Attendees: Andy, Larry, Rosie, Paul, Dustin, Myron, Cheryl, Nate, John, George

1. Safety Minute
   a. People going into the field, bears coming out of their dens. Most dangerous time of year for bear encounters. Researchers have been attending bear training.

2. Update on Grants and Contracts Prioritization Plan FY19 (Madnick)
   a. Elucian/Banner on site 3/6 and 3/7, Financial Services participated. Juneau/SE were not able to participate. Developed a step-by-step plan. Low-hanging fruit would be tackled right away. Co-investigators were included. Feedback requested by each campus. UAA and UAS and UAF will get together to come up with a plan for 2020.
      i. Paul – Cost reduction and consolidation – appreciates how they are working across the system – doing one process/system and doing it well. Are we doing what we can right now? Is there anything else we could be doing? Rosie – Currently maxed out. UAA is short staffed – just lost a person.
      ii. Larry – OGCA was moved under the VCR office at UAF. This aligns with what other universities are doing. Streamlines the process.
      iii. Paul – Banner updates – are the updates implemented? Myron – Yes, moving along.
iv. Rosie – Theme codes across the board. Need to get a group together to come up with common themes. Agency codes – example – health and human services.

v. Dustin – Reporting data – Will it be tracked by funds distributed or by awards coming in? Rosie – Track by awards coming in. When an award comes in, we are only give money for the year, even though the project lasts for 5 years. This will tell the story appropriately. Initial budget and project amounts.

3. Report on Common Metrics (Madnick)
4. Federal Priorities (Bryant) (attachment)

   a. The last week of February, Paul, Pips, Faye Gallant, went to the EPSCoR yearly meeting. There was an update of the DoD EPSCoR. President Johnsen was in DC two weeks ago and discussed Federal Priorities. Had a meeting with several delegation members. They were very appreciative of the list of our federal priorities. There may be one of 10 different priorities and only one appropriations bill. Discussed programmatic priorities, that fit within the federal priorities budget. There are targeted priorities – There are several targeted budget lines. There is a relationship with a particular office, which benefits both parties. More directed impact on spending. Larry will be in DC in a couple weeks. George will be in DC for one of the targeted requests. President Trump presented his budget request last Monday. He proposed over 2.7 trillion in spending cuts over the next 10 years. Defense and nondefense discretionary – the president made significant cuts in nondefense discretionary. Large cuts across all R&D areas. Significant across the board. NIH has a proposed 14% budget cut. Also funding 8.6 billion for the border wall. One lingering issue is that there has not been a bipartisan budget deal since 18/19 and have not seen it going forward. Without the bipartisan budget agreement, we fall under budget caps, which would cut in the areas of R&D. OSPP – Kevin Druckenmiller, Director – had a great meeting. He is on his speaking tour, APLU, etc. President Johnsen
was able to talk about the deep trench UA has in the arctic. Will try to get Kevin up to Alaska.

b. Annual Hill meetings – Within the last month have had several UA colleagues visit DC.

c. Larry – Informal queries from funding agencies wondering if we will be able to follow through on our current commitments and future proposals. Dustin – This was part of Pres. Johnsen’s point discussions with legislators. Attempting to reduce the impact of the cuts eroding the confidence of our funders.

d. Paul – Dustin sent a message regarding a program within DoD – Paul will forward to the group to encourage submissions.

e. Paul – We submitted many proposals to the Arctic Sciences - what is our best avenue for funding? Larry – We have had calls like this in the past that are targeted towards us with a high probability of obtaining them. We are lucky to get 5 out of several submitted. We always do better if we have multiple universities engaged in a proposal. Rosie – This is a great opportunity for new submitters. They would get a chance to rework them with the reviewer’s comments. OGCA will also be keeping track of this to see if there is a pattern in what is getting accepted.

f. Paul would like an update from those visiting DC at the next meeting.

5. Juneau update (Baker)

a. Paul – Working through the budget in Juneau. Finance subcommittee working on wrapping up. The House traditionally begins with a continuation budget, look at those requests and consider increments. We are getting questions about the governor’s budget. Working on countering the misinformation that is out there, academic activity. UAF infrastructure is constantly being questioned. Our strength is in the diversity in the kinds of education we provide (research, etc).

b. Larry – Sending a list of the House Finance committee meeting across the state next week. Encourage our people to attend these. Would be even better if our people can get people outside the university to attend.
c. Myron – Advocacy campaign – Paul – we have selected a vendor. A longtime consultant in the Anchorage area. They are meeting with us this week to create an advocacy plan. Partnering with other agencies (K12, etc), but we need to tell our own story. Will come through our marketing and communications offices. This does not mean people have to wait for the official advocacy launch to work on their own plans. We have strong collaborations with industry. Larry – Petition signed at all campuses, less than 2% of the research faculty. We cannot tell our people what to say or how to think. Intellectual freedom – we value discourse on campus, but this does not reflect the official position of the university.

6. Commercialization of UA Research (Wanamaker)
   a. Paul – Year of Innovation – We are the driver for innovation of the state. John is meeting and talking to people about patents. There were 4 from UAA for biomedical. George – John is part of the negotiation to patent products. Paul - John is also working on streamlining the process to get from invented to patented. If there are other ideas in commercialization, John can help move them forward. George – Need to find a way to get money into the funds for commercialization.
   b. Paul – John was on the plane with an engineering student and found the student wasn’t aware that there are opportunities within their own building. Get students involved in the incubation opportunities. John is available to talk to people about their aspirations of commercialization.

7. National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) UAF Town Hall Meetings (Prakash) (attachment)
   a. Dates – Fairbanks 4/16, Anchorage 4/17 and Juneau 4/18 – Will talk about sexual harassment of women, along with integration of humanities and arts with sciences, engineering and medicine in higher education. There will be workshops and they are bringing in people from each university to participate in the activities. They are the authors of the report, so will be able to speak to it well.
b. Larry – Sexual Harassment and integrating of arts and humanities – Provost Stalvey has taken lead on Sexual Harassment and Cheryl is lead on Integrating of Arts and Humanities. Discussing why we are losing so many females, etc.

c. Will send out “Save the Dates” – will provide details, as they are available.

8. Developing strategic research priorities – state goals (attachment) – Governor’s priorities
   a. SCoR Science & Technology plan –
      i. May 2016 – last S & T plan – needs to be updated. Paul is asking the RC to review and provide feedback on where we should be focusing. As a university, do we want to have a focus as well? What are our strengths moving forward? It is important to show the state the relevance of what we do.
      ii. SCoR has a very powerful steering committee – They could be very useful in assisting us in meeting our goals. SCoR is a combination of university, private industry and government members. Larry – Need suggestions from RC first, then put together the new report and then we will put it to SCoR. Dustin – This is a great way to look downrange, identify ways to frame FY20’s priorities.

ACTION: All - Take a look at the S&T and make suggestions of updates.

b. Role of Research Council
   i. Articulating our priorities – Are there themes we should be working on and what can we, as a committee, recommend to the president? What are the priorities that the president can articulate and carry to the governor?
   ii. Myron – We have an institutional goal – growth and research – maintain our competitiveness going forward. The RC can be cognizant of this. How can we help achieve that? What are the barriers/risks that would impede us achieving that goal/competitiveness? If we identify some of those things they can become a targeted initiative to overcome the problem.
iii. Rosie – Have funding to do what we need to do – Provide funding opportunity announcements and include all campuses. RC can assist in the communications across campuses.

iv. Larry – We need to get the people of Alaska on our side. Research is something that people appreciate and we need to get that word out. Andy – need advertising beyond the current campaign. Myron – There is an avenue through the advocacy campaign to incorporate research. John – One Health can come in handy with this issue.

v. Paul – Goals – Be number one in Arctic Research – Unfortunately, we are seeing people leave. If we lose people, our standing goes down. Conversations about budget, etc, has been demoralizing and creates a loss of confidence. Larry – This council is in the best position to have a voice across the state and target major news editors. Rosie – The power of social media – Twitter. Paul – Current president doesn’t Tweet. Dustin – When we do anything, we need to tag the politicians - things that can be shared by others. End beneficiaries are the best advocates. We must have a stakeholder group in mind for federal priorities to advocate on our behalf.

vi. John – Can we get some of the mining and oil companies to support us? Larry – Oil companies typically have their own agendas. It is hard to get them to speak from official positions. They are arguing against changing the corporate tax structure. Mining companies may be helpful. They are receptive and have a good voice.

**ACTION:** All - Come up with advocacy plan.

9. Goals for the next year (Layer) (attachment)

**ACTION:** All - Look at the scorecard and come up with actions – policies/regs that are impeding what we do.

a. Research Council Scorecard - 2019

10. Additional Items (All)
11. Next Meeting (proposed) – April 15, 2019 – Larry