George Rogers was an unassuming giant among Alaska’s founding fathers. A scholar as well as an active participant in Alaska’s economic development, George Rogers was the initiator and guiding light of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER). He nurtured and mentored hundreds of young researchers over the years. It is a most fitting tribute that in 2011, on ISER’s 50th anniversary, the George Rogers Emerging Scholars Fund has been established at ISER to encourage young scholars and promote research opportunities in Alaska.

Institute of Social and Economic Research
In 1961, two years after statehood, George Rogers persuaded the Alaska State Legislature to enact a law establishing what is now the Institute of Social and Economic Research. ISER’s research spans Alaska’s modern history—examining everything from the economic effects of the massive 1964 earthquake to the implications of climate change for the state’s infrastructure. Over the past half a century, ISER’s work has helped Alaskans better understand their state—and has made salient contributions to a wide range of fields, including the state economy, fisheries, energy and environment, education, health, and Arctic social systems.

An Investment in the Future
The George Rogers Emerging Scholars Fund at ISER will support (1) doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships for Alaska-based research in social sciences; and (2) annual competitive George Rogers Research Awards for undergraduate and graduate students. These awards are intended to encourage early-career investments in Alaska- and Arctic-based research; to help recruit promising young faculty; and to further enhance ISER’s effectiveness in dealing with policy issues of significance to Alaska and the nation.

To Make a Gift to the George Rogers Emerging Scholars Fund:
• Give online at: www.uaa.alaska.edu/advancement/giving/index.cfm
• Send a check to: University of Alaska Foundation, 1815 Bragaw Street, #203, Anchorage, AK 99508

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For more information about ISER, please go to: www.iser.uaa.alaska.edu