

**KENAI PENINSULA COLLEGE
COLLEGE COUNCIL REPORT**February 13, 2020KRC – Soldotna, 6:00 p.m.

Department: Student Services
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5.8

# ADMISSIONS/REGISTRATION

## *Summer 2020 Schedule & Registration*

The summer 2020 schedule is completed and will be available for viewing on UAOnline on Monday, February 3rd. Priority registration begins on February 10th, and open registration begins on February 24th.

## *Spring 2020 Admissions*

81 students were admitted to KPC for the spring 2020 semester. 24 admits are still pending.

## *Fall 2019 Graduation*

26 degrees were awarded for the fall 2019 semester

* 11 AA General Program
* 2 AAS General Business
* 2 AAS Paramedical Technology
* 8 AAS Process Technology
* 1 AAS Process Technology and Industrial Process Instrumentation (double major)
* 1 Petroleum Technology Certificate
* 1 Welding Technology Certificate

# FINANCIAL AID

## *Student Traffic*

In 2019, the KPC Financial Aid office served a total of 1,551 students. 1,003 of the student contacts were in-person, and 548 were via phone or email. These figures are down from 2018, during which 1,708 students were served.

In January 2020, the Financial Aid office assisted 168 students, 108 of which were in-person and 60 via phone or email. Walk-in appointments are the preferred method of assistance for the majority of students. They want to discuss their options at length and/or require hands-on assistance with navigating online forms.

## *Student Aid*

The Financial Aid office has been busy processing spring semester Kachemak Bay Campus tuition waivers and administrative scholarship awards.

The Alyeska Scholarship Committee met and awarded $5,000 to four deserving recipients. The awards were processed and the students notified by the Financial Aid office.

Paper scholarship checks from outside resources totaled $23,528 for the spring semester.

## *Other*

KPC’s Financial Aid Coordinator, Kathi Overpeck, serves on the Recruitment Committee and the Marketing subcommittee.

Kathi Overpeck rewrote the KPC Financial Aid Clerk position to where it accurately reflects the needs of the office and to make the position more appealing. It is now called the Financial Aid Specialist. KPC Student Services recently hired Sam Emery to fill the position. Sam’s first day was January 6, 2020.

The Financial Aid office is working on compiling a comprehensive new hire procedures and training manual for the Financial Aid Specialist position. The new hire training includes FERPA, Title IX, Accessibility and SafeZone, along with Financial Aid specific training.

# RECRUITMENT

## *Campus Events*

* In November, Recruiter Emily Knight hosted one group and two private tours on the Kenai River Campus. Alaska EXCEL brought 12 high school seniors to tour the campus, complete applications for admission, and take the ALEKs math placement exam.
* December tends to be a slow month for recruitment events, but on Dec 12, Knight helped host Christmas at the College, a free campus event for community members to celebrate the Christmas holiday. Event attendees enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies as they watched The Grinch. Professor Robin Dahlman provided a free holiday craft for some of the younger, more antsy event goers and Santa made an appearance to join families at the photobooth.



Above: Kathi Overpeck, KPC Financial Aid Coordinator, and Susan Browning, Student Services Admin., pose with Santa in front of the photo booth for Christmas at the College

* In January, Knight assisted with New Student Orientation and guided new students on a tour of the campus to introduce them to key resources. The tour included brief presentations from Diane Taylor, Director of the KRC Learning Center, and Jane Fuerstenau, KPC Library Director.

## *Off-Campus Events*

* While the month of October was dedicated to college fairs, the month of November is known as Application Month. This year, Knight held Application Day events at two central peninsula high schools: Soldotna High and Nikiski Middle/High School. Knight also reached out to Kenai Central, Ninilchik, and Seward High schools, but received no response from the school counselors. Knight did not attempt to host similar events in Homer, as members of the Kachemak Bay Campus have stated they prefer to arrange their own application events with Homer high school students. A second round of KPC Application Days typically occurs in late March and April.
* On November 7, Knight visited high school students at Kenai Alternative High School to showcase KPC degree programs, discuss the college going process, and review the FAFSA and other financial aid opportunities. Then on Nov 14 and 15, Knight attended the Alaska High School Counselors Association (AKSCA) Conference in Anchorage. This conference is an excellent opportunity to connect with school counselors from across the state and network with colleagues from other UA campuses.
* No off-campus events took place in December, however, in January, Knight and Veteran Services Coordinator, Royce Bird, staffed the KPC table at the 44th annual Peninsula Winter Games (PWG). Approximately 100 children and their parents stopped by the booth to make slime. Though this event might not have a direct link to increased recruitment and enrollment, it’s an excellent opportunity to give back to the local community.
* On January 29, Knight assisted the KRC Learning Center in manning a booth at the 8th annual Project Homeless Connect. At this community event, KPC focuses on promoting its free GED, ESL, career skills and family literacy resources available through the KRC Learning Center. Over 30 individuals stopped by the table to ask questions about available programs, and seven left their contact information to receive follow up information. One individual went as far as to stop by the college on the following day and submit her application for admission for Fall 2020.

## *Requests for Information*

Between November 1 and Jan 31, KPC received 22 requests for more information (RFI’s) directly from our website. Of these requests, sixteen identified KRC as their campus of choice and the remaining six expressed interest in attending KBC. The most common areas of interest included Firefighter I Preparation (7), Certified Nurse Aide Preparation (5), Welding (4) Nursing (4), Medical Imaging/Radiologic Tech (4).

The Recruitment Team’s RFI sub-committee has been working to create a cohesive and strategic response to these types of requests.

## *Chamber Luncheons*

Knight attended two chamber luncheons in November, one in December, and none in January. Regular meetings will pick up again in February. These luncheons provide opportunities to promote campus events and network with other community members and business organizations.

## *KPC Recruitment Committee*

The KPC Recruitment Committee continues to meet and has been working hard on three areas: Marketing, Social Media/Instagram and Request for Information Process.

## *Trainings*

Knight attended the following trainings and webinars over the past three months:

* Overcoming Implicit Bias Webinar
* Seawolf Tracks – New Users Training
* Seawolf Tracks – Advisors Best Practices Training
* ALICE Training
* SafeZone Training
* Kids2College Webinar

RURAL AND NATIVE STUDENT SERVICES

## *Scholarships*

***Alaska Native Studies Housing Scholarship: Nełnuch’entuh (We help each other)***

Two students from the Residential Hall were eligible for the AKNHS scholarship for the spring semester – one Associate of Arts student and one Welding student.

The students will be enrolled in an Alaskan Native Studies Language Class and another Alaska Native Studies course of their choice. The scholarship was given a Dena’ina name that means, “We help each other”, as a promise to help each other, the college and student: Nełnuch’entuh.

The benefits for student eligible for this program:

* Increase retention of residential Native students
* Cultural connections and pathways to address issues
* Academic skills
* Positive social networks

***Alyeska Pipeline Scholarship (APS)***

The APS Committee met on January 27, 2020 to discuss eligible applicants. The following students were awarded the Alyeska Pipeline Scholarship for spring 2019:

* Magdalene Pequeno – Welding Technology Degree Program
* John Peterson – Process Technology Degree Program
* Erik Peterson – Process Technology Degree Program
* Jordan Kernan – Process Technology Degree Program

In March the Rural and Native Student Services Coordinator, Sondra Shaginoff-Stuart, will travel with Jeff Laube, Associate Professor of Process Technology, to Anchorage to meet with the Alyeska Pipeline Scholarship Committee to talk about KPC’s technical programs and previous recipients of the scholarship. The meeting will determine the funding amount for next year.

## *Clubs and Events*

***Gathering Room Lunches***

KPC continues to host lunches in the Native Students Gathering Room, Brockel room 266. Each Thursday, staff and students cook meals to share. This event is open to all students, staff, faculty. It is one meal that students don’t have to worry about making or buying, and it helps retain Alaska Native students along with giving them a positive social network, a connection to Elders and access to familiar foods.

***Native Foods Day***

The Dena’ina Wellness Center (DWC) in Old Town Kenai continues to open their doors for the community to share Native foods. KPC provides transportation for interested students. Native Foods Day has many benefits for students, including:

* Connection to the community
* Connection to Elders
* Access to familiar foods
* Access to medical care (registering for Indian Health Services for the local area)
* Open for all students to participate

***Basketball Club***

This year Beatrice Sagoonick, KPC’s Developmental Advisor, will be taking over as the staff advisor for the Women’s Basketball Team. There are currently seven students, staff and community members signed up to play in the league. Games will be on Wednesday and Fridays at the Nikiski Recreation Center starting on January 15, 2020. Not all students have enough funds to participate, so the Alaska Native Studies Club will be assisting students in need.

The Basketball Club supports:

* Peers working together from other disciplines
* Staying active during the long winter months
* Ease with homesickness
* Connection with local community: community members that support the team
* All students are welcome to join

***Alaska Native Studies Club***

The Alaska Native Studies Club has been slow to start this semester, but there is enough interest to begin submitting the necessary paperwork. One of the activities students wanted to develop is the Native Dancing, so the club has decided to continue the Kenai Peninsula College Native Dancers, the Kahtnu Yurartet (Kenai River Dancers).

The dancers have been invited to a couple of events within the past few months. During the Alaskan Native/Native American Heritage Month, the dance group hosted and danced for the Cody Ferguson: Yup’ik Singer and Comedian held on Thursday, November 14, 2019 and at the Kahtnu Yurartet Gathering held at the Residence Hall on Thursday November 21, 2019. In January, during the Irish Concert held on the Kenai Peninsula Campus, the club was asked if students would like to run a concession stand during the event. Several students participated, and they introduced themselves and talked about the dance group. It was a great turn out and what a great way for students to practice public speaking skills.

The dance group were asked to perform during Dr. Alan Boraas’s Service at the Kenai River Campus in January. They decided to sing a Dena’ina Song that Helen Dick’s Dad (Dena’ina Elder) had help to create, “I’ll Fly Away” in the Dena’ina Language in honor of Dr. Boraas.

This club has been a great way for students to:

* Develop Peer Academic Support
* Establish a Native cultural presence on campus
* Educate non-natives about Native issues
* Develop leadership skills

***Alaska Native/Native American Heritage Month***

KPC’s Rural and Native Student Services Coordinator, Sondra Shaginoff-Stuart, arranged nine events during the month of November for Alaska Native Heritage month. Each event showcased a different aspect of the Native worldview, and included dancing, sharing Native languages, highlighting the tragic history of boarding schools, and hosting other speakers from the UAA and UAF campus. Students assisted with each of the events.

During the month, the campus also spent time remembering our beloved professor, Dr. Alan Boraas. Students and staff honored him with a fireside remembrance on our first gathering event at KPC by the Kenai River. This was part of an annual language event that Dr. Boraas would likely have participated in. Many people attended from across the Peninsula.

The full schedule of events for Alaska Native Heritage Month was:

* Monday, November 4, 2019: Qighishin Ch’q’ulqet Jani—Native Foods Day.
* Tuesdays, November 5 & 12, 2019: Nats’ii zagha ‘snelyaayi baninic’ezet—You think good things while making a necklace. This event consisted of two evenings of necklace beading for the community.
* Friday, November 8, 2019: Dr. Walkie Charles from UAF presented on his process of teaching Yup’ik language and how he has developed the Yup’ik Degree Program.
* Saturday, November 9, 2019: Naqenaqa Nuch’eghetdneq—Gathering and Fireside Remembrance of Dr. Alan Boraas.
* Thursday, November 14, 2019: Rock You Mocs Photo Op. We invited the Kenai River Campus to wear their moccasins for the day.
* Thursday, November 21, 2019: Emmy award winning film: Dawnland. The film was showcased with a discussion about Native families who were greatly affected by their children being taken away by state social workers.
* Cody Ferguson: Yup’ik Singer and Comedian. Cody Ferguson was invited from Chevak, Alaska. He shared the evolution of Yup’ik Dancing.
* Kahtnu Yurartet Gathering: The final event for the month was hosted by the Kenai Peninsula Dancers. They also performed for the campus and community.

# STUDENT HEALTH CLINIC

* The clinic re-opened on January 13, 2020. Clinic hours are 10am—3pm Monday through Thursday.
* The Spring 2020 Health Fair is scheduled for Saturday, March 29th. The clinic will collaborate with Alaska Health Fair, Inc.

Number of patients seen from January 13-31, 2020: 28

# CAMPUS SAFETY OFFICER

* The Campus Safety Officer, Royce Bird, traveled to Homer on November 12, 2019 to review camera access with the Kenai River Campus (KRC) Lead Desktop Support Technician.
* Officer Brennan with the Soldotna Police Department conducted ALICE training from 1:00 to 5:00pm on December 6, 2019. Thirty-six staff and faculty members from KRC were in attendance. The training was video-conferenced to the Kachemak Bay Campus
* The University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) Emergency Health and Risk Management Services (EHRMS) visited KPC on December 10 and 11, 2019. Bird met with new EHRMS employees.
* Bird attended an ALICE Train the Trainer class on January 14 and 15, 2020. She is now a certified ALICE trainer.
* The Emergency Response Team (ERT) had their first meeting of the year on January 29, 2020. They discussed their roles in the upcoming lockdown drill. The ERT also discussed how to better communicate safety policies to students. The CSO will work with Advancement to project safety information onto KPCNN, the KPCWord, and KPC’s Facebook page. The CSO will also update the Campus Safety webpage.
* The Kenai River Campus lockdown drill was on February 6, 2020 at 10am.

# VETERAN SERVICES COORDINATOR

* The Veteran Services Coordinator (VSC), Royce Bird, has processed certification for 128 veteran students across the University of Alaska System. Kenai Peninsula College has processed tuition and fees and has submitted them to the VA.
* Bird continues to attend VA trainings and webinars as they are available. She completed mandatory School Certifying Official (SCO) training to maintain compliance as determined by the school’s Education Liaison Representative (ELR).
* Bird put together small gifts to hand out on Veteran’s Day 2019 for the Kenai River and Kachemak Bay Campuses. Kaladi Bros. Coffee donated sixty free drink passes to give to KRC veterans and the VSC will be purchasing gift cards from Captain Cook Coffee for the KBC veterans.
* Bird traveled to KBC on November 12, 2019 and met with one veteran student during priority registration.
* Bird traveled to Anchorage on November 22, 2019 to host a table at the Veteran and Military Spouses Job Fair at the University Center Mall.
* Bird and the KPC Recruiter, Emily Knight, coordinated the annual KRC Holiday Potluck on December 13, 2019. The potluck consisted of participating faculty and staff having lunch together, an ugly sweater contest, and an optional gift exchange.
* Bird attended an Overcoming Implicit Bias webinar on December 2, 2019 and Seawolf Tracks trainings on December 6 and 13, 2019.
* Bird continues to serve on the Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT), and Recruitment and Retention committees.

| Spring 2020 | As of Feb. 1 |
| --- | --- |
| Total KPC Degree-Seeking Students | **27** |
| Process Technology | 9 |
| Industrial Process Instrumentation | 1 |
| Process Technology & IPIN | 1 |
| AA General Program | 8 |
| Other Programs | 8 |
| Non-Matric (Pending Degree Seeking) | 0 |
| Benefit Types (KPC Students) |  |
| Chapter 33 – Post 911 GI Bill | 25 |
| Chapter 35 – Dependent Spouse/Child | 0 |
| Chapter 31 – Vocational Rehab | 3 |
| Chapter 1606 – Guard and Reserve | 0 |
| Guest Students | **90** |
| UAA | 67 |
| UAF | 6 |
| UAS | 5 |
| MAT-SU | 10 |
| KODIAK | 1 |
| PWSCC | 1 |
| Total Students Certified for VA Benefits | **128** |
| Total Students Dropped/Withdrawn | **10** |
| Total Credits Certified  | **759** |

Table 1: Fall 2019 Certifications