

AVTEC – Alaska’s Institute of Technology

October 9, 2012

AWIB Update

Recent flooding hit Seward hard but left AVTEC facilities relatively unscathed. Some minor flooding of the Students Services Center and washed out access roads were the extent of the damage.

Fall enrollment stands at 513 students, 225 long term students (programs six weeks or greater) and 288 short term (less than six weeks). This is down slightly from last fall. Interestingly, student housing is full and the cafeteria is serving more meals than ever.

The first 10 students have enrolled in the Associates of Applied Science in Nursing (Registered Nurse) program in Anchorage. All 10 are graduates of AVTEC’s Practical Nurse program and are licensed LPNs. This first cohort will graduate in March 2013. This is AVTEC’s first Associates Degree program.

Five pieces of relatively new heavy equipment have arrived in the Applied Technology Campus as a result of a grant from Economic Development Administration (EDA) and match from the State of Alaska. This is a welcome addition to the Diesel/Heavy Equipment Technologies training program which for years has been relying on local equipment companies to bring in equipment for servicing.

The Industrial Electrical program has added a Wind Technician endorsement to the program for those students wanting to specialize in alternative/renewable energy production. This is possible due to the addition of a 100KW Northwind 100 wind turbine to the campus which recently was connected to the Seward electrical grid. This is in addition to the Wind Technician training being provided to rural power plant operators in partnership with the Alaska Energy Authority and Alaska Village Electric Cooperative. To date 30,000 KW of energy have been produced by the turbine.

This summer months saw completion of a remodeled cafeteria, bakery, and dishroom as well as demolition of the old culinary arts facility which was recently replaced. This much needed and welcomed upgrade was also funded by EDA with match funding through the State.

A replacement dormitory for the old 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue dorm facility is funded at \$16M in this year’s capital budget and is currently in 35% design review stage. This 120 bed facility will sit on the same site as the existing building. Demolition will begin in March 2013 with anticipated completion of January 2014. Modular style construction is anticipated. AVTEC is seeking proposals from local hotels for temporary student housing during construction.

The annual AVTEC Job Fair was attended by 43 Alaska employers last spring and proved a very successful event. This year’s event is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Culinary Academy scholarship fundraiser dinner is scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013. This fun event features student lead teams preparing and serving fine cuisine and raising funds for a good cause.

Respectfully submitted: Fred Esposito, Director