

## **Cheryl Siemers, Ph.D., Campus Director, Kenai Peninsula College**

Cheryl Siemers, Ph.D., is UAA campus director for Kenai Peninsula College, having served in the role since 2021. As campus director, Siemers oversees all aspects of KPC's administration, academic programs, and community outreach at its three locations: the Kenai River Campus in Soldotna, Alaska; the Kachemak Bay Campus in Homer, Alaska; and the Resurrection Bay Extension Site, in Seward, Alaska.

Prior to appointment as campus director, Siemers had a long history with Kenai Peninsula College, having served first as an adjunct faculty at the institution in 2002, assuming a full-time faculty position in the English department in 2006. Siemers served as a department chair and then assistant director before filing the current role. Prior to her work at KPC, Siemers served as a Writing Center director at Cedarville University and director of Advancement and academic dean at Alaska Christian College.

Siemers holds a strong commitment to two-year colleges and the diverse communities in which they reside. Siemers has championed and expanded community partnerships, community engagement, multi-disciplinary service learning, and place-based learning at her institution. Siemers has helped launch Smart Start initiatives for underprepared students; expanded online, blended, and multi-modal course offerings to increase access for learners; developed and enhanced dual credit and middle college programming in the community and across the state, and increased workforce development opportunities. Siemers has served on local and national boards for education, including serving as chair of the Two-Year College (English) Association for the Pacific Northwest, on the National Council for Teachers of English, and on local school boards and educational organizations.

Siemers earned her Ph.D. in rhetoric and linguistics from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, her M.A. in English from the University of Alaska Anchorage, and her B.A. from Cedarville University in Ohio. She completed a doctoral certificate in strengths-oriented leadership in higher education through Azusa Pacific University. Passionate about higher education leadership development and training, Siemers has also participated in the Higher Education Resource Services (HERS) Leadership Institute, the American Association for Women in Community Colleges Leaders Institute, League of Innovations Executive Leadership Institute, and most recently, the Western Academic Leadership Academy. She provides mentoring to other leaders in the Branch Campus Leaders Institute through the National Association of Branch Campus Administrators.