

Economic Opportunity Task Force

ENTREPRENEUR TEAM

Scott Bell,
*President Versus Corporation,
Venture Capital and Private
Equity Investing*

Tim Cerny,
*Owner and Manager of
FountainHead Development*

Joe Faulhaber,
*Local entrepreneur involved
in Real Estate, Mineral
Development and Insurance
Underwriting*

Jim Haselberger,
*Owner and Manager of
Alaska Tent and Tarp*

Jim Johnsen,
*Senior Vice President of
Administration, Doyon,
Limited*

**Howard “Buzz”
Otis,**
*Contractor, Land and Real
Estate Developer*

Jerry Sadler,
*Owner and Manager of
Airport Equipment Rentals*

Ralph Seekins,
*Owner and Manager of
Seekins Ford*

Guest Entrepreneur:

Dr. Craig Dorman
*Past Vice President for
Research, University of
Alaska
Retired Navy Rear Admiral
Chief Scientist of Naval
Research*

Meeting March 4, 11:30am to 2:00pm UAF Globe room in the Geophysical Institute

At the meeting on January 21st Keith Cunningham, Sr. Data Quality Engineer at the Geophysical Institute’s Alaska Satellite Facility (ASF) gave a presentation on a using innovative “data mining” techniques and the value of the work at AST to yield intellectual property for commercial interest.

The second presenter was Dr. Wiltse gave a presentation on remote predictive mapping. A process of using the remote sensing data publicly available from the State of Alaska Department of Geological and Geophysical Surveys to identify geologic formations and anomalies that might be predictive of mineral deposits.

Speakers for the March 4th meetings include **Dr. Tom Kuhn**, from the Dept of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and **Allen Johnston**, Chief Encouragement Officer at TEAM Network Inc.

Dr. Kuhn will speak to:

Alaska Wild Bog Blueberries:
*A Nutraceutical Approach to Target
Inflammation of the Nervous System*

Inflammation and severe oxidative stress are hallmarks of acute, chronic, and psychiatric pathologies (stroke, Alzheimer’s, autism) as well as normal aging of the central nervous system. Persistent exposure of neuronal cells to stress mediators is responsible for the progressive degeneration and ultimate loss of

neuronal cells and accounts for cognitive deficits of affected individuals. Diets rich in fruit and vegetables have long been recognized for the tremendous health benefits for the ailing central nervous system attributed to the high content of antioxidant compounds. However recent studies revealed biological activities of natural compounds beyond these features suggesting direct actions to blunt cellular stress. A diet enriched with blueberries improved cognitive function (human trials, animal studies) and demonstrated protection of neuronal cells against inflammatory and oxidative stress (cellular models, animal studies). Our research revealed that enriched extracts obtained from Alaska Wild Bog Blueberries and isolated natural compounds strongly inhibit biochemical targets critical for inflammatory and oxidative stress. Our objective is to generate both nutraceuticals (extracts) as well as lead compounds for drug development (isolated compounds) through functional fractionation of Alaska Wild Bog Blueberries specifically targeting biochemical processes underlying inflammatory and oxidative stress. This natural product-guided approach could provide promising new avenues for intervention and prevention strategies to alleviate cognitive impairment by eliminating, reducing, or confining inflammatory and oxidative stress in the central nervous system.



Allen Johnston will speak to the group about:

Angel Investors

What is an Angel Investor?

- Why do they invest?
- What are their expectations of return?
- What types and size of companies do they invest in?
- How are they different from venture capitalists?

What is an Angel Investor Network Inc.

- Alaska is the only state without an organized network
 - What does that mean?
 - What different types of investment structures are there?
 - What is an Aspiration index?

How can an Angel Investor Group work with the University

What is a Search Fund/ Acquisition Fund Business Development Model?

How can Business Plan Competitions grow an Angel Network?

Where and how do you identify potential Business Angels?

Economic Opportunity Task Force is sponsored by:

Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation
UAF School of Management/Virtual Incubator
UAF Chancellor’s Economic Development Advisor

Lunch will be provided.
Please RSVP as space is limited!
Call 452-2185 or e-mail jdodson@ak.net