



Date: February 21, 2020

To: John Stalvey, Interim Provost

From: John Petraitis, Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Cc: Libby Eufemio, Assistant Professor
Betty Walters, Interim Director, Kodiak College

Re: AY20 Expedited Program Review Findings

Program/s in this review: Alutiiq Language OEC

Specialized accrediting agency (if applicable):

Campuses where the program is delivered: Kodiak College

Members of the program review committee:

Libby Eufemio, Assistant Professor

Centrality of Program Mission and Supporting Role

UAA's mission is to discover and disseminate knowledge through teaching, research, engagement and creative expression. UAA is committed to serving the higher education needs of the state, its communities and its diverse peoples. It is also committed to instruction at multiple academic levels, success of all students regardless of their higher education goals, and service to the diverse peoples and communities of the state. UAA's core themes are (1) Teaching and Learning, (2) Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity, (3) Student Success, (4) UAA Community, and (5) Public Square. UAA values international and intercultural education, diversity of experiences and perspectives, and the diversity of our unique location in Southcentral Alaska that comes from the Alaska Native peoples of this area.

The College of Arts and Sciences CAS contributes to UAA's mission with a suite of programs that provide, among other things,

1. general education courses for undergraduates in CAS and other Colleges,
2. opportunities for undergraduates to pursue majors in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and the arts, and
3. opportunities for faculty and students to pursue research and creative activities in CAS's academic disciplines,
4. graduate programs for advanced studies.

Given decreased enrollments across UAA and significant budget cuts to CAS, the challenge is to serve UAA's and CAS's missions with only 75% of the funds it had in 2018-2019. CAS's shrinking budget is especially challenging for programs that rely on state financial appropriations through CAS because the programs have a gap between (a) the total costs of everything the program does and needs, and (b) the tuition CAS receives to cover those costs. This describes most programs in CAS: most rely on state appropriates and CAS has 30% less than it had two years ago.

The Kodiak-based Alutiiq Language OEC serves that mission by providing:

- opportunities to disseminate and protect the language and values of the Alutiiq people,
- a transcribed certificate with as little as 16 credits, and
- Kodiak-based courses that support and lead to a minor (and forthcoming AA) in Alaska Native Studies.

Program Demand (including service to other programs), Efficiency, and Productivity

Serving mostly the community of Kodiak with a program that does not lead to a degree, the program has very little demand, only 10 students have completed the program since its inception in 2015, its instructional costs are nearly double to tuition that students pay. As such, the program's consumers bear only a fraction of the costs, with the remainder relying on state appropriations.

Program Quality, Improvement and Student Success

The program mixes face-to-face instruction with online instruction, and it recently received a grant to employ high-impact practices in its courses.

Program Duplication / Distinctiveness

Although other programs offer courses in different Alaska Native languages, this is the only program for the Alutiiq language, likely anywhere in the world.

Commendations and Recommendations

The program is commended for its responsive to a local population, commitment to Alaska Natives more broadly, and its ability to extend the program to those beyond Kodiak through online courses. It is also commended for finding extramural support to offset its costs. The program faculty should continue efforts to increase enrollments. The faculty should also be commended for the hard work they put into their expedited program review submission.

Decision

Continuation.