

UA Research Council

Member update to the UA Summit Team 16 November 2017

Members

Miles Baker, Assoc. Vice President, Government Relations, SW
Myron Dosch, Chief Financial Officer, UA
Susan Henrichs, Provost, UAF
Larry Hinzman, Vice Chancellor Research, UAF (chair)
Rosemary Madnick, Executive Director, OGCA, UAF
Paula Martin, Vice Provost Research, UAS
Anupma Prakash, Director, EPSCoR
Helena Wisniewski, Vice Provost Research, UAA
Cheryl Wilga, UAA Faculty Representative
Andy Seitz, UAF Faculty Representative
Brian Buma, UAS Faculty Representative

We have one new member of the Research Council.
Andy Seitz, UAF Faculty Representative

Primary activity is to define specific goals that the SW Research Council could address.
Members continue to submit suggestions to our Google docs worksheet.

Progress on Strategic Pathways

Focus Area: Research Administration
Decision Status

- 1) Policy leadership at UAF, with service centers at UAA and UAS focused on grants and contracts management
- 2) Business Council charged to work with the Research Council to develop a plan to present to President in October

Progress has been made to adopt a unified grants and contracts business model that embraces operational effectiveness through efficiency, accountability, transparency and responsiveness to the needs of the campus communities and the external partners. The goal is to adopt a unified business model that embraces operational effectiveness through efficiency, accountability, transparency and responsiveness to the needs of the campus communities and the external partners with which they do business.

Objective 1: Process Identification and Mapping

- Conduct current “As Is” inventory of lifecycle functions, using assessment tool
- Establish a baseline of current practices
- Understand the relationship among functions

- Define and document process via assessment tool
- Define ownership and alignment of functions

Objective 2: Assessment and Analysis

- Identify gaps, needs, risks and ensure proper internal controls for improvement
- Identify areas of redundancy and duplication and eliminate non-value added steps
- Identify improvements initiatives and prioritize
- Synthesize information for implementation phase

Objective 3: Implementation

- Create follow-up implementation plan for enterprise-focused prioritization
- Integrate operational improvements to ensure alignment with UA priorities and institutional capacities
- Build-in flexibility to facilitate for growth and scalability
- Establish consistency and standardization of processes using industry best practices

Each campus has been charged with conducting a self-assessment using the above bullets. UAS's is complete, and UAA's will be submitted soon. During the next several weeks we will be reviewing.

- The University of Alaska system is partnering with state agencies on the “Alaska First Initiative”
- We organized an outreach event in Anchorage on Nov 8, 2017. The event incorporated a discussion with legislative staff to discuss the role that UA research can play in helping to diversify the Alaskan economy. Legislators were unable to attend due to Governor's special session. Staffers did attend and were quite pleased with outcome of the meeting.
- We updated outreach brochures to the economic and practical benefits of UA research to the State of Alaska (Available at <https://research.uaf.edu/ak-ahead/outreach>). These were developed to appeal to legislators in their respective home districts, to convey that we are working throughout the State, and were received positively by legislative staffers.
- We have compiled what we hope is a complete listing of all research facilities operated by each university. We will post a listing of each laboratory of field facility with the associated link to the facility description and guidance on how to assess and access their capabilities. We also intend to provide information on costs and any limitations of access for researchers from the UA system and others from, for example, other universities, national labs or private industry.

<https://research.uaf.edu/facilities/labs>

We encourage collaborative use of these facilities to enable efficient and effective analyses of samples and safe and productive time spent in the field.

Our next scheduled Research Council meeting will be Wednesday, Dec 6, 2:00pm – 3:30pm.