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TO: News Room: ATTN: Schools Section  
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FROM: Suzie Kendrick  
Kenai Peninsula College

### **Chevron makes largest corporate donation KPC has ever received**

Recognizing KPC's process technology, instrumentation and computer electronics programs are vitally important to Alaska's workforce development, Chevron has made a donation to KPC of historic proportions. Chevron, widely regarded as one of the leaders in global energy development, made the \$500,000 gift as part of a \$1 million donation to the University of Alaska Anchorage. The other half of the donation will be awarded to the UAA Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP).

Representatives from Chevron officially presented the gift at the Kenai River Campus annual Fall Barbecue last week. According to KPC director Gary J. Turner, the college will be good stewards of the donation by upgrading teaching labs, purchasing industry-standard training equipment and establishing scholarships.

Chevron has operated in Alaska for more than 50 years. Currently the company employs more than 400 Alaskans and is looking to expand operations in the state. The increase in activity will require a larger workforce in the fields of engineering, process technology, computer electronics and instrumentation.

"Chevron is committed to support the communities where we work," said John Zager, Chevron Alaska manager. "We believe in recruiting and training locally, and we want to be an active contributor in helping to grow Alaska's workforce for the future."

### **KPC sees boost in enrollments**

Enrollment across the KPC system is up 12.76% in headcount (HC) over the same time last year. The breakdown at each KPC site: Kenai River Campus: up 18.76%; Kachemak Bay Campus: up 10.16%; Anchorage Extension Site: down 11.21%; Resurrection Bay Extension Site statistics are not yet available.

"While headcount is somewhat important because it shows we are serving more students, semester credit hours (SCH) is the typical measuring stick to determine if we are actually doing better than before," said KPC director Gary Turner. "For example, we could have 100 students

taking 1-credit each equaling 100 credits and we could have 100 students taking 3-credits each equaling 300 credits, which is much better. In this example the headcount is the same, but the semester credit hours are triple.”

According to Turner, a comparison to last year in SCH indicates KPC is up 7.4% as a system. KRC is up 8.7%, KBC is up 12.8%, AES is down 15.4%; and no stats are available for RBES.

### **Kenai River Campus construction update**

According to project coordinator Dylan Bales of SR Bales Construction, Inc., the biggest challenge in the current science lab renovation and skywalk project was the unforeseen site conditions. “Tying three independent structures together and the rainy summer weather were our main challenges,” said Bales. “It took a lot of planning to work around the occupied buildings, but the staff was very accommodating and patient with us.”

The skywalk project will result in an additional 2828 sq. ft. of floor space and the science lab remodel finished out at 2634 sq. ft including all the hazardous materials closets and storage spaces.

Bales anticipates that project will be completed on schedule, by the end of September.