Alaska Marine Science and Fisheries Careers Coalition
Steering Committee Meeting – December 3, 2009

Draft Meeting Notes:

Steering Committee Members attending:
Paula Cullenberg, Acting Director, Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program
Debbie Hart, ADF&G Fish & Wildlife Careers for Alaskans Program
Ida Hildebrand, Tribal Natural Resource Program Director, Chugach Regional Resources Commission
Michele Yatchmeneff, ANSEP Deputy Director
Stefanie Benca, VISTA Volunteer, AMSFCC Coordinator
Glenn Seaman

Not attending:
Rose Fosdick, Vice President, Natural Resources Division, Kawerak Inc.
Sue Leatherbery, Lower Kuskowim School District
Beth Spangler, ANSEP Biological Sciences
Ginny Eckert, Associate Professor, UAF School of Fisheries & Ocean Sciences
Barbara Morgan, UAS Fisheries Technology Program
Mike Miller, Sitka Tribe

General Updates:
1. Michele shared that ANSEP is working to get three programs running next summer – summer camp (2 weeks) at UAA for 50 minority kids in middle school (6th, 7th, and 8th grade), Junior Academy (students take college courses to keep their computers), and the summer bridging program. The middle school summer camp is new and aims to excite students about science through hands-on activities. It will be funded through a grant and Exxon.
2. Newsletter: Stefanie sent out a draft of the newsletter. The Steering Committee gave feedback – Ida suggested we highlight distance education at UAS-Ketchikan Campus. Stefanie is waiting on interview answers from two Alaska Native students in the fisheries BS program at SFOS – she will re-send the newsletter early next week for final review as it will be sent out to program partners at the end of the week. If anyone knows current students or graduates who would be interested to interview/highlight/get involved, please e-mail Stefanie at coordinator.amsfcc@gmail.com!
3. Cover letter to newsletter – Paula sent out a letter that will go with the newsletter to program partners. Please review it and send suggestions/comments to her as necessary. Debbie suggested we add a paragraph at the end – ask about partners’ updated contact information and indirectly invite them to the 02/12 meeting (ask if they want more information). Rather than a formal RSPV sent out with newsletter, we will follow up with an e-mail or letter inviting them to AFE. Stefanie has an old contact list that needs updating – she will look through it with Paula and Debbie before the initial send-out.
4. Future Alaskans in Fisheries & Marine Science website (http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/future/index.html): Michele will send Stefanie a paragraph for ANSEP to go on the “High School Students Pre-College” page. Stefanie updated all of the links and organized current content. Now she is in need of more content – **Action Item: Please send her more content to put up on the website (coordinator.amsfcc@gmail.com)!**

5. Future Alaskans message board: please register and interact on the message board! Stefanie will send out instructions in a separate e-mail. She is currently working to get the site more exposure – she is doing outreach via Facebook, Twitter, and various listserves. **If you have a relatable listserve, please let her know and she will send you a template e-mail to send out.** She asked current SFOS students to critique the site – positive feedback so far and students interested in helping out! Check out Mark Young’s thread on the message board (an SFOS senior in the new fisheries BA program: http://z6.invisionfree.com/Future_of_Alaska/index.php?showtopic=15). She will also work with Paula in creating an online newsletter to send to program partners via Mail Chimp.

6. In a previous meeting, Ginny had the idea of creating a job board to centralize job openings (fisheries and marine science related) throughout the state. Debbie shared that ADF&G uses local job service and the Department of Labor for their observer jobs. The state has a new portal for internships (http://notes5.state.ak.us/wa/MainEntry.nsf/WebData/HTMLHomePageIntern/?open) -- would a job board solely for fisheries and marine biology be useful/needed? How many jobs would be featured at one time? Should jobs and internships be combined? If we created one like this, http://www.cofs.washington.edu/JLS, maintenance would be simple. Please consider various job boards/options.

7. Alaska Forum on the Environment: Glenn sent out an e-mail detailing the two tracks (Tribal Natural Resource Management and Environmental Education Training). Stefanie will attach that information to this e-mail. AMSFCC will sponsor the “Pre-College Science Training and Education Programs” and “College Science Training and Education Programs for Rural Alaskans” sessions which will be held Wednesday (02/10/2010). Glenn will work with Paula and Stefanie for lining up presenters. If Glenn is unavailable to be the moderator, Paula and Stefanie will manage the sessions. **Action Item: Michele will ask current ANSEP students to volunteer their time to share their experience.** Stefanie will check to see if graduates in the Anchorage area will be available to participate as well.

8. Alaska Forum on the Environment: AMSFCC has a session in place for Friday (02/12/2010). **Action Item: Steering Committee should think about how they want to use the time (currently have 9am-4pm).** Paula and Stefanie will work with Glenn to meet the December 8th AFE Planning Committee deadline with sufficient details to remain on the agenda. **Please think up agenda items to share in January – we need this finalized to share with program partners prior to February meeting.** This information will be tied to an invitation for them to join us at the annual AMSFCC meeting (02/12/2010).
9. Alaska Forum on the Environment: Alaska Sea Grant paid for the AMSFCC booth – we will have it all week (02/08-02/12). Ida has volunteered her time; Stefanie will create a time sheet for people to sign-up slots to manage the booth soon. Program partners should think about what material they want presented on the booth.

10. Section 109: The budget is still not passed and we are not sure if the funding is included ($500,000 for Alaska). **Action Item:** Pete Jones works in Senator Begich’s office – AMSFCC Steering Committee members (particularly Mike, Rose, and Michele) should e-mail him to express their support to help push it along. Paula will send out his e-mail address (peter.d.jones@noaa.gov).

11. Ida has a student interested in ANSEP in Fairbanks. **Action Item:** Michele will send her the Fairbanks ANSEP contact to Ida. For others also interested, Thomas Clausen’s information is listed on the website and he is the ANSEP UAF Director (http://www.uaf.edu/cnsm/ansep/).

Next Meeting: Tentatively January 7th, 2010 at 1:00pm