A distinctive learning community

Juneau · Ketchikan · Sitka

MEMORANDUM

To:

Senator Gary Stevens

Alaska State Legislature

From:

Richard A. Caulfield, PhD, Provost, University of Alaska Southeast

Subject:

Responses to questions regarding TVEP for Alaska Senate Education Committee

Date:

February 24, 2014

1. How long have you been in operation?

The University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) has been serving Southeast Alaska since the 1950s. In 1986, multiple community campuses in the region were combined into an integrated multi-campus university serving the entire region. Today, UAS is one of three regionally-accredited universities within the University of Alaska statewide system.

2. What is your governance structure?

UAS focuses on student learning and student success at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. This includes a broad array of programs in career and technical education. The University of Alaska statewide system is governed by the UA Board of Regents with system leadership provided by President Patrick Gamble. Chancellor John Pugh provides leadership at the university-wide level, assisted by Provost Richard Caulfield who also serves as Executive Dean, School of Career Education. The Sitka and Ketchikan Campuses are served by campus directors Dr. Jeff Johnston and Dr. Priscilla Schulte, respectively. UAS deans and directors work with faculty, staff, and student governance groups and with community representatives in ensuring that the UAS mission is fulfilled.

3. What manner of public/private partnerships do you share?

UAS has extensive public and private partnerships focusing on producing an educated and highly-skilled workforce for Southeast Alaska and indeed all of the state. Examples of these partnerships include:

- Private sector: Sealaska Corporation, Hecla/Greens Creek Mine, Coeur Kensington Mine, Icicle Seafoods, Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, Vigor Alaska, PeaceHealth;
- Public sector: Southeast Conference, Juneau Economic Development Corporation, City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, City and Borough of Sitka, City and Borough of Ketchikan, US Forest Service (Pacific Northwest Lab, Tongass National Forest), Alaska Department of Fish and Game, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Bartlett Community Hospital, Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corporation (SEARHC), Sitka Hospital, UA Mining and Petroleum Training Service, Alaska Marine Highway System, K-12 school districts throughout Southeast Alaska; and
- Tribes and Non-profit entities: Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, Ketchikan Indian Community, OceansAlaska, Juneau Arts and Humanities Council, Juneau Symphony.

4. What specific training programs do you offer?

UAS focuses strategically on providing career and technical education and training in Southeast Alaska that falls within identified <u>Career Clusters</u> linked to career pathways for K-12 and adult students. UAS programs¹ include the following:

- <u>Health Sciences</u>: Health Information Management (AAS), Health Sciences (AAS), Pre-Nursing Qualifications (CERT), Pre-Radiologic Technology Qualifications (CERT), Healthcare Information Technology (OE), Health Information Management—Coding Specialist (OE), Healthcare Privacy and Security (OE)
- <u>Architecture and Construction</u>: Construction Technology (AAS), Drafting Technology (CERT), Residential Building Science (CERT), Building Energy Retrofit Technician (OE), Residential/Light Construction (OE)
- Mining: Mine Mechanic (AAS), Entry Level Miner (WC), MSHA training
- Career Pathways: Tech-Prep and dual enrollment, K-12 partnerships
- Fisheries, Agriculture and Natural Resources: Fisheries Technology (AAS, CERT)
- <u>Transportation, Distribution and Logistics</u>: Power Technology (Diesel, Automotive, USCG Marine Oiler—
 AAS), Diesel/Heavy Duty Technology (OE), Diesel/Marine Technology (OE), Marine Engine Room Preparation
 (OE), Marine Transportation (OE), USCG certifications (e.g. Basic Seamanship, Able Seaman, Radar
 Observer, Master 100 ton, Advanced Fire Fighting)
- <u>Business, Management, and Administration</u>: Business Administration (AAS), Accounting Technician (CERT),
 Small Business Management (CERT), Accountant (OE), Administrative Office Support (OE)
- <u>Law and Public Safety</u>: Law Enforcement (AAS, OE)

5. How many participants do you currently have in those respective programs? Enrolled Majors in UAS TVEP-funded Programs, 2008-2009 through Fall of 2013-2014

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Juneau	32	35	37	43	52	61
AAS Business Administration	27	27	31	35	42	50
AAS Construction Technology	4	4	4	3	1	2
AAS Power Technology - Diesel/Heavy	I	3		2	3	3
OEC Diesel/Heavy Duty		1	2	3	6	6
Ketchikan	2	2	2	4	5	4
AAS Fisheries Technology	2	1	1	2	4	3
CT2 Fisheries Technology		1	1	1	1	
OEC Marine Transportation						
OEC Network Technician				1		
Sitka	15	20	30	41	52	45
AAS Health Information Mgt	14	13	14	14	15	13
AAS Health Science	1	3	1	2	1	1 2
AAS Law Enforcement						2
CT1 Pre-Radiologic Technology					1	
CT2 Health Info Mgmt Coding Specialist			9	11	13	14
CT2 Healthcare Privacy & Security		4	2	4	4	4
OEC Healthcare Information Technology			1	8	7	(
OEC Law Enforcement			3	2	11	4
GRAND TOTAL	49	57	69	88	109	110

Data source: UA Decision Support Database, compiled from closing extracts.

¹ Key to program offerings: AAS, Associate of Applied Science (60 credits); CERT, Certificate (30 credits); OE, Occupational Endorsement (9-29 credits); WC, Workforce Credential, non-credit units

6. What do you offer in the form of degrees and/or certificates in these programs? See #4 above and key for degrees and certificates offered.

7. How many certifications have you issued and in what training fields, since you began operating?

Graduates of TVEP-funded Occupational Endorsements, Certificates, and AAS Degrees, 2009-2014

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• manual (2009		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Juneau		89	115	122	120	142	140
AAS Business Administration		68	84	81	84	94	95
AAS Construction Technology		8	12	16	10	8	6
AAS Power Technology - Diesel/Heavy		9	10	16	16	28	27
OEC Diesel/Heavy Duty		4	9	6	10	9	6
OEC Construction Technology				3			
OEC Mine Mechanic						3	2
AAS Power Technology - Mine Mechanic							4
Ketchikan		11	14	21	26	23	13
AAS Fisheries Technology		11	13	20	22	19	10
CT2 Fisheries Technology			1	1	3	3	2
OEC Marine Transportation						1	1
OEC Network Technician					1		
Sitka		60	110	140	164	164	125
AAS Fisheries Technology							1
AAS Health Information Mgt		46	65	63	58	54	45
AAS Health Science		12	12	12	19	18	10
AAS Law Enforcement							5
CT1 Pre-Radiologic Technology		2	2	1	3	1	1
CT2 Health Info Mgmt Coding Specialist			15	25	34	30	24
CT2 Healthcare Privacy & Security			16	6	6	6	5
OEC Healthcare Information Technology				5	8	7	7
OEC Law Enforcement				28	36	48	27
Grand Total		160	239	283	310	329	278

Data source: UA Decision Support Database, compiled from closing extracts.

UAS students may also prepare for external agency certification through enrollment in UAS courses. Agencies often do not release data regarding the number of certifications and licensures issued to students successfully completing exam preparation courses. Certifications and licensures include:

Campus	Certification/Licensure	Agency			
Sitka	Water Operator Certification	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation			
	Wastewater Operator Certification	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation			
	Wastewater Operator Certification	American Backflow Prevention Association			
	Certified Nurse Aide Certification	National Nurse Aide Assessment Program			
	Registered Health Information Technician	American Health Information Management Assn			
	Welding Certifications	American Welding Society			

Ketchikan	Oiler	US Coast Guard				
Linkel	Operator of Uninspected Passenger Vessel	US Coast Guard				
	Able Seaman	US Coast Guard				
	Code of Federal Regulations (CFRs) 46	Federal				
	200 Ton Upgrade	US Coast Guard				
Juneau	Licensed Nursing Home Administrator	Alaska Department of Education				
	Oiler	US Coast Guard				
	Commercial Drivers' License Type B	Alaska Department of Transportation				
	Refrigerant certification	Environmental Protection Agency				
	Certified Nurse Aide Certification	National Nurse Aide Assessment Program				
	Emergency Medical Technician - 2	State of Alaska				
	Building Analyst certification	Building Performance Institute Testing Center				
- Macket	Microsoft Office Specialist	Microsoft				
	Certified Master StatusAutomotive	National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence				
	Human Resources Certifications: PHR	Human Resource Certification Institute				
	Human Resources Certifications: SPHR	Human Resource Certification Institute				
	Human Resources Certifications: GPHR	Human Resource Certification Institute				
I Same	Emergency Medical Technician - 1	State of Alaska				
	CPR Completion card	Red Cross				
	General Contractors with Residential Endorsements	AGC				
	Alaska General Contractors licensure	AGC				
	Residential Ventilation Installation	Heating, Refrigeration Air-Conditioning Institute of Canad				

8. Describe the demographic profile of your student body.

For the Fall 2013 semester, there were 3,644 students enrolled at UAS, with 2,684 taking courses at the Juneau campus, 626 attending Ketchikan, and 888 enrolled at Sitka. A majority of our students (approximately 70% of all undergraduates) take classes part-time. Also, a growing number take courses from more than one campus and in an online/eLearning format.

Sixty-five percent of our students are women, and 17.3% are Alaska Native/American Indian. UAS serves students of all ages, ranging from high school students to senior citizens. Students between 18 and 24 years old make up 29% of the total student population; 25 to 29 years of age make up 16%; 30-39 percent make up 20%. Of our 217 first-time freshmen, 64% are recent high school graduates. Most (78%) recent high school graduates are from SE Alaska. Half of our students (1,820) are seeking UAS endorsements, certificates, and degrees, and half (1,824) are non-degree seeking (which includes students pursuing workforce credentials and students taking UAS courses who are seeking degrees from other UA universities). Data source: UA Decision Support Database, compiled from closing extracts.

9. What are the technical and vocational labor demands in your region and how successful are you in satisfying that demand?

Southeast Alaska's economy is driven by the following major sectors: mining, healthcare and social services, visitor services, commercial fishing and seafood processing, and government. Other important sectors are shipbuilding and vessel repair, marine transportation, construction, mariculture, business and financial services, and retail services.

UAS offers degrees and/or certificates in each of these areas, funded in part by TVEP dollars. Nearly all UAS programs have active industry advisory committees that help us identify changes in demand and employer expectations. Data about labor demand in Southeast Alaska comes primarily from the Alaska Department of

Labor and Workforce Development, Southeast Conference, Juneau Economic Development Council, and private and public employers—see below:

- Southeast Conference, 2013. The Maritime Economy of Southeast Alaska. http://www.seconference.org/sites/default/files/FINAL%20Southeast%20Alaska%20Maritime%20Economy%20Sept%2010%20for%20we
 b.pdf
- Southeast Conference, 2013. Southeast Alaska by the Numbers 2013. http://www.seconference.org/southeast-alaska-numbers
- Juneau Economic Development Council, 2013. Juneau and Southeast Alaska Economic Indicators. http://www.jedc.org/sites/default/files/JEDC%20Economic%20Indicators%202013.pdf
- Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Alaska TRENDS. http://labor.state.ak.us/trends/apr11.pdf

10. What is your annual budget? What other sources of funding do you have besides TVEP?

Authorized Budget	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
Juneau	41,570.2	42,123.1	42,885.4	43,049.2	44,553.9	43,835.7
Ketchikan	4,947.6	4,976.0	4,997.8	5,529.4	5,792.5	5,656.9
Sitka	7,923.0	7,386.2	7,295.6	7,790.9	8,155.2	8,402.4
Total Region Budget	54,440.8	54,485.3	55.178.8	56,369.5	58,501.6	57,895.0

Other sources of revenue include: 1) Unrestricted: Tuition and fees, indirect cost recovery, university receipts (fees for non-traditional course delivery), and auxiliary enterprise revenue (student housing, student recreation center) and 2) Restricted: Federal grant revenue, state grant revenue, and university receipts (grant revenue from private, non-state, non-federal organizations)

11. What annual level of TVEP funding have you received historically and to date?

Over the past 5 year trend, UAS has received an average of 13.5% of the total TVEP funding allocated to the University of Alaska. The amount varies a little each year depending upon the progress and actual cost of budgeted activities.

TOTAL UAS TVEP	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	Average
RECEIVED	760.1	760.1	646.3	660.1	646.3	555.9	
UAS % of UA TVEP	16.1%	16.1%	13.3%	13.1%	11.9%	10.3%	13.5%

12. What specifically do TVEP funds pay for at your training center?

TVEP funding at UAS campuses has been important in two ways: 1) funding faculty and staff positions for high-demand career and technical education programs and pathways, and 2) funding equipment that enables UAS to offer high quality education and training. TVEP funding is particularly important to enable UAS to be responsive to dynamic industry needs—when the university needs to ramp up quickly in response to new workforce needs and opportunities. Funding also allows the university to pilot new workforce initiatives, such as the Ketchikan Campus "Maritime and Multi-skilled Worker" credential created in partnership with Vigor Alaska.

13. What would you do if TVEP were reduced or eliminated? Increased?

TVEP funding is vital to our efforts to provide quality career and technical education in Southeast Alaska. TVEP funding enables UAS campuses to develop meaningful partnerships with industry so that graduates/completers are trained for what employers need. TVEP funding enables us to partner effectively with high schools in the region to offer career pathways from secondary into post-secondary education. TVEP funding allows us to be responsive to new workforce needs, such as in shipbuilding and vessel maintenance and in mine training. TVEP funding also ensures that our graduates are trained on current equipment.

Increased TVEP funding would enable UAS to be even more proactive in meeting the career and technical education needs of Southeast Alaska. We seek to expand our hands-on mine training opportunities in the region, working in partnership with the UA Mining and Petroleum Training Service. Doing so will reduce the need for new or incumbent workers to leave the region for required safety and/or hands-on training—taking them away from families and jobs. We seek to expand maritime training to meet the needs of the Alaska Marine Highway System—enabling more Alaskans to take jobs on board ship and to stay current with USCG licensing and certification requirements. We are working actively with Vigor Alaska to build a Multiskilled workforce for shipbuilding and vessel maintenance and repair in Ketchikan; with possibilities of partnerships with community college training facilities in the Pacific Northwest. These and other opportunities will be all the more difficult if TVEP funding is reduced. If funding is increased, we can see more Alaskans getting the education and training they need and becoming successful in finding jobs locally.

14. Do you operate a residential facility in conjunction with your programs? If so, please give some history of its construction and current manner of operation and maintenance. Current number of residents? UAS' Juneau Auke Lake Campus currently has a three-story 18,000 square foot coed residence hall with 84 beds, and two- and four-bedroom townhouse-style apartments in 7 buildings with a total of 200 beds. The apartments were built in 1984 for a cost of \$12.7M. Banfield Hall, the coed residence, was built in 1995 at a cost of \$3.5M. These facilities are available to students enrolled at all levels of instruction, including both undergraduate and graduate. UAS and its partners periodically use local hotels to house participants in short-term intensive education and training—like that provided in for Entry Level Miner training.

15. What is our student/teacher ratio?

The student to faculty ratio at UAS is 9:1, based on 1,445.7 full-time equivalent students (full-time plus 1/3 part time) and 166.8 full-time equivalent instructional faculty (full time plus 1/3 part time). Data source: UA Decision Support Database, compiled from Fall 2013 opening extracts.

16. How many faculty do you employ? Describe their certification levels.

UAS employs 166.8 full-time equivalent instructional faculty. Approximately 50% of all UAS faculty have a doctorate degree, 30% have a Master's degree or equivalent, and the remaining 20% have an Associate degree and/or specialized credentials.

17. Describe how your training center benefits your local community or region.

Working with industry and other education providers, the three UAS campuses provide quality education and training in career and technical education for Southeast Alaska. UAS graduates Alaskans who are prepared to go to work in the key high-demand workforce sectors important to our communities and region: mining, tourism, fisheries and seafood processing, healthcare and social services, marine transportation, law enforcement, and government.

Producing local graduates means that more Alaskans take local and regional jobs—reducing costs to employers who otherwise have to recruit from elsewhere, only to find that they leave after a brief period of employment. Moreover, the dollars our graduates earn stay in our communities. And our young people have industry mentors and role models nearby who encourage them to study hard and take advantage of local education and training rather than leaving the region and the state.

UAS career and technical education is successful because of our partnerships—with K-12 education in offering dual enrollment, Tech-Prep, and career pathways, and with industry that provides scholarships, internships, practicum opportunities, and vital assistance in designing a relevant curriculum. We're especially appreciative of investments made by companies such as Hecla/Greens Creek, which funds in part our Mine Mechanic program, and Icicle Seafoods which has been a strong supporter of our Fisheries Technology Program. UAS also works closely with Native organizations such as the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska, Sealaska Corporation, Goldbelt, Inc., and Ketchikan Indian Community. By

developing aligned career pathways, we can ensure that graduates have both the 'employability skills' and the industry-specified job skills needed to be a safe, competent, and skilled worker.

18. Please share any other highlights and needs of your training center.

See Attachment A: UAS FY14 TVEP Program Highlights

19. Are there other regional training centers you feel should be receiving TVEP funds?

UAS is not in a position to judge how best to allocate such resources. That said, our institution serves all of Southeast Alaska through its campuses in Juneau, Sitka, and Ketchikan. Career and technical education is an integral part of our mission. We'll continue to partner with others in our region to leverage resources, avoid duplication, and align with industry standards and needs. Increasingly, career and technical education offerings are available online, making education and training available even to remote communities. UAS will continue to broaden its offerings and partnerships to meet these needs and opportunities.

20. Do you believe the current allocation structure for distributing TVEP funds is adequate and fair? If not, how would you recommend adjusting it?

We believe that the current allocation of TVEP funding to the University of Alaska system and other education and training providers across the state is essential to building a skilled Alaskan workforce. The amount UAS receives approximates the proportion of UA students we serve. The mechanism used for allocation is fair. More and more employers are looking for those with some degree of post-secondary education—whether apprenticeship training, certificates or industry-recognized credentials, or degrees leading to good-paying jobs. Even in tight budget times, expanding Alaska's investment in TVEP-funded programs will build our state's future and provides opportunities for future generations.