



# SouthEast Alaska Pilots' Association

1621 Tongass Avenue, Suite 300 • Ketchikan, Alaska 99901 • 907-225-9696 • fax 907-247-9696 • [pilots@seapa.com](mailto:pilots@seapa.com)

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Capt. Ed Sinclair, President  
Capt. Paul Merrill, Vice President

August 26, 2015

University of Alaska Board of Regents  
910 Yukon Drive, Suite 202  
PO Box 755300  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-5300

RE: UAS Ketchikan Associate of Applied Science in Marine Transportation

Dear Regents:

As President of the Southeast Alaska Pilots' Association, I strongly urge you to approve the proposed Associates of Applied Science in Marine Transportation to be delivered by the University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan campus.

Maritime industries are one of the biggest economic drivers in Southeast Alaska, particularly in Ketchikan. Ketchikan is the hub for the shipping, seafood processing and fishing industries. Ketchikan is home base to the Alaska Marine Highway System offices and ferries. The visitor industry alone sees almost one million visitors a year. The Southeast Alaska Pilots Association, Southeast Stevedoring and countless charter fishing companies and lodges employ hundreds of mariners every year.

The University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan campus supports all of these maritime industries with training and courses throughout the year. They train well over 400 mariners each and every year, benefiting both the maritime industry and the borough economy. They have been very responsive to the training and education needs of all the maritime industries. They are a very important resource in the Ketchikan community.

Adding an AAS in Marine Transportation will further strengthen the maritime industry in Ketchikan and Southeast Alaska. Students will not only have additional career pathways, they will become eligible for federal financial aid and other educational funding including active and veteran military education benefits.

Again, on behalf of the Southeast Alaska Pilots, I strongly encourage you to pass the Associates of Applied Science in Marine Transportation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Captain Ed Sinclair  
President  
Southeast Alaska Pilots' Association

# SEA Link Inc.

P.O. Box 8233, Ketchikan, AK 99901  
(907) 247-1228 sealink@kpunet.net



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August 26, 2015

Dale Miller  
Maritime Department  
University Of Alaska  
Southeast Campus, Ketchikan.

Dale,

As the controlling entity for the Ketchikan based William Lund Memorial Scholarship Foundation; we at SEA Link Inc. support your endeavor to create an AAS degree course in Marine Transportation at the UAS Ketchikan Campus.

As you are aware, the future of the marine transportation industry as a whole is facing a real dilemma; trained experienced mariners are aging out and retiring. Especially critical are those trained professionals working aboard vessels in the engineering department.

Under the parameters of the Lund Foundation and the limited annual funding available to us, we can only award scholarships to a limited annual number of individuals that have graduated through the Ketchikan school system and are seeking career opportunities in the water based marine transportation industry.

Your endeavor to bring forth this program is especially important to our scholarship program and the maritime training opportunities that it affords the residents of Ketchikan.

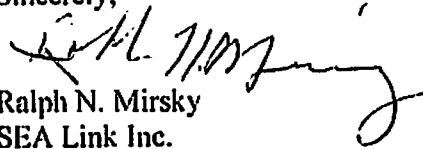
Because of the limited local maritime training opportunities, the majority of our scholarship participants have had to seek out and attend training opportunities located outside of Ketchikan and for the majority of participants; out of State.

The more training opportunities that are available locally benefit our scholarship participants by allowing them to stay at home while receiving their training. Further, by offering more locally based training options through the UAS Ketchikan campus, it allows us to award more support to more individuals.

Depending upon the individual need and training program offered, if it fits the need and the participant takes advantage of locally based training, we do not have to allocate scholarship funds to support transportation and board and room costs while the

Lund scholarship participant is away from home attending training. For us this equates to additional funding for additional participants.

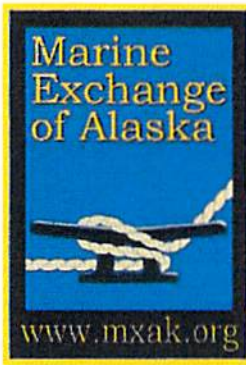
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. N. Mirsky", written over the printed name.

Ralph N. Mirsky

SEA Link Inc.

For the William Lund Memorial Scholarship  
Foundation.



*Safe, Secure, Efficient and  
Environmentally Responsible Maritime Operations*

1000 Harbor Way, Suite 204, Juneau, Alaska 99801

Ph: (907) 463-2607 Fax: (800) 682-2898

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August 26, 2015

University of Alaska Board of Regents  
910 Yukon Drive, Suite 202  
PO Box 755300  
Fairbanks, AK 99775-5300

Subject: UAS Ketchikan Associate of Applied Science in Marine Transportation

Dear Regents:

The Marine Exchange of Alaska offers our enthusiastic support for the approval and development of an AAS program in Marine Transportation at the University of Alaska Southeast.

The Marine Exchange of Alaska is a non-profit maritime organization established to promote safe, secure, efficient, and environmentally responsible maritime operations throughout Alaska. We also have a "Maritime Pride & Education" focus, as we believe it is in Alaska's best interest to have Alaskan's operating vessels in Alaska. The unfortunate reality is that many of Alaska's youth and/or other potential entry-level maritime transportation workers are either unaware of the marine-related job opportunities in Alaska, or are overwhelmed by the regulatory process for entering this field (i.e. training, testing, licensing, etc.)

The existing UAS maritime transportation courses have proven to be very valuable, and in fact the Marine Exchange has several employees and family members who have attended these courses in the past and found them to be very useful in either beginning a career in the maritime industry, or simply helping to navigate the complex process required to obtain a USCG license. Combining these individual courses, and adding additional courses into a 2-year AAS program would be very beneficial, and would likely encourage more Alaskans to seek a career in the maritime transportation field. It should also be noted that a degree program such as this would enable veterans to more easily use their VA educational benefits, and active duty personnel to use tuition assistance programs to pay for these courses.

Thank you for your consideration, and the opportunity to comment on this proposed program.

Sincerely,

Captain Edward E. Page, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.)  
Executive Director  
Marine Exchange of Alaska





## KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH

1900 First Avenue, Suite 115, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

• Telephone: (907) 228-6605 • Fax (907) 228-6697

Office of the Borough Mayor

August 25, 2015

University of Alaska Board of Regents  
910 Yukon Drive, Suite 202  
PO Box 755300  
Fairbanks, AK 99775-5300

RE: UAS Ketchikan Associate of Applied Science in Marine Transportation

Dear Regents:

I strongly urge you to approve the proposed degree program for an Associates of Applied Science (AAS) in Marine Transportation to be delivered by the University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan campus. The Borough Assembly has not had the opportunity to discuss and take a position on this particular program, and as a result this letter reflects my personal views.

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough has supported economic development through the marine industry in many ways, including providing grant funding for the *F/V Jack Cotant* marine education program through the Ketchikan High School; grant funding for the Chamber of Commerce Marine Industry Council; and a memorandum of agreement providing support to the Ketchikan shipyard. The addition of an AAS in Marine Transportation would enhance these economic development programs.

Maritime industries are one of the biggest economic drivers in the Southeast Alaska, especially in Ketchikan. We are the hub for the shipping industry, seafood processing industry and fishing industry in southern Southeast Alaska. Ketchikan is home base to the Alaska Marine Highway System offices and ferries. The visitor industry in Ketchikan alone sees almost one million visitors a year. The Southeast Alaska Pilots Association, Southeast Stevedoring and countless charter fishing companies and lodges employ hundreds of mariners in our community every year.

The University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan campus supports all of these maritime industries with training and courses throughout the year. They train well over 400 mariners each and every year, benefiting both the maritime industry and the borough economy. They have been very responsive to the training and education needs of all the maritime industries. They are a very important resource in the Ketchikan community.

Adding an AAS in Marine Transportation will further strengthen the maritime industry in Ketchikan and Southeast Alaska. Students will not only have additional career pathways, they

will become eligible for federal financial aid and other educational funding including active and veteran military education benefits.

For the benefit of economic development in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, I strongly encourage you to add the AAS in Marine Transportation degree program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



David Landis, Mayor  
Ketchikan Gateway Borough





August 24, 2015

University of Alaska Board of Regents  
910 Yukon Drive, Suite 202  
PO Box 755300  
Fairbanks, AK 99775-5300

RE: UAS Ketchikan Regional Maritime and Career Center  
UAS Ketchikan Associate of Applied Science in Marine Transportation

Dear Regents:

The purpose of this letter is to encourage you to take whatever action is necessary to clear the way for renovation of the UAS Ketchikan Robertson-Hamilton Technical Center to create a Ketchikan Regional Maritime and Career Center and to approve the proposed Associates of Applied Science in Marine Transportation to be delivered by the UAS Ketchikan campus.

Alaska's Maritime sector is the largest private employment sector in the state and growth is projected for Alaska's Marine Industrial Support (MIS); a subsector of the Maritime Sector that includes shipbuilding and repair. Vigor is a major employer within the MIS sector and actively partners with regional school districts, Regional Training Centers, the University of Alaska, and the Alaska Departments of Education, Labor, and Commerce to develop a pipeline of knowledgeable and skills Alaskans. These sector partnerships are successfully bridging the gap that exists from school to work providing on-ramps for youth and adults to the high demand high wage careers in this crosscutting industry sector.

Vigor invests in the growth of physical and human assets of Alaska Marine Industrial Support Sector to reduce the cost of building and repairing ships in Alaska. Through the Ketchikan Marine Industry Council and Maritime Works, a statewide careers partnership, Vigor provides collaborative leadership in the organization of Alaska's Maritime Sector Partnership.

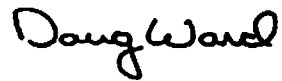
Renovation of the Robertson Technical Center will create Alaska's first Maritime Regional Training Center in a region with growing demand for maritime skills. Through the campus' Maritime & Multi-skill Worker program and the proposed Associates of Applied Science in Marine Transportation, UAS Ketchikan is building capacity to fill demand for qualified and productive workers in the maritime industries, both on the operations side and the shipbuilding and repair side, a subsector of advanced manufacturing. The knowledge, skills, and abilities required to build and repair ships have strong demand in Oil and Gas, Fishing, Transportation,

**Construction, Tourism, and other resource development sectors in Alaska's assuring broad and continuing demand for completers of UAS Ketchikan's maritime programs.**

**The University's partnership with Vigor is in alignment with the recently enacted Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and best collaborative workforce practices emerging through the National Fund for Workforce Solutions.**

**We want to thank the Board of Regents for being responsive to Alaska's rapidly shifting demand for knowledgeable and skilled workers capable of competing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and urge you to move UAS Ketchikan's maritime facilities and degree programs forward at full speed ahead.**

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Ward". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

**Doug Ward  
Director of Shipyard Development  
Vigor**



**August 25, 2015**

**University of Alaska Board of Regents  
910 Yukon Drive, Suite 202  
PO Box 755300  
Fairbanks, AK 99775-5300**

**RE: UAS Ketchikan Associate of Applied Science in Marine Transportation**

**Dear Regents:**

**As SE AK Regional Manager for Samson Tug & Barge, I strongly urge you to approve the proposed Associates of Applied Science in Marine Transportation to be delivered by the University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan campus.**

**Maritime industries are one of the biggest economic drivers in the Southeast Alaska, especially in Ketchikan. We are the hub for the shipping industry, seafood processing industry and fishing industry. Ketchikan is home base to the Alaska Marine Highway System offices and ferries. The visitor industry alone sees almost one million visitors a year. The Southeast Alaska Pilots Association, Southeast Stevedoring and countless charter fishing companies and lodges employ hundreds of mariners every year.**

**The University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan campus supports all of these maritime industries with training and courses throughout the year. They train well over 400 mariners each and every year, benefiting both the maritime industry and the borough economy. They have been very responsive to the training and education needs of all the maritime industries. They are a very important resource in the Ketchikan community.**

**Adding an AAS in Marine Transportation will further strengthen the maritime industry in Ketchikan and Southeast Alaska. Students will not only have additional career pathways, they will become eligible for federal financial aid and other educational funding including active and veteran military education benefits.**

**Again, on behalf of Samson Tug & Barge, I strongly encourage you to pass the Associates of Applied Science in Marine Transportation.**

**Thank you for your consideration.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn Richardson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Shawn Richardson  
SE AK Regional Manager  
Samson Tug & Barge  
Ketchikan AK**



612 W. Willoughby Ave., Suite B  
P.O. Box 21989, Juneau, AK 99802  
Phone (907) 586-4360  
[www.seconference.org](http://www.seconference.org)  
Email [info@seconference.org](mailto:info@seconference.org)

SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

August 25, 2015

University of Alaska Board of Regents  
910 Yukon Drive, Suite 202  
PO Box 755300  
Fairbanks, AK 99775-5300

RE: UAS Ketchikan Associate of Applied Science in Marine Transportation

Dear Regents:

On Behalf of the Board of Directors of Southeast Conference, I strongly urge you to approve the proposed Associates of Applied Science in Marine Transportation to be delivered by the University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan campus.

The Maritime Sector is one of the biggest economic drivers in the Southeast Alaska with over a quarter of all Southeast Alaska wages directly earned through ocean related employment in 2012. New maritime opportunities are emerging across Alaska and Southeast Alaska is a hub of maritime activity, on the water and on the shore. We are the hub for the shipping industry, seafood processing industry and fishing industry. Ketchikan is home base to the Alaska Marine Highway System offices and ferries. The visitor industry alone sees almost one million visitors a year. The Southeast Alaska Pilots Association, Southeast Stevedoring and countless charter fishing companies and lodges employ hundreds of mariners every year.

The University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan campus supports all of these maritime industries with training and courses throughout the year. They train well over 400 mariners each and every year, benefiting both the maritime industry and the borough economy. They have been very responsive to the training and education needs of all the maritime industries. They are a very important resource in the Ketchikan community.

Adding an AAS in Marine Transportation will further strengthen the maritime industry in Ketchikan and Southeast Alaska. Students will not only have additional career pathways, they will become eligible for federal financial aid and other educational funding including active and veteran military education benefits.

Again, on behalf of the Southeast Conference, I strongly encourage you to pass the Associates of Applied Science in Marine Transportation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Shelly Wright, Executive Director





P.O. Box 7655  
KETCHIKAN, AK 99901  
(907) 225 8847  
FAX (907) 225 8254

August 26, 2015

University of Alaska Board of Regents  
910 Yukon Drive, Suite 202  
PO Box 755300  
Fairbanks, AK 99775-5300

RE: UAS Ketchikan Associate of Applied Science in Marine Transportation

Dear Regents:

As General Manager of Amak Towing Company I strongly urge you to approve the proposed Associates of Applied Science in Marine Transportation to be delivered by the University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan campus.

Maritime industries are one of the biggest economic drivers in the Southeast Alaska, especially in Ketchikan. We are the hub for the shipping industry, seafood processing industry and fishing industry. Ketchikan is home base to the Alaska Marine Highway System offices and ferries. The visitor industry alone sees almost one million visitors a year. The Southeast Alaska Pilots Association, Southeast Stevedoring and countless charter fishing companies and lodges employ hundreds of mariners every year.

The University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan campus supports all of these maritime industries with training and courses throughout the year. They train well over 400 mariners each and every year, benefiting both the maritime industry and the borough economy. They have been very responsive to the training and education needs of all the maritime industries. They are a very important resource in the Ketchikan community.

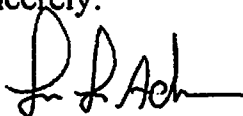
Adding an AAS in Marine Transportation will further strengthen the maritime industry in Ketchikan and Southeast Alaska. Students will not

only have additional career pathways, they will become eligible for federal financial aid and other educational funding including active and veteran military education benefits.

Again, on behalf of Amak Towing, I strongly encourage you to pass the Associates of Applied Science in Marine Transportation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lonnie Adams", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lonnie Adams  
General Manager  
Amak Towing Co.





# **Allen Marine Tours, Inc.**

**5 Salmon Landing, Suite 215  
8100  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901  
8101**

**Phone: (907) 225-**

**Fax: (907) 225-**

August 27, 2015

University of Alaska Board of Regents  
910 Yukon Drive, Suite 202  
PO Box 755300  
Fairbanks, AK 99775-5300

RE: UAS Ketchikan Associate of Applied Science in Marine Transportation

Dear Regents:

Please support Alaska's economy, transportation infrastructure, and way of life, by approving the proposed Associate of Applied Science in Marine Transportation.

From emerging Artic industries, to traditional subsistence fishing, Alaska's economy is strongly tied to the Ocean. In Southeast Alaska especially, maritime industries make up the bulk of our economic activity. Commercial fishing is and always has been a staple of commerce in this region. Our ship yards, fish processors, lumber mills, mines, and other heavy industries rely on marine transportation for their survival in an island geography lacking the connection of a road network. So do our grocery stores, restaurants, and other retail businesses. Since the 1990s, tourism has grown to become one of our most important industries. Whether it was a cruise ship, charter vessel, or kayak, each itinerary of Southeast Alaska's nearly one million annual visitors involved a watercraft of some sort. Without a robust marine industry, it would not be possible for any sizable population to live here.

For over 40 years Allen Marine Inc., and its subsidiaries, Allen Marine Tours and Alaskan Dream Cruises, have been a vital part of our maritime economy. Each summer, Allen Marine Tours operates passenger vessels based out of Sitka, Juneau, and Ketchikan, employing over 300 people. Most of these vessels were built here in Alaska by Allen Marine's shipyard. Recently, Alaskan Dream Cruises began operating small cruise ships, visiting some of Southeast's smaller communities, such as Kaasan and Thorne Bay. This brings vital tourism dollars to these small towns, helping them stay afloat in a post timber economy. Also, through our many donations of charters, tickets, and money to non-profit organizations, schools (including UAS), and charities, Allen Marine helps support other areas of the economy that are often less directly associated with the sea.

The maritime training conducted by UAS in Ketchikan has been important to our business. Many of our mariners have earned required credentials by attending one of the many USCG approved classes offered by the university. While technical maritime knowledge is important to our industry, an AAS degree program would produce mariners with the speaking, writing, and critical thinking skills that are needed in a modern work place. The proposed program is needed by our economy, our industry, and our company.

Sincerely,

Eric Lunde  
Port Captain  
Allen Marine Tours, Ketchikan