

Fisheries, Seafood, Maritime Initiative (FSMI)

Annual Report

University of Alaska
Supporting the Maritime Workforce
December 2017

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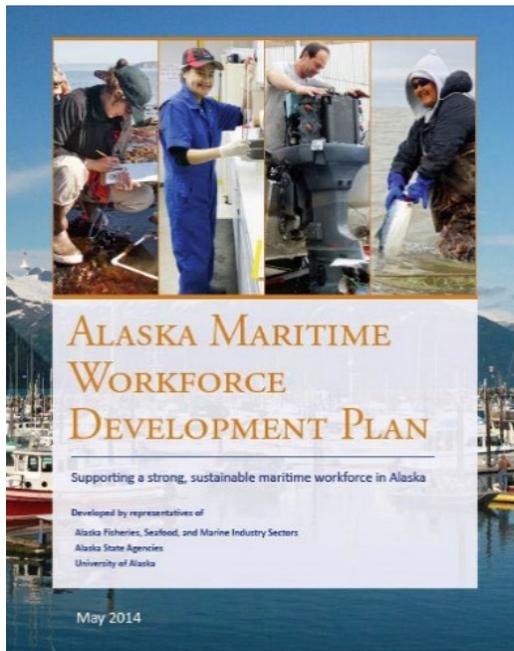
Teri Cothren



UNIVERSITY
of **ALASKA**
Many Traditions One Alaska

Alaska's Maritime Jobs and Economy

Alaska's maritime sector is the largest employer in the state with over 70,000 jobs. The waters surrounding Alaska produce over 60% of the nation's seafood harvest valued at over \$5.9B in wholesale value. Our state is highly dependent on shipping for food and other goods, and for exports of oil, seafood and minerals. Alaska welcomes over a million visitors on cruise ships, supports fishing charters, provides travel on the Alaska Marine Highway System, and its waters support a vibrant subsistence economy.



Published in 2014, the Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Plan has been endorsed by the Alaska State Legislature and the UA Board of Regents. Coordinated by the UA Fisheries, Seafood and Maritime Initiative team, the plan has led to a spin-off industry group, Maritime Works. It joins other state workforce plans in connecting the Department of Labor and Workforce Development with industry and training agencies to guide the state in the development of these valuable state resources.



Sustainable Partnerships

FSMI

www.alaska.edu/fsmi

Mission: The University of Alaska's Fisheries, Seafood and Maritime Initiative supports Alaska's maritime workforce and economy by delivering education, training and research.

Leadership and Working Groups Accomplishments:

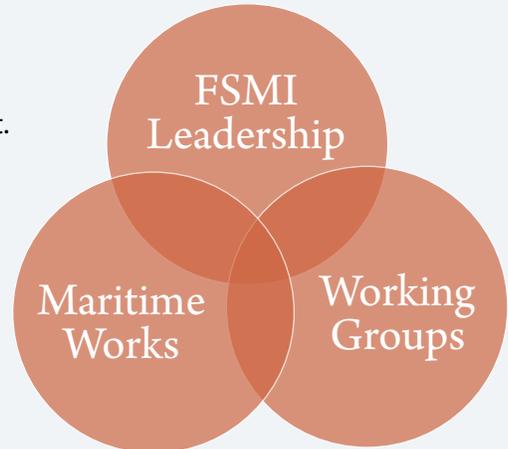
- The FSMI Leadership Team, composed of representatives from University of Alaska Anchorage, University of Alaska Fairbanks, University of Alaska Southeast and UA Statewide, meets monthly to collaborate and exchange information, and connect with Maritime Works' industry activities.
- Three working groups were launched in April 2017 to expand career awareness through collaborative marketing and develop a subject matter expert inventory. The groups are: Maritime Occupations and Support Industries; Research, Enhancement, and Management; and Seafood Harvesters and Seafood Processors.
- In collaboration with Maritime Works and with guidance from the FSMI Leadership Team, the working groups meet monthly. The goals are to increase awareness of priority occupations, identify where training is available, and highlight maritime career opportunities.
- FSMI partnered with University of Hawaii to launch a new website utilizing labor market information: <https://alaska.emsicc.com/>
- FSMI submitted an *Awards of Excellence* proposal to the nationwide University Economic Development Association and presented at their conference as a finalist.

Maritime Works

www.maritimeworks.org

Maritime Works (MW) is a network of industry professionals working to advance maritime workforce development, with the support of their organizations. UA FSMI provides financial and programmatic support to MW initiatives. Recent accomplishments by MW include:

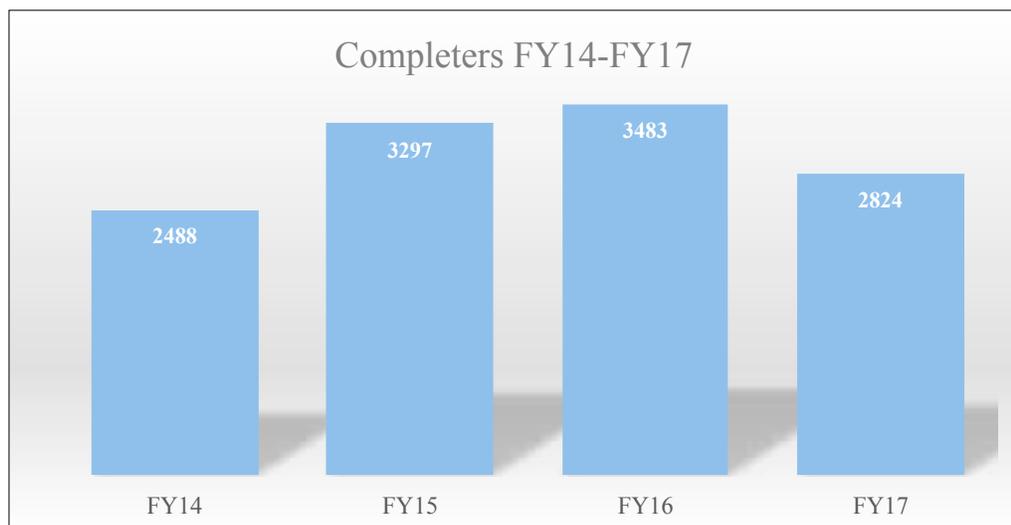
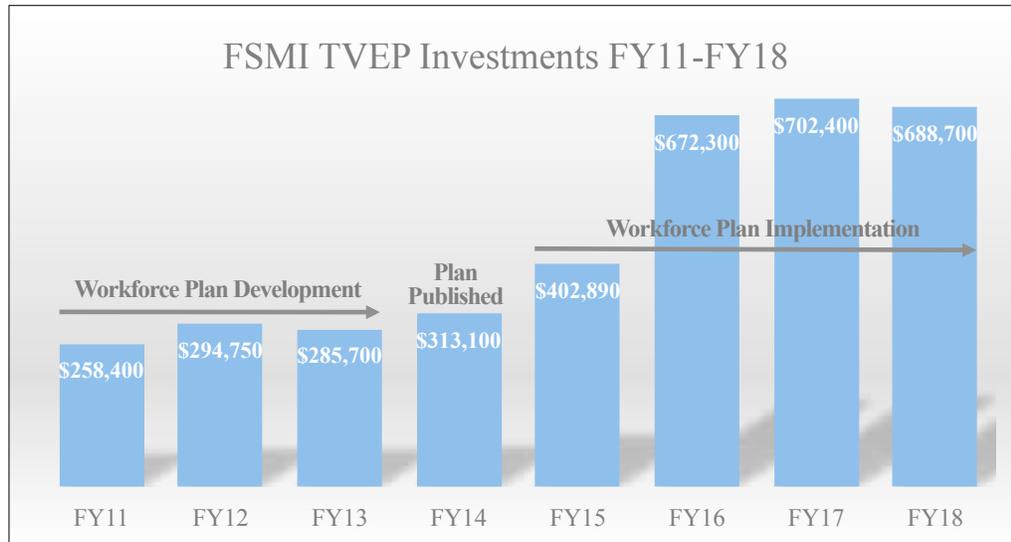
- Established stability by joining the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium (APICC) which provides administrative support to coordinate initiatives and expand membership.
- Won the 2016 *Lloyd's List North American Award for Training* in recognition of the Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Plan.
- Partnered with Vigor Alaska, LLC, to demonstrate how an employer-led co-investment can sustain advanced manufacturing in a rural economy.
- Supported the development of a multiemployer three-tiered maritime apprenticeship program.
- Developed and published two videos highlighting maritime career opportunities.



TVEP Funding

Since the Workforce Plan was published, UA has invested \$2.5M in Technical Vocational Education Program funding into FSMI training programs.

In FY18, TVEP funds are being utilized to support: a UAS/UAF joint BS degree in fisheries; Alaska Processing Leadership Institute at the Kodiak Seafood and Marine Science Center; Bristol Bay Fisheries career pathways; maritime program development and expansion in Ketchikan; delivery of vessel repair and maintenance workshops in Kodiak, along with expanding certification of their maritime instructors; FSMI coordination; and support of Maritime Works' website expansion to increase career awareness.



"My time with the UAS maritime program, both as a student and an instructor, has been wonderfully fulfilling. I've been a mariner most of my life, and adding formal training to my own experiential body of knowledge has always been an ongoing goal; the opportunity to pass those lessons on to other seafarers is a tremendous honor."

— Mariah Warren, UAS Ketchikan Campus Marine Transportation graduate

Highlights

Program and Training



- Informal (i.e., outside of academic programs) noncredit and credit training classes increased sharply between FY14 and FY16. The number of completers increased by 171% as a result.
- Seasonal and concentrated training, in response to industry work cycles, led to a significant increase in intensive training courses.
- In FY17 the UAS Fisheries Technology Program awarded 35 certificates, occupational endorsements and associate degrees. UAS awarded the Celebrating Faculty Excellence Teaching Award to fisheries technology professor Reid Brewer.
- The UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences (CFOS) awarded nine bachelor's, twelve master's and five doctorate degrees in FY17, and had 163 declared majors.
- UAA Kodiak College, a member of Marine League of Schools, became Alaska Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) accredited. Ninety percent of boats on the water are built by ABYC standards.
- UAA Kachemak Bay Campus delivered 23 noncredit and credit maritime classes in FY17 for both adult and high school participants.
- UAF-UAS joint fisheries degree concept was approved by UA Board of Regents and is currently under development.
- UAF Bristol Bay Campus developed a Maritime Career and Technical Education Pathway for entry-level fisheries jobs that provides opportunities to receive industry-recognized credentials, and offers technical skill development and career exploration to high school students.
- UAS Ketchikan Campus is partnering with Vigor Alaska on their apprenticeship program, providing short classes on applied math and computer applications for Vigor employees, and working with their lead welders to ensure training meets the needs for vessel construction.
- Alaska Sea Grant, UAF CFOS, delivered short courses in seafood processing, seafood safety, boating operations and safety and fishing business in 10 communities in FY17 to 266 participants.



Student Success

Maritime and Multiskilled Worker Program: Graduate Elizabeth Pickett

Elizabeth enrolled in the Maritime and Multiskilled Worker Program at the UAS Ketchikan Campus. She was already employed by the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) as an entry-level steward, but with dreams of working in the engine department. AMHS gave Elizabeth the time to take the 12-week program and provided a scholarship and an internship in the engine room following successful completion of the program. She completed the program and now works on the M/V *Tustumena* in the engine department.



Fisheries Master of Science: Student Jane Sullivan

Jane Sullivan became an Alaska Sea Grant State Fellow at the National Marine

Fisheries Service in Juneau after obtaining her MS in fisheries at UAF. Following her fellowship, she was hired as a biometrician at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.



Alaska Seafood Processing Leadership Institute (ASPLI): Graduate Joshua Maricich

The Alaska Seafood Processing Leadership Institute, offered biennially by Alaska Sea Grant, gives mid-career processor employees a boost in moving up the leadership ladder to keep the seafood industry strong and support the Alaska workforce. Joshua Maricich took the course when he worked as a seasonal quality assurance manager at the Icicle Seafoods plant in Larsen Bay on Kodiak Island. He said the course gave him a wealth of knowledge and spurred him to apply for a higher-paying, full-time position. He's now a corporate operations project manager.

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