UAS, UAF and UAA have provided updates to their institutional (NWCCU) and specialized accreditations. This is an update to the annual report presented to the Board of Regents at their September meeting.

University of Alaska Southeast
Karen Carey, Provost

Update on Institutional Accreditation (NWCCU):

UAS will undergo an accreditation site visit on April 24, 25, and 26, 2019. The nine-member evaluation team has received the self-study and the site visit itinerary is in development. On February 26 Karen Carey, the Accreditation Liaison Officer, received an email from Mac Powell as the NWCCU requesting additional follow-up from information submitted to IPEDS. Specifically the Commission is asking UAS to respond to the following:

- What are the key challenges of the institution related to the institution’s graduation rate and other data provided?
- What is the institution doing to improve graduation rates?
- What initiatives appear to be effective in improving graduation rates?
- What might accreditors do to assist institutions to improve graduation rates?

The Institutional Effectiveness Director at UAS is currently reviewing the information provided to IPEDS and UAS should have a response to the Commission no later than March 15.

Updates on specialized or programmatic accreditations at UAS:

UAS will be submitting the self-study for CAEP on March 4, 2019 with a site visit to occur in November 2019. A consultant was hired to assist UAS with the process.

The Health Information Management Program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM) will be due for accreditation review in 2020/2021.

The Medical Assisting program was accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs in May 2017 with the next accreditation to occur in 2022.
Update on Institutional Accreditation (NWCCU):

UAF will undergo an accreditation site visit on September 23-25, 2019.

A 35-member team has been working on the Mission Fulfillment Report since the fall. The team has produced rough drafts of the five sections of the report and will be working over the next weeks to bring together a completed draft.

On March 4 Chancellor White, Provost Prakash, and five members of UAF’s accreditation steering committee attended a training with the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities to help us refine our comprehensive self-study report. Provost Prakash and Accreditation Liaison Officer Fitts attended an additional training that introduced the upcoming revised standards for accreditation.

Updates on specialized or programmatic accreditations at UAF:

School of Management (AACSB Accreditation)

UAF has the highest level of business accreditation from AACSB International. The School of Management (SOM) has both the business programs accredited and has the specialized accounting accreditation (the only school in Alaska that has the AACSB specialized accounting accreditation). Just 187 schools worldwide have this dual AACSB accreditation (1.5%).

The accreditation is on a five-year cycle and there are 14 business standards, and an additional 6 accounting standards, that must be met. The SOM next review is Sept 29 to Oct 1, 2019 when a site visit by two business school deans and two accounting directors will take place. SOM has been in contact with the team for several months, has filed a draft of the school report and has nearly completed a draft of the accounting report, all well ahead of schedule.

So far, all is going well. The only area of concern that the school has pertains to Business and Accounting Standard 3, which deals with financial sustainability. Given the uncertainty of the budget climate, it is difficult to address this question in great detail. The final accreditation reports are due in June so we are hoping to have more clarity by that point.

There are no other significant accreditation activities to report.
Update on Institutional Accreditation (NWCCU):

UAA Regional Accreditation Reaffirmed: At its meeting on January 9-11, 2019 the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) reaffirmed UAA’s regional accreditation.

Previous Recommendations: There were two previous recommendations. Both of these were fulfilled and no further actions are required.

The Commission commended UAA for:

1. An inclusive planning process for UAA 2020, which brought the campuses together in an unprecedented joint effort focused on Student Success.
2. Its culture of diversity and inclusivity, especially in relationship to Alaska Native communities.
3. Its commitment to community engagement and the Public Square.
4. Its extensive assessment efforts related to student learning. Faculty exhibit robust ownership and leadership in assessing academic programs, and also engage proactively in the multifaceted assessment of General Education.

The Commission recommended that UAA:

1. Expand efforts around institutional planning of graduate programs to demonstrate their academic quality and role in mission fulfillment. (Standard 2.C.12)
2. Continue the focus on collaborative Student Success efforts to raise low graduation and retention rates and support Mission Fulfillment. (Standard 5.B.1)

Future Evaluations:

Fall 2021: Mid-Cycle Evaluation and visit.
Fall 2025: Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation and visit.
UAA has taken the following steps to address the NWCCU recommendations:

Recommendation 1: Expand efforts around institutional planning of graduate programs to demonstrate their academic quality and role in mission fulfillment. (Standard 2.C.12)

**Fall 2018:** Engaged the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) to consult on the development of graduate programs; Separated the role of the Dean of Graduate Studies from the Vice Provost for Research.

**Spring 2019:** CGS consultative site visit (March 4-6); Working group will be established to act on the recommendations that emerge from the visit.

Recommendation 2: Continue the focus on collaborative Student Success efforts to raise low graduation and retention rates and support Mission Fulfillment. (Standard 5.B.1)

**Fall 2018:**

Implemented EAB Navigate Advising Platform and student facing mobile app Seawolf Tracks; launched First Year Student Advising and Success office and programming; designed mandatory orientation, advising, and registration event for new degree-seeking students; enhanced programming for financially vulnerable students; developing Academic Pathways to streamline the first year experience; Vice Provost for Student Success outreach and communication effort.

**Spring 2018:**

Expanded upon the utilization of Seawolf Tracks (EAB Navigate) tools, including piloting faculty progress reports and early alerts, piloting academic advising appointment campaigns, and training community campus advising units, UAA residence life and student support offices. Since the Fall 2018 launch of our EAB tools, Seawolf Tracks, advisor adoption has increased by 58% with over 9,000 appointment reports logged, now securing nearly 100% professional advisor adoption; over 1500 first year students downloaded the mobile app, and Spring 2019 promotional plans to highlight the advising appointment scheduling will seek to increase app downloads among first year and returning students.

Developed an Academic Advising Steering Committee to provide strategic direction, policy recommendations, and implementation strategies that support student success through consistent and comprehensive advising across UAA.

The UAA Academic Pathways Steering Committee developed first year course maps and advisor resources for 10 baccalaureate pathways. These course maps are customized for each student based on interest area (e.g., Business, Engineering), and preparation for writing and math. The course maps have all first year students seeking a bachelor’s degree aiming to complete their Tier 1 (quantitative, written communication and oral communication skills) requirements in their first 30 credits. Held six open forums with faculty and staff (primarily academic advisors) to disseminate information about the implementation of Academic Pathways in January and February 2019. First Year Advisors will start using the pathways In April 2019 to advise incoming degree-seeking freshman.
The Chancellor charged an Alaska Native Student Success Task Force to make recommendations on the structure, function, activities, and programs to support Alaska Native student success through a reimagined Native Student Services program. The Task Force recommendations are due to the Chancellor by April 30, 2019.

Ongoing:

**SAVVI SEAWOLF**- The nationally recognized financial literacy program in UAA’s Office of Financial Assistance tackles the foundational challenges students face on a daily basis regarding fiscal planning and responsible borrowing. Teaching vulnerable students how to manage their financial resources more effectively helps alleviate the burden of uncertainty when it comes to the balance of paying for school, managing transportation needs, food insecurity and all of those holistic necessities students must consider for an academic/life balance.

**Financial Aid Counseling**- targeted outreach to UAA’s more vulnerable student populations to help remove barriers to successful matriculation and perseverance, helping them overcome the challenges often associated with navigating the financial aid process. This initiative offers targeted outreach to students who are at risk of homelessness, first generation students, and those who come from vulnerable socio-economic backgrounds as defined by the FAFSA need methodology. **In spring 2019** additional coordination with accounting services was implemented to assist those students who are finding difficulties paying their bill; in person assistance in our Native Student Services and Multi-cultural Center areas each week contributes to meet the needs of potential financially vulnerable populations as well.

**Financial Aid Leveraging**: using institutional aid to funnel resources toward our typically vulnerable populations based on need methodology and self-reported documented circumstances. Focusing aid toward narrowing the gap between traditional need-based aid sources offered to our most vulnerable students and their direct costs, allowing them to meet those direct costs and still have non-need based resources available for the indirect costs of education such as housing, food, and maintenance.

Updates on specialized or programmatic accreditations at UAA:

See attached table.
### University: UAA

#### Lead: COH Dean Karen Market; Associate Dean-Christina McDonnell

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Programs</th>
<th>Accrediting Body</th>
<th>Date of Initial Accreditation</th>
<th>Next Review/Update</th>
<th>Current Status</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Pre-Self Study Meetings with OAA (Dates and Comments)</th>
<th>Issues/Concerns</th>
<th>Leads</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBPP</td>
<td>Accounting &amp; Finance; Economics &amp; Public Policy; Information Systems &amp; Decision Sciences; Management &amp; Marketing</td>
<td>COH/Ongoing</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>No-current recommendations requiring response before next regular review; Self-study due 1/1/20 for 3/1/20-3/3/20 site visit.</td>
<td>2/14-2019 OAA meeting with the dean and associate dean; CBPP confirmed the timeline for the self-study report and site visit; data is compiled and being analyzed; work is progressing on the visit; AACSB concern related to assurance of learning and the MBA, the ECON, and the MS in Global Supply Chain were addressed in an interim report from January 2017 and will be addressed in the self-study; Current CBPP concerns center on resource issues as they relate to the balance of faculty expertise, professional focus and workloads as defined by AACSB. There will need to be strategic hires following several upcoming retirements. The Continuous Improvement Review (CIR) Peer Review Team will conduct a pre-visit on September 20th, 2019 with the CBPP.</td>
<td>Resources – As part of the AACSB continuous improvement review (CIR) the Peer Review Team (PRT) will review financial strategies and allocation of resources of the CBPP. Faculty Classification – The CBPP currently meets the AACSB classification ratios, but upcoming retirements must be addressed strategically to maintain these classification being met; Assurance of Learning (AoL) – The CBPP has developed and incorporated a strategic AoL process, but will still need to demonstrate faculty active participation</td>
<td>CBPP Dean Karen Market; Associate Dean-Christina McDonnell</td>
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<tr>
<td>CJS</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Clinical-Community Psychology PhD</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Awaiting findings from AY19 review</td>
<td>No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review; Self-study due 1/31/20 for 3/1/20-3/3/20 site visit.</td>
<td>1-31-2019 OAA meeting with the associate dean, school of allied health director, and the faculty lead. Self-study scheduled to be drafted in summer. There are no current recommendations resulting from the previous self-study.</td>
<td>Resources – The CBPP is currently meeting the minimum 70% threshold for student retention (Policy IV.D.). Program is seeking clarification to ensure full compliance at both MSC and KPC locations.</td>
<td>CJS Dean John Petraitis; Psychology Director Eric Murphy; Professor Susan Gonzales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CollEng</td>
<td>Computer Science &amp; Engineering</td>
<td>Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Awaiting findings from AY19 review</td>
<td>No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review; Self-study due 1/31/20 for 3/1/20-3/3/20 site visit.</td>
<td>Meeting with OAA was scheduled.</td>
<td>Received conflicting guidance from CoAEMSP on requirement to publish annual outcomes (Policy V.D.). Program is seeking clarification to ensure full compliance at both MSC and KPC locations.</td>
<td>COH Dean Jeff Jessee; Associate Dean Andre Rosay; Justice Center Director Brad Myrstol; Professor Kristie Knoben</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBP</td>
<td>School of Nursing</td>
<td>Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>No-current recommendations requiring response before next regular review; Self-study due 1/31/20 for 3/1/20-3/3/20 site visit.</td>
<td>Meeting with OAA was scheduled.</td>
<td>Received conflicting guidance from CoAEMSP on requirement to publish annual outcomes (Policy V.D.). Program is seeking clarification to ensure full compliance at both MSC and KPC locations.</td>
<td>COH Dean Jeff Jessee; Associate Dean Andre Rosay; Justice Center Director Marianne Murray; Professor Pam Grogan</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDH</td>
<td>Paramedical Technology AAS</td>
<td>Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAHEP)</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Awaiting findings from AY19 review</td>
<td>No issues noted by evaluators.</td>
<td>Received conflicting guidance from CoAEMSP on requirement to publish annual outcomes (Policy V.D.). Program is seeking clarification to ensure full compliance at both MSC and KPC locations.</td>
<td>COH Dean Jeff Jessee; Associate Dean Andre Rosay; MSC Director Talis Colberg; Professor Dane Wallace</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDH</td>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant AAS</td>
<td>Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>No-current recommendations requiring response before next regular review; Self-study due 1/31/20 for 3/1/20-3/3/20 site visit.</td>
<td>The review was completed in the fall of 2012 with the College of Health and the School of Allied Health. The self-study was conducted in the fall of 2012.</td>
<td>The 2016-17 cohort failed to meet the 70% student retention threshold set by CoAEMSP. Only 40% of students graduated.</td>
<td>COH Dean Jeff Jessee; Associate Dean Andre Rosay; KPC Director Gary Turner; Professor Paul Perry</td>
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**UAA Update for Paul Layer 3-7-2019**

**UA System Specialized Accreditation**