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Christopher N Hay-Jahans* (christopher.hayjahans@uas.alaska.edu), Department of Natural Sciences, University of Alaska Southeast, 11120 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801. *If You Build It (Carefully), They Will Come.*

In 2003 the UAS mathematics faculty submitted a carefully crafted proposal to offer a BS degree in mathematics. In spite of skeptics outside of mathematics, including the UAS biology faculty, the proposal was approved for the 2004-2005 academic catalog. Now, in its fourth year, the BS in mathematics has close to fifty registered majors, the number of non-mathematics majors taking upper-level program courses has increased, and there are also some biology or marine biology majors seeking a minor or a double major in mathematics. There has also been a very gradual, but welcome growth in appreciation of the mathematical sciences in Juneau, even among former skeptics.

This presentation is to be a non-technical discussion of accidental discoveries made through happy coincidences and unplanned collaborations, as well as of the positive outcomes of careful, realistic and strategic program and curricular planning. Herein lie some potentially useful tips for small undergraduate programs seeking to develop formal biomathematics programs or, at least, mathematics programs that allow for an introduction to biomathematics. (Received September 20, 2007)