



B.A. Communication, Minor in Journalism '98 at UAF; Master of Public Administration '07 at UAA
Hometown: Anchorage, AK
UAA Parking Services Director
Fun Fact: Makes fantastic coconut macarons

UAA and UAF alumna Glenna Muncy was the first person in her family to graduate from college. As a dedicated and hard-working student, Glenna realized the value of education at an early age. She has earned two college degrees and has found herself at the top of UAA's Parking Services as its director. Even though she graduated from two in-state universities, Glenna admits she originally planned on attending college outside Alaska.

In 1994, Glenna graduated as the salutatorian from Delta Junction High School and was looking to attend an in-state college for the first half of her college career. She attended the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) with plans to finish an associate degree and then transfer to a school Outside. "After I had enough credits to graduate, I didn't want to leave," Glenna said. "I had friends, I had a job, I liked my classes and I wanted to finish what I started."

Fascinated with the art and science of communication, Glenna found herself majoring in just that—communication. "I discovered I had a knack for talking with people and I was interested to know more about how messages are transferred between people. I was drawn to the psychology and sociology of human communication."

Glenna graduated from UAF with a B.A. in communication and a minor in journalism. After graduating, she worked several "college appreciation" jobs in retail and foodservice, still unsure about her career path. She moved back to Anchorage in 1999 and worked for the Hotel Captain Cook as an assistant front office manager until 2001. "I have been an Alaskan girl my whole life, living in Delta Junction, Fairbanks and spending summers in Seward. But Anchorage is home."

In the fall of 2001, Glenna transitioned to UAA's Student Affairs office as the assistant operations manager at the Student Union. With some encouragement from both her supervisor Crickett Watt and her graduate advisor Steve Aufrecht, Glenna decided to pursue a master's degree in public administration in 2002. She graduated with an M.P.A. in 2007.

Glenna is still at UAA and is enjoying the challenges of being director of Parking Services. One of the best things about her job, Glenna said, is being able to work with the entire spectrum of the UAA population.

"Whether it involves arranging parking needs for a special event being held on campus, offering transportation options or safety escorts to a first-time student, helping a visitor navigate campus or providing a student with employment, we offer a wide range of services to meet the needs of those we serve."

Right now Glenna is working on two new transportation programs that will be fully available this fall. The first program is called Zimride, a social networking carpooling software program that UAA affiliates can use to find rides for their varied lifestyles. This program is free for users who have a UAA email address. "It's designed to allow students to connect with other students for transportation to and from school, athletic events, weekend trips, etc. It will also be used for regular commutes from Eagle River or the Valley," Glenna said. "But most importantly, this program will help reduce carbon footprints while making social connections and encouraging green decisions. It's one way UAA is helping to go green!"

Glenna is also working on Hertz on Demand, a car-sharing program that will allow users, ages 18 and up, to rent cars by the hour from two locations on campus. "I'm excited to introduce this as the first car-sharing program in Alaska and allow our students to be the ones to try it out. It's programs like this that keep us competitive with schools in the Lower 48."

But Glenna isn't just excited about UAA's new car-sharing programs; she and her husband Brian are expecting their first child at the end of October. "We've been really busy, but are excited to welcome our son in a few short months."