Meeting Notes  
**Research Council**  
Monday, December 16, 2019  
Butrovich 204  
2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

1. Safety Minute  
   a. Lab and field safety from a sexual harassment perspective. Working with the Title IX office to make the field and lab safe, changing the culture.

2. Update on Grants and Contracts Prioritization Plan FY19 (Madnick)  
   a. Met for the first time last Tuesday and started going over some of the tasks identified at the beginning of the year. Moving forward with testing some of the items with Elusian. Nothing for metrics based on conversation last month.  
   b. Team meets in the spring to create new plan for the upcoming fiscal year.  
   c. Aaron will send the form for proposals to Rosie.

**DISCUSSION: Review of Security and Defense Relevant Research Activities survey form** - We were trying to get a survey of where we were with the Federal initiatives. This is the security and defense relevant research activities. Survey monkey form. We want everyone test it out first to get rid of the kinks and then once all those things have been addressed we will make it officially live.

One way to think about primary focus topics is when a piece of legislation gets introduced in Congress, they have to pick which committee of jurisdiction gets the legislation, and many times it touches on several committees. It is best to pick something with the broadest area and impact, and then maybe the secondary box is the one where you can get more specific. We want our terminology to be coordinated with the terminology of the federal sponsors.
ACTION: Miles and Dustin will create a list for grouping Primary Project Focus lists based on Federal topics in the Security and Defense Relevant Research Activities form. Anupma will work on the State Plan for Research Focus list for the form.

3. Report on Common Metrics (Madnick)

4. Federal Update (Bryant)
   a. In the news alerts, the Senate and House negotiators just released the FY20 appropriations packages, and there is going to be two separate bills that the House will start work on tomorrow in the Rules Committee in the House released the both packages. Once the Rules Committee is in that process, things start to move quickly. There is going to be a package of eight in the package of four. Some good things are moving forward. Overall, it looks like a pretty positive development. The bill package is about $50 billion more than what was passed in July 19, and that sort of scattered all over the budget. The conciliatory compromise that was brokered was no limit. We'll be in good shape and will start seeing some those final numbers materialize. Unlike last year, there's absolutely no appetite for any kind of government shutdown. Both sides are motivated to get these two bills moving.

5. DoE Arctic Energy Office (Baker/Bryant)
   a. This has been an ongoing conversation that came out of the Lab Day that the Department of Energy held in Fairbanks Back in 2018. Several people have been talking to officials at the Department of Energy on what a revamp of the Arctic Energy Office would look like. Hopefully this week the Energy and Water appropriations, which is the base bill for the Department of Energy, develops guidance language to the Department of Energy to move forward with reconstituting the Arctic Energy Office. The Department of Energy has taken it upon itself to move through that effort going forward. The conversation continues and our friends over at the National Labs and are also working with the Department of Defense at various levels to see a robust effort that will include all stakeholders in the state. We want the University to be first in line as those negotiations continue. The location has yet to be determined. There are conversations that this would most likely be housed on campus at UA, but this is to
be determined. The Department of Energy seeks to have five full time equivalent employees in the state. The goal of both the Department of Energy and The Energy and Natural Resources Committee, which Senator Murkowski is the Chair of, the goal was to get this effort off the ground and running into the next year. Use those people that are on the ground first to build out and focus the efforts of the office moving forward.

6. Ted Stevens Center update (Bryant)

a. Back in late October, Senators Sullivan and Murkowski introduced legislation that would establish a Ted Stevens Center for Arctic security. This is sort of a new effort, but ties into an existing program and efforts with DOD Regional Centers. These are really across the world. There are three based in Washington, D, one based in Germany and one based in Hawaii. The latest one that was established was the center in Hawaii. This was the inspiration for Senator Murkowski when she had visited some time ago, to do a similar effort to honor Senator Ted Stevens and his efforts and contributions for article defense issues. The National Defense Authorization Act, which is a huge bill that authorizes Department of Defense programs annually. This was hopefully to be introduced around an event honoring Senator Stevens at the capitol to try to coincide with family, but missed the mark on getting that done. They dropped the bill, but it will likely get included into that FY21 National Defense Authorization Act. Cam Carlson and Church Kee can develop some broad suggestions and recommendations that the University has on what the Center should do, whom it should serve, and which communities in Alaska it should engage. Hoping to have the recommendations and suggestions list developed by the end of this calendar year. Discussions will continue into January. Working together with our stakeholders and SMEs internally to try to get the university best position to work with DOD on this matter. Church and Cam are working together and will share their recommendations with leadership before any final recommendations move forward. It will be shared with the provosts once it has come together, as well, so the campuses can be informed and have a chance to learn about it.

b. What we have to think about is what does the university have that is unique that could make it bring come our direction or, alternatively, how can we make partnerships with these other groups so we can still play a role.
7. Juneau update (Baker)
   a. Planning for session, meeting with legislators and mapping out the calendar to cover what we want to accomplish. Session starts on the 21st of January.
   b. UAF Research Day – Heard good feedback on it. (Larry) – had 4 representatives and senators, as well as staffers. Had 3 of the Board of Regents, Jim Sacket from governor’s office. It was helpful to hold the event to show people what we are doing. There are 1100 projects going on right now. We spend about $106M each year, managing about $660M in projects. Had five lightening talks on research and why it’s relevant to Alaska.
      i. Appropriate level of coverage
   c. CTC event held at the same time to leverage participation.
      i. Highlighted workforce development, research and community partnerships
8. Foreign Threats (Bobbi Jensen) – Hold next meeting
9. Federal Strategic Initiative process (Larry)
   a. Will have the materials to the president in early January. Will be combining the three into a single document.
10. Additional Items (All)
    a. Reviewed agenda for SCoR meeting on 12/18/19, to include Innovators Hall of Fame, Outreach and Communication Plan, and Economic Impact of the Universities.
11. Next Meeting – Discussion – Kelly will set up meetings for 2020.