

## **Secondary Vocational Training Instructor/Administrator of the Year Award Nominations**

### **Brian Walsh, Welding Instructor, King Career Center, Anchorage, Alaska**

Mr. Walsh was nominated by Mike Andrews, Director of Alaska Works Partnership.

Mr. Walsh is an instructional leader who is creative and innovative in his approach to teaching students welding skills. After completing his degree in Petroleum Technology he worked in construction and mining exploration, where he applied what he learned and gained practical work experience. He decided he wanted to teach young Alaskans the skills they need to have a good career and returned to UAA to earn a seconded degree in Vocational Education. Mr. Walsh has worked for the Anchorage School District as a welding instructor for sixteen years. He has very good working relationships with employers and trade apprenticeship programs and has connected many students to registered apprenticeship in construction trade programs. Mr. Welch produced the Qualified Procedures for Welding Bulk Fuel Facilities and trains each worker to those industry standards. He is an active member of the Alaska Career and Technical Education Association. Mr. Walsh is enthusiastic about teaching youth skills they can use for a lifetime.

### **Jeff Selvey, Director of the Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center (NACTEC)**

Mr. Selvey was nominated by Lee Haugen, Director UAF, Northwest Campus; Dawn Salesky, Vice President Kawarak, Inc. and Angela Gorn, Vice President of Hospital Services, Norton Sound Health Corporation.

Mr. Selvey has extensive experience in the Alaskan educational system. He has worked in five Alaska school districts for over twenty-seven years as a teacher, principal, and Director of the Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center. He coordinated and created NACTEC from the conception to reality with communication, persistence, knowledge of supporting organizations and grant writing skills. His attention to diversity has lead to model innovations in the training curricula and structure of training Alaska Native rural high school students.

Mr. Selvey's vision to create successful training programs was based on his involvement and community engagement on many levels. He presents new workforce strategies in the areas of health as chair of the Bering Strait Health Consortium, Kawarak, Inc., and the Northwest Campus Advisory Council. Some of the programs he

has created in partnership with other agencies include Certified Nursing Attendant, Introduction to Health Careers, Welding, Alaska Driver's Licenses, and financial Aid for Higher Education, Carpentry, and Small Engine mechanics.

Mr. Selvey serves as a member of many local, regional and statewide governance boards (Northwest Campus Advisory Council, Bering Strait Regional Health consortium and the Carl Perkins Advisory council.) He recently presented at the State Career and Technical Conference on Rural Vocational Training and Employment. With his leadership, knowledge, attention to diversity, and community engagement he has made significant contributions toward creating an innovative program that promotes and improves technical education for rural Alaska.

### **Post Secondary Vocational Training Instructor/Administrator of the Year Award Nomination**

#### **Bret Helms, Administrator United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union #375 - Joint Apprentice Training Program.**

Mr. Helms was nominated by Mike Sexton, Executive of Mechanical Contractors of Fairbanks.

Mr. Helms completed his apprenticeship program in 1985 and has worked in the field as both a welder and plumber. He began with P& P Local 375 JATC training department in 1995 and was active in training in the five year curriculum for nine years. He has developed and implemented new course curriculums for the Local 375 Apprentice Program. During his time as the administrator for the Joint Apprenticeship Training Program, Mr. Helms has partnered with Tanana Community College in course development to provide Computer Assisted Drafting (CAD) training to apprentices. He has partnered with the Alaska Vocational Technical Education Center in developing the "Math for the Trades" class.

Mr. Helms is an industry member of the Hutchison High School Construction Trades Career-Technical Advisor Team. He is the President of Alaska Works Partnership which promotes apprenticeship opportunities to rural Alaskans and women that provides skills training through outreach efforts and construction academies. The program Mr. Helms administers instills pride of work, high tech skills and good Alaskan citizens.