

April 5, 2007

TO: News Room: ATTN: Schools Section
Peninsula Clarion <safe:morris>

FROM: Suzie Kendrick
Kenai Peninsula College

RE: Weekly Schools Column (published Wednesday, April 11, 2007)

2007 summer schedule online now

Despite this year's reluctant transition from winter to spring, summer is just around the corner. Registration for the summer term at the Kenai River Campus opens April 17. The summer course offerings are available on the KPC home page at kpc.alaska.edu.

Summer is a great time to conquer that math class some students find themselves putting off. The accelerated course work, small classes and individual attention instructors can give students is very conducive to mastering math concepts. Offerings include elementary, intermediate and college algebra, trigonometry and calculus III. College algebra and trigonometry qualify as general education requirements. The trigonometry class will be offered over the internet in the Elluminate Live (ELive) format. For more information about the ELive platform, see the KPC website at <http://www.kpc.alaska.edu/online/elive.html>.

Other classes offered this summer that qualify as general education requirements include fundamentals of oral communication, introduction to written communication, also offered in ELive format, and technical writing, delivered in a web-based format.

For more information about the summer schedule, contact Student Services at 262-0330.

New camera loaner program for photography students at KRC

A new program will make digital and film cameras available to students who are attending KPC's Kenai River Campus and exploring a career in photography and digital art. The cameras have been made possible by donations from the Soldotna Rotary Club and private donors.

The cameras will be checked out to students during fall 2007 and spring 2008

semesters as long as they are enrolled in a 3-credit digital or film photography course at KRC.

Cameras are awarded based on the candidate's interest in photography and digital art, financial need, and scholastic achievement, in that order. Priority will be given to full-time students or students enrolled in two or more art and photography courses. There will be at least two SLR digital cameras and two SLR film cameras available.

Application forms are available to download at www.kpc.alaska.edu or from Student Services at KRC. Application packets must be submitted to Student Services by May 1 for fall 2007 semester. For additional information or to donate to this program, contact Jayne Jones at 262-0374 or ifjmj@uaa.alaska.edu.

KPC professor UA's newest PhD faculty member

Dr. Cathy Pearce, associate professor of history, successfully defended her dissertation over spring break in London, and will be awarded her PhD in Maritime History from the Greenwich Maritime Institute, University of Greenwich, London.

Two days after defending her dissertation, Dr. Pearce was contacted by Boydell and Brewer, an academic publisher of maritime history in London. Additionally, Cathy's committee chair states she believes that Oxford, Yale and Cambridge publishing houses will likely be interested in her research.

While in London, Pearce was extensively interviewed and videotaped for the award-winning BBC documentary series, "Timewatch."

Dr. Pearce was a recipient of the 2007 Chancellor's Fund Competition that will enable her to continue her research in Cornwall this summer. The title of her proposal was, "Lured by False Lights: Cornish Wrecking and Victorian Myth."

KRC welding students train to hang-on Cook Inlet platforms

Students enrolled in welding courses this semester at KRC recently got an unexpected opportunity to further increase their prospects for employment. Fritz Miller, long-time welding instructor at KRC, was contacted by Remote Access Technology International, a company based in Nova Scotia, Canada, who offered his students a rare opportunity for free training.

“The company needed welders to train using their remote access technology and offered to come to us, train our students, sponsor their independent certification testing, all at no cost to the school or the students. The training and certification usually costs about \$1500,” said Miller.

Stuart Goldstein, KRC adjunct welding instructor, and the students attended the intensive, 4-day module that included rope suspension from the ceiling of the welding shop as well as classroom training. The rope access technology trains welders to safely reach difficult to access places, like the under-decks of offshore oil platforms and towers in processing plants where scaffolding is not viable.