

Date: February 2, 2020

To: John Stalvey, Interim  
Provost

Cc: Betty Walters, Interim Director, Kodiak College

From: Denise Runge, Dean

Re: AY20 Expedited Program Review Findings

**Program/s in this review:** Technology (AAS)

**Specialized accrediting agency (if applicable):** none

**Campuses where the program is delivered:** Kodiak College

**Members of the program review committee:**

- Lorraine Stewart, CTE Coordinator, Kodiak College
- Jeff Libby, Associate Dean, Anchorage
- Steve Johnson, Associate Professor, Prince William Sound College

**Centrality of Program Mission and Supporting Role** The AAS Technology program is well-aligned with the mission of UAA, of CTC, and of Kodiak College. The program meets an apparent workforce need. Graduates enjoy substantial employment opportunities on Kodiak Island and in nearby communities as mechanics, welders, or related positions. The program is closely related to and incorporates the courses from the Welding certificate also offered at Kodiak.

**Program Demand (including service to other programs), Efficiency, and Productivity** Demand for the program has fallen during the review period, and the program's efficiency is troubling, given the general loss of embedded technical programs (construction and safety) and their associated credits. The programs had an average of ten majors per year, with six during the 2019 review year, and eight the previous year. The program has, on average, graduated only two students per year. The previous certificates that were available also saw very small enrollment, averaging just three students per year. With the decision to delete the certificate and options in safety and construction, instructional productivity naturally fell sharply. For 2019, there were no classes offered at Kodiak College in OSH, CM, or TECH, however students enrolled in the AAS were taking Welding and/or GER coursework. For this reason, cost data is not available for analysis. Overall the program is experiencing excess capacity with sharply declining productivity.

**Program Quality, Improvement and Student Success** The program has been experiencing dramatic change, with the loss of safety and construction emphases and their

associated courses, declining demand and an unclear future. The program faculty and campus administration remain committed to offering a vocational-technical AAS degree for Kodiak residents, however, and have begun to explore the opportunity to transform this degree to better serve students and the workforce needs of the rural communities the campus serves. Prior to the loss of the emphasis areas, the program utilized several practices to support student success, including high impact practices such as community engaged learning and internships.

**Program Duplication / Distinctiveness** Distinctiveness: The UAA/Kodiak College program is the only one in the state that appears to combine multiple technical/trade areas within a single AAS. As a degree completion option, the AAS Technology could provide added value for students whose educational and career objectives cut across multiple trade and technical areas. This design would present substantial opportunities for revision and future growth, with little to no cost to the campus, since it would provide additional students for existing vocational/technical classes and certificate programs.

**Commendations and Recommendations** Commendations: The program is commended for focusing and refining its offerings to adjust to changing workforce needs in the areas served by Kodiak College. Recommendations: The program should complete a revision to broaden the curricular options available within the AAS, allowing for a true "interdisciplinary" pathway for students with training in two or more related vocational/technical areas. The program should work closely with its secondary partners to align and expand opportunities for concurrent enrollment.

**Decision** *Revision:* The program faculty should initiate a revision in line with the recommendations above. The program should be offered at all campuses in order to meet local needs.