



GREETINGS!



photo: C. Sams

In this issue, we'll provide information on a new Commissioner appointment, spotlight Trend Setters School of Beauty, announce our new executive director and more! As always, I invite you to send me your feedback or suggestions for future topics.

A small, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kierke', enclosed in a thin white rectangular border.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Trend Setters School of Beauty

Trend Setters has been training Alaskans in the art of hairdressing since 1972 and was authorized in 1978 making it the oldest cosmetology school in Alaska. The school was opened by Dennis and Connie Millhouse and is still run by the Millhouse family. In 2001 Trend Setters moved in to a new 12,700 square foot building that was specifically designed as a hairdressing school, making them the largest cosmetology school in Alaska. The school graduates 40 to 60 students a year. Trend Setters also operates two professional salons which enables them to directly employ their licensed graduates.



Trend Setter's lobby photo: K. Kussart

At the July 28th meeting, the Commission re-authorized Trend Setters School of Beauty, through July 2019. Congratulations!

New Commissioner - Dr. Eric Ash

On May 31, 2016 Governor Walker appointed Dr. Eric Ash to the Commission seat that is designated for a representative of private nonprofit higher education. Dr. Ash is the Dean of Wayland Baptist University - Anchorage and has held that position since 2007. Wayland Baptist is a faith-based, non-profit, regionally accredited institution that is headquartered in Plainview, TX. The Anchorage branch celebrated 30 years serving Alaska in 2015.

Congratulations to Dr. Ash!

To read more about the Commissioners visit ACPE's About Us page at:

https://acpe.alaska.gov/ABOUT_US/About_ACPE_ASLC/Leadership.

Stephanie Butler selected as Executive Director of ACPE

After a lengthy recruitment process, the Commission selected Stephanie Butler as the new Executive Director of ACPE. Ms. Butler first joined the Commission in 1997 as the institutional authorization program coordinator and was promoted to Director of Operations in 2001. Ms. Butler is a Certified Internal Auditor and holds a Master of Science in Business Administration and Management from Boston University and a Bachelor of Arts in English from Barry University.



We congratulate Ms. Butler and wish her success as Executive Director!

ACPE Pilots Refinancing Loan Program

ACPE is excited to roll out a new option for Alaskans struggling to repay high-interest student loans.

The new state Alaska Education Loan Refinancing Program, financed by the Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC), can assist qualifying residents seeking to reduce costs on student loans they or their family members borrowed to pay for higher education or training.

The Alaska Refinancing Loan offers a fixed 5.2% interest rate for the life of the loan, and borrowers can choose a 5, 10, or 15 year repayment schedule.

The Alaska Refi is unique in that it allows borrowers to combine multiple types of education loans, including federal loans, state loans, and loans from private lenders such as Sallie Mae or banks, into one fixed-rate loan.

While an applicant does not have to be a current ACPE customer to qualify for the loan, they do have to be an Alaskan resident and meet certain credit criteria. If a cosigner is required they also must be an Alaskan resident.

Please see http://acpe.alaska.gov/Alaska_Refi for more information and consider informing alumni of this opportunity.

Recent Commission Actions

July 28, 2016 Meeting

Upcoming Events

- October 27, 2016

- Quarterly Commission Meeting

Renewal of Authorization

(Anchorage)

- Amundsen Educational Center (Soldotna)
- Glenda's Training Center LLC (Wasilla)
- Trend Setters School of Beauty (Anchorage)

Authorization Extension

- Alaska Institute of Oriental Medicine, Acupuncture & Massage Therapy (Anchorage)

Resolution of Support for Constitutional Amendment to Allow General Obligation Bond Authority for Postsecondary Education Loans

IMPORTANT DATE: October 15, 2016

Deadline for receipt of materials for items to be presented at the January 12, 2017 Commission meeting

Constitutional Amendment on November Ballot Commission passes resolution of support at July meeting

Also at its July meeting, the Commission issued a resolution in support of an amendment to Article IX, sec. 8, of the Alaska Constitution to permit the issuance of state General Obligation (GO) debt for the purpose of funding state education loans for Alaska students. The amendment will appear on the general election ballot this November. If approved by voters, the amendment expands the current purposes for which GO bonds may be issued, providing the potential for lower financing costs. [Read the Resolution of Support here.](#)

For more information about the constitutional amendment please contact commission secretary Meg Buck at margaret.buck@alaska.gov or at 907-465-6718.

Seattle University's Alaska program is cover story of Lawyer magazine

Seattle University School of Law publishes Lawyer magazine twice yearly. The Spring 2016 issue features the inaugural class of third-year law students at the Anchorage Satellite Campus. Accepted students from any law school can spend their third year in Anchorage, focusing on Alaska law. The program provides students who wish to practice in Alaska the opportunity to gain Alaska-specific knowledge and build professional relationships. Alaska is the only state without a law school.

To read the article click [here](#).



photo: Michael Dinneen

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ACPE.alaska.gov

STAY CONNECTED



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