



Annual Report

2003-2004

ACCOMPLISHMENTS &
A LOOK TO THE FUTURE



Director's Message...

The purpose of this first Kenai Peninsula College Annual Report is to document the accomplishments of the college over the past year and to provide perspective as we look to the future.



This report is not only intended for our stakeholders, but our faculty and staff as well. Frequently we are too busy trying to do our jobs and carry out the mission of the college that we fail to take time to reflect on all the progress and great things we do over the course of a year. This perpetual motion often precludes us from taking a break to look into our rearview mirror. However, we all need to take a moment to pause, to take a breath and reflect on what we did in 2004--it was a remarkable year.

So to those of you not associated with KPC, I hope you enjoy reading about this fine University of Alaska community campus and learn about the great things happening in postsecondary education on the Kenai Peninsula. To those of you who work here, take a few minutes to relive what we accomplished during 2004, KPC's 40th Anniversary.

Gary J. Turner
College Director



Kenai Peninsula College... is a community campus of the University of Alaska Anchorage and was established in 1964. The college's service area ranges from Seldovia to Tyonek to Hope to Seward, encompassing the Kenai Peninsula and shoreline areas of West Cook Inlet. KPC is comprised of the following units:

Kenai River Campus, located in Soldotna, provides the college-wide administrative support services to the other units. Staffing at the campus includes the college director, 25 full-time faculty, 36 staff members, and one full-time faculty member in Anchorage who teaches process technology courses at the UAA University Center.

Kachemak Bay Campus, located in Homer, is staffed by a campus director, five full-time and one half-time faculty members and 14 staff members. The campus operates from two buildings, located about one mile apart in downtown Homer.

Mining and Petroleum Training Services (MAPTS), was assumed from the UAA Community and Technical College in June 2004. Founded in 1979, MAPTS operates from a leased office building in Soldotna and the University Center in Anchorage. MAPTS is staffed by a director and three full-time staff in Soldotna, and one staff member and part-time faculty member in Anchorage.

Resurrection Bay Extension Site, located in Seward, is staffed by a half-time coordinator, no full-time faculty, and 10-14 adjuncts per semester. The coordinator's office and classrooms are located in the Seward High School, and provided rent-free courtesy of an agreement between KPC and the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.

Mission Statement

Kenai Peninsula College is committed to excellence in academic, vocational, and life-long learning. Our collective mission is to enhance individual and cultural potential as enlightened participants in the world community.



Kenai Peninsula College (KPC) Performance

- A new University of Alaska Anchorage program was established to reward colleges for unique ideas that address areas such as credit hour production, student retention and graduating students for high demand jobs. KPC submitted a number of innovative ideas and was tops in the University which shows the quality of the college:
- Of the 87 proposals submitted from throughout UAA, KPC submitted 24 (28%); more than any other UAA college, campus or division.
- KPC had eight proposals accepted (the most of any UAA unit); our nearest competitor was the College of Arts and Sciences in Anchorage; they had five proposals accepted.
- KPC was awarded \$167,300 (the most of any UAA unit); "second place" went to the College of Arts and Sciences; they were awarded \$108,000.
- Barb Christian, KPC Arts and Sciences division chair and professor, had three proposals accepted; the most for any individual in UAA.
- In Spring semester 2004, the KPC Leadership team came up with a list of budget reducers and revenue generators. By the end of the semester 39 potential reducers and nine revenue generators were identified. An annual budget savings of almost \$134,000 will be realized beginning in 2005 due to these planning sessions on how to decrease our costs. We also anticipate being able to increase our revenue by \$33,000 with these ideas.

KPC Growth

- Fall 04 semester credit hour production decreased 8% over Fall 03 for the three KPC sites. KPC's growth typically runs in cycles with increases and decreases being the norm.



- UAA Chancellor Maimon approved and forwarded two of our requests for additional operating budget: the addition of an Art faculty member for the Kachemak Bay Campus (KBC) and Paramedic Training program at the Kenai River Campus (KRC). Final approval for these funds lies with the legislature. This is the first time in recent memory when a KPC-submitted operational budget request was approved at the UAA level and forwarded to the University of Alaska Statewide system.
- KPC began an advertising campaign to get the word out on their "EZ Payment Plan." The no-interest tuition payment program allows students to pay 1/3 down, 1/3 after 30 days, and 1/3 after 90 days which helps ease the financial burden they face at the beginning of the semester.



- Over the past few years, KPC has dramatically increased its recruiting efforts on the 17-24 year old age groups. In 1997, 415 students in this age group attended KPC, while 800 are attending this semester; a 49% increase.

Visitors

- Both U.S. Senator Ted Stevens and U.S. Congressman Don Young visited KRC in 2005. Each spent about one hour on campus and were given a tour. Native/rural student education, the challenge these students face and student housing were discussed.
- Governor Murkowski was the Commencement speaker at the KBC graduation and also toured the campus.
- President Hamilton, UAA Chancellor Maimon and UAA Provost Kassier visited both campuses in 2004.

Collaborating with Kenai Peninsula School District (KPBSD)

- KBC co-sponsored Project GRAD's first annual Summer Institute June 7-18; 25 ninth/tenth graders from Nikolaevsk, Vozensenka, Port Graham and Nanwalek participated. Adopted by the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, Project GRAD's mission is to ensure a quality public education for all children, increase high school graduation rates, and prepare graduates to be successful in college. Several KBC instructors were contracted with to serve as the Institute's teachers.
- Offered a number of vocational education courses for dual credit at the KPBSD Workforce Development Center including Process Technology; CISCO, Certified Nursing Aid and Occupational Safety.
- KPBSD's Seward High School continues to provide office space for the KPC Resurrection Bay Extension Site coordinator as well as classrooms.

Supporting Economic Development

- Co-hosted job fairs in the Kenai/Soldotna and Homer areas in April 2004.
- KRC hosted its annual career day November 5 with more than 50 presenters and 300+ high school students attending. The event, sponsored by the KRC Career Center and Soldotna Rotary Club, drew students from Anchorage to Homer who learned about career fields ranging from welding to culinary arts to cosmetology.





Supporting the Arts

- KBC held their annual Student Art Showcase in May, hosted by a major local art gallery; more than 100 people attended the opening reception.
- Seven KRC art students received \$500 scholarships from the Kenai Peninsula Art Guild based on the strength of their Art portfolios created at KPC.
- A rotating permanent student Art Exhibition was installed in display cases at Central Peninsula General Hospital.
- KBC held its annual Visiting Writers' Series featuring two nationally-recognized and award-winning authors who taught a work shop and conducted literary readings to more than 50 community members.
- KBC held five weekly "Foreign Film Fridays" sponsored by the KBC Student Association; 30-80 attended each week.
- Sponsored nine KPC Showcase productions at KRC in 2004 with entertainment ranging from international music to nationally known comedians. More than 750 community members attended.



Art student Paul Tornow & his
"Self -Portrait" in progress
Tornow is the
KPC Art Student League President

Grants

- The Kenai Peninsula Borough provided KPC with \$502,600 for Fiscal Year 2005 expenditures. These funds are appropriated through a 1/10th mill tax levy which the voters approved in 1990. Since the start of funding in 1991, the borough has provided \$3,430,884 to the college. These funds cover many staff positions and community outreach programs to include the JumpStart program that allows high school seniors to pay \$25/credit with the borough paying the other \$74/credit.
- KBC was awarded a \$78,000 grant from the AK Department of Labor for a job training program serving 14-21 year olds. They were also awarded a \$71,000 DOL grant for Perkins' postsecondary vocational education training that allows us to continue to offer a variety of courses in welding, business, health-care and human services.
- Beverly Perry, a trainer from the Community College National Center for Community Engagement (CCNCCE), visited KRC to train faculty and community members about service learning. Her visit was in support of KPC's three year, \$15,000/year grant received last year from CCNCCE.



- Art Professor Celia Anderson submitted a grant request to the UA President's Special Fund to purchase a kiln. While the grant was not approved through this fund, \$9,000 from a statewide vocational education fund was provided to purchase the kiln which will be installed by February.

Career and Technical Education Programs

- The UAA Nursing program got underway at KRC in January with 12 students. Nursing faculty member, Lynn Senette, teaches and oversees the program. KBC will begin offering the program in January 2006.

- KRC began offering Emergency Medical Technician classes and will offer the AAS degree in Paramedic Technology beginning in August 2005.



- The second year of the KBC Weber State University-sponsored RN program graduated 12 students.

- In conjunction with Prince William Sound Community College, KRC offered a 3-week Seafood Processor course that taught quality processing, business skills, and value-added techniques to 32 commercial fishermen and local processors.

- KPC signed an articulation agreement with AVTEC in October combining our AAS in Instrumentation degree with their industrial electrical program. Students completing the joint program will be certified Instrument Electrical Technicians. This is the first such articulation agreement between the two institutions.

- A new software system called Wonderware was installed in the instrumentation simulator lab at KRC; the human-machine interface software is used in the Programmable Logic Controller course. Instrumentation and process technology students can now operate, configure and troubleshoot the same systems used most frequently in the oil and gas industry.

- KRC computer systems labs received a complete environment change with the incorporation of new "Virtual PC" software. The software allows students to create simulated computer hardware of any configuration and bring it to life on their computer desktop.

- The KPC Process Technology and Instrumentation programs have increased their student internship positions to 40 per year.

- KRC became a VSS/VUE Certification Testing Center. Testing in virtually all IT-related certification exams is now offered, as well as testing for FAA, insurance and legal profession exams.



Arts and Sciences Education

- Faculty members Allen Houtz and Andy Veh were awarded an \$8,000 grant from UA Statewide to develop a Chemistry 103 distance course. Their proposal was one of only two awarded in the state to create a distance course in the sciences.

- Photography and Art instructor Jayne Jones works were accepted for the International Center of Photography, "Only Skin Deep: Changing Visions of the American Self," web site exhibition.

<http://www.icp.org/exhibitions/onlyskindeep/>

- Jones' "Kaldidoscope" photography group exhibition toured Tennessee. She had three images in the show titled, "Playing Possum." It was at The Customs House Museum & Cultural Center in Clarksville, Tennessee in Fall 2003 and showed again at the Art Museum in Morristown, Tennessee, in April/May 2004.

- Jones' solo photography show, "Mystery in a Common Place" was displayed at the Center for Contemporary Photography in Abilene, Texas in February and March.



KPC Graduate Kim Graham and son

- Lance Peterson, KBC Associate Professor of Humanities, completed his term on the Alaska State Council of the Arts Board of Directors after serving as its Vice President.

- Art professor Celia Anderson's work was included in the "Variations" Art Show that was displayed at the Kenai Fine Arts Center in February.

- Dr. Shelley Theno, Psychology professor, served on The Institute for Women's Policy Research's National Advisory Committee to the 2004 Status of Women in the States, and wrote the Preface of the widely recognized publication, *The Status of Women in Alaska*.

- The recent publication *Measures of Legal Attitudes* contains a chapter written by Dr. Theno entitled "Attitude Scale: Politically Correct Scale." The chapter identifies "political correctness" and offers a scale to measure its different components.

- Associate professor of Biology, Dr. David Wartinbee, had a paper, "Using Pupal Exuviae to Characterize the Chironomidae Fauna of the Kenai River," accepted for presentation at the North American Benthological Society. He presented at the NABS Annual meeting in Vancouver, B.C., in June.



- Sara Reinert, KBC's associate professor of Mathematics, was named to the Steering Committee for the regional annual conference for the Northwest Mathematical Association of America that was held in Anchorage for the first time last June.
- Adjunct English Instructor Mark Harrison had two poems accepted for publication in *Third Coast*. The journal is one of the nation's premier university-based literary magazines, published twice annually by the Western Michigan University Department of English in Kalamazoo. His poems, "Living Room" and "Punk Rock Nightmare," appeared in the Fall 2004 issue.
- Cathy Pearce, associate professor of History presented at four conferences in England between May-October 2004. Her presentations were on the subject of "Shipwrecking," the topic of her doctoral dissertation.
- Dr. Beth Graber, English professor, was a member of a three-person panel on multi-cultural literacy at the 2004 Conference on College Composition and Communication in March in San Antonio, Texas.
- KRC is now partnering with local public and NPR radio station, KDLL, in Kenai. KPC students will be serving as on-air announcers and Mass Communication students will be doing practicums at the station. Plans are being discussed to offer other media-related courses at KPC to take advantage of this opportunity and create internships.
- Cheryl Davis, KPC adjunct faculty member and Dean of Students at Alaska Christian College, was awarded her PhD in English from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Improving the Community

- The KRC Learning Center literacy program was awarded accredited status by ProLiteracy America, the US Programs Division of ProLiteracy Worldwide. The Center offers adult basic education, English as a second language, peer tutoring, GED preparation and testing, Foster Grandparent programs, distance delivered courses and testing services. The Learning Center has served the central Kenai Peninsula for five years helping adults improve their reading, mathematics, listening, writing, speaking, and technology skills.
- 122 individuals earned their GED through the KBC and KRC GED programs.
- KBC's Adult Basic Education staff, funded by the KPB, regularly traveled to Nanwalek, Port Graham and Vozensenka and provided ABE, literacy, and GED instructional and testing services.





- Senior citizen students continue to take advantage of the University of Alaska program that provides tuition waivers for people over the age of 60. In Fall 2004 semester, 149 seniors took 371 semester credit hours of which 342 credits were lower level courses (100-200 level) and 23 credits were upper division (300-400 level).
- KRC hosted its annual "Welcome Back BBQ" on Aug. 26, 2004. The new UAA Chancellor, Dr. Elaine Maimon attended and despite the rain more than 300 community members turned out for free hamburgers, hotdogs, soft drinks and music.

Improving the Campuses

- KBC began its \$3 million addition to its East Campus building with the project scheduled to be completed in February 2005.
- KRC will build a \$1.2 million classroom addition to the Ward building beginning in June 2005.

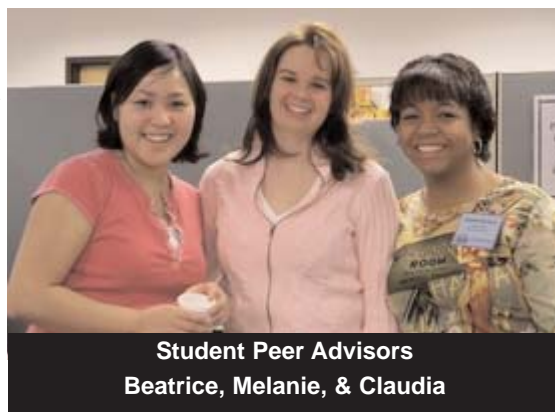


- KRC installed a wireless network so students, faculty and staff can link onto the Internet without having to plug in. The coverage area includes the Student Commons, four classrooms, front lobby, Learning Center, Bookstore and Student Services/Business office.

Reaching Out to Alaska Native Students

- KPC's outreach to Native students is showing great results. Over the past five years, Alaska Native enrollment has increased 132.5% increasing from 40 students in 1999 to 93 in 2004.
- A group of 30 Kenaitze Native Youth Olympics students that will participate in the Arctic Winter Games 2006 started meeting at Kenai River Campus two times a week to do homework, receive tutoring, and use our library and computer lab. The program greatly benefits the Kenaitze students as they become comfortable in a college-setting and can utilize some the college resources.

- KRC again staffed a booth at the AFN convention on October and was very successful talking to 100s of Native Alaskans about KPC. This is another way KPC is extending its rural outreach throughout the state particularly aiming at Native and rural students.





Summer Programs

- Offered 22 credit classes during summer 2004.

KPC hosted the following special programs in summer 2004:

- The KBC-hosted Kachemak Bay Writers Conference featured award-winning author Maxine Hong Kingston as the keynote presenter and 25 others including noted authors, editors, publishers and agents. The conference attracted 150 participants from across the U.S. KBC received \$12,000 in grants and donations to support the conference.

- UAF's Alaska Native Language Center's 3-week Dena'ina Language Program was held for the second consecutive year at KRC. The program enrolled 10 students in 2003. In 2004, the enrollment more than tripled and grew to 32.

- KBC's family literacy Evenstart program provided literacy services to 15 families on the lower Kenai Peninsula.

- The Kenai Fishing Academy (KFA) was again offered in summer 2004.

Four week-long programs combined 20 hours of classroom instruction on fishing and other topics with on-the-water practicums. Fifty-four students "graduated" with a degree in "Piscatorial Pursuit" from the programs.



KFA was highlighted in the March issue of Alaska Magazine's Field Notes section.

- The Alaska Alliance for Arts Education, a program of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, conducted two week-long Arts Institutes at KRC. The Adult Fine Arts Institute held the first week was for educators from around Alaska, and focused on improving education by using arts education techniques across the K-12 curriculum. The institute had 45 students, who produced 92 credit hours of work, created fine visual artwork & photography, literary works, music, art lesson plans, and created and produced puppet theatre.

- The Youth Arts Institute was held the second week, where master teachers employ the same techniques with children of all ages. In partnership with Community Schools, the institute culminated in a huge exhibit throughout KPC and the nearly 100 youth participants performed for about 200 parents and community members.

