

Date: February 12, 2020

To: John Stalvey, Interim Provost

From: Denise Runge, Dean

Cc: Gary Turner, Director, Kenai Peninsula College

Re: AY20 Expedited Program Review Findings

Program/s in this review: Corrections (OEC, UC)

Specialized accrediting agency (if applicable): none

Campuses where the program is delivered: Kenai Peninsula College

Members of the program review committee:

- Henry Haney, Co-Chair Business and Industry, KPC Campus
- Ruben Foster, Adjunct Faculty, KPC Campus
- Randy Rosencrans, Adjunct Faculty, KPC Campus

Centrality of Program Mission and Supporting Role The Corrections OEC aligns well with the mission of UAA and of the KPC campus. The program does not have a clear alignment with other CTC programs, since it prepares students for immediate employment as correctional officers and in related positions within the criminal justice system. The Undergraduate Certificate program consists of courses that are also taken frequently by students in other programs, including five Justice courses, and one each in Writing, Communications or Psychology, and Human Services.

Program Demand (including service to other programs), Efficiency, and Productivity Demand for the program has remained very small during the review period. The program operates with an eye on efficiency. During the review period the program has averaged two graduates per year. For 2019, the UC program had only two majors with an average of four per year during the previous seven years, and there were no students in the OEC. The review committee notes in its report that it is designed to meet “strong needs” in the community and state. The evidence from student enrollment suggests that the need for a post-secondary credential may not be as strong as the program believes, or it is possible that the industry does not see the value in the credential at this time. In terms of instructional productivity, looking only at the five JUST courses, student credit hours per full time equivalent faculty member, or SCH/FTEF was 282. Its tuition revenue per credit hour is \$207.6 and its cost per credit hour is \$171 for a ratio of 1.2, indicating the program is covering its instructional costs. Overall the program is experiencing excess capacity with moderately low costs.

Program Quality, Improvement and Student Success The program is offered as a fully online, working-adult friendly option. Its design and curriculum do not appear to create any barriers to

student success; indeed, the program demonstrates a strong desire to appeal to career-focused adult students. Its courses are designed based on Quality Matters principles, and rigorous assessment of student learning is incorporated throughout. The three student stories provided by the program suggest that students are using the Corrections program as only one piece of their larger academic and career plan. This may indicate that additional opportunities exist to connect this program to associate and/or bachelor's degrees in related fields offered by the College of Health.

Program Duplication / Distinctiveness The KPC Corrections program is the only program in the state; there is overlap with the Justice program at UAA and some overlap with the Human Services AAS programs.

Commendations and Recommendations Commendations: The program is commended for its ongoing efforts to ensure student success and placement. Recommendations: The program should engage in discussions with the College of Health (CoH) to see what opportunities exist for better alignment and possible integration with the above-mentioned health programs. The program should continue discussions with the Alaska Department of Corrections to understand its hiring plans and what level of educational attainment it will expect of its new hires.

Decision *Revision:* The program should work with the College of Health to address the specific issues and recommendations noted above. Because the degree consists of College of Health courses and is related to CoH programs, it should be reassigned to the College of Health.