



# Fisheries, Seafood, Maritime Initiative (FSMI)

Spring Update

University of Alaska

Supporting the Maritime Workforce

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## FSMI Leadership Team

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# Highlights

## Statewide Initiatives

- The University of Alaska (UA), in partnership with AVTEC, is participating in a community college consortium to pursue a Domestic Maritime Centers of Excellence designation for UA through the Department of Transportation Marine Administration later this year.
- Three FSMI Working Groups developed additional content for the industry website, [maritimeworks.org](http://maritimeworks.org), with assistance from Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium. The expanded site includes landing pages for all three industry sectors: Maritime Occupations and Support Industries; Research, Enhancement, and Management; and Seafood Harvesting and Processing. The 23-priority occupations listed in the Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Plan now have dedicated web pages to increase career awareness.
- UA hosted an annual meeting in April 2018 to bring together FSMI leaders and program developers across the university to exchange information and expand collaborations with each other, external training partners, and industry. Next steps were identified for the FSMI Working Groups to continue implementation of the workforce plan in collaboration with industry.

## Degree Programs

- UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences added two new degree programs: Master in Marine Studies that is project versus research focused, and a STEM/Blue MBA that is a general business masters with a STEM focus.
- UAS Fisheries has launched the Joint Fisheries Program with UAF to increase capacity to deliver fisheries curriculum, increase the number of graduates in Fisheries Science degrees, and increase the diversity of research and internship experiences.

# Highlights (cont.)



## Coastal Campus Training

- Kachemak Bay Campus, of UAA Kenai Peninsula College, obtained U.S. Coast Guard approval to provide Able Seaman and Master 100 Ton certifications. Their first Able Seaman class produced nine graduates. They also delivered a full range of vessel repair and maintenance classes to 180 high school and adult participants.
- UAA Kodiak College collaborated with UAA Mat-Su College to leverage existing faculty resources to deliver a Refrigerated SeaWater Systems workshop in Kodiak. Nine students successfully completed the workshop.
- UAA Prince William Sound College continues to deliver Ship Escort/Response Vessel Systems (SERVS) trainings for Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, training 1500-1800 fleets on 420 vessels in four different ports in Prince William Sound.
- Alaska Sea Grant, of UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, delivered the biennial Alaska Young Fishermen's Summit for 84 young fishermen to learn about owning and managing a commercial fishing business, fisheries policy, and operational skills.
- UAF Bristol Bay Campus, in partnership with Alaska Sea Grant, added a new training in hydraulics to their Maritime Technical Program to provide more course offerings to train commercial, recreational, and subsistence boat owners and operators in outboard and diesel engine maintenance, diagnosis, and repair.
- UAS Ketchikan finished the second phase of their Maritime Center renovation in November 2017 and began delivering power tech, marine industrial, and fabrication courses in their newly renovated lab that includes twelve welding booths.
- AVTEC, Alaska's Institute of Technology, expanded their twelve week Young Mariners Training Program to serve hundreds of Alaska students across the state. They also offer a condensed version, Intro to Nautical Skills.



# Student Success

## UAS Marine Biology: Student Mollie Dwyer

Undergraduate, Mollie Dwyer (on the left), is working on a Sea Grant funded project of enhancing *Saccharina latissima* (sugar kelp) cultivation in Alaska. She is supported by the Robert Henderson Memorial Award and is working with UAF graduate student, Annie Thomson. Mollie has assisted in measuring growth of *Saccharina* at UAS's farm site, taking oceanographic measurements, and assisting with kelp experiments in the lab.

## UAF Alaska Sea Grant Alaska Seafood Processing Leadership Institute (ASPLI): Graduate Sam Nothstine

Sam Nothstine, expeditor at Kwik'pak Fisheries in Emmonak, Alaska, recently completed ASPLI in March 2018. "The most important aspect of ASPLI is the mentors, especially Chris Sannito and Quentin Fong," said Nothstine. "They had a very close connection with the students. They encourage everyone to reach their potential,



and they are continuing to offer help which I really appreciate." Fong and Sannito, both faculty members at the University of Alaska Fairbanks College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, taught seafood business and processing during the November session at the Kodiak Seafood and Marine Science Center and at the March session in Anchorage, along with other experts. They also offered guidance on the projects.

"My project was to do an equipment inventory and learn the purchasing process. We went from two refrigeration units to four, and bought some new engines that had given us problems," said Nothstine.

When Nothstine gave his presentation he also showed a video of his grandfather, Jake Johnson Sr., who in the 1970s started the fish processing cooperative that became Kwik'pak Fisheries. Kwik'pak is the only employee-owned and Native-operated seafood processor in Alaska.

[www.alaska.edu/fsmi](http://www.alaska.edu/fsmi)

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