

# Students Visit "Wall Street of the West"

Student Investment Fund (SIF) students travel to the San Francisco, CA area to visit with Sam Grant, CEO of VIASYN, a leader in risk management for renewable energy generators.



Photo courtesy of Craig Wisen

During Spring Break this year, eight students in the Student Investment

students placed fourth in the nation in the AT&T Student Investment Challenge, a simulated trading game. Today, students manage an endowment worth over \$510,000. Faculty at San Francisco's

"The knowledge we gained visiting with Sam, and all seven

students, including VIASYN, Inc., a leader in risk management for renewable energy generators.

VIASYN, is a SIF/SOM alumni ('95).

Grant McGregor, a MBA student currently enrolled in SIF, has this to say about the trip:

"The knowledge we gained visiting

connected us with, is immeasurable. We spend a lot of time as students reading books and learning from professors, but to be able to see what we are learning in person, from skilled professionals, is amazing. The individuals we met in San Francisco are the best in their industry: they are the cream of the crop."

Grant was offered two summer in-

ternship credits both offers to the knowledge and tips he learned on the San Francisco trip.

"Simple preparations for interviews  
See **SIF TRIP**, page 5

## Susan Herman Honored

Dr. Susan Herman was posthumously awarded the Gretchen T. Bersch award for Excellence in Teaching and Lifelong Learning. This award was presented to the School of Management on April 5, 2010.

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many lives. She taught business classes and led the internship program for the School of Management (SOM), founded and di-

Summer Leadership Institute for high school students, designed

# A Message from Mark

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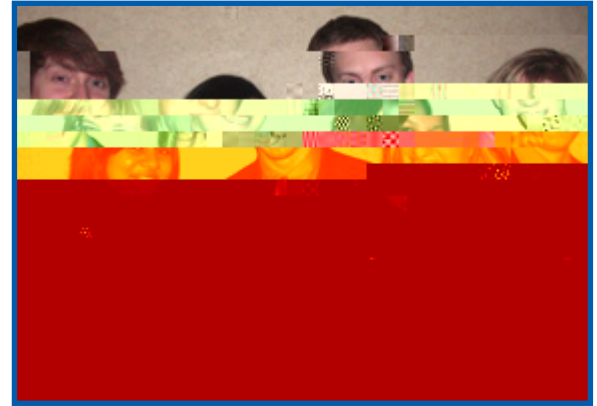
# SIFE Team Wins Regionals

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Competition in Costa Mesa, CA. SIFE will be heading to Minneapolis to compete with 140 other universities and colleges in the National Exposition on May 11-13, 2010. The winner of that competition will challenge the winners from 39 other countries in the SIFE World Cup.

In total there are 1,300 colleges and schools worldwide with SIFE teams. Of those 1,300 schools, roughly 500 competed this year. Only six schools can compete head on before the judges, there are multiple divisions, and each regional competition sends a few select winners to Nationals.

SIFE teams are judged on their community projects. Judges look at what economic principles are taught and how many people are impacted by the RTQL-GEVU.

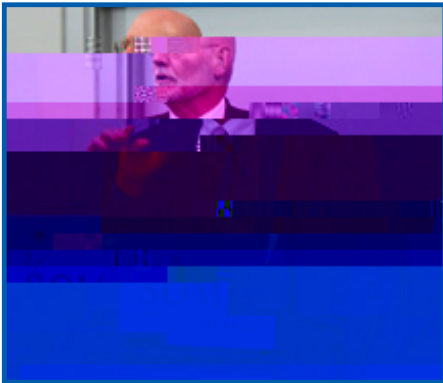


The winning SIFE team (from left to right): Michael Schulte, Sitara Chauhan, Sam Vanderwaal, and Evie Gresko.

# SWEET-en Your Life

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guished list of speakers Students Who Enjoy Economic Thinking (SWEET) have hosted



## NABL Takes 1st Place

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Represented by Sarah Villalon, the Native Alaskan Business at the American Indian Business Leaders 2010 National Business Leadership Conference in Carlton, Minnesota.

It was just for years ago that NABL won the business plan competition in New Mexico and it's great to see them do it again

ah, individually, won the resume competition.

A big thank you to Doyon, Limited and Koniaq, Inc. for supporting NABL and making Sarah's success possible.

## Newest SOM Major: Emergency Management

science, emergency medical services, rescue practices, hazardous materials, terrorism threats and business management practices. The business administration department offers students the opportunity to combine technical expertise derived from the associate of applied science degree in emergency services with a curriculum in business management to become highly competitive candidates for

Fire chiefs and emergency services administrators of the future will need a combination of knowledge and experi-

accounting, business practices, personnel management, employment law, organizational theory and behavior, training and management development, organizational communications, technical writing, public policy, and leadership and civic engagement offered in the emergency management degree curriculum.

## SOM Student Recognized

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The School of Management is proud to congratulate Dion Knelsen for receiving the Joel Wiegart Award, an award that recognizes one outstanding graduating senior man each year. This honor is given to a student who is nominated and then voted on by committee as having outstanding character, personality, scholarship, extracurricular activities, and communities.

"Dion is a responsible, conscientious, engaging young man who nity, and the citizens of Fairbanks," said professor Jacob Joseph.

## Entrepreneurial Spirit Award Established

Started with a \$10,000 gift, this \$1,000 award provides incentives and recognition for students, faculty, and staff to develop, document, and raise awareness of the best practices in nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship in Alaska's Interior. Success includes innovative ideas with commercial potential, demonstrative interdisciplinary collaboration, and having a

This award would not be possible without contributions from:

**The Entrepreneurship and Mentors (TEAM) Network**

**Bradley A. Feld & Amy Batchelor**

**Allan Johnston**

For more information, please contact Tammy Tragis-McCook at 907.474.7042, or tammy.tragis@alaska.edu.

# SIF Trip: "Wall Street"

such as exploring company history and performance, researching individuals working at the company, learning the company investment strategy, and putting together several questions to ask. Being prepared and knowledgeable in an interview is what gets you a job."

tal Management, a company with over \$2 billion in assests, under management and advisement based out of Anchorage.

# SIF Q&A: with Dr. Craig Wisen

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The future potential of SIF will be revealed by the accomplish- alumni. Current students are also role models. They inspire the aspirations and career goals of high school students, freshman, and sophmores who are still in the midst of deciding on their major and life goal.

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require analytical skills provide attractive compensation packages, but applying and interviewing for these positions is an extremely competitive process. The hard work, due diligence, and

(a SIF/SOM alumni) who exhibit these characteristics and accomplishments.

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Bank. SIF requires a higher level of commitment and funding than the average class. By investing in the Student Investment Fund they have allowed us to thrive and successfully compete in Alaska and throughout the nation.

# Susan: award presentation

and SOM Dean Mark Herrmann. Gretchen Bersch, the woman for whom the award

Accepting the award in Susan's name,

collection of *Conversations in Lifelong Learning* DVDs. Currently there are 34 DVDs, each of which includes in-depth interviews with leading adult-learning

theorists and practitioners from around be viewed in the SOM conference room (Bunnell 201), and the DVD collection will be housed in the Northern Leadership Center and made available to students.

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# Donor Highlight

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# Faculty Spotlight

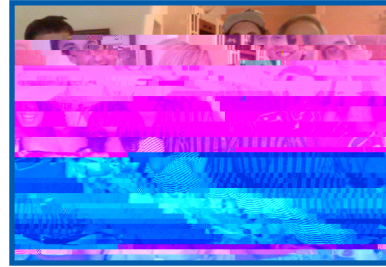
*Dr. Jim Collins*



Jim Collins has been working at the School of Management since 1991. He served as the Dean for six years. Before coming to Alaska, Jim spent Texas at Austin, Jim earned his MBA

# Alumni Focus

*Marguerita Maasen Gilbertson*



of Northern Business Systems, Inc. She graduated Management in 1986 with a BBA in Management.

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Yes, you can be passionate, but don't lose that objectivity.

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It took me an extra year or so to graduate, but I learned education is not a race, rather a process, and that degree will open doors for you that nothing else will.

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I came to Alaska in July of 1983, on a lark, for love, and to see if I would like living here. I loved it and transferred from

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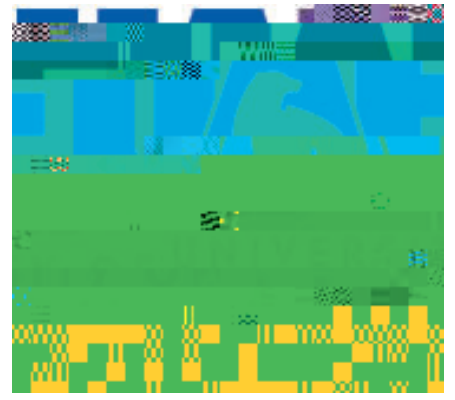
# Faculty Gold Stars

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