

UAA

- UAA signed an agreement with Nankai University in Tianjin, China, providing Nankai students from the master of economics programs to be considered for admission to MBA programs in UAA's College of Business and Public Policy.
- UAA and Willamette University College of Law signed a memorandum of understanding to offer a "3+3" program allowing students to complete a bachelor's degree and a law degree in six years, rather than the usual seven.
- With support from a \$1M donation from Alaska Airlines, the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) Middle School Academy is expanding in FY15 to reach an additional 650 middle school students each year for the next three years. ANSEP is partnering with the following school districts in order to draw the needed 650 students: Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, Mat-Su Borough School District, Lower Kuskokwim School District, Anchorage School District, Northwest Arctic Borough School District, Lower Yukon School District, and the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District.
- UAA signed an MOU with the Anchorage School District to streamline the process and provide student success support to high school students taking UAA classes.
- University Advancement (Development and Alumni Relations) is working with local media outlets to increase the reach of UAA lectures and further its brand, "Amazing stories being written every day," with Alaska Public Media recording a re-airing of UAA lectures on "Addressing Alaskans" And the Alaska Dispatch running the weekly column, Hometown U.
- A long-time anonymous donor committed to a \$2M estate gift, beginning with an immediate payment of almost \$500,000. The contribution will generously endow a First Generation student scholarship and create the Alaska Endowment for Excellence, to help stop the "brain drain" Alaska experiences when our talented students decide to live elsewhere. The donor, who has been giving to UAA to support student scholarships since 2000, was so pleased with the impact of her gifts that she decided to make a larger commitment.
- Fairbanks Memorial Hospital has pledged \$300,000 to support the School of Nursing Expansion.

UAF

- UAA/UAF/UAS are working together to improve teacher education in Alaska and better meet state needs for P-12 teachers. The plan under development includes increased admission standards, improved curriculum, and strengthened student teaching experiences to ensure that UA graduates are very well prepared. In addition, UA universities will share resources and collaborate with rural school districts to attract and prepare young people (starting in middle school) to the teaching profession. They will also collaborate with school districts to assist paraprofessionals in attaining certification as teachers.

UA Irons in the Fire

- UAF/UAA/UAS partner with the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) on a statewide College Access and Success committee whose mission is to improve Alaska's postsecondary completions and to foster a college-going culture in Alaska.
- UAF has applied for an experimental U.S. DOE near-peer counseling program funded by federal work study dollars. The program will provide universities with 100% funding to hire college readiness peer counselors to reach local K-12 students. UAF expects to be accepted into the program and will then partner with local school districts to partner on effecting the program.
- UAF/UAA/UAS – collaborate annually to put on a statewide Alaska Native studies conference, next to be held in Fairbanks in March 2015.
- UAF – Colorado State University and UAF entered into an agreement to launch a 2+2 Veterinary Medicine doctoral program beginning in the fall of 2015.
- UAF - The Arctic Science Summit Week and the Senior Arctic Officials meeting, both important international groups, have committed to holding their meetings in Fairbanks in March 2016. These efforts will entail significant international collaboration.
- UAF, along with eleven other top national research universities, has joined in the ASSURE coalition led by Mississippi State University to apply for designation as the Federal Aviation Administration's Center of Excellence for Unmanned Aerial Systems. A decision is still pending.
- UAF – Through partnerships with both NASA and Digital Globe, UAF is expanding its Alaska Satellite Facilities significantly.
- UAF – Air Force and UAF are exploring options for transfer of the HAARP Aurora and Space Research facility to university management.
- UAF – A major upgrade to the Fairbanks campus Combined Heat and Power Plant is underway. A permit has been secured, a funding package has been secured, and contractors for all of the major elements have been secured. Site work began this fall and construction will run through fall of 2018. This project will significantly reduce the largest financial risk facing the UA system at present.
- UAF has improved emphasis on employee training to improve safety: a policy has been adopted regarding Protection of Minors; compliance with safety training suite has steadily improved; over 90% of regular employees have completed required training regarding the federal Title IX requirements regarding prevention and response to sexual harassment and sexual violence; improved supervisory training has been implemented including a component on bullying awareness.
- UAF –Printing services at UAF will discontinue in January 2015. An RFP is out for a contract for privatize these services.

UA Irons in the Fire

- UAF – The federal government in 1915 approved action of a cornerstone to mark Alaska’s first college in 1917. The Alaska territorial government approved the Fairbanks college charter and the Board of Regents was formed. In 1922, the first college classes were offered. UAF is planning a series of events to recognize and celebrate the many contributions of the university to the state over these last 100 years.

UAS

- UAS is an active participant in Fisheries, Seafood, Maritime Initiative that is fostering strategic investment and partnerships in expanding maritime industries.
- UAS is proposing to join UAF in co-offering an undergraduate fisheries degrees with a goal of increasing career pathways for SE Alaska students, and growing student numbers entering UAF graduate programs.
- Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center is partnering with UAF SNAP program, along with UAA, and other regional partners in seeking NSF funding for a regional research coordination network.
- UAS moving forward with their “Finish College Alaska” initiative to promote return of mature students seeking to finish their college degree program.
- UAS is actively engaged with UAA and UAF in Education program collaboration, including new plan to revitalize teacher education programs in Alaska.
- UAS partnership with Juneau Police Department to create on campus police substation.
- UAS partnered with the City & Borough of Juneau (CBJ) to implement and Emergency Management MOA.
 - Efficiency: In lieu of hiring a fulltime UAS risk management officer position, they partnered with Juneau police for services.
- UAS/UAA have shared library catalog systems.
- UAS established additional regional Tech-Prep coordination agreements with local Southeast Alaska high schools to build career pathways from secondary to post-secondary education.

Systemwide

- The university is also working with state agencies and has entered one cooperative agreement for harvesting timber. The agreement permits the signatory entities to share facilities and administrative staff to achieve the goal of reducing overhead costs. This group is also working closely with the administrator of the Roads to Resources Program to improve access to critical resource extraction areas.