



For Immediate Release

Jan. 24, 2007

JEDC HIRES THREE FOR NEW SPRINGBOARD PROGRAM

The Juneau Economic Development Council has hired three staff for its SpringBoard “technology-transfer” program, according to Lance Miller, JEDC executive director. The new hires are Adam Fisher and Mary Hakala, both of Juneau, and Rollo Pool of Sitka.

SpringBoard, a partnership between JEDC and the US Department of Defense (DoD), is a statewide program to help transfer and commercialize DoD technology, including its research, inventions, patents and laboratory facilities.

“We’re glad to have these three on our team. There are now seven of us working on this new program,” Miller said. “SpringBoard also is developing an initiative to enhance science and math education in grades K-12.”

Adam Fisher, a SpringBoard technology manager, recently joined JEDC from Washington, DC, where he worked as an engineering program manager for a national transportation organization. Fisher has a BS in Industrial Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh and is a Certified Six Sigma Black Belt through the American Society for Quality. He also has coordinated research projects and assessed laboratory quality systems at the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Mary Hakala, a 45-year resident of Juneau and a Juneau Douglas High School graduate, is the K-12 education coordinator for SpringBoard. She has had several roles with state government, including special assistant to the commissioner of the Department of Education. She is founder of Alaska Kids Count, a statewide advocacy network for K-12 school improvements, and has been involved with Kids Voting and the Juneau Community Charter School. She has a degree in American Civilization from Williams College.

Rollo Pool, director of communications for SpringBoard, moved to Alaska in 1977 and has worked for newspapers, magazines and book publishers, and has held numerous public relations roles in Ketchikan, Juneau and Sitka. From 2004-2006, Pool served as executive director of the Southeast Conference, a regional economic development organization. He holds a degree in science communications.

#