**KENAI PENINSULA COLLEGE**  
College Council Report  
Meeting Date:  October 12, 2017  
Department:  Faculty Offices  
Prepared by:  Faculty Chairs  

**MATH DEPARTMENT**

Tammy Farrell's MATH121 course has now met Quality Matters review expectations. Aka, Quality Matters Certified

**ASTRONOMY**

Physics/Mathematics Andy Veh will be teaching Astronomy for 3 Wednesdays in November for Soldotna Community Schools, free of charge, as part of my service.

**AKNS**

In late August Dr. Alan Boraas, Sondra Shaginoff-Stuart, and Joel Isaak participated in 3-day Dena’ina/Ahtna language revitalization meeting. This meeting was a statewide meeting with both Ahtna and Dena’ina elders, language learners, and language teachers.

KDLL was filled with language faculty.

On September 29, 2017, Professor Alan Boraas, Adjunct Sondra Shaginoff Stuart, and Adjunct Joel Isaak were on KDLL discussing indigenous language revitalization of Dena’ina and Ahtna. They were interviewed on-air by Shaylon Cochran.

(From left to right: Joel Isaak, Sondra Shaginoff-Stuart, Dr. Alan Boraas)

Adjunct Sassa Peterson and Program Coordinator Christina Stuive created a new 1-credit course for AKNS entitled Traditional Qaspeq History and Construction. It will run November 10, 17-18. Participants will make a traditional Qaspeq.

**Anthropology**

Dr. Alan Boraas and colleague Dr. Ripan Malhi of University of Illinois were interviewed by L Jay Barrett on 2000 year old salmon DNA analysis from a Kenai River archaeological site for a "Science Friday" segment to be aired in a week or two. They were shadowed by a journalist who has written for BBC and NYT. Photo by Liana Aghajanian
Dr. Boraas is also working on two other large scale research projects that address mapping the genome of Dena’ina people and the second project focuses on Epigenetics/DNA methylation and PTSD within the Dena’ina people.

PROCESS TECHNOLOGY

This year Associate Professor Laube traveled to the North American Process Technology Alliance – Instructor Skills Conference [NAPTA-ISC] in New Orleans, LA. This three-day conference was held September 26, 27, and 28th and is attended by industry trainers and PTEC educators. During the conference Professor Laube was invited to deliver five workshops titled: How to get Students Excited about PTEC; Instructor Tools to Teach Out of the Box; Demonstration of Low Cost, Desktop, Hands-on Process Models; Lab Assessments; and Leveraging Distance Learning. Professor Laube’s workshops were well received.

Just prior to the NAPTA-ISC was the Simtronics User Conference. Simtronics makes the DCS simulator used at KPC. At the Simtronics User Conference, Professor Laube served on a panel discussion of the best practice use of Simtronics by a school. KPC continues to be a leader in PTEC training and is regularly invited to share our methods of teaching process technology.
Fall 2017 October Update
The national search has begun for the right person to fill the position of Kenai Peninsula College Industrial Instrumentation Instructor. This individual needs a strong and varied instrumentation knowledge base, but also solid hands-on experience, plus the vision to see the program take its place as a pace setter at the forefront of Industrial Instrumentation training. The Kenai Peninsula College Process Technology program has achieved a highly regarded national reputation. We desire to have the same with the Industrial Instrumentation program, recognition on a national level.

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Update on the three PRT courses being offered in a modified blended crosslinked arrangement; classroom and through web delivery. These three are moving forward with almost no complaint from students. The only items of consternation have been a few “IT” type glitches with Blackboard, video’s, or google email. All of these issues were quickly rectified. Otherwise, the format style seems to be developing into a very workable system for Process Technology type courses. There are students from across the state taking the courses who otherwise would be unable to do so.

To continue the update in reference to Lab Intensives, we are currently analyzing how best to accommodate the highest percentage of students who have a variety of working schedules. This has not been completely resolved and is still in flux. I will report more on this next month.

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The Process Technology Department Professor Jeff Laube is in the beginning stages of helping to coordinate a Process Technology student group who will be meeting with Alaska Process Technology Industry representatives. This will allow students to meet such representatives personally and show their skills in a more informal atmosphere.

Scheduled Industry Tours Fall 2017
Agrium Chemical Plant: October 6
Swanson River Oil Field: October 13
Tesoro Refinery: November 3