

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 2007-2008 SHES 124

Don Burrell

From: Drew Feild [fishman@gci.net]
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2007 11:33 PM
To: Sen. Bettye Davis
Subject: Support of SB 28

RECEIVED
APR 16 2007

Dear Sen. Davis,

Thank you for sponsoring SB 28 to limit the use of mandatory overtime for nurses. As a nurse working 12 hour shifts, I can assure you this is a bill that has the potential to ensure that patient safety is preserved for the people we care for on a daily basis. I'm currently docked 30 minutes for the one meal break I get in that 12 hour period and I'm not permitted to eat at my station. While I'm not hypoglycemic, my waning blood sugar combined with the fatigue of a very physical 12-hour day raise risk I could make an error that would result in my patients being harmed. Stretch that day even further and the risk rises greatly.

There is a real nursing shortage in this city and state, I know. But this is a matter of economics for the healthcare facilities, simply solved by increasing the financial inducements to work and offering a conducive environment. Mandatory overtime does not a conducive environment make. If mandatory overtime is allowed to be utilized more extensively, more nurses will become burned out and leave the work force. This will increase the amount of overtime needed from remaining staff.

Couple this with the fact that healthcare facilities require nurse to carry their own liability insurance. They rarely if ever back a nurse who makes a mistake, even when staffing policies contribute to the chain of events that caused an error. Situations like this only create incentive to leave nursing, not stay.

Please ensure SB 28 gains passage and the Governor's signature. Thank you.

Andrew P. Feild
2301 Banbury Drive
Anchorage, AK 99504

Don Burrell

From: ROBERT O'CONNOR [maddienpups@msn.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2007 4:46 PM
To: Sen. Bettye Davis
Subject: senate bill 28

RECEIVED
APR 16 2007

please support senate bill 28!!!! Nurses are so overwhelmed with higher acuity patients that burnout and low morale are prevalent at Providence Alaska Medical Center. Please give us your support by supporting this bill.thank you for your time. Tanya OConnor RN,BSN,CCRN

It's tax season, make sure to follow these few simple tips Check it out!

Don Burrell

From: Mark Meuser [mmeuser2004@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2007 8:42 AM
To: Sen. Bettye Davis
Subject: SB28

RECEIVED
APR 16 2007

Dear Senator Davis,

I am writing to express my OPPOSITION to SB28 limiting the use of mandatory overtime for nurses in Alaska. I am a staff nurse working full time in a large hospital in Anchorage. As any administrator will tell you, nurses are in very short supply nation wide as well as in Alaska. Mandating hours limits our options for providing patient care. Who will provide care for our states residents if nurses are limited by government mandates. This should be an issue addressed by individual institutions rather than state government.

Sincerely,
Mark Meuser RN

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Don Burrell

From: Tara Orley [sorenorley@gci.net]
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2007 7:50 PM
To: Sen. Bettye Davis
Cc: Sen. Lesil McGuire; mshickey@gci.net
Subject: Senate Bill 28

RECEIVED
APR 16 2007

Dear Senator Davis,

I was encouraged and excited when I saw Senate Bill 28 that you are sponsoring. I certainly hope you will continue to support this much needed bill.

I would like to share with you why this bill is so important to the safety of Alaskans who are in need of the services of one of Alaska's many fine hospitals. I have worked as an RN in the acute care setting for the past 28 years, with 25 of those at the same hospital in Alaska. Over that time I have seen an increasing number of excellent nurses leave the profession due to excessive long hours which jeopardize the safety of the patients and have the secondary effect of burnout by the nurses and a loss of quality of life for the nurses and their families. Alaska is already facing a nursing shortage and bills like this are needed to help reduce the shortage since it is obvious self regulation by hospitals is not dealing with the issue of mandatory overtime. In the critical care settings where I have worked, I have seen the hospitals continue to reduce the number of nurses they have scheduled for a shift and when the already overextended nurses are unable to complete all of their duties in their scheduled shift they are forced to work overtime under great pressure. When nurses are rushed and fatigued from working too many hours they are prone to make mistakes. These may range from giving the wrong medication to missing a critical change in status, all of which can lead to severe negative consequences for the patient. I am convinced that the hospitals will not truly try to deal with this problem until they are forced by bills like the one you are sponsoring. No one wants a loved one to be in a hospital setting being cared for by a nurse who has been on duty for 15 hours straight while at the same time trying to take care of yet other critical patients. I am sure you do not. Most nurses are in the profession because they love what they do and are very conscientious. They do not want to give their patients substandard care, but when you have been working for 15 hours straight on a dead run all day, all the dedication in the world may not prevent this overly fatigued nurse from making a mistake that will harm someone's loved one. Because they are so conscientious and concerned for the safety of their patients they come to the conclusion that this problem is not going to be fixed and the only way they can keep their sanity is to leave the very profession they love so much. What a waste for someone, so well trained, with so many years of experience, so very dedicated and devoted to leave nursing. I see continually increasing numbers of nurses in my area leave the profession mainly as a result of mandatory overtime and forcing nurses to work when it is unsafe to do so.

There is no doubt in my mind that the hospitals will try to get you to change your mind. They will come up with all sorts of reasons why this is a bad bill, but in the end they will all just be excuses. If you give in to these excuses, hospitals will continue these unsafe practices and still fail to understand why so many hard working, diligent nurses are leaving the profession. Please continue your sponsorship of Senate Bill 28.

Very truly yours,

Waltara Orley RN, BSN, CCRN

Don Burrell

From: Lisa Wahl-Hermosillo [lisarn@acsalaska.net]
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2007 5:50 PM
To: Sen. Bettye Davis; Sen. Bettye Davis
Cc: mshickey@gci.net
Subject: SB 28

RECEIVED
APR 16 2007



April 14, 2007

Dear Senator Bettye Davis,

Thank you for supporting nurses in Alaska with the safety and efficacy necessary for public health. Primary prevention and health promotion means intervening at the lowest level possible, to prevent problems from happening in the first place, such as immunizations and safety belts. Requiring down time between long shifts for adequate rest and sustenance of health care workers is good common sense. People who are driving cars and overly tired are proven to be as impaired as the inebriated driver. Tired nurses forced to work beyond their capacity are just as problematic. Ethical and professional issues of risk management dictate that we ensure our nurses the right to rest, in the interest of public safety.

I am an emergency department nurse. Life and death is the norm, not the exception, multiple times daily. We are a proud and driven lot, willing to face anything at any time to save lives. At the end of a good day (12.5 hour shifts), with a good night's sleep, we get up and do it again, and again, and again. The emotional, mental, and physical exhaustion is wearing. I wore a pedometer to work for a while, and found I average 12-14 miles daily. I have been hit, spit on, urinated on, kicked, fallen on, bled on, defecated on, cursed, felt up, ignored, loved, appreciated, and blessed. Babies have died in my arms. Homeless people beg me not to turn them out into the subzero night. Addicts come to us as their last hope. Body parts in bags are carried in by their owners, hoping we can reattach them. Mothers are miscarrying. Some days I feel like the whole world is having chest pains! We need our breaks to keep the cloak of compassion from falling to the ground, a burned out memory.

Please let me know who else would be interested in my earnest support of this fundamental legal guide to positive outcomes.

Mrs. Lisa Wahl-Hermosillo, RN, BSN, MSN, ANP, FNP
Past secretary, Alaska Nurse Practitioners Association
2906 Lily St. #A
Anchorage, AK 99508
lisarn@acsalaska.net

4/16/2007

Don Burrell

From: Christine Potter [christyp@gci.net]
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2007 2:49 PM
To: Sen. Bettye Davis
Cc: donnaphill@acsalaska.net
Subject: senate bill 28

RECEIVED
APR 16 2007

Dear Senator Davis,

This note is to express my support of senate bill 28. This is an important bill for all Alaskans. Everyone will be, or have a loved one hospitalized at some point in their lives. It is imperative that the nurses caring for them are able to effectively and safely do their job. When a nurse is forced to work mandatory overtime, patient care is compromised. Mistakes are more common when people are forced to work longer than their twelve hour shift. Please do not let this bill die, your or my life may depend on it.

Thank you,

Christine Potter

Advanced Nurse Practitioner

Don Burrell

From: carol goss [carolgoss@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2007 2:40 AM
To: Sen. Bettye Davis
Subject: Senate Bill 28

RECEIVED
APR 16 2007

Please continue to support Senate Bill 28. I am a nurse at API and have been required to work at least 16 hours in a row. During this time I am extremely tired which causes great concern for medication and judgment errors. Nurses should not be forced to work more hours than they are scheduled -- this is an extremely unsafe practice which needs to be stopped. This is a practice which is being used daily at API. I watched the committee discussing the bill on TV last week and found it very disconcerting that the question "has there been a lawsuit yet" kept coming up. Does there have to be a lawsuit to stop something that is unsafe for patients and staff. Again please continue to support this bill.

Thank you, Carol Widman
8461 Brookridge Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99504
(907) 333-8797

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Check out new cars at Yahoo! Autos.

RECEIVED

FEB 11 2008

February 7, 2008

Senator Bettye Davis
State Capitol
Room 30
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: SB 28 Mandatory Overtime for Nurses

Dear Senator Davis:

As a professional registered nurse at Providence Hospital in Valdez, I wanted to bring to your attention our issues with mandatory and excessive overtime.

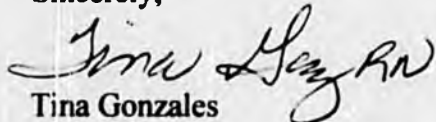
We sign a sheet for two to three shifts a pay period for mandatory call since we work short staffed. One individual recently worked up to 8 days in a row after working 6 days in a row. Those are 12 hour shifts! I myself have worked 4 on, one off, and 4 on. Again these are 12 hour shifts. And, I often work well beyond my 12 hours in a day; one instance was a 15 hour day then having to return at night.

At times I've been so fatigued; I've been worried about my safety and the patient's safety. I'm apprehensive to call management about my worries because they don't bring on more staff, and I am not in a union setting.

I've been working in Valdez since October of 2007. Before that I was in New Mexico working as an RN for 4 years. I never experienced mandatory overtime or mandatory call. I can honestly tell you, I would not have begun working for Providence had I known about the overtime. I could have easily taken a travel assignment which would have made things easier on me and my family.

Please support the professional registered nurses in the state of Alaska by passing SB 28 as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Tina Gonzales

SB

37

GARY WILKEN
SENATOR
Fairbanks



State Capital Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Tel: 451-5501 (from Fbks)
Tel: (907) 465-3709 (outside Fbks)
Fax: (907) 465-4714
www.akrepublicans.org/wilken
E-Mail: Senator.Gary.Wilken@legis.state.ak.us

SPONSOR STATEMENT

Senate Bill 37 Approp: UAF Bioscience Facility

Senate Bill 37 appropriates \$105 million from the general fund to the University of Alaska to design, construct, and equip a bioscience facility, or BIOS, on the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus. BIOS is the University of Alaska Board of Regents only priority for new construction projects this year.

The new 110,000 square-foot building will house research laboratories for 18 university programs as well as classroom space and teaching labs. BIOS will consolidate current research and teaching facilities built prior to 1960, and located on opposite ends of campus, into one building equipped with state-of-the-art laboratories for both researchers and students. BIOS will enhance opportunities for students to participate in research alongside University of Alaska's top researchers and thus attract and retain more students.

Each year the University of Alaska generates more than \$130 million from outside sources to support research activities at the university's various campuses. For every dollar the state invests into the University of Alaska research activities, the university is able to leverage \$6 from other new revenue sources. Construction of the bioscience facility, with its top-notch lab equipment, will provide the much-needed space to expand biomedical and health research at the University of Alaska and will firmly establish Alaska's nationwide role in bioscience research.

Please join me in support of this construction project and pass Senate Bill 37.

March 9, 2007

Proudly Representing the Golden Heart of Alaska



Alaska State Legislature

Senate Republican Minority

Web: www.aksenateminority.com

Sponsor: Senator Gary Wilken
Contact: Sheila Peterson, 465-3709
Bill Version: SB 37

Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 37

Short Title: APPROPRIATION: BIOSCIENCE FACILITY UAF

Summary:

- Appropriates \$105 million from the general fund to the University of Alaska to design, construct, and equip a bioscience facility on the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) campus.

Benefits:

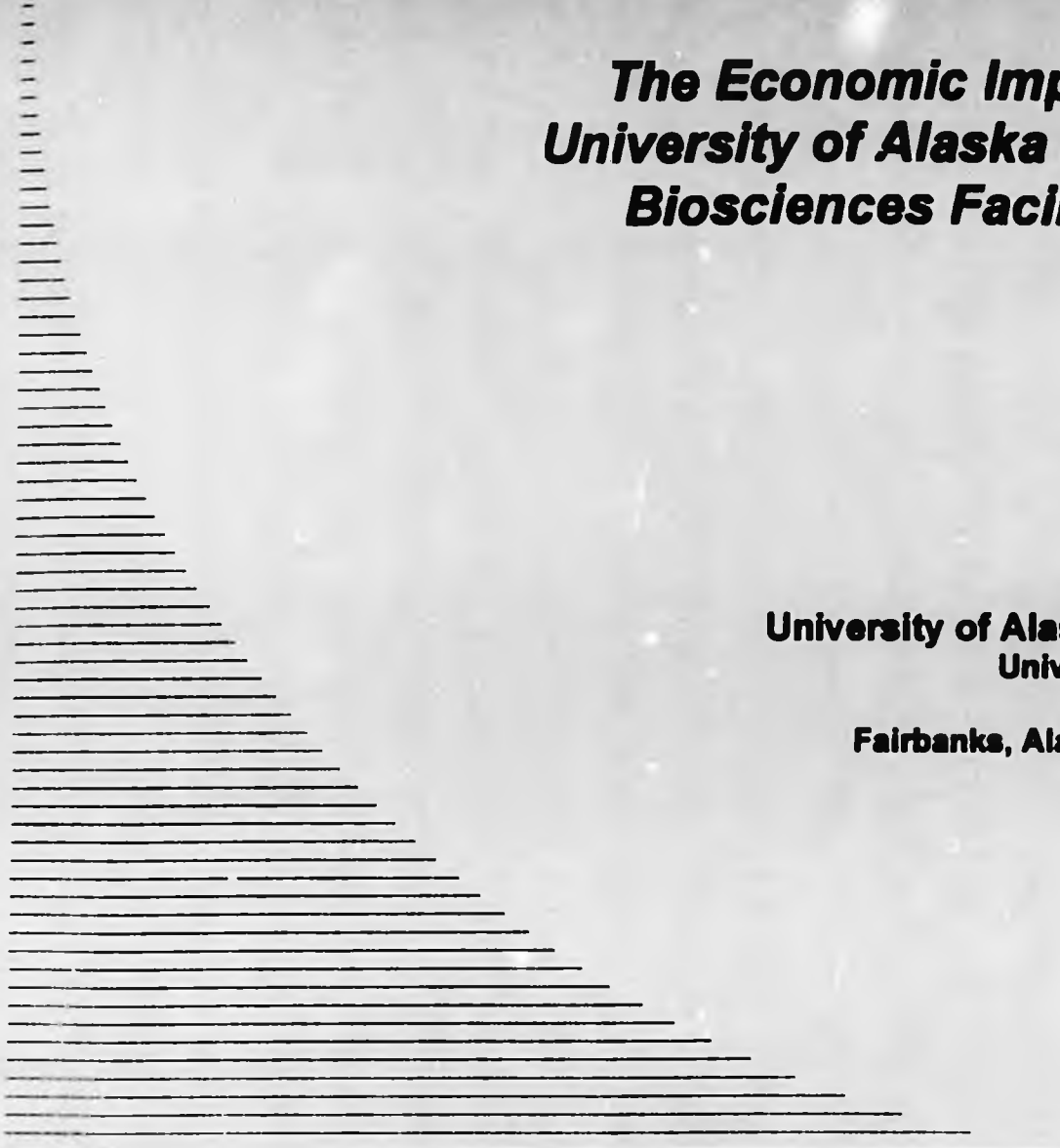
- Provides funding to construct a 110,000 square-foot building to house research laboratories for 18 university programs, as well as classroom space and teaching labs.
- Consolidates current research and teaching facilities located on opposite ends of campus into one building equipped for research and teaching of modern cellular and molecular biology.
- Provides modern labs and enhances opportunities for students to participate in research alongside UAF's top researchers.
- Helps attract and retain students.

Background:

- A majority of the biology teaching and research labs at UAF were built prior to the 1960s. These labs are not equipped for research and teaching of modern cellular and molecular biology. The research and teaching functions of these disciplines are currently housed in separate buildings built prior to 1960.

University of Alaska Fairbanks conducts nearly 90 percent of research for the entire university system. Grants for research in biology and arctic science have totaled nearly \$50 million since FY02. Additional space for teaching and research labs is necessary to grow the research enterprise in the life sciences.

The Economic Impact of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Biosciences Facility (BIOS)



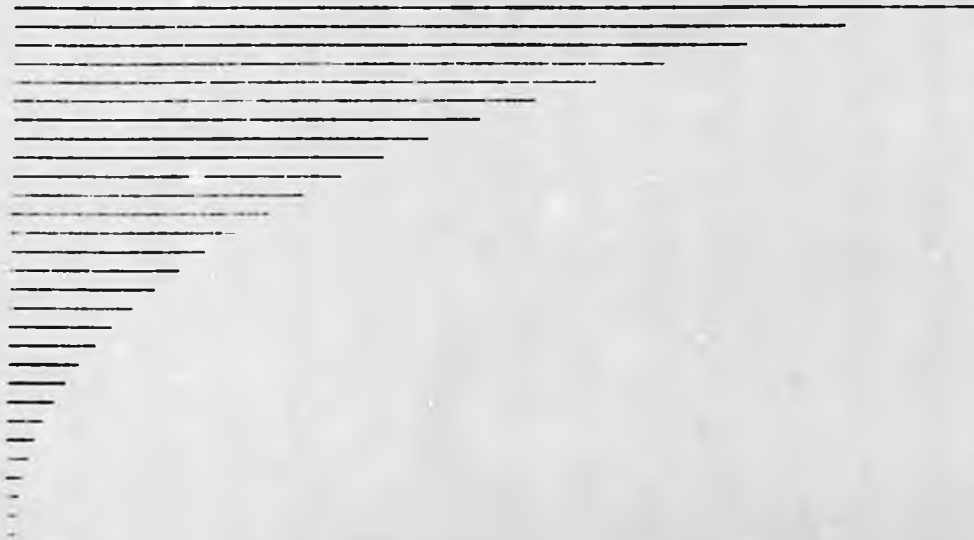
PREPARED FOR:
University of Alaska Fairbanks
University Relations
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Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-7520



Research-Based Consulting

Juneau
Anchorage
Kodiak

December 20, 2006



Introduction

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is planning the construction of a 110,000 square-foot biological sciences (BIOS) facility on the Fairbanks campus. The facility is expected to cost \$105 million to construct, including \$11 million for utilities and \$94 million for the research facility. Construction is expected to begin in 2008, with scheduled completion in 2012.

The BIOS facility is planned to include four or five research labs, nine teaching labs, a 90-seat lecture hall, 35,000 square feet of teaching space and 65,000 square feet of research space.

The purpose of this study is to predict the economic impact of the BIOS facility, in Fairbanks and elsewhere in Alaska.

Economic Impact Analysis

There is a range of potential economic impacts associated with the BIOS project, some direct, and others indirect. The types of impacts include:

- Jobs and income associated with the 4-5 year construction phase of the facility
- Annual spending in support of the facilities, including routine maintenance, utilities and other expenditures related to day-to-day operations
- Economic activity associated with increased flow of research funds, and increased faculty and student enrollment associated with the BIOS facility.

This range of economic impacts is described in more detail, below.

Construction Phase Economic Impacts

The \$105 million construction project will have direct and indirect impacts on the Fairbanks economy. Using the IMPLAN economic impact modeling system, it is possible to estimate the number of jobs that will be created in Fairbanks during the construction phase. IMPLAN also provides an estimate of labor income (payroll) associated with the construction effort, as well as total spending (output) related to the project.¹

Economic impacts are measured in terms of "direct," "indirect" and "induced." For a construction project like BIOS, direct jobs include all the employment on the construction project itself. Indirect jobs stem from local purchase of goods and services in support of the construction effort. This could include purchase of construction materials, fuel for equipment, etc. Induced jobs are the result of expenditure of construction labor force payroll dollars in the local economy. Together, indirect and induced effects are often termed "multiplier" effects.

This analysis indicates that output associated with the BIOS project will total \$153 million. This measure of total spending related to the project includes the \$105 million price tag for construction, plus \$48 million in indirect and induced spending

¹ IMPLAN (Impact Analysis for Planning) is a software package and database used for estimating local and regional impacts of businesses, industries, institutions and events. It is widely used in Alaska by government agencies and private sector research firms. IMPLAN was originally developed by the USDA Forest Service and is now maintained by the Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc.

in the Fairbanks economy (a multiplier of just under 1.5). This measure of output includes spending on construction materials, supplies and equipment, as well as labor income for the project-related workforce.

Employment will average 330 jobs for a four-year construction effort. UAF has indicated that design will be completed in 2008 with construction occurring during the 2008-2012 period. While construction-related activity may occur over a five-year period, for purposes of this analysis it is assumed that actual construction will take four years. Of the annual average of 330 jobs, 220 are direct, on-site jobs, and 110 are indirect and induced jobs in the Fairbanks service and support sector.

Labor income (which includes employee compensation and proprietor income) is expected to total \$72 million. The four-year annual average is \$18 million. Direct labor income is \$56 million, or \$14 million per year. This suggests an annual wage of \$64,000 for the construction labor force. This number is reasonably consistent with the Fairbanks construction sector wage reported by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (ADOLWD). For 2005, ADOLWD reported an average monthly wage of \$4,695, or \$56,300 annually.

The BIOS construction project will generate \$15.5 million in indirect and induced labor income in Fairbanks' service and supply sectors.

BIOS Construction Impacts in Fairbanks

	Direct	Indirect	Induced	Total
Total Output (millions of \$)	105.0	17.6	30.0	152.6
Employment (annual average)	220	40	70	330
Total Labor Income (millions of \$)	56.4	6.3	9.3	72.0

A large Fairbanks area construction project, such as BIOS, will have economic effects in Southcentral Alaska and the Anchorage area in particular. In many respects, Anchorage is the commercial hub for all of Alaska. Construction companies, engineering firms, wholesalers and retailers, and many other types of businesses are headquartered in Anchorage. Further, large volumes of freight destined for the Interior move through the Port of Anchorage. Also, with half of Alaska's population, the Anchorage area (in combination with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and Kenai Peninsula Borough) is home to a large pool of skilled construction labor. Because of this, construction activity in the Interior stimulates economic activity in Southcentral Alaska.

When the economic impact of the BIOS project is examined in a geographic context that includes Southcentral Alaska as well as Fairbanks, it is evident that there will be significant economic activity outside of Fairbanks related to the project.

When the economic effects in Anchorage, Mat-Su and the Kenai Peninsula are included in the analysis, total BIOS project-related output reaches \$174 million. Total direct and indirect employment increases to an annual average of 385, and total payroll rises to \$81 million.

BIOS Construction Impacts in Fairbanks & Southcentral Alaska

	Direct	Indirect	Induced	Total
Total Output (millions of \$)	105.0	25.6	43.0	173.6
Employment (annual average)	225	60	100	385
Total Labor Income (millions of \$)	57.5	9.5	13.8	80.8

This analysis indicates the economic effects of the BIOS project in Southcentral will include:

- \$21 million in total output
- Annual average of 55 jobs over a four-year construction phase
- A total of \$8.8 million in labor income.

Most of this economic activity will be in the Anchorage area.

Other Economic Effects of the BIOS Project

There are a number of other economic effects directly or indirectly related to the BIOS project that are not possible to quantify within the scope of this study, but can at least be described qualitatively. For example, BIOS is expected to:

Attract additional research funds, enhance faculty retention and draw new students to UAF: National and international competition among universities for research dollars is fierce, as is competition for top faculty. State-of-the-art facilities can attract (or keep) the best researchers and the best researchers can attract more research funds. UAF expects the BIOS to play a key role in attracting more research dollars to Alaska. According to UAF, grant awards for biology and arctic sciences have totaled \$50 million since FY2002.² For each additional dollar of research money drawn into Alaska from federal government or other sources, Alaska will enjoy \$1.70 in total direct and indirect economic activity.³

"Back-fill" benefits: Construction of the 110,000 square foot BIOS facility will free up space in buildings now occupied by biological sciences faculty and students. This will allow other UAF programs to expand. Therefore, while the purpose of BIOS is to facilitate the growth of UAF's biological sciences programs, it could remove space-related constraints on other programs at the university.

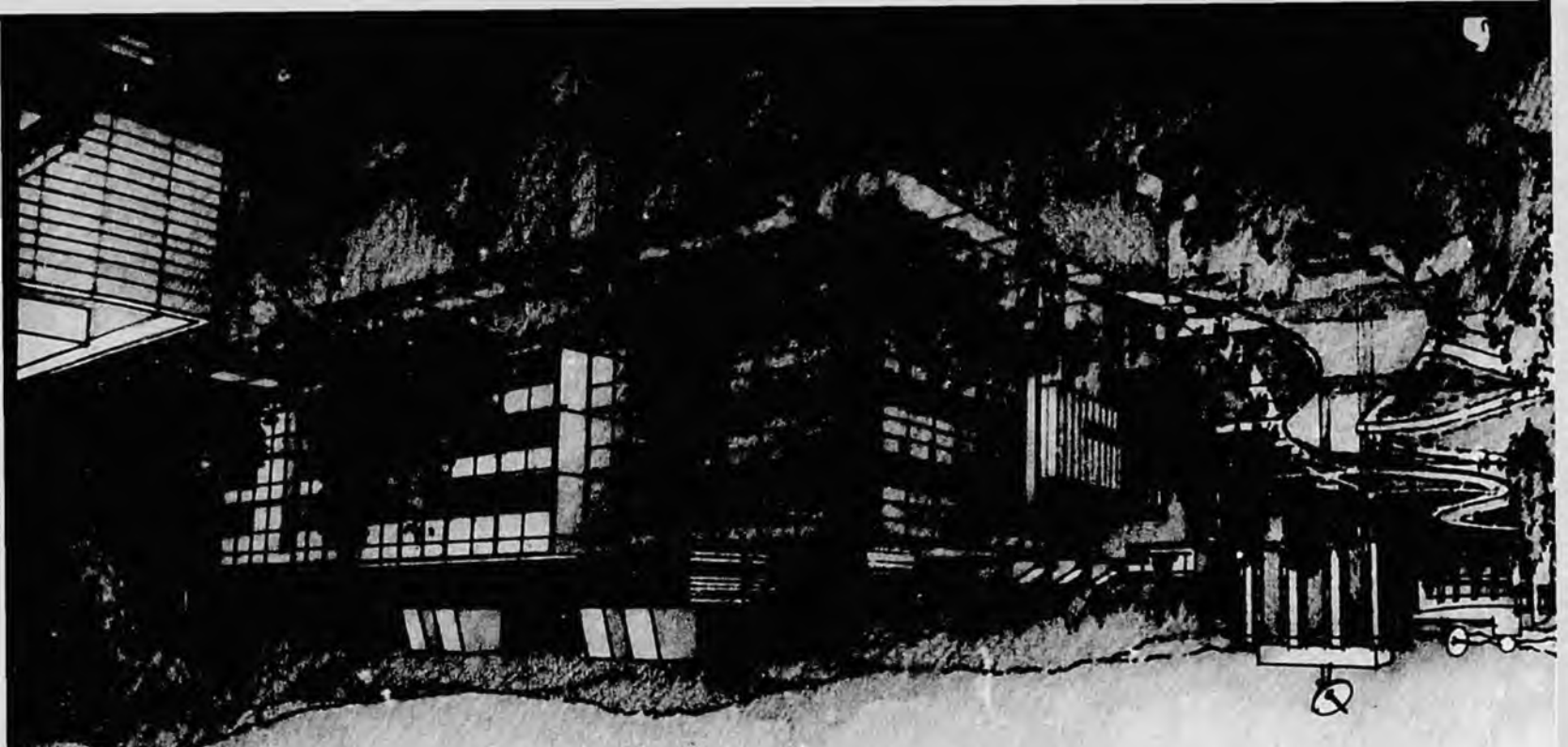
Summary

Construction of the UAF BIOS facility will generate \$174 million in total direct economic output in Alaska, \$81 million in labor income, and annual average employment of 385 workers over a four-year construction period. While most of this economic impact will be in Fairbanks, 10 to 15 percent of total project-related economic activity will occur in Southcentral Alaska, primarily Anchorage.

In addition to this measurable economic activity related to the BIOS project, UAF and Fairbanks could experience other economic benefits associated with increased research funding, increased biological sciences program enrollment, and expansion of other programs as research and instructional space becomes available.

² <http://www.uaf.edu/bios/faq.html#1>

³ IMPLAN data indicates the output multiplier in Alaska for "scientific research and development services" is 1.7



Advancing Bioscience Learning & Discovery at UAF

BUILDING ON EXCELLENCE

Critical Facts About BIOS

- The University of Alaska Fairbanks is the only doctoral degree-granting institution in Alaska. More UAF undergraduates choose majors from within the biology and wildlife department than from within any other department on campus. BIOS will allow for growth in both the teaching and research arms of UAF's biological sciences programs.
- UAF's existing biology teaching labs were built prior to 1960. BIOS will provide undergraduate and graduate students, as well as researchers, with modern laboratories for teaching and will foster opportunities for students to participate in hands-on research at every level.
- A strong biosciences and biomedicine program is critical to Alaska's future. BIOS teaching and research laboratories will support programs that prepare students to meet the demands of many high demand fields in the state, including health care, resource management and many biomedical research fields.
- As a Land, Sea and Space Grant institution, the University of Alaska Fairbanks has a tripartite mission to teach, conduct research and provide service. BIOS is key to this mission, and will foster an outstanding academic environment for UAF students and faculty, as well as provide the catalyst for research applicable to Alaska and beyond.
- UAF's Strategic Plan 2010 calls for the construction of modern facilities which will provide the infrastructure necessary to address the research and teaching needs of Alaska. **BIOS is critical to UAF in achieving this goal.**



Photo © Patrick J. Endres/Alaskaphotographics.com

"Biological sciences and wildlife biology are high demand degrees for employment. In order for Alaskans to be competitive for these jobs we need quality facilities to train our students. The new building will ensure our graduates bring the latest state of the art to their future employers. We want Alaskan students prepared for jobs as Alaska grows."

Jean Braddock, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Natural Science
and Mathematics, UAF

"One of the benefits of going to a university like UAF is that there's a lot of interaction with professors doing research, but even the best instructor can't teach what they need to teach if they don't have what they need."

Jeff Wells, UAF Wildlife Biology Undergraduate Student

Today's high school students come to UAF expecting to learn in modern facilities. BIOS will provide the teaching and research laboratories students expect to find in a science program at the state's premier land, sea and space grant university.

UAF Photo by Todd Pans

UAF Photo by Todd Pans

America's Arctic University

BIOSCIENCES
FACILITY

BIOS Total Project Cost
\$105 million for design,
utilities, construction and
equipment for the 110,000
square-foot facility

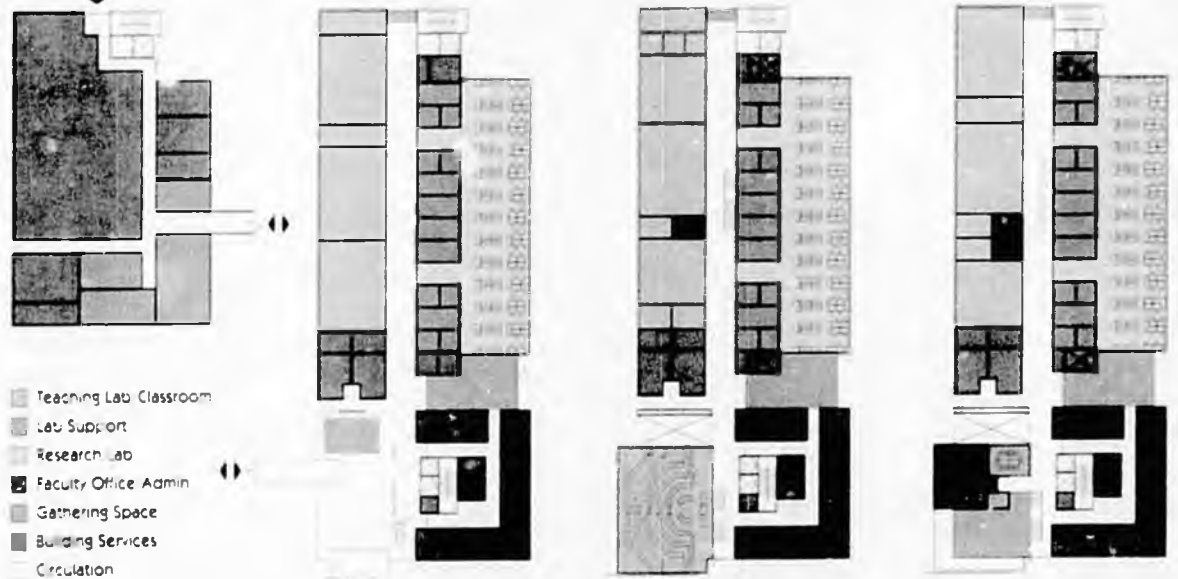
BIOS Schedule
Design completed 2008,
Construction 2008-2012

Basement

Floor 1

Floor 2

Floor 3



Dr. Allison Killiker, an Athabascan Indian from Nome, graduated from UAF in 2001 with a bachelor of science degree in indigenous medicine. This interdisciplinary degree with a premed focus prepared her for the University of Washington School of Medicine where she received her M.D. in 2005. Her post-graduate work is with the Alaska Family Practice Residency in Anchorage.

UAF Photo by Todd Pans

UAF Photo by Todd Pans

GARY WILKEN
SENATOR
Fairbanks



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Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
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Tel: (907) 466-3709 (outside Fbks)
Fax: (907) 465-4714
www.akrepublicans.org/wilken
E-Mail: Senator.Gary.Wilken@legis.state.ak.us

SPONSOR STATEMENT

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March 9, 2007

Proudly Representing the Golden Heart of Alaska



Alaska State Legislature

Senate Republican Minority

Web: www.aksenateminority.com

Sponsor: Senator Gary Wilken
Contact: Sheila Peterson, 465-3709
Bill Version: SB 37

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Short Title: APPROPRIATION: BIOSCIENCE FACILITY UAF

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- Provides modern labs and enhances opportunities for students to participate in research alongside UAF's top researchers.
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Background:

- A majority of the biology teaching and research labs at UAF were built prior to the 1960s. These labs are not equipped for research and teaching of modern cellular and molecular biology. The research and teaching functions of these disciplines are currently housed in separate buildings built prior to 1960.

University of Alaska Fairbanks conducts nearly 90 percent of research for the entire university system. Grants for research in biology and arctic science have totaled nearly \$50 million since FY02. Additional space for teaching and research labs is necessary to grow the research enterprise in the life sciences.

ADVANCING ALASKA

TEACHING

Your support is critical

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is planning a biological sciences facility to meet Alaska's educational, research and workforce development needs in the life sciences.

BIOS, a 110,000-square-foot building, will provide modern facilities to integrate teaching and research in one of UAF's fastest-growing programs—biological sciences. BIOS will address critical research and teaching needs in biomedicine, wildlife biology, physiology, ecosystem and global change science, evolutionary biology and population genetics.

1270 SCIENTISTS
\$105 MILLION
CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH FACILITY
9 TEACHING LABS
65,000 SQUARE FEET OF RESEARCH SPACE

Teaching

As the state's only doctoral degree-granting institution, UAF's expertise in basic biological research serves as the foundation for preparing students for high-demand careers in biological sciences as well as for advanced degrees in animal and human health.

Most of UAF's existing biology teaching labs were built before 1960. BIOS will provide modern labs and enhance opportunities for students to participate in research alongside UAF's top researchers, which will help attract and retain students.

Research

Research and teaching are part of a continuum. Multidisciplinary science teams work with students in genomics, Alaska Native health, toxicology, environmental physiology, virology, neurosciences and bioinformatics.

Grant awards in biology and arctic sciences have totaled nearly \$50 million since FY2002. This investment has led to an extraordinary increase in research activity, the hiring of new faculty and the expansion of programs. BIOS will free up space to further expand important research programs at UAF.

Advancing Alaska

A strong biosciences and biomedicine program is critical to Alaska's future. The new generation of scientists must be well prepared to tackle the state's top challenges: invasive species, changing environment and emerging diseases.

Basic research at UAF helps foster a better understanding of public health problems that affect us all: avian influenza, Alzheimer's disease, stroke, Parkinson's disease and sudden infant death syndrome.



Contact us

www.uaf.edu/bios/
Carla Browning
UAF public information officer
(907) 474-7778
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America's Arctic University

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UAF is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution. 12/2006

UAF
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FAIRBANKS



BIOS - frequently asked questions

If you have a question about the Biosciences Facility that is not addressed here, please e-mail fybios@uaf.edu or visit www.uaf.edu/bios/ for more information.

By the numbers

- 3 large, open research labs
- 9 teaching labs
- 18 lead scientists
- 90-seat lecture hall
- 170 scientists
- 1,350 students
- 35,000 square feet of teaching space
- 65,000 square feet of research space
- \$11-million utilities expansion
- \$94-million, cutting-edge research facility

Why do we need a new building for life sciences?

UAF students and faculty require new, modern facilities equipped with the latest technologies for teaching and research, but the current facilities just don't meet their needs. Most of the biology teaching and research labs at UAF were built prior to the 1960s. These labs are not equipped for the research and teaching of modern cellular and molecular biology.

The research and teaching functions of these disciplines are currently housed in separate buildings, in some cases on opposite ends of campus. In the new Biosciences Facility, or BIOS, students will take classes across the hall from scientists actively involved in research projects. Laboratories will be visible to students throughout the facility, inspiring integrated learning and teaching opportunities.

How does BIOS contribute to UAF's research mission?

UAF conducts nearly 90 percent of research for the entire university system, and awards in the area of biological and arctic health have been nearly \$50 million since FY02. In order to continue to grow the research enterprise in the life sciences, additional space is needed for both teaching and research labs.

The building will support existing biology programs and new biomedicine programs by accommodating the activities of hundreds of scientists and graduate, undergraduate and postdoctoral researchers, including nearly 18 lead scientists responsible for securing new research dollars.

What are the research benefits to Alaska?

Basic research at UAF helps find solutions to public health problems such as Alzheimer's disease, stroke, Parkinson's disease and sudden infant death syndrome.

There is potential for expansion of research, but only if UAF has the facilities to accommodate cutting-edge projects and scientists.



America's Arctic University

Why is it critical that we build BIOS now?

UAF has maximized its research capabilities given the limited number of laboratories available on the main campus. Additional researchers and their expanding programs have been squeezed into spaces that are not sufficient for performing highly technical experiments. In order to maintain and increase research activities and research revenue, as well as attract and retain students in this area, UAF needs adequate space to accommodate both teaching and research.

Why fund a building that will benefit, for the most part, one major?

The building will benefit many UAF students. All students are required to take science courses and many choose to take biology. Biology is also the largest undergraduate, graduate and Ph.D. program at UAF. The facility will help retain quality faculty, which in turn attracts the best students.

How much will it cost?

The 110,000-square-foot integrated research and teaching facility will cost \$94 million for the building design and construction and an additional \$11 million for utilities expansion. The total capital request for the facility is \$105 million.

How does the cost compare with other facilities?

The construction cost for Biosciences Facility is estimated at \$650 to \$675 per square foot. This is very comparable to similar facilities recently constructed at similar institutions. Constructing lab space requires special ventilation, power, finishes and lab benches that significantly increase the cost per square foot.

How does this compare to other buildings on the UAF campus?

The proposed facility has a mix of research and academic spaces similar in size and interior finishes to the Natural Sciences Facility, which was constructed in the early 1990s. In today's dollars, the Natural Sciences Facility would cost roughly \$92 million.

What are the next steps in the budget process?

The University of Alaska Board of Regents has approved the BIOS project as its highest new construction priority. The regents' FY08 capital budget request has been submitted to the governor for consideration. The next step is communicating the importance of BIOS to the state of Alaska and enlisting support from legislators for the project.

Where will it be located?

The facility will be located on the Fairbanks campus, specifically on West Ridge at the intersection of Sheenjek and Koyukuk drives, across the street from the new Biological and Diagnostics Facility and the Alaska Division of Health and Social Services Virology Building.

When will it be completed?

Contingent upon funding, site development will begin in 2007 in preparation for construction in 2008. If full funding is received in FY08, the building would be occupied during the spring 2012 semester.

This is UAF's number one capital budget priority, but what about maintenance of already existing facilities?

UAF will continue to work toward addressing renovation and renewal needs. BIOS will help over the long term by providing an opportunity for renovating space vacated by moves to BIOS. The new facility will provide appropriate lab space and also alleviate congestion and overcrowding.

How much research space will BIOS provide?

The BIOS facility will provide research labs for 18 lead scientists and an additional 170 researchers. Associated with each lab will be support space for specialized equipment, freezers, fume hoods and storage for seasonal gear.

On the teaching side, rooms that can accommodate between 16 and 32 students will be constructed to house all UAF's academic biology labs. The labs will be adjacent to preparation rooms that can serve two rooms at once. By using moveable benches, the rooms can be configured to present any number of biological subject matter from introductory biology to cellular and molecular biology. The nearly 1,500 students that take a biology class each year will have their lab sessions in this single facility. One large classroom and a computer room will be constructed to serve the majority of the biology and wildlife lectures.

Office space, gathering areas and other ancillary spaces will provide students more interaction with the researchers.

Does this facility fit into an overall plan for research facilities?

This facility was planned as part of a larger biological research and computational facility that would also address aging animal care facilities and space needs of the state virology lab. The most immediate space needs were addressed by a series of smaller projects:

- **West Ridge Research Building**—Built in 2004 and funded at 80 percent by research activity and 20 percent by a general obligation bond
- **Biological Research and Diagnostics Facility**—Expected completion in December 2006. Accommodates research in infectious diseases and animal care needs
- **Alaska State Public Health Virology Lab**—Expected groundbreaking in 2007. UAF will pay for 5,000 square feet of assignable space in the basement of this state-owned, state-funded building. This is a joint effort between the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Division of Public Health and UAF.
- **Biosciences Facility**—Proposed construction from 2007-2012. Completes the much-needed teaching component to the benefit of students in the life sciences, by providing adequate teaching and research space.

It doesn't seem that long ago that the UAF Natural Sciences Facility was built. Are we ready for a new building?

The Natural Sciences Facility was built in 1992, more than 14 years ago. It provided modern facilities for chemistry, geology and physics, but it does not address life sciences space, including labs, most of which were built prior to 1960.

The Biosciences Facility will free up space in the Bunnell Building and the Arctic Health Research Building. How will that space be used?

Other academic and research units will use those areas once space analysis and planning is complete. The good news is that many research and academic programs at UAF are growing, but more space is needed to accommodate that growth.

UAA just received funding for a large science facility. Why do we need redundancy?

There are nearly 500 biology majors at the Fairbanks campus and hundreds more who take biology classes each year. These students shouldn't have to move to Anchorage to take biology courses. In addition, the environment in the Interior Alaska is much different than the Anchorage Bowl, thus the research work done by students and faculty is often very different.

Your support is critical.

UAF is an AA/EQ employer and educational institution. University Relations 12/06

***The Economic Impact of the
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Biosciences Facility (BIOS)***

**PREPARED FOR:
University of Alaska Fairbanks
University Relations
Po Box 757520
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-7520**



Research-Based Consulting

**Juneau
Anchorage
Kodiak**

December 20, 2006

Introduction

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is planning the construction of a 110,000 square-foot biological sciences (BIOS) facility on the Fairbanks campus. The facility is expected to cost \$105 million to construct, including \$11 million for utilities and \$94 million for the research facility. Construction is expected to begin in 2008, with scheduled completion in 2012.

The BIOS facility is planned to include four or five research labs, nine teaching labs, a 90-seat lecture hall, 35,000 square feet of teaching space and 65,000 square feet of research space.

The purpose of this study is to predict the economic impact of the BIOS facility, in Fairbanks and elsewhere in Alaska.

Economic Impact Analysis

There is a range of potential economic impacts associated with the BIOS project, some direct, and others indirect. The types of impacts include:

- Jobs and income associated with the 4-5 year construction phase of the facility
- Annual spending in support of the facilities, including routine maintenance, utilities and other expenditures related to day-to-day operations
- Economic activity associated with increased flow of research funds, and increased faculty and student enrollment associated with the BIOS facility.

This range of economic impacts is described in more detail, below.

Construction Phase Economic Impacts

The \$105 million construction project will have direct and indirect impacts on the Fairbanks economy. Using the IMPLAN economic impact modeling system, it is possible to estimate the number of jobs that will be created in Fairbanks during the construction phase. IMPLAN also provides an estimate of labor income (payroll) associated with the construction effort, as well as total spending (output) related to the project.¹

Economic impacts are measured in terms of "direct," "indirect" and "induced." For a construction project like BIOS, direct jobs include all the employment on the construction project itself. Indirect jobs stem from local purchase of goods and services in support of the construction effort. This could include purchase of construction materials, fuel for equipment, etc. Induced jobs are the result of expenditure of construction labor force payroll dollars in the local economy. Together, indirect and induced effects are often termed "multiplier" effects.

This analysis indicates that output associated with the BIOS project will total \$153 million. This measure of total spending related to the project includes the \$105 million price tag for construction, plus \$48 million in indirect and induced spending

¹ IMPLAN (Impact Analysis for Planning) is a software package and database used for estimating local and regional impacts of businesses, industries, institutions and events. It is widely used in Alaska by government agencies and private sector research firms. IMPLAN was originally developed by the USDA Forest Service and is now maintained by the Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc.

in the Fairbanks economy (a multiplier of just under 1.5). This measure of output includes spending on construction materials, supplies and equipment, as well as labor income for the project-related workforce.

Employment will average 330 jobs for a four-year construction effort. UAF has indicated that design will be completed in 2008 with construction occurring during the 2008-2012 period. While construction-related activity may occur over a five-year period, for purposes of this analysis it is assumed that actual construction will take four years. Of the annual average of 330 jobs, 220 are direct, on-site jobs, and 110 are indirect and induced jobs in the Fairbanks service and support sector.

Labor income (which includes employee compensation and proprietor income) is expected to total \$72 million. The four-year annual average is \$18 million. Direct labor income is \$56 million, or \$14 million per year. This suggests an annual wage of \$64,000 for the construction labor force. This number is reasonably consistent with the Fairbanks construction sector wage reported by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (ADOLWD). For 2005, ADOLWD reported an average monthly wage of \$4,695, or \$56,300 annually.

The BIOS construction project will generate \$15.5 million in indirect and induced labor income in Fairbanks' service and supply sectors.

BIOS Construction Impacts in Fairbanks

	Direct	Indirect	Induced	Total
Total Output (millions of \$)	105.0	17.6	30.0	152.6
Employment (annual average)	220	40	70	330
Total Labor Income (millions of \$)	56.4	6.3	9.3	72.0

A large Fairbanks area construction project, such as BIOS, will have economic effects in Southcentral Alaska and the Anchorage area in particular. In many respects, Anchorage is the commercial hub for all of Alaska. Construction companies, engineering firms, wholesalers and retailers, and many other types of businesses are headquartered in Anchorage. Further, large volumes of freight destined for the Interior move through the Port of Anchorage. Also, with half of Alaska's population, the Anchorage area (in combination with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and Kenai Peninsula Borough) is home to a large pool of skilled construction labor. Because of this, construction activity in the Interior stimulates economic activity in Southcentral Alaska.

When the economic impact of the BIOS project is examined in a geographic context that includes Southcentral Alaska as well as Fairbanks, it is evident that there will be significant economic activity outside of Fairbanks related to the project.

When the economic effects in Anchorage, Mat-Su and the Kenai Peninsula are included in the analysis, total BIOS project-related output reaches \$174 million. Total direct and indirect employment increases to an annual average of 385, and total payroll rises to \$81 million.

BIOS Construction Impacts in Fairbanks & Southcentral Alaska

	Direct	Indirect	Induced	Total
Total Output (millions of \$)	105.0	25.6	43.0	173.6
Employment (annual average)	225	60	100	385
Total Labor Income (millions of \$)	57.5	9.5	13.8	80.8

This analysis indicates the economic effects of the BIOS project in Southcentral will include:

- \$21 million in total output
- Annual average of 55 jobs over a four-year construction phase
- A total of \$8.8 million in labor income.

Most of this economic activity will be in the Anchorage area.

Other Economic Effects of the BIOS Project

There are a number of other economic effects directly or indirectly related to the BIOS project that are not possible to quantify within the scope of this study, but can at least be described qualitatively. For example, BIOS is expected to:

Attract additional research funds, enhance faculty retention and draw new students to UAF: National and international competition among universities for research dollars is fierce, as is competition for top faculty. State-of-the-art facilities can attract (or keep) the best researchers and the best researchers can attract more research funds. UAF expects the BIOS to play a key role in attracting more research dollars to Alaska. According to UAF, grant awards for biology and arctic sciences have totaled \$50 million since FY2002.² For each additional dollar of research money drawn into Alaska from federal government or other sources, Alaska will enjoy \$1.70 in total direct and indirect economic activity.³

"Back-fill" benefits: Construction of the 110,000 square foot BIOS facility will free up space in buildings now occupied by biological sciences faculty and students. This will allow other UAF programs to expand. Therefore, while the purpose of BIOS is to facilitate the growth of UAF's biological sciences programs, it could remove space-related constraints on other programs at the university.

Summary

Construction of the UAF BIOS facility will generate \$174 million in total direct economic output in Alaska, \$81 million in labor income, and annual average employment of 385 workers over a four-year construction period. While most of this economic impact will be in Fairbanks, 10 to 15 percent of total project-related economic activity will occur in Southcentral Alaska, primarily Anchorage.

In addition to this measurable economic activity related to the BIOS project, UAF and Fairbanks could experience other economic benefits associated with increased research funding, increased biological sciences program enrollment, and expansion of other programs as research and instructional space becomes available.

² <http://www.uaf.edu/bios/faq.html#1>

³ IMPLAN data indicates the output multiplier in Alaska for "scientific research and development services" is 1.7.

FAIRBANKS
Daily News - Minor

3/5/07

"Independent in All Things ... Neutral in None"
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Publisher

KELLY BUSTIAN
Managing Editor

DERMOT COLE
Columnist

ROD BOYCE
Assistant Managing Editor

A future with BIOS

The three main campuses of the University of Alaska each have their own identities, with the Fairbanks campus unquestionably known as the location for high science and research. Yet that fact doesn't mean that investment in science and research is something that benefits just the Fairbanks area and the Fairbanks campus.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is part of a unified University of Alaska system that also reaches beyond the three prime campuses of the state's three main urban centers. Students from various parts of the Alaska populate those campuses, as do the large number who come from Outside.

It is that broad appeal that we ask legislators to remember when they consider the University of Alaska's request to fund a major biosciences building at the Fairbanks campus. Gov. Sarah Palin has chosen to exclude the \$105 million project, the only new construction priority of the University of Alaska Board of Regents, from her recently released and exceptionally lean capital budget. Perhaps she can be convinced over the coming weeks to change her view.

The biosciences building deserves a fair hearing in the Legislature, where several Fairbanks legislators plan to continue pressing for the funding. Rep. Mike Kelly and Sen. Gary Wilken, both Republicans, have each filed a bill appropriating the money for the project. Sen. Joe Thomas, a Democrat in his first weeks as a legislator, also supports the building and has a platform from his seat on the Senate Finance Committee.

Anyone who thinks the building — called BIOS — is something that would benefit just Fairbanks should pause to consider a few things

BIOS will contain research laboratories for 18 programs, in addition to classroom space. And what about the work that would be conducted in those research labs? Molecular and cellular research inside those labs can help in the fight against any number of serious human health conditions.

There's another reason to invest in this project. University officials are rightly fond of reminding the state's policymakers that the university is an economic provider for the state. Research is an essential part of that, with more than \$130 million coming in to the state each year through the several university campuses.

There's a lot of talk these days about building for the future by planning for the hoped-for — still — natural gas pipeline. Alaska's leaders would be making a mistake, however, by shortchanging other aspects of the economy, aspects like the University of Alaska's research programs.

Legislators should give real consideration this session to funding the BIOS building for the University of Alaska.

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/16/07

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: _____
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 3/14/07

Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered

SENATE BILL NO. 37

SB 37 APPROP: BIOSCIENCE FACILITY UAF

"An Act making an appropriation for a bioscience facility at the University of Alaska Fairbanks; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with SCS or CS _____ (_____)
- adopt previous SCS or CS _____ (_____)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- further referral to _____ Committee

SENATE BILL:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Title
<hr/>	
HOUSE BILL:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technical Title Change
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Title w/ SCR # _____

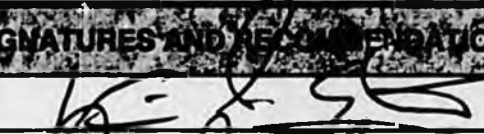
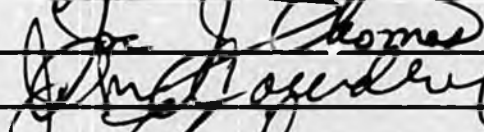
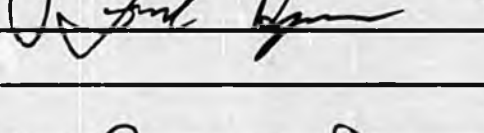
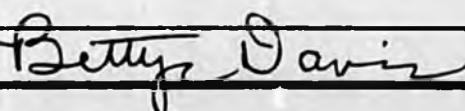
NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Index	Zero	FN#

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Index	Zero	FN#

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS	PRINTED NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	AMEND	AMEND
	Beth Thomas	✓			
	Amy Cowden	✓			
	Dyson			✓	
CHAIR: 	DAVIS	X			

SB

38

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/16/07

FURTHER: Judiciary
Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: _____
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 3/19/07

Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered

SENATE BILL NO. 38

SB 38 SALVIA DIVINORUM AS CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

"An Act relating to scheduling Salvia divinorum and Salvinorin A as controlled substances."

and recommends:

- be replaced with SCS or CS _____ (_____)
- adopt previous SCS or CS _____ (_____)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- further referral to _____ Committee

SENATE BILL:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Title
<hr/>	
HOUSE BILL:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technical Title Change
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Title w/ SCR # _____

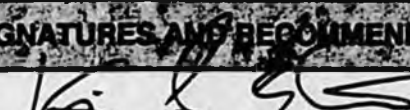
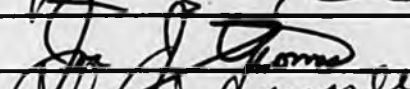
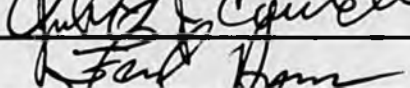
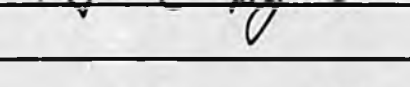
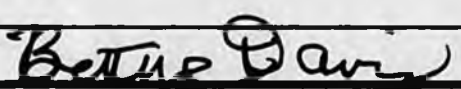
NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Inst.	Zero	FN#
COR	3/1/07		✓		
LAW	3/1/07			✓	

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Inst.	Zero	FN#

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	Bill	✓			
	Thomas	✓			
	Courteney	✓			
	Ryan	✓			
CHAIR: 	DAVIS	-			

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: SB38-DPS-LAB-03-16-07
 Bill Version: SB 38
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Public Safety
 Title "An Act relating to scheduling Salvia divinorum and Salvinorin A as controlled substances." RDU Statewide Support
 Component Laboratory Services
 Sponsor Senator Theriault
 Requester Senate Health, Education & Social Services Component No. 527

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2007) cost: 0.0
 Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2008 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)
 Salvia divinorum is a plant, which if smoked or ingested in various ways, is a hallucinogen.

 Salvinorin A (Divinorin A) is the active hallucinogenic ingredient in the plant Salvia divinorum. The Controlled Substance Section at the Alaska State Crime Laboratory ran the drug standard for Salvinorin A on their instrumentation and is completely confident that it is properly equipped to analyze the active ingredient Salvinorin A.

Prepared by: David Schade, Director Phone (907)269-0202
 Division Division of Statewide Services Date/Time 3/18/07 12:00 AM
 Approved by: Walt Monegan, Commissioner Date 3/19/2007
 Agency Department of Public Safety

ANALYSIS CONTINUATION

However, at this time, laboratory drug chemists cannot state that Salvinorin A is unique to the plant *Salvia divinorum* conclusively. The DEA is performing research to determine if *Salvia divinorum* should be a controlled substance. After the DEA research is complete, and more information is gathered about any other plants containing Salvinorin A as an active ingredient, drug chemists will be able to state more conclusive results.

Unlike marijuana, *Salvia divinorum* has a nondescript appearance (being in the same genus as cooking sage). At this time, the state crime lab cannot identify the plant *Salvia divinorum* and is not aware of any means to botanically identify *Salvia divinorum*.

The drug standard for Salvinorin A costs \$95 per ten milligram. This might sound expensive, but the contents of this standard can be used repetitively for numerous analyses, so this cost is minimal. There are no apparent financial increases needed at this time for instrumentation or for personnel to perform the analysis for Salvinorin A. Therefore, the fiscal burden to the Alaska State Crime Laboratory and the State of Alaska are minimal.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: SB 38
 (S) Publish Date: 3/21/07

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Corrections
 Title An Act relating to scheduling Salvia divinorum RDU Administration & Operations
and Salvinorin A as controlled substances. Component Office of the Commissioner
 Sponsor Senator Theriault
 Requester Senate Health, Education, and Social Services Component No. 694

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Personal Services	*	*	*	*	*	*
Travel	*	*	*	*	*	*
Contractual	*	*	*	*	*	*
Supplies	*	*	*	*	*	*
Equipment	*	*	*	*	*	*
Land & Structures	*	*	*	*	*	*
Grants & Claims	*	*	*	*	*	*
Miscellaneous	*	*	*	*	*	*
TOTAL OPERATING	*	*	*	*	*	*

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts	*	*	*	*	*	*
1003 GF Match	*	*	*	*	*	*
1004 GF	*	*	*	*	*	*
1005 GF/Program Receipts	*	*	*	*	*	*
1037 GF/Mental Health	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)	*	*	*	*	*	*
TOTAL	*	*	*	*	*	*

Estimate of any current year (FY2007) cost: 0.0
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2008 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time	*	*	*	*	*	*
Part-time	*	*	*	*	*	*
Temporary	*	*	*	*	*	*

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The Department of Corrections cannot determine the fiscal impact. Data is not available for the department to calculate the number of offenses that may occur due to passage of this legislation.

Prepared by: Sharleen Griffin, Director Phone (907) 465-3339
 Division: Administrative Services Date/Time 3/1/07 9:51 AM
 Approved by: Dwyane Peoples, Deputy Commissioner Date 3/1/2007
 Agency: Department of Corrections

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 2
 Bill Version: SB 38
 (S) Publish Date: 3/21/07

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Law
 Title An Act relating to scheduling Salvia divinorum RDU Criminal
and Salvinorin A as controlled substances Component Criminal Justice Litigation
 Sponsor SENATOR THERRIAULT
 Requester SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SVCS Component No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type-Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2007) cost: 0.0
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2008 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The bill would add two substances, Salvia divinorum and Salvinorin A, to Schedule IIA as controlled substances.

The Department of Law does not anticipate any significant fiscal impact from passage of this legislation.

Prepared by: Robert Meiners, Acting Director Phone 465-5427
 Division Administrative Services Division Date/Time 3/1/07 9:48 AM
 Approved by: Robert Meiners for Talis Colberg, Attorney General Date 3/1/2007
 Agency Department of Law

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: SB038-LAW-CJL-3-1-07
 Bill Version: SB038
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Law
 Title: An Act relating to scheduling Salvia divinorum RDU: Criminal
and Salvinorin A as controlled substances Component: Criminal Justice Litigation
 Sponsor: SENATOR THERRIAULT
 Requester: SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SVCS Component No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type—Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2007) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2008 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The bill would add two substances, Salvia divinorum and Salvinorin A, to Schedule IIA as controlled substances.

The Department of Law does not anticipate any significant fiscal impact from passage of this legislation.

Prepared by: Robert Meiners, Acting Director Phone 465-5427
 Division: Administrative Services Division Date/Time 3/1/07 9:48 AM
 Approved by: Robert Meiners for Talis Colberg, Attorney General Date 3/1/2007
 Agency: Department of Law

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: SB 38
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Corrections
 Title An Act relating to scheduling Salvia divinorum RDU Administration & Operations
and Salvinorin A as controlled substances. Component Office of the Commissioner
 Sponsor Senator Theriault
 Requester Senate Health, Education, and Social Services Component No. 694

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Personal Services
Travel
Contractual
Supplies
Equipment
Land & Structures
Grants & Claims
Miscellaneous
TOTAL OPERATING

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts	.	.	.	.	.	.
1003 GF Match	.	.	.	.	.	.
1004 GF	.	.	.	.	.	.
1005 GF/Program Receipts	.	.	.	.	.	.
1037 GF/Mental Health	.	.	.	.	.	.
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)	.	.	.	.	.	.
TOTAL	.	.	.	.	.	.

Estimate of any current year (FY2007) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2008 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time	.	.	.	.	.	.
Part-time	.	.	.	.	.	.
Temporary	.	.	.	.	.	.

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The Department of Corrections cannot determine the fiscal impact. Data is not available for the department to calculate the number of offenses that may occur due to passage of this legislation.

Prepared by: Sharleen Griffin, Director
 Division: Administrative Services
 Approved by: Dwayne Peoples, Deputy Commissioner
 Agency: Department of Corrections

Phone (907) 465-3339
 Date/Time 3/1/07 9:51 AM
 Date 3/1/2007

Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR
GENE THERRIAULT

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Senate

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Juneau, Alaska
99801-1182
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SENATE DISTRICT F

Sponsor Statement

Senate Bill 38

Salvia Divinorum is very powerful a hallucinogenic substance primarily grown in the mountainous regions of Mexico. It has a history of use as a vision inducing substance by the Mazatec Indians of the region. Because it is so easy to misuse and can produce long-lasting psychological effects, it is banned in several countries and now several states.

The leaves of this perennial herb, once processed can be eaten, drunk as a tea, or inhaled. Salvia is presently available to persons in Alaska who choose to order it over the Internet. Although purchasers of this substance are asked to certify they are over the age of 18, we know such restrictions are loosely applied. Sellers and their web sites promise mind-altering experiences, but experts warn that depression and schizophrenia are very real risks with this drug. (www.intheknowzone.com)

As with all items that enter the pop drug culture, Salvia Divinorum is enjoying a rise in use due to the lack of restrictions. We have an opportunity to get ahead of this powerful substance and reduce the risk to our young people by following the lead of other states and countries in declaring Salvia a dangerous substance and adding it to our Schedule II list of illegal drugs. Such action would place it in the same category as mescaline and Peyote.

I urge your support for this important action.



<http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060226/NEWS/602260356/1006>

Legal high new worry for parents

LSD-like herb blamed in Delaware teen's suicide

BY MIKE CHALMERS
THE NEWS JOURNAL
02/26/2006

In the daily search for reasons behind their 17-year-old son's suicide, Dennis and Kathy Chidester keep coming back to the same answer: salvia divinorum.

The herb, a cousin of the flowering sages enjoyed by backyard gardeners, contains the world's most potent natural hallucinogen, as strong as LSD. The drug is legal in most states, including Delaware, and easily available through hundreds of Internet sites, including eBay.

That aura of legitimacy lulled Brett Chidester, a straight-A senior at Salesianum School, into thinking smoking salvia leaves was safe, even while convincing himself that he had gained incredible insights into the universe, his parents said.

"Salvia allows us to give up our senses and wander in the interdimensional time and space," Brett wrote in an essay his parents found after his death. "Also, and this is probably hard for most to accept, our existence in general is pointless. Final point: Us earthly humans are nothing."

Brett acted on that belief Jan. 23.

Dennis Chidester had been trying to call Brett all day with no luck. He came home at 5 p.m., opened the garage door and saw a tent pitched inside — an odd sight that he didn't process right away.

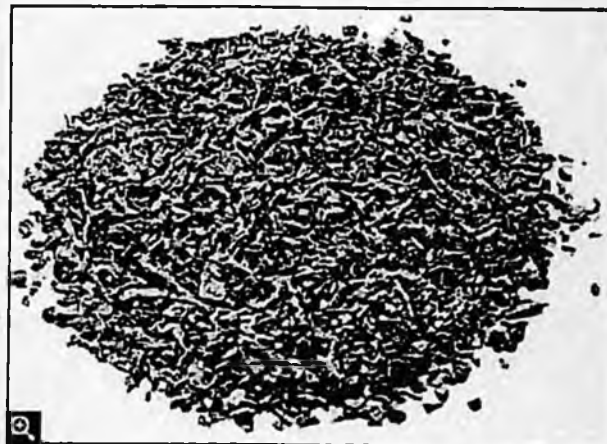
"I just ran upstairs calling his name," Chidester remembered. "Now my heart's pounding. He's not in his room. I go downstairs, I go into the garage and I open up that tent.

"That's the one thing I didn't want to do," he said, his voice cracking. "I found him in there, dead. He had taken a charcoal grill and ... carbon monoxide poisoning."

Brett's essay, suicide note and actions before his death still



COURTESY OF THE CHIDESTER FAMILY
Bret Chidester's parents are certain that smoking salvia divinorum led him to take his own life.



Salvia divinorum is a perennial herb. When chewed or smoked, it produces LSD-type hallucinations.

About the time Brett Chidester started smoking salvia, his parents say, he began falling into moods of anger or melancholy.

leave his parents with more questions than answers.

"We just won't have any answers, and we have to learn to accept that," Kathy Chidester said. "But my gut feeling is it was the salvia. It's the only thing that can explain it."

Abuse concerns DEA

Mazatec Indians have used salvia divinorum to divine spiritual truths for hundreds or thousands of years, experts said. Outsiders discovered it in the 1960s, but it remained a relatively obscure drug until popularized on the Internet, beginning in the 1990s. It's now sold as live plants that can be grown indoors, dried leaves or liquid extracts, from tiny bags costing a few dollars to wholesale shipments for hundreds of dollars.

"You type 'salvia divinorum' in a search engine and you get 10,000 hits, most of which are head shops on the Internet," said Thomas E. Prisinzano, a medical researcher at the University of Iowa. "That's not good. People are going to abuse it."

Experts and users say when the leaves are chewed or smoked, they produce powerful visions that make users believe they're in an alternate place and time. Despite its growing popularity online, law enforcement and health officials, as well as several teenagers and their parents, said salvia is not a common drug in Delaware.

Since 2003, the federal Drug Enforcement Agency has considered salvia divinorum a "drug of concern" because of its wide availability, potential for abuse and unknown long-term effects. Louisiana, Missouri and several countries have outlawed it, but congressional attempts to control it in the United States have failed, in part because of a reluctance to infringe on the religious freedoms of American Indians.

"It's dangerous," DEA spokeswoman Rogene Waite said. "Just because it's not a controlled substance, people shouldn't think it's OK to use it."

Dennis and Kathy Chidester, who divorced when Brett was 3, are uncomfortable talking publicly about their son's salvia use and suicide. But, they said, they are more uncomfortable remaining silent and letting other parents learn through tragedy.

"If other states can [regulate] it, why do we have to wait for a nationwide law?" Dennis Chidester said. "States should act on their own."

Delaware should consider outlawing salvia, two state legislators said. Sen. Karen E. Peterson, chairwoman of the Senate Combat Drug Abuse Committee, and Rep. Pamela S. Maier, chairwoman of the House Health and Human Development Committee, had not heard of the herb but said they would look at the laws in Louisiana and Missouri.



COURTESY OF THE CHIDESTER FAMILY

SALVIA Q&A

Is it legal?

It is not a controlled substance, so it is legal to own, use and distribute salvia divinorum in Delaware and most states. Louisiana, Missouri and several countries have outlawed salvia.

What are the effects?

The DEA considers salvia divinorum a "drug of concern" because its full effects are not known. Researchers said they do not know the long-term effects of using salvia.

Is it addictive?

Researchers and users said salvia is not addictive.

Who uses it?

Mazatec Indians have chewed salvia divinorum for ritual divination and healing for hundreds of years. Westerners discovered it in the 1960s, and its popularity has grown among teenagers and young adults since the 1990s because of availability over the Internet.

Does it have other uses?

Medical researchers are interested in the herb's potential to treat pain without addiction and to better understand Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and other diseases that alter a patient's perception of reality.

How is it sold?

Web sites and Internet vendors sell salvia divinorum as live plants, dried leaves, crushed leaves and a liquid extract.

Legislators in those states banned salvia last year over concerns about teenagers' abuse of it and other hallucinogenic plants.

"It was being marketed to high school kids," said Scott Lipke, a Missouri state representative. "It's not a widespread problem, but we were trying to be out in front on it."

Delaware police said they know little about salvia. "I don't think we'd even know what it is," said Sgt. William Wells, Wilmington police spokesman.

Health officials said it hasn't hit their radar screen, either.

"If it's not an FDA-regulated drug, we couldn't track it any more than we could track someone using ginkgo biloba," said Heidi Truschel-Light, spokeswoman for the Delaware Division of Public Health.

Local merchants who sell glass pipes and other smoking supplies said they don't sell salvia, even though customers ask for it and wholesalers have urged them carry it.

"Kids come in here all the time and ask for it," said Randy Neil, a cashier at Frolic in Newark. "But we don't mess with it. As far as I know, the only place you can get it is the Internet. Probably the reason it's legal now is most people don't know about it."

'Getting deep'

Dennis and Kathy Chidester had never heard of salvia until Brett's cousin told them last summer that she was worried about his salvia use.

About the same time, a friend showed Kathy Chidester Brett's site on MySpace.com, an Internet service where teenagers can chat and share pictures and music. Brett's site contained a video of him and a friend smoking salvia. She confronted him.

"He kept saying, 'Mom, it's legal. It's just an herb. The Indians used to use it to divine knowledge of the universe,' " she remembered. He told them he stopped using salvia, and they believed him.

Still, when Brett was out with friends, his parents would stay up until he came home.

"I thought, if he's doing this stuff or he's drinking, I'm going to know," Kathy Chidester said. "And when he came home, he would be normal, always normal."

Experts said salvia's effects last from a few minutes to an hour or two, with no hangover or other symptoms. Daniel Siebert, a California botanist who sells the herb online and promotes its "responsible" use, described the experience as similar to a vivid

dream. "It's like your mind is on autopilot," Siebert said. "Your brain is generating images that have some kind of narrative line to them. It puts your mind in a very introspective place. It's a way of getting deep inside yourself."

Siebert said crowds and loud music make a salvia-induced trip unpleasant, so it's unlikely people would use it as a "party drug" more than once or twice. He supports some regulations on salvia, such as age restrictions and penalties for driving under the influence of salvia.

"People take their experiences way too literally and read too many things into it," Siebert said. "If you take it literally, you really believe you've traveled to other dimensions and met other beings that told you things. Minors are particularly prone to not understanding that."

That doesn't stop some Internet merchants from billing salvia as a legal, albeit more expensive, alternative to illicit recreational drugs.

The site where Brett Chidester got at least one batch sells it in packages dubbed "mind bender," "mood mix" and "freshman selection." It sells a "party pack" of three different strengths of extract, plus four ounces of leaves, for \$207.90.

Promising medical use

Salvia does have legitimate research value.

Prisinzano, who earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Delaware in 1995, is studying whether salvia's main ingredient, salvinorin A, could be used to create a nonaddictive painkiller. Also, he said, understanding the way salvia creates hallucinations could help scientists better understand Alzheimer's disease and mental illnesses that alter patients' perceptions of reality.

"It's actually become a hot area of research," said Bryan Roth, a leading salvia researcher at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. In 2002, he discovered how salvinorin A travels through the brain.

One salvia user described watching a mountain lake turn into a desert, Roth said. Another said she found herself in a room with an alternate future behind each door. She picked one door and saw the death of her child, he said.

"Depending on the dose, it can cause a mild sense of distortion," Roth said. "In the extreme, people are basically shot out into another reality, another place and time."

A changed son

Dennis and Kathy Chidester think that's what happened to Brett.

About the time Brett began using salvia, he became more melancholy and had trouble sleeping, his parents said. He was sometimes angry for no reason. Because Brett had never displayed typical teenager moodiness, they thought he was just catching up to his peers.

"He definitely changed," Kathy Chidester said. "It wasn't a drastic change. I just figured well, this is the other shoe dropping. This is what teenagers are like and we haven't experienced it."

The week before Brett's suicide, Kathy Chidester called him from Austria, where she was leading an annual ski trip for the Wilmington Ski Club. Brett said he was fine and probably was going to make the Salesianum honor roll again.

The next Saturday night, Jan. 21, Brett went to his girlfriend's homecoming dance. In the few months they had been dating, the relationship had become serious, his parents said. Brett noted in his daily planner that he was going to buy her flowers and take her to dinner for Valentine's Day.

Brett spent much of the weekend writing college application essays, hoping to become an architect. Brett was off work Monday, Jan. 23, from his job in the dining room of Cokesbury Village, an assisted living facility.

He was still sleeping when his father left the house that morning.

"Mom and Dad, don't worry about me," Brett wrote in his suicide note. "Please don't cry. I love you guys so much. I always have. Take a vacation. You deserve it. Please do not be sad. I want you to carry on your lives. Remember me and be happy when you think of me, not sad. Tell yourselves I'm in a better place, because I am. I'm sorry I didn't get to say goodbye before this, but I love you."

Contact Mike Chalmers at 324-2790 or mchalmers@delawareonline.com.

SALVIA DIVINORUM

(Hallucinogenic) sage, *Salvia divinorum*, salvia, the matrix

Salvia is derived from the American plant *Salvia divinorum*, a member of the mint family. It is used by the Mazatecs and others in Meso America. It is marketed in the UK under many guises. In head and sex shops it is often sold as herbal ecstasy, using names such as Eclipse. It is also sold as a dried natural high, intended for smoking (in variable amounts) or as a herbal remedy under its botanical name, or as the matrix or 'hallucinogenic sage'.

"Salvinorin A" the active component of *Salvia Divinorum*, is most effective when vaporized and inhaled, but the most common way to take it is by swallowing or smoking. Its effects are more hallucinatory than other legal highs - though high doses of the raw plant are usually needed to achieve these effects.

A dose of 200-500 mcg produces profound hallucinations that last from 30 minutes to an hour or two, while doses over 2mg are effective for much longer. According to the literature, doses greater than 500 mcg can cause the user to become completely unaware of their surroundings and enter a state of uncontrollable delirium during which they must be watched carefully. [1]

[1] *Salvia Divinorum and the Unique Diterpene Hallucinogen Salvinorin (Divinorin) A.*, Valdes, L.J., From: *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, vol.26 (3), 1994. p.277-283.

Powerful but legal, hallucinogenic under scrutiny

USA Today



A little-known hallucinogenic leaf that is legal in most of the USA is the target of new calls for a ban after the suicide of a teenager who smoked it.

Salvia, a relative of flowering sages enjoyed by many gardeners, is the most powerful natural hallucinogen known — almost as strong as LSD, experts say. Known as "diviner's sage," salvia has been used for centuries by the Mazatec Indians in Mexico. In the USA it is sold in leaf and liquid form by websites and head shops and is available to anyone at any age.

"Kids fall into a false sense of security because it's legal," says state Sen. Karen Peterson, a Delaware Democrat. "We control LSD, and we should control this." Peterson has filed a bill to make Delaware the third state to designate *Salvia divinorum* a banned substance like marijuana and heroin. Louisiana and Missouri have already taken such action.

Her action came in response to the suicide of Brett Chidester, 17, of Wilmington, Del., whose family blames the drug.

Brett was a straight-A student who ranked top in his state in Spanish and was making plans for college and to buy his girlfriend roses for Valentine's Day, his family says. On Jan. 23 he put a charcoal grill inside a tent in his father's garage, lit the grill and crawled inside the tent.

A suicide note described revelations that echoed descriptions of salvia experiences posted by users to various salvia-related websites. "How can I go on living after I learned the secrets of life," he wrote. "It took me 17 years, but I finally figured it out. I can't tell you that here because that kind of information can cause chaos."

His mother, Kathleen Chidester, says her son bought salvia on a website. His father, Dennis, says police took salvia from his room. Kathleen Chidester says she believes Brett was depressed and used salvia because it was legal. His suicide note left no doubt in her mind that salvia had something to do with his death. Despite salvia's powerful nature, the Drug Enforcement Administration has not recommended that it be banned as a dangerous drug. The DEA has been collecting information for years on the leaf, says Rogene Waite, a spokeswoman for DEA. The process involves measuring its availability, potential for abuse and medical uses.

November 13, 2005

Salvia: It's intense, it's dangerous, it's inexpensive ... and it's legal

By **JOHN DARLING**
for the Mail Tribune

Few police, teachers or counselors have even heard of it, but the drug salvia — a powerful psychedelic herb from Mexico — is legal in the U.S. and easily purchased over the counter in Medford or on eBay.

Also known as Diviner's Sage or Sally-D, salvia divinorum is extremely intense, say those who have tried it. They say it is as powerful or more so than LSD and produces vivid, often terrifying hallucinations and out-of-body experiences lasting five to 10 minutes. Effects vary widely; a few users report little or no effect.

The herb is sold at Magic Man in the Bear Creek Shopping Center in various strengths for \$11.95 to \$44.95. In Ashland, Zen Den doesn't sell it and Puff's used to but stopped.

Theresa Jermain of Medford called police when a 17-year-old high school student, for whom she is guardian, bought salvia at Magic Man and, after smoking it, told her he "got real high" and it was "way too strong."

After checking out the shop, police reported back to Jermain that the drug was not illegal and there was nothing they could do, she said.

The student, "Chris," who asked not to be identified by his full name, said he smoked it with 15 fellow South Medford High School students and that only three of them had a "good trip" — the rest being "very bad." Students, he added, are little aware of the drug and it's not being much used there.

He described his experience as an "out-of-body experience in a totally different world" followed by a bad "body high," in which he felt sick and awkward and couldn't move. With a cell phone, he videoed another student on salvia hallucinating and trying to crawl out the back window of a car, he said.

Sheriff's Lt. Dewey Patten, commander of the Jackson County Narcotics Enforcement Team, said he wasn't aware of the drug. "I don't know what we'd do if we found someone whacked on it, because it's not illegal," he said.

Jan Janssen, community outreach officer with Ashland Police, said she'd never encountered it, but after consulting the drug Web site erowid.org, said it's surprising that it's legal, considering that most users report unfavorable experiences. Ashland officers trained as drug recognition experts do know the drug and can spot its effects, she said.

Patten consulted a comprehensive drug reference, "Uppers, Downers and All-Arounders," co-written by Ashlander William Cohen, who also lectures and makes films about psychoactive drugs.



□ Salvia is a powerful, legal herb from Mexico that produces vivid, often terrifying hallucinations. The drug is sold in Magic Man in various strengths.

Mail Tribune / Bob Pennell

Salvia, wrote Cohen, is similar to PCP and originates among the Mazatec Indians of Oaxaca, Mexico, who use it to induce dreamlike hallucinations, delirium and out-of-body experiences, so as to seek out the causes of illness.

The effects, or "trip," last up to 10 minutes, tapering off over half an hour, with the nature of the trip dependent on the person's mind-set and surroundings.

"Cliff," a 19-year-old from Ashland who asked not to be identified, called salvia an "anti-drug drug" because his trip was so intense that it turned him off alcohol and drugs.

"In my first trip, my legs turned to a waterfall of tears," said Cliff. "The second time, I thought, seriously, that I had died and that my soul was being sucked out of me. It was the most intense thing I've ever done. Coming off it, I felt needles were coming out of my body. It definitely had teaching value because I was abusing (alcohol and drugs) and it gave me a lot of insight about what I was doing."

Magic Man owner John Hopf said salvia is sold as an incense or meditative aid like sage — and that customers learn about it on the Internet and come in to buy it. Although Hopf said he knows of no psychedelic properties for the plant, his store had a stack of printouts from a government Web site warning that salvia is a powerful hallucinogen.

"Pete," 27, another Medford resident who used salvia and asked not to be identified, said he had bought salvia from Magic Man seven or eight times. He described it as "a meditative thing that helps you feel a reality outside the ordinary reality and become one with yourself, as a unity."

He added, "It's very personal, not smoke-a-bowl-and-relax."

"Max," an 18-year-old senior at North Medford High School who bought salvia last week at Magic Man and declined to be identified, said friends suggested he try it. "I'm curious. I'll probably feel good for a while and hallucinate. They said it was worth the money for the feeling you get."

The federal Drug Enforcement Administration has the plant under review based on its potential abuse, availability and effects on users, said DEA public affairs officer Lauren Alder in Washington, D.C.

"The DEA lists it as 'of concern,' but just because it's not listed as a controlled substance doesn't mean it's healthy or safe," said Alder. "The medical profession stresses the danger of it."

The DEA Web page on salvia — www.usdoj.gov/dea/pubs/states/newsrel/newark_intel_bulletin_salvia.html — classifies it as a psychoactive terpenoid, a family that includes marijuana. It produces "profound hallucinations," with effects similar to mescaline, the DEA bulletin said.

The DEA welcomes comments at its Drug and Chemical Evaluation Section: 202-307-8570 (fax) or 202-307-7183 (phone).

Three years ago, staff Oregonian columnist Margie Boule branded salvia "the most powerful natural hallucinogen known on earth."

"Salvia divinorum is a wild ride," wrote Boule. "This is not a drug that simply makes people play Beatles' records backward. It induces powerful hallucinations that sometimes are terrifying."

Salvia is illegal in Australia, Italy, Denmark, Norway and South Korea. California Rep. Joe Baca in

2002 introduced a bill to ban it in the U.S., but, says erowid.org, it is chemically different from schedule I and II drugs, so it is not covered by the federal law used to ban drugs.

SALVIA

salvia divinorum

- **Other names:** Diviner's Sage, Sally-D
- **Cost:** Sold in various strengths for from \$11.95 to \$44.95 a bag
- **Use:** Similar to PCP, intense hallucinations lasting for 5-10 minutes when the drug is smoked
- **Legal use:** An incense or meditative aid, akin to sage
- **Federal position:** The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration has the plant under review. The government classifies it as a psychoactive terpenoid, with effects similar to mescaline
- **Why is it still legal?** Chemically differences from schedule I and II drugs mean it is not covered by the federal law used to ban drug
- **Where is it banned?** Australia, Italy, Denmark, Norway and South Korea
- **Salvia web site:** erowid.org
- **DEA information:** www.usdoj.gov/dea/pubs/states/newsrel/newark_intel_bulletin_salvia.html
- **Comments:** The DEA welcomes comments at its Drug and Chemical Evaluation Section: 202-307-8570 (fax) or 202-307-7183 (phone).

John Darling is a free-lance writer living in Ashland. E-mail him at jdarling@jeffnet.org.

You can find this story online at:

<http://www.mailtribune.com/archive/2005/1113/local/stories/11local.htm>

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The Legal Hallucinogen Targeted to Teens

By Laura Dawn Lewis

Salvia Divinorum (Salvia) or *Salvinorin A*, street names *Salvia*, *Divine Sage* and *Magic Mint* is a legal, powerful natural hallucinogen marketed to and easily accessed by teens on the web and at times, health and spirituality stores. Health care and law enforcement officials described Salvia as the organic hallucinogen as potent as LSD. Users dispute the comparing of Salvia to LSD and insist that it is a mild, harmless perception and spirituality enhancer.

Generally it takes science a few years to catch up with new herbal remedies that create potentially harmful reactions. This may be why even the DEA cannot respond to many questions regarding *Salvia Divinorum*. Though the DEA may not be able to junior high, high school and college students can.

Salvia Divinorum is currently legal in every country but Australia. The Australian government banned Salvia effective as of June 2002. Salvia is a member of the sage family and a common garden plant. To date, the Divinorum species of Salvia seems to be the only member of this family with perception-altering or intoxicating capabilities. Divinorum seeds are rare.

Couples Company
.com



NEW Salvia Divinorum Special

IN STOCK!!!!

Get the best of both worlds with 1/2 oz. of Prime Salvia Leaves & 1 gm Salvia standardized 5x Extract For a limited time \$36

Salvia Divinorum Leaves -Prime Oaxacan Harvest Leaves

The leaves are harvested fresh in the high mountains of Oaxacan by the native people of that region, then dried, cured & blessed. Oaxacan salvia leaves are known to be 50% more potent than Hawaiian or other grown salvia leaves. These are the highest potency and quality leaves you can get anywhere.

\$20 for 1/2 oz. (14 g) of Prime Salvia Divinorum Leaves
\$35 for 1 oz. (28 g) of Prime Salvia Divinorum Leaves

Salvia Divinorum is not a new drug or plant. Classified in the sage/mint family the Mazatec Indians of Northern Mountains in Oaxaca, Mexico have been using the leafy plant in healing and in religious ceremonies for centuries. The drug itself provides a trip for the user that can range from mild to extreme. Cases have been documented of users falling asleep while driving and walking through glass walls while under its influence.

Referring to the above cases, a 23-year-old Salvia defender in Pittsburgh, PA commented, "*You state things like, it could cause a user to fall asleep while driving. What idiot would use this while trying to drive a car?*"

Users argue that the effect lasts only about five minutes. One responded to this article by stating, "*When salvia is smoked the "trip" only lasts about 3 minutes.*" The few medical sources we were able to find with some

Actual Sales Copy from a Salvia Dealers Web site

background on Salvia placed intoxication closer to thirty to forty minutes. Several aficionados also insist that the effects "*Aren't much more "intense" than smoking tobacco*".

User sites dispute our reader's assertion that Salvia highs are no more intense than smoking tobacco. Search and you will see notations referring the 5th and 6th levels of intoxication, called immaterial and amnesiac. These notations dispute what many of the users are stating and do warn of the potential hazards and need for supervision. These are stressed for the highest level, Amnesiac.

"User remains conscious but loses accurate perception of actual surroundings. At this point the person should not be left alone and must have a sober person in the room. The user is in an altered reality, will wander and encounter brief periods of unconsciousness and blackouts."

The DEA's limited information on Salvia describes its use as follows: "*Salvia is being smoked to induce hallucinations, the diversity of which are described by its users to be similar to those induced by ketamine, mescaline, or psilocybin. It is being widely touted on internet sites aimed at young adults and adolescents eager to experiment with these types of substances.*"

Access

Obtaining this drug is as simple as entering a store or visiting eBay. Users adamantly defend its virtues and their right to partake in its pleasures. The following came in to Couples Company from a reader. We found this letter interesting because unlike the others it wasn't angry but it does illustrate the allure. The writer is also mature and in his mid-thirties, showing the appeal to this drug transcends generations.

Dear Couples Company.

Thank you for bringing this subject to parents' attention. I wonder, why would the parents be the last to know about this plant? In answer to my own question, I say the parents are too comfortable in their lives and they don't want to know. Answering your question - I do know what salvia is. My first experience took place last December. Even though I had been reading what other people posted about their encounters with salvia for a few months before I got enough courage to try it myself (unfortunately, I am not a teenager any more). It was so unexpected, so moving, so out-of-his-world that you wouldn't believe. That experience that lasted no more than 5 minutes of Earth time changed my outlook on life in general and my life in particular. I set up a site to collect any salvia related posts that were ever published online - SalviaDivinorumCorps.org, started a discussion group "SalviaD Alliance" on Yahoo and recently formed "Salvia Buyers Club" to provide good quality salvia at wholesale prices to salvia community. My advice to the parents - take it into your hands, "say once to salvia" and be the judges what is good for your children.

Sincerely,
Slava M 37,
Potomac Falls, VA

Salvia is not just an intercity drug issue; like crack or ecstasy it is in small towns and the big cities. This legal consciousness-altering drug is being used in small towns and major cities around the world. The Internet makes it accessible by overnight delivery to anyone with a credit card, checking account or money order. About half of the 30 web sites we visited selling this drug were based in Germany. The rest are US based.

"Some drugs alter reality in such a way that you come face to face with thoughts that which you have been afraid to confront. There is a reason these substances have been (some still are) researched for psychiatric application," states an anonymous reader of Couples Company.

"This is an escape drug? You are totally wrong, unless you consider 3 minutes of calm an escape. No, alcohol is an escape drug," comments another reader.

Though users argue the drug does not offer an escape from reality, their web sites, comments and culture contradict this through the act of assigning varying descriptions to levels of intoxication or the exaltation of the trips; the creation of a special language for the drug and its altered states of reality. The documentation of experiences under the influence of the drug as exceptional, extraordinary and life-changing. These actions dispute and disprove claims of non-escapism or of a drug with little impact on the user.

Targeting Teens

The target market for Salvia is teens and twenty-something's and it taps into the issues, insecurities and confusion this age group struggles with and identifies with. Salvia ads promise to deliver spiritual enlightenment and bliss to the user. Testimonials from other users further convince and persuade potential users of the benefits of using the product. Many Salvia sales web sites includes step-by-step instructions for smoking the product, while enthusiastically showcasing the results through affirming statements, user trip reports and other personal accounts of the experiences. The following is the introduction from one of the largest legal Salvia dealers on the web:

"Salvia Divinorum has been steadily growing in popularity over the last few years due to the incredible visionary mystical experiences people are having. Many People are discovering Salvia Divinorum as a powerful tool for soul searching, exploration of consciousness and pure bliss."

General FAQ's

A typical ounce usually
contains 100 – 200
One ounce = 4 to 12
doses

To achieve moderately
strong effects from 1/2
gram of average potency
leaf, or 1/4 gram of
stronger material.

Salvinorin A is the
fortified leaf

From this copy it is easy to see why many people refer to Salvia as the legal LSD. Travel back in time to the 1960's and this same statement, nearly verbatim could be heard emanating from the lips of those enjoying or promoting LSD. Many *Salvia Trip Reports* are also eerily similar to the trip descriptions recorded by those on LSD.

"There were beautiful closed eye visuals: a dome composed of ribs of light forming arched groining like that of a Gothic cathedral. The colors were the iridescent rainbow in a peacock's tail. This "reality" opened into another one: a narrow red rock canyon with a fast moving river plunging over rocks.

I then felt that I was no longer a specific individual, but was an awareness that opened into every individual's consciousness everywhere, forever. I had the feeling that there was a lesson to be learned."

Salvia Trip Report

Also like LSD, Salvia users have created their own language, logic and culture based around the experiences and consumption of the drug.

Salvia & Health

Salvia is endorsed and marketed by dealers as healthy with spiritual significance. Spirituality is empowered through the action of blessing the dried and cured leaves by an Indian Shaman. Then the leaves are consumed by smoking or chewing.

The health claims are easily disproved by the fact that the leaves are smoked. To date no scientific evidence exists to prove a medicinal purpose for this drug. It also must be noted that scientists have been unable to determine how it works. It does not appear to alter the nervous system and scientists speculate its effects can range from hormonal to affecting a gland yet to be studied. It is possible at a later date a medical purpose may be discovered. Claiming health benefits at this time has no foundation and is simply marketing.

Salvia is also marketed in high-potency drops referred to as Emerald Essence. The drops enter blood stream through the cells in the mouth where it is held for a period of time. Users insist the drops have no effect if ingested or added to food. Currently no scientific research or evidence exists to either prove or disprove this statement.

Salvia & Spirituality

The faith claim for Salvia is stronger than the health claims. As one reader points out, *"For countless millennia, Shamanic traditions have used plant medicines and plant teachers for ceremonial and spiritual use."*

Ancient Indian religions may use Salvia as part of their worship, but the majority of people using the drug today do not subscribe to Shamanic traditions and are not using it

for religious purposes. Cocaine, peyote, opium and other drugs have also been used in religious observances in the past. To claim and use the drug as a religious necessity, users would need to convert and practice the Mazatec Indian's faith and then only use it for ceremonial purposes.

What Salvia Does:

Salvia Divinorum provides the user with an escape, or as users prefer, an enhancement of his or her reality. The drug creates a sense of well being within the user when the experience is positive. Negative experiences can be living nightmares and cause blackouts.

The 3 Degrees of Use



- ❑ **General inebriation, (a few hits):** Similar to mushrooms with brighter colors and increased sexual desire.
- ❑ **Increased Potency:** Users fall into Trances
- ❑ **Further Increased Potency:** User remains conscious but loses accurate perception of actual surroundings. At this point the person should not be left alone and must have a sober person in the room. The user is in an altered reality, will wander and encounter brief periods of unconsciousness and blackouts.

Salvia users rate trips on a 6-tiered scale based upon the name of the drug:

- ❑ **S = SUBTLE** effects
- ❑ **A = ALTERED** perception
- ❑ **L = LIGHT** visionary state
- ❑ **V = VIVID** visionary state
- ❑ **I = IMMATERIAL** existence
- ❑ **A = AMNESIC** effects

As a parent, what can you do and how do you know if your child is using this?

Going through the Salvia sites one thing stood out, vocabulary. The users speak about Trip Reports. These are retellings of their drug-induced experiences. The words "visionary, spiritual enhancement, soul, altered-consciousness, sage." There is an official Salvia dictionary for proper trip descriptions and these includes: