

Fisheries Team Presentation

Charge: Develop and review options for organizational restructuring that strengthen fisheries programs at the certificate, associate, and baccalaureate degree levels.

Scope: Certificate, associate, and baccalaureate fisheries programs.

Goals: Meet 90% of projected labor market demand by 2025.



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA

Many Traditions One Alaska

UA Strategic Pathways
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Team Members

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Key Stakeholders

- ▶ Students and Prospective Students (Alaska middle and high school students and non-traditional students)
- ▶ Faculty
- ▶ Staff
- ▶ Executive Leadership
- ▶ Communities (coastal and rural, and hubs)
- ▶ Industry/ Non-Government Organization / Consumers
- ▶ Alaska Native Organizations (e.g. Regional Corporations, Native Associations, Tribes, and Villages)
- ▶ Employers
- ▶ Parents
- ▶ Alumni
- ▶ Legislators

Options

Option 1 – Status Quo

Option 2 – Strengthened Status Quo

Option 3 – Jointly Offered Programs between UAF and UAS

Option 4 – Jointly Offered Programs between UAF, UAS, and UAA

Option 5 – One Consolidated Fisheries Program at UAS

Option 6 – One Consolidated Fisheries Program at UAF

Option 7 – One Consolidated Fisheries Program at UAA



Option 1: Status Quo

(does not include the joint Fisheries initiative)

One Consolidated Fisheries Baccalaureate Degree at UAF (BA and BS available at UAF, and Certificate and Associate available at UAS)

Option 1: Pros and Cons

Pros

- ▶ Least cost and no disruption to fisheries undergraduate programs
- ▶ Maintains valuable connection between the graduate and undergraduate program
- ▶ No required duplication of programmatic content

Cons

- ▶ Dissatisfaction among key stakeholders
- ▶ Perception that UAS and UAF are resistant to change
- ▶ Will not meet the charge



Option 2: Strengthening UAF/UAS Fisheries existing program structures (does not include the joint Fisheries initiative)

One Consolidated Fisheries Baccalaureate Degree at UAF with increased investment in recruitment, retention, and marketing (BA and BS available at UAF, and Certificate and Associate available at UAS). Strengthening Status Quo



Strengthening Opportunities

1. Increased scholarship money
2. Increased staff and resources for additional student recruitment and marketing
3. Alignment of common technological platform for course delivery to expand course delivery locations
4. Increased staff and resources for student retention, engagement, graduation, and job placement
5. Strengthen or build additional community/industry partnerships

Option 2: Pros and Cons

Pros

- ▶ Minimal investment in upfront costs; one of the least expensive ways to strengthen the programs (i.e. no additional facilities or infrastructure needed)
- ▶ Potential to increase student recruitment, retention, engagement, graduation, and job placement
- ▶ Maintains valuable connection between the graduate and undergraduate program
- ▶ No required duplication of programmatic content

Cons

- ▶ Dissatisfaction among key stakeholders
- ▶ Perception that UAS and UAF are resistant to change
- ▶ May not meet the charge and goal



Option 3: Jointly Offered Programs with Stronger Integration between UAF and UAS (certificate, associate, and baccalaureate degrees)

This option would entail jointly Offered Programs between UAF and UAS (certificate, associate and baccalaureate degrees). Programs offerings would be strengthened by a joint BS degree with students at both locations, as well as the development of an Associate Science degree that is a seamless transition to either the BS or BA in Fisheries.

Option 3: Pros and Cons

Pros

- ▶ Potential to increase student recruitment, retention, engagement, graduation, and job placement
- ▶ Increased and improved collaboration between UAS and UAF
- ▶ Increased efficiency for students to navigate between programs (AS and BS/BA)
- ▶ Maintains valuable connection between the graduate and undergraduate program
- ▶ Long term sustainability and stability of the program would be enhanced

Cons

- ▶ Difficulty in coordinating upper division undergraduate degree course offerings and program assessment
- ▶ Need for front-end investment
- ▶ Challenges in recruiting fisheries students to new joint programs at UA
- ▶ Potential for low program enrollments and completion at UAS may be seen as a failure of the program



Option 4: Jointly Offered Programs with Stronger Integration between UAF, UAS, and UAA (certificate, associate, and baccalaureate degrees)

This option would entail jointly Offered Programs between UAF, UAS and UAA (certificate, associate and baccalaureate degrees). Programs offerings would be strengthened by a joint BS degree with students at all locations, as well as the development of an Associate of Science degree that is a seamless transition to either the BS or BA in Fisheries.

Option 4: Pros and Cons

Pros

- ▶ Increased and improved collaboration between UAS, UAA, and UAF
- ▶ Improved access to students in the Anchorage and Juneau area
- ▶ Maintains valuable connection between the graduate and undergraduate program
- ▶ Increased potential to develop and strengthen community partnerships in the Anchorage area

Cons

- ▶ Significant front-end investment for UAA (increased new faculty, office and lab space, etc)
- ▶ Existing UAA faculty and administration “buy-in” could be challenging
- ▶ Difficulty in coordinating upper division undergraduate degree course offerings and program assessment
- ▶ Fisheries students at UAA will not have a direct access to opportunities with fisheries graduate students
- ▶ Duplication of programmatic content at UAS and UAA



Option 5: One Consolidated Fisheries Program (includes the certificate, associate, and baccalaureate degrees) administered and located at UAS (with courses available within the other Universities)

This option includes significant changes at both UAS and UAF, including eliminating the BA and BS at UAF and re-creating both at UAS. The BA of Fisheries would require substantial changes due to the connection to the Rural Development and Economics departments at UAF. These departments currently do not exist at UAS. This option would further require the development of an Associate of Science degree that is a seamless transition to either the BS or BA in Fisheries.

Option 5: Pros and Cons

Pros

- ▶ Increase the capacity to deliver Fisheries related programs out of UAS
- ▶ Increase the access of SE Alaska residents, particularly Juneau residents, to Fisheries degrees
- ▶ Increased efficiency for students to navigate between certificate, AAS, BS and BA programs since all at one location
- ▶ Decreased public confusion about the existing established programs

Cons

- ▶ Transition costs at UAF to support existing BA and BS students who choose not to transfer
- ▶ UAF Fisheries faculty most heavily involved in undergraduate program have deep ties to Fairbanks, and likely would opt to shift their effort towards the graduate program internships, etc.
- ▶ Substantial transition time for UAS program to be fully developed
- ▶ Duplication of faculty expertise because UAS doesn't have the capacity or accreditation status to house the Fisheries graduate program.
- ▶ Degradation of the connection between the undergraduate fisheries program and the UAF graduate Fisheries Program



Option 6: One Consolidated Fisheries Program (includes the certificate, associate, and baccalaureate degrees) administered and located at UAF (with courses available within the other Universities)

This option would entail eliminating the Associate and Certificate Programs, which are currently in Sitka through UAS, and re-creating both at UAF. This option would also require the development of an Associate of Science degree that is a seamless transition to either the BS or BA in Fisheries.

Option 7: One Consolidated Fisheries Program (includes the certificate, associate, and baccalaureate degrees) administered and located at UAA (with courses available within the other Universities)

This option would require eliminating the baccalaureate programs at UAF and certificate/associate programs at UAS, and re-creating both at UAA, where no related programs exist. All degrees would have to be reaccredited at UAA. Supporting programs would need to be developed, including an Associate of Science degree that is a seamless transition to either the BS or BA in Fisheries.

Further Analysis Needed

1. Reassess how the programs will be reviewed (i.e., the criteria used for evaluation).
2. More research and information is needed to assess if the option chosen meets the charge and goal.

Q&A