



INstitution INsight

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GREETINGS!



Thunder Mountain, Juneau by K. Kussart

In this issue, we spotlight Wayland Baptist University, introduce the Alaska Public Media Alaska@Work communication initiative, welcome a returning Commissioner and more! As always, I invite you to send me your feedback or suggestions for future topics.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Kussart'.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Wayland Baptist University

Wayland Baptist University (WBU) is a private, non-profit university chartered in 1908, with a main campus in Plainview, TX, and thirteen external locations worldwide, including Anchorage and Fairbanks. In total, WBU has seven auxiliary locations in Alaska, with four located on military bases. All campuses are regionally accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Wayland has a long history in Alaska as they have had a campus here for over 30 years.

The campuses offer students courses taught by an in-class instructor, as well as courses taught by an off-site instructor who broadcasts into the classroom in real time, with teacher/student interaction via video and teleconferencing. Students can also take completely online classes outside of the classroom setting. Classes are offered primarily in the evenings to accommodate working students.



Wayland Anchorage campus

As described in their mission statement: "Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success and service to God and humankind." WBU offers associate, bachelors and masters

degrees.

At the January 10th meeting, the Commission approved an eighth location of WBU in Kenai. Congratulations!

Alaska@Work Media Initiative is Seeking Partners

In January 2018, Alaska Public Media (AKPM) received an American Graduate: Getting to Work grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. American Graduate supports community-based solutions to help young people succeed in school, career and life. The purpose of the grant is to help advance education and career readiness. With the grant AKPM began the Alaska@Work communication initiative.

Alaska@Work is looking for collaborative partners that educate, employ or connect Alaskans to rewarding careers that do not require four-year degrees. They are also looking for amplifiers to share their media content.



As a partner, AKPM will work to create multimedia content about your organization, at no cost to you. Alaska@Work has partnered with and developed multimedia content about:

- Northern Industrial Training
- Alaska Operating Engineers Employer Training Trust
- Midtown Job Center
- Operation Reborn (located at Hair Science)
- Partners Reentry Center
- Alaska Joint Electrical Apprenticeship and Training Trust
- Alaska Seeds of Change
- Iron Workers Local 751 Training Trust

You can visit the Alaska@Work website [here](#). You can see all of their videos on their Youtube page [here](#). For more information contact Peter Host at AKWorks@alaskapublic.org

Recent Commission Actions

January 10, 2019 Meeting

Renewal of Authorization

- Charter College (Anchorage and Wasilla)

Amendment to Authorization

Upcoming Events

March 6-7, 2019

- 5th Annual Alaska Can! Conference - Anchorage Marriott Downtown

April 10, 2019

- Quarterly Commission Meeting (Juneau)

- Alaska Pacific University (Anchorage) - new degrees in Nursing, Health Occupations, Health Science and Environmental Public Health
- Wayland Baptist University - new location in Kenai
- Yuut Elitnaurviat - People's Learning Center (Bethel) - new programs in Aviation Maintenance and Welding

and via teleconference)

IMPORTANT DATE: April 15, 2019

Deadline for receipt of materials for items to be presented at the July 23, 2019 Commission meeting

ACPE Releases Alaska Higher Education Almanac 2019

ACPE recently published the second edition of the *Alaska Higher Education Almanac* - a valuable source for information about higher education in Alaska. The Almanac profiles enrollment and graduation information across Alaska as well as for individual institutions. It also includes Alaska's national ranking on key postsecondary access and success metrics, an update on the Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network's 65 by 2025 credentialing goal, and summarizes the economic impacts of financial aid and credentialing.

To view the Almanac click [here](#).

Senator Gary Stevens Rejoins the Commission

Sen. Stevens was recently reappointed to the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education by the Senate President. Sen. Stevens is the Chair of the Senate Education Committee and has a long history of service to Alaska as a legislator with his election to the House in 2001 and to the Senate in 2003. He is a retired professor who taught for 25 years at UAA. Previously, Sen. Stevens served on the Commission from spring 2015 to spring 2017.



Sen. Gary Stevens

To read more about the Commissioners, including brief biographies, visit the ACPE About Us page [here](#).

Fifth Alaska Network Conference to be held in March **Alaska Can - Looking Ahead!**

The fifth annual Alaska Postsecondary Access & Completion Network Conference is taking place March 6 - 7, 2019, at the Downtown Marriot, in Anchorage, AK. The Network was formed to address Alaska's low ranking (49th in the nation) in postsecondary access and completion and brings together organizations and

individuals invested in bettering Alaska's performance. The Network's goal is to increase the percentage of working-age adults holding a high-value certificate, college degree, or other industry-recognized credential to 65% by the year 2025.

The focus and goal of the conference is to unite cross-sector professionals in increasing the number of Alaskans enrolling and succeeding in postsecondary education. Participant takeaways will include practical skills to overcome common obstacles, new and strengthened partnerships, lessons from stories of success, and identification of opportunities for program alignment.



Visit the conference event page [here](#) for complete conference information. We hope to see you there!



Kierke

kierke.kussart@alaska.gov

907.465.6741

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