

Partners for Progress in Delta

A CONSORTIUM OF EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

Progress Report

Plumbers and Pipefitters Select Delta Construction Trades Graduate

Vitaliy Kulinich is the first graduate of the Delta/Greely School District's Construction Trades program to be picked for a slot in Plumbers and Pipefitters Trades organization. Kulinich, a December 2006 graduate, was one of 20 chosen out of 78 applicants in the northern region by Local 375 in Fairbanks. Construction Trades (CT) coordinator and instructor Gary Hall says he is proud of Vitaliy and confident he will succeed with the Pipefitters. Hall has a track record of placing his graduates in a number of apprenticeships. His goal is to not only provide the technical and knowledge skills, but also the work ethic and industry job readiness skills that make it easier to join the real world of work. The DGSD hired Hall to develop Delta's CT program in November 2002. He has been instrumental in shaping the program and constructing the new Delta Career Advancement Center, which houses the CT program. To date six of his students have earned apprenticeships or job placements within the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and/or Local 302 Operating Engineers.



Bret Helms (left), the Director for Fairbanks Alaska Area Plumbers and Pipefitters Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC) congratulates Vitaliy Kulinich on his selection to a Local 375 apprenticeship.

Since the Construction Trades program got underway at the Delta/Greely School District, more than 75 youth have participated in the program. High quality instruction and well-defined expectations have made this program "one of the best-kept secrets in Interior Alaska," according to Randy Cheap, the Fairbanks representative of the Alaska Works Partnership.

Interior Heavy Equipment Civil Construction Academy Sees Results and Paves the Way for Summer 2007 Program

Alaska Works Partnership conducts a series of summer construction academies around the state each year. In 2006, AWP agreed to work with the Partners for Progress in Delta to conduct the first academy in the area. Ten applicants were interviewed and participated in an intensive three-week program leading to First Aid/CPR/AED certification, hands-on heavy

equipment operation, work ethic, and equipment maintenance instruction.

The academy was envisioned by the Partners for Progress in Delta as a critical component of stretching the CT program and fully engaging the partners to ensure its program content and desired outcomes were aligned with real world expectations.□

The Partners

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Delta/Greely School District
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Partners for Progress in Delta online at
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MISSION

The Partners for Progress in Delta educational consortium delivers education and job training opportunities to area adults and high school students. The combined missions of the partners—Tanana Valley Campus of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Delta Mine Training Center, Alaska Works Partnership, the Delta/Greely School District and the Cooperative Extension Service—reinforce a commitment to career advancement, workforce development, academic preparedness, community education and life-long learning. The Delta Career Advancement Center (DCAC), a collaborative project of the partnership, is a gateway for learning and training in the area.

Three women participated in the program and one of the three was direct placed into an apprenticeship and a job through the Operating Engineers Local 302 at the end of the class. The one—Vitaliy's sister Olga Kulinich—switched from a career in banking to job placement through Local 302 Operating Engineers. She has worked on the Dalton Highway and elsewhere around the state. For her,



Top: Delta Industrial Services, Inc. made its Carns Gravel Pit at Mile 5 Nistler Road available to the 2006 Academy in Delta Junction. Above: In June 2006 10 youth, ages 17–24 participated in the first **Interior Heavy Equipment Civil Construction Academy**. Under the leadership of AWP, the Career Center held an intensive three-week civil construction academy. Back row from left are: Karen Helkenn, Matt Reed, James Rogers, Erin Trainor, JT Scott, Olga Kulinich, and Lowen Ewing. Front row from left are: Operating Engineers Training Trust Instructor Jay Aune, Oleg Shapoval, Dmitriy Vasilevskiy, and Pavel Kulinich

Delta's first summer academy was life changing. Another male trainee also received direct placement into 302 Operating Engineers while other students secured industry related jobs in the state.

An important private sector partner in the 2006 summer academy was Delta Industrial Services. DIS, Inc. provided equipment and access to its gravel pit to ensure the program got underway in 2006. DIS, Inc. owners know they can call Hall at the Delta Career Advancement Center when they have coming jobs requiring certain skills.

Curt Dufendach of DIS endorses the professional training approach Gary Hall is using with these students. "Gary's kids are exceptional. They come to the job knowing not just about the task, but also how to dress, be punctual, interact with others and get the job done efficiently."

Besides learning construction basics, students are also certified in CPR/First Aid/AED, OSHA 10 Construction Safety, and MSHA (Mine Safety and Health Administration). They also learn about operation and maintenance of oil burners and heating systems, fall protection and other topics.

In addition, students are helping write the cold climate building techniques curriculum in cooperation with the Alaska Building Science Network (ABSN) and industry experts.

The Delta Career Advancement Center proudly flies the logos and names of all of the Partners for Progress in Delta. CT junior/senior students Ruvim Yantsen, Ilya Bereznyuk, Vitaliy Kulinich, and Craig Cummings help instructor Hall erect the sign in December 2006.



Summer Construction Academy in Delta Junction June 4–22, 2007

Apply now through May 11. Young adults ages 17–24 are eligible.

Applications are available through the Delta Career Advancement Center.
Call 895-4605 for more information.

Apply by May 11 to be considered.

Applicants will be interviewed by May 25 and notified of acceptance into the summer program by May 29.



Top, senior CT students Vitaliy Kulinich and Yan Torba weld on the trailer project. Above, instructor Gary Hall, Craig Cummings, and Yan Torba at fall protection training.

Private Support Enhances the Building, Welding Capacity and Safety Training

The Rasmuson Foundation was a major supporter of the construction of the Delta Career Advancement Center. Awarded a matching grant to leverage private dollars, the Partners received additional support to enhance the facility by providing funding for landscaping, paving, deadbolt heaters and covered storage—all slated for implementation in spring and summer 2007 as soon as weather permits. In addition, the grant funded portable welding booths, which sets the stage for building an adult welding program.

The Partners are working toward an adult welding class to be offered through TVC by winter 2007.

ConocoPhillips helped fund the DCAC Safety Zone—an identified space within the workshop for specific safety training, including fall protection.

GOALS

To deliver quality and custom programs to accelerate rural Alaska's workforce development, the goals of the Partners for Progress Consortium are:

- ◆ to make Alaskans competitive for jobs emerging from new developments in the area;
- ◆ to facilitate training for community members seeking career advancement, degrees and continuing education
- ◆ to better prepare high school juniors and seniors for career options, providing on-the-job training for long-term employment;
- ◆ to establish a cadre of qualified local instructors, and
- ◆ to build partnerships for regional delivery of select programs.

THE PARTNERS AT A GLANCE

ALASKA WORKS PARTNERSHIP (AWP)

Alaska Works Partnership operates a variety of programs to assist people in gaining high paying jobs in the construction industry. AWP's Apprenticeship Outreach program provides information on registered apprenticeship and assistance with applications and interview preparation. AWP has an on-going, award-winning program, "Women in the Trades," that prepares women for construction jobs and apprenticeships. In addition, AWP provides assistance for Veterans and those leaving military services who want to work in construction. Services include short-term certificate training and apprentice training. Short-term industry certificate training is available to upgrade skills of area workers for construction, mining, power generation and public safety.

Pipeline Training—Alaska's four "pipeline" unions—the Operating Engineers Local 302, Laborers Local 942, Plumbers, Pipefitters Local 375 and Teamsters Local 959—work with AWP to offer pipeline-training programs. .

Custom Construction Academies—AWP offers intensive courses for people who need pre-vocational training for employment in construction. .

DELTA MINE TRAINING CENTER

Established in 1998 to address the issue of local hire for mineral industry jobs, the Delta Mining Training Center has helped prepare Alaskans for jobs in mining and mineral exploration throughout Alaska. In addition, Delta Junction currently offers the only fully functional mine training facility in the state through the DMTC, including an on-site dorm for cost-efficient training. DMTC has, and continues to play a major role in training entry-level miners for Teck-Pogo. The Delta Mine Training Center continues to be the connection for industry to find workers and Alaskans to find employment.

Workplace Health and Safety—The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulates all occupations other than mining. The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) regulates mining. DMTC students receive certifications required for employment.

Mineral Industry Workforce Development—The Delta Mine Training Center offers the hands-on training that meets the rigorous standards of the mineral industry for Alaskans to enter numerous mineral industry occupations. □

THE PARTNERS AT A GLANCE continued

DELTA/GREELY HIGH SCHOOL

Construction Trades Program—A NCCER certified instructor teaches a sequence of six specific topics that are part of the core curriculum covering everything from basic math to use of tools, safety and essential residential construction skills.

- The June 30, 2003 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the district and the Trades, industry, Alaska Works Partnership, and the Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development—is a milestone in the state. The MOU formalizes a “School-to-Apprenticeship” program whereby successful completion of the DGSD Construction Trades Program can lead to a job and/or an apprenticeship.
- In addition, the Alaska Building Science Network selected the DGSD Construction Trades program to help develop the building science curriculum for cold climates. Alaska Building Science Network (ABSN), a network of international scientists and contractors interested in cold climate building design, is spearheading this effort.

UAF COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

As an important gateway to its university system, Extension interprets and shares relevant university, research-based knowledge in a usable form to Alaska’s diverse people and communities.

Extension provides its mining extension activities through the Delta Mine Training Center. Extension produces hundreds of publications, written by university specialists, which contain practical information of interest to Alaska residents. Major program areas include agriculture and natural resources, community resource and

economic development, home economics and consumer science, 4-H and youth development, and housing and energy. Delta is the site of an active pest management program and high interest and participation in the Cold Climate construction classes.

TANANA VALLEY CAMPUS (TVC), UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS (UAF)

In Delta TVC uniquely offers academic credit and leverages university resources to support partnership education and job training goals. TVC offers courses that meet both academic needs and industry certification requirements.

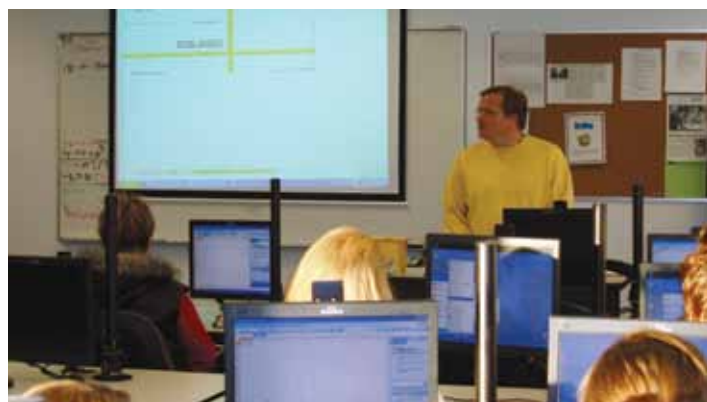
TVC has been offering courses in the Delta area since 2003. Classes range from three-credit classes in applied business, English, AutoCAD and American Sign Language to shorter customized offerings in computer applications and food handling and customer service. TVC Applied Business faculty member Andy Anger commuted from Fairbanks to teach an intense “Managing Small Business” class in February 2007. He also taught a custom small business and marketing class to clients of Catholic Social Services, which inspired many of participants to take the full three-credit class.

Tech Prep Agreements—TVC continues to work with the Delta Greely School District to articulate new Tech Prep Agreements that will offer UAF credits to secondary students.

FAST TRACK Training—The US Dept. of Labor grant permits TVC to offer six high-demand programs in automotive, diesel/heavy equipment, drafting/CADD, power generation, instrumentation and safety, health and environmental awareness. Participants complete workforce development certificate programs in a nine-to-12-month format to put new skills to work in a shortened timeframe.



CES Land Resources Agent Michele Hebert (standing far left) teaches an Alaska Gardening Issues class at the DCAC for Catholic Social Services (CSS). Supported through a USDA Risk Management Agency grant CSS is offering classes to area client refugees, thereby tapping the expertise and talents of the partners. From left with Hebert, back row: Lidiya Shastitko, Lyubov Yantsen, Lyudmila Yantsen, Olga Yantsen. Front row Anna Yantsen, Irina Golgusheva, Mila Shapoval, Liliya Malyk, Anna Morozov.



Delta resident Eric Anderson has been teaching computer classes for TVC for several years. Here he teaches a customized Excel class.

Delta Career Advancement Center

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Contact: Gary Hall, facility manager or
Cheryl Helkenn, TVC coordinator