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Southeast Alaska's Largest Distributed Community Paper

STEM AK to host SeaGlide camp with Navy

JUNEAU — The STEM AK program of the Juneau Economic Development Council will hold the SeaGlide Summer Camp in Ketchikan, an opportunity for students and teachers to explore the unique marine underwater environment using Autonomous Underwater Vehicles called SeaGlide.

Fifteen 7th-9th grade students from Ketchikan and 5 teachers from all over Alaska will participate in the five day workshop being held in the Robertson Building on the UAS — Stedman Street campus. They will study principals of marine architecture, design, propulsion, buoyancy, programming, electrical circuits, and force and motion as they assemble an underwater glider housed in a plastic water bottle. The glider

is based on the unmanned Slocum Glider, which has made the transit from the U.S. East Coast to Spain under its own power and without any external control.

In addition to working alongside the students while learning how to build the gliders, teachers will spend time working collaboratively to develop curriculum and classroom connections based on the use of robots for marine exploration, research, disaster response, and search and rescue. Teachers attending are from Ketchikan, Anchorage, Juneau, Haines and Sitka.

Participants will also be treated to a tour of the Navy's SEAFAC facility on Back Island, and Oceans Alaska's new mariculture facility at Herring Cove.

Instructors for the workshop include STEM AK staff, three engi-

neers and a STEM educator from the Naval Surface Warfare Center Carderock Division in Bethesda MD, and a team of three undergrads and a faculty advisor from the Edgerton Center at MIT. The workshop is supported by STEM AK, the Office of Naval Research, the National Defense Education Program, SeaPerch.org, the Autonomous Unmanned Vehicle Systems International Foundation, and the Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District. Visitors to the workshop include a program director from ONR and the national director of the SeaPerch program.

The workshop is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. August 6-10 at the Robertson Building, UAS, 600 Stedman Street, Ketchikan.

Details: Bob Vieth, STEM AK Education Specialist, at rvieth@jedc.org or 907-523-2342.