks you to help both the university and the resources of Prince William Sound by writing to the EVOS Trustee Council at 645 G St., Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501 and supporting this endowment. Please write and send copies to the Alumni Office. Thank you.