TO: KPC Council and KBC Advisory Board

FROM: Carol Swartz, Director
        Kachemak Bay Campus

DATE: June 1, 2015

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

- 15 students from University of NC, NY, Florida and Augustana College in SD have already registered for fall KBC biology and other courses as part of our Semester-By-the-Bay program. Several have been selected for part-time internships with area non-profit, federal and State agencies who also actively serve as partners with KBC in this project. Dr. Debbie Tobin and Student Services staff have been busy providing them with comprehensive information and academic advising. A few of last fall’s UNC’s students were selected for highly competitive, coveted summer internships with USFW, Sea Life Center and others and will be returning to Alaska for the summer.

- Our fundraising campaign for the KBC Mary Epperson Student Support and Scholarship endowment has been ongoing for 6 months. Four mass mailings since Dec. have gone out to businesses, general public and friends of KBC. Two events were organized and held at area restaurants that provided reduced cost and space. Since Dec., approximately $12,000 has been raised from individuals and businesses in this 6 month targeted campaign towards meeting our $25,000 endowment goal, bringing the total of the fund to about $15,000.

- On April 6th, Brian Partridge presented and coordinated with 3 other area professions/physician a public lecture “Heroin Hits Homer: The Science of Heroin”. Over 80 people attended.

- KBCSA with their staff advisor coordinated the following activities during the last two weeks of the semester:
  - 2 game nights
  - A movie
  - Lunches from local restaurants during finals week.
  - Shoulder massages during finals week.
  - Co-hosted the student art show
  - Hosted the commencement reception
  - Local restaurant provided an end-of-year student barbecue in the parking lot with grilled halibut and chicken tacos.

- Shannon Cefalu was elected KBCSA President for 2015/2016 Academic Year.

- Student Services staff and KBC faculty hosted JumpStart open houses for students and parents from Homer High School, Connections and Flex High School who learned more about the JumpStart program, KBC class offerings and met the faculty and advising staff.
Commencement was held Wed., May 7th at 7pm at Homer High School’s Mariner Theater. Graduates earned the following degrees and certification’s:

A.A. (6), BA-Psych. (1), BA-Ed (1), AAS -Rad. Technology (1), Medical Coding (1), AAS-Early Childhood (1), MSW, MPA. This year 9 students earned their GED and 6 received their welding certification in AWS Structural Welding.

Here is a wonderful article from a local newspaper: http://homernews.com/homer-news/schools/2015-05-14/kachemak-bay-campus-2015-graduates

Planning for the June 12-16th Kachemak Bay Writers’ Conference continues. There are 115 registrants to date. Nine are also registered for our post-conference poetry workshop June 16-18 that is held at Tutka Bay Lodge. About 25 high school students are registered for our pre-conference “young writers” workshop that is being held June 12.

The annual KBC-Project Grad Summer Institute is being held June 1-12th. Thirty HS students from Nanwalek, Vozsensenka, Nikolaevsk, Razdolna, Port Graham, Tyonek and Nilnilchik will attend a variety of classes and field studies experiences organized by Project Grad. KBC SES staff will participate.

Planning for the completion of natural gas conversion project this summer has been ongoing. It will include the removal of the underground fuel tank by the facility’s front door, installation of a patio and sidewalk and related drainage/sidewalk replacement.

Carol was asked to be the local person to facilitate the May 26th Homer visit of His Majesty (HM), the King of Norway. She initially toured the Ambassador of Norway, Consul and staff around Homer and arranged their familiarization visit to Tutka Bay Lodge during an afternoon and then arranged for two local USFW and KBRR researchers to discuss with HM the impact of climate change on Kachemak Bay. She then assisted with HM’s visit on May 26th, accompanying them, the Homer Mayor and 14 from the press and security to Tutka Bay Lodge for lunch and discussion on area impact of climate change. At their invitation, she also attended HM and others’ presentations at the Alaska World Affairs Council luncheon on May 27th regarding “The U.S. and Norway in the Quest for Arctic Knowledge.”