Workforce Development Plan Status

A draft of the Fisheries, Seafood, and Maritime Workforce Development plan went out for public review and comment on October 18, 2013. The plan recommends a series of strategies that support current and future workers in areas deemed most critical by Industry Advisory Committee workgroup members, as well as broad strategies to grow the industry workforce as a whole.

While we are no longer accepting comments on the draft, you can view the latest version at www.alaska.edu/fsmi.

Overall workforce strategies identified in the plan:
::: Grow Career Awareness and Develop Career Pathways
::: Improve Access to Employment
::: Train Alaskans for Fisheries, Seafood, and Maritime Employment
::: Improve Industry Engagement and Accountability

Next Steps

We anticipate the final FSM workforce development plan being released at the beginning of January 2014. It will be posted at www.alaska.edu/fsmi, and distributed to the FSMI update list.

In the meantime, the Industry Advisory Committee is beginning to dive in to the work outlined in the Action Plan from the October 31 meeting. Small working groups will start meeting to develop workplans and accomplish tasks for the major goal areas within the Workforce Development Plan. The IAC intends to meet again in the spring of 2014 to reflect on progress made and plan the next tasks and initiatives.

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University of Alaska
Fisheries, Seafood & Maritime Initiative (FSMI)
Toward a strong and sustainable fisheries, seafood and maritime workforce in Alaska

Our Mission:

Engaging fisheries, seafood and maritime sectors and community partners to assess, develop and deliver programs, training and research that prepare Alaskans to meet current and emerging workforce, economic and scientific needs.

The fishing, seafood and maritime sectors represent Alaska’s largest private employer and plays a significant role in our state’s economy. At a December 2011 summit convened by the Governor of Alaska, the Honorable Sean Parnell, the Chair of the Rasmuson Foundation, Ed Rasmuson, and the University of Alaska President Patrick Gamble committed to close engagement with the FSM industry sectors to meet the FSMI goals.

The FSMI Goals are:

1. Sustain and enhance the economy and the communities of Alaska by developing a responsive workforce that enables the fishing/seafood and maritime industries to stay vibrant and substantial contributors to the state;

2. Support Alaska’s workforce, particularly in coastal communities, in discovering and preparing for the wide range of employment opportunities in the fishing, seafood and maritime industries, and

3. Provide research to sustain resources on which these communities and sectors depend.

In Response to industry feedback at the October 2012 Forum and their commitment to more fully engage in developing a comprehensive statewide Workforce Development Plan, President Gamble invited a select group of industry and state agency representatives inviting them to participate on the newly formed Industry Advisory Committee (IAC).

Current Industry Advisory Committee Membership:

- Kris Norosz, Icicle Seafoods Inc. (FSMI Industry Co-Chair)
- Aggie Blandford (Laura Delgado), WACDA
- Vince O’Shea, Pacific Seafood Processors Association
- Stephanie Madsen, At-Sea Processors Association
- Doug Ward (Jason Custer), AK Ship & Drydock
- Amy Wilson, AK Marine Highway System, DOTPF
- Kurt Hallier, Marine Manager, Conoco Phillips
- Julie Decker, UFA; AK Fisheries Development Foundation
- Russell Dick (Anthony Lindoff), Haa Aani, LCC
- Oliver Holm, Commercial Fisherman, Kodiak
- Pearle Strub, BBEDC, AWIB Board, Processor
- Candice Bressler, ADF&G
- Wanetta Ayers, DOLWD-AWIB
- Helen Mehrkens, EED
- Glenn Haight, DCCED
- Rep. Bryce Edgmon (Tim Clark), State House
- Sen. Lyman Hoffman (Tim Grussendorf) State Senate

UA Working Group appointed by President Gamble:

* Paula Cullenberg, Program Leader, UAF Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program, FSMI Co-Chair
* Fred Villa, Assoc. VP, UA Statewide Office of Workforce Programs, FSMI Co-Chair
* Bonnie Nygard, UAA Workforce Development
* Gunnar Knapp, UAA Institute of Social and Economic Research
* Mike Castellini, UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences
* Torie Baker, UAF Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program
* Pete Pinney, UAF Rural Community & Native Education
* Rick Caulfield, UAS Provost
- Terry Johnson, UAF Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program
- Karen Schmitt, UAA Community and Technical College
- Barbara Bolson, UAA Kodiak Campus
- BJ Williams, UAA Prince William Sound Community College
- Carol Swartz, UAA Kachemak Bay Campus
- Deborah McLean, UAF Bristol Bay Campus
- Mary Pete, UAF Kuskokwim Campus
- Keith Cridde, UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences
- Mark Herrmann, UAF School of Management
- Jim Seeland, UAS, Sitka Campus

* denotes Leadership Committee member

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