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Happy Holidays from Doyon Foundation



The view from the Doyon Foundation offices looking out over downtown Fairbanks and the Chena River at sunrise in December.

By now, we hope all of our students have successfully finished their finals and are ready for a restful, relaxing holiday break. You certainly deserve it! From all of us at Doyon Foundation, we wish you a joyous holiday season, and we look forward to working with you in 2008!

- The staff of Doyon Foundation

Thank You to New Donors

Doyon Foundation extends our deep gratitude to our newest Nee Ts'e Neyh (We All Give or Help) program donors, including:

- David Baggett
- Esther Combs
- Jennifer Fate
- Ralph & Gretchen Hamm
- Information Insights
- Mike & Linda Lasher
- Shirley Lee
- Georgianna Lincoln
- Jennifer Maguire
- Anthony & Amanda Mallott
- Byron & Toni Mallott
- Charlene Marth
- Sharon McConnell Gillis
- Brian Rogers & Sherry Modrow

- William B. & Cheryl Odom
- Betty Jean & Fred Olin
- Aaron Schutt & Marissa Flannery

We would also thank **Jim Mery**, who recently made a generous contribution to the Rosemarie Maher fund.

Former Doyon Foundation Student Takes Home the Crown



Former Doyon Foundation scholarship recipient Courtney Carroll won the title of 2008 Miss Alaska USA on December 8, 2007. Carroll, the daughter of Gwen Hoffman and Pat Carroll, granddaughter of Carolyn "Lolly" Demientieff, and great-granddaughter of the late Nick and Nellie Demientieff, will compete for the title of 2008 Miss USA. Best of luck to you, Courtney!

Doyon Foundation Community Profile: Lee Sommer



Lee Sommer, originally from Nulato, recently accepted a position as the assistant professor of process technology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Tanana Valley Campus (TVC).

Sommer brings 32 years of experience in the oil industry, including 30 years with BP. During his career, Sommer worked on nearly all of BP's production facilities on Alaska's North Slope, in positions including operator apprentice, operator, operations/production supervisor, and lead operations technician. His last assignment with BP took him to the Republic of Georgia, where he assisted with the commissioning and start-up of an 1,100-mile pipeline and related pump stations. After retiring from BP, Sommer

worked on contract with Shell Oil in South Korea, helping to pre-commission an oil platform destined for Russia's Sakhalin Islands.

Sommer acquired an associate's degree in petroleum technology from the University of Alaska's Kenai Peninsula Campus in 1976. He then spent four years as an operations apprentice with BP, and also received many years of professional training.

"My education gave me an insight into what my profession was all about, and allowed me to pursue many different job opportunities throughout my career," Sommer said.

Like all students, Sommer faced his share of challenges during his pursuit of higher education. He used up all of his personal finances within a few months, but a scholarship through BP allowed him to complete his education. Being far away from home in a totally new environment was another hardship he faced - and overcame.

"My mother and father, and their support, are probably the main reasons I have managed to make it though my schooling and 30-plus years in a demanding professional career," Sommer said.

Now, Sommer himself has a special interest in encouraging young people - especially Alaska Natives - to seek an education and pursue long-term, professional careers, in industries including oil and gas.

"Never give up!" Sommer advises current students. "If you are committed to doing something and apply yourself, you will almost always make it."

Educator of the Year Award Nominations

Doyon Foundation is accepting nominations for the 2008 Educator of the Year Award. Nomination forms may be found at www.doyonfoundation.com. Nominations must be returned to Doyon Foundation by 5 p.m. on January 31, 2008. For more information, please contact Seeyaa' Charpentier at 907.459.2048 or charpentiers@doyon.com.

Alumni Association Offers Encouragement

Are you going to school and missing home or in need of some encouragement? If so, the Doyon Foundation Alumni Association would love to offer you some support by sending you a care package. Please contact alumni association member Tracy Snow at inspire_consulting@yahoo.com or 907.451.0543.

Law Enforcement Scholarship Applications Due January 4

January 4, 2008 is the deadline to apply for a \$7,000 scholarship to attend the next Law Enforcement Academy at the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Tanana Valley Campus. The next academy will be held February 18 - May 15, 2008. For more information, contact Doris Miller, scholarship program manager, at millerd@doyon.com, 907.459.2050 or 1.888.478.4755, ext. 2050. Or download an application packet at www.doyonfoundation.com.

Become a Gates Millennium Scholar - Apply Now!

Applications for the 2008 - 2009 Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) award are currently being accepted. Every year, the program selects 1,000 outstanding, low-income, minority students to become Gates scholars.

The GMS program is much more than just a scholarship - the program offers funding for undergraduate degrees in any discipline; renewable awards for maintaining satisfactory academic progress; graduate school funding in the areas of education, engineering, library science, mathematics, public health and sciences; and leadership development programs.

Students are eligible to be considered for a GMS scholarship if they:

- Are African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American or Hispanic American
- Are a U.S. citizen, legal permanent resident or national
- Have attained a cumulative GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale
- Will be entering a U.S. accredited college or university as a full-time, degree-seeking freshman in fall 2008
- Have demonstrated leadership abilities
- Meet the Federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria
- Have completed and submitted all required forms by the deadline.

For more information, visit www.gmsp.org. Paper applications due by

December 31, 2007. Online applications due by January 11, 2008.

Internships, Scholarships and Other Educational Opportunities

Looking for a summer job or internship? Need help paying for school? Check out these internships, scholarships and other educational opportunities:

- High school students interested in exploring EMT and paramedic careers can enroll in the next Interior Alaska Career Academy at the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Tanana Valley Campus. The academy will be held January 2 - 7, 2008. For more information, contact Drena McIntyre at 907.455.2825 or fdmm1@uaf.edu, or visit www.tvc.uaf.edu/programs/iaca/index.html.
- First Alaskans Institute is offering the spring 2008 Leadership Plus Program from January - April 2008. For more information or an application, visit www.firstalaskans.org, call 907.677.1700, or e-mail info@firstalaskans.org. Applications due January 4, 2008.
- Kellogg Health Scholars Program is recruiting for a 2008 - 2010 cohort. The program offers two-year postdoctoral fellowships at eight training sites. Each fellowship provides an annual salary of \$61,000 in the first year, \$62,000 in the second year, an annual research fund and other benefits. For more information, visit www.kellogghealthscholars.org. Applications due January 8, 2008.
- The Spectrum Doctoral Fellowship Program is accepting applications for students beginning doctoral studies in fall 2008. The fellowship provides full tuition and annual stipends of \$20,000 for the first two years of study. For more information, visit www.ala.org/spectrumphd. Applications due January 18, 2008.
- Morris K. Udall Foundation's Native American Congressional Internship Program is offering 12 internships to Native American/Alaska Native higher education students. The 10-week internship takes place in Washington, D.C. from May 29 - August 6, 2008. For more information, visit www.udall.gov/udall.asp?link=300. Applications due January 31, 2008.
- The University of Alaska Fairbanks' Tanana Valley Campus plans to launch a three-semester cosmetology pilot program in January 2008. For more information, call 907.455.2800 or visit www.tvc.uaf.edu/programs/csmt/index.html. Applications are currently being accepted.
- The American Indian Graduate Center Fellowships and Financial Assistance is offering monetary awards to American Indian/Alaska Native students. For more information, visit www.aigcs.org or call 800.628.1920. Applications will be available in January 2008.
- Did you know undergraduate students from low-income families can attend Harvard for free? According to Harvard College's financial aid office, families with incomes of less than \$60,000 are not expected to contribute to the cost of their children attending Harvard. Harvard has also reduced the required contributions from families with incomes between \$60,000 - \$80,000. For more information, call 617.495.1581 or visit www.fao.fas.harvard.edu.

These are just a few of the many opportunities currently available to students. For a full list, visit www.doyonfoundation.com!

Tips for Student Success

Before you begin your relaxing holiday break, take a few minutes to make sure everything is taken care of for the spring semester. Here's a quick end-of-semester checklist to follow:

- Confirm your housing arrangements for the spring semester, whether you're living on-campus or off.
- If you're a scholarship recipient, make sure you've completed all the

required steps to receive funding for spring.

- Worried about your GPA or class load? Consider talking with an academic adviser before you leave for the holidays.
- Double check when you need to register - and pay - for your spring semester classes.
- Find out when classes begin and make plans to return to campus in plenty of time to settle in for a successful spring!

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