FSM Workforce Development Plan Update

This summer, Michele Masley (Project Manager for FSMI) was offered a position that provided an opportunity that aligned her work to her field of study and long-term employment growth. She leaves us with a great foundation, direction, and momentum to complete the work that she was so instrumental in generating. Thank you, Michele.

Information Insights was hired to complete the draft workforce development plan for the Fisheries, Seafood & Maritime Initiative (FSMI). Information Insights is a public policy research and management consulting firm with offices in Anchorage and Fairbanks. Sylvan Robb and Jessica Holden are the project managers and will be working closely with the Industry Advisory Committee and UA Leadership Committee during the draft phase of the plan. The FSMI Workforce Development Plan draft will be out for review in early October.

The plan is based on an occupational needs analysis implemented by the Industry Advisory Committee sector subgroups. Over 350 responses were received to the surveys distributed throughout Alaska regarding their current workforce and the qualifications of each of those occupations. The FSMI Workforce Development Plan is based on the priorities established by the Industry Advisory Committees’ analysis of those surveys and recommendations for priority needs within each industry sector. The plan will serve as a guide and resource for employers, policy makers, and workforce development professionals across Alaska.

The final stage of the plan’s development will be a day-long meeting at the end of October to generate an implementation plan to address the workforce needs identified in the FSM Workforce Development Plan. Invitees to this important work session will focus on refining action items and activities to realize the strategies and priorities of the plan, which will be included in the final

TAACCCT Grant

The University of Alaska applied for a Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant (TAACCCT). While UA was not awarded the competitive, collaborative grant, they were able to have UAS apply for a smaller amount that will be less comprehensive in scope.

UAS reapplied for a smaller amount of funding which will be used to support the Certificate and AAS in Fisheries Technology. The program plans to expand to a number of locations across the state and prepares students for work as hatchery or fishery technicians.

For more information:
www.uas.alaska.edu/career_ed/fisheries/assoc.html

Maritime Economy of Southeast

The Southeast Conference published an overview of the maritime economy of Southeast Alaska. Just over one-quarter of all Southeast Alaska wages are directly earned through ocean related employment in 2012. Taken together the businesses and government agencies that are directly tied to the ocean comprise Southeast Alaska’s largest economic sector.

To view the publication, visit www.seconference.org.
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
Pearl 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 Cridle, UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences
Mark Herrmann, UAF School of Management
Jim Seeland, UAS, Sitka Campus

*denotes Leadership Committee member

For more information, visit our website: www.alaska.edu/fsmi
Receive FSMI News Alerts: Please provide your name and organization at: https://lists.alaska.edu/mailman/listinfo/ua-fsmi