

**UA Research Council**  
**Member update to the UA Summit Team**  
**Sept 21, 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

**Activities to report to the Summit Team**  
**Sept 21, 2017**

The System-wide Council on Research have met three times since our establishment; these meetings were focused upon discussions of our role and purpose, which we attempted to articulate in our Charter. Preliminary discussions involved exploring the actions required for effective research administration. The comprehensive discussion of administrative functions was parsed according to those duties that both share common concerns across all Alaska universities and would benefit from jointly addressing those topics.

Our charter was created through discussion and collaborative revisions. It remains as a strategic document that will be continually updated as needed.

- Progress on Strategic Pathways

Focus Area    Decision Status    Research Administration

- 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

- The University of Alaska system partnering with state agencies on the “Alaska First Initiative” –

where state agencies look first to UA before outside Universities to conduct basic and applied research, including consultation, undertaking a study, performing a needs assessment, or providing an analysis (from CCS HB 72 Sec. 5. Legislative Intent)

Miles Baker will explore current status to see if it is possible to encourage the legislature or the governor to again act upon this intent language, perhaps renewing it or just endorsing it, that would reinforce the needed actions by our state agencies.

- 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 limitations of access for researchers from the UA system and others from, for example, other universities, national labs or private industry.
- We are organizing outreach events in Fairbanks (Tentative Dec 8), Anchorage (Nov 8) and perhaps in Juneau ('lunch and learn'). Miles Baker is helping us to convene a discussion with legislators to discuss the role that UA research can play in helping to diversify the Alaskan economy. This will be designed to be responsive to the plan:

Northern Opportunity: Alaska's Economic Strategy, Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

A COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR ALASKA, 2017-2022

<https://northernopportunity.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/FINAL-DRAFT-State-of-Alaska-Comprehensive-Economic-Development-Strategy.pdf>

Please check out the Innovative Assets on page 68... the State has an expectation that we will step up to this role and we need to be responsive.

- We are updating outreach brochures to the economic and practical benefits of UA research to the State of Alaska.
- The University of Alaska campuses are blessed with great facilities with highly technical capacities and very well-trained expertise. Most of our laboratory and field facilities welcome use by scientists from across campus, across the state, across the nation and around the world. To make certain we are obtaining the optimum value of each facility and to avoid duplication within the UA System, we encourage shared use of these capabilities. Support of laboratory analyses or field studies usually will incur some cost to cover those essential services. Information on cost structures can be obtained directly from the facility manager. Sharing of these resources brings numerous benefits to the scientific community. We can be confident that the services are provided by trained professionals who are primarily concerned with the safety and security of our scientists, their staff and students. We can be assured that the processing of samples is conducted

according to accepted protocols and rigorous standards. Greater use, distributed among many users, helps ensure fresh standards, highly tuned and calibrated instruments and experienced laboratory and field personnel.

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

We have compiled a list of all UA laboratory and field facilities.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fE19gmQ2-ct9hMS93lq8uSmBkF5x7IhvoF2evfgU-QA/edit#gid=0>

We are preparing a webpage to provide full descriptions and a brochure to provide a limited overview.

- At the direction of President Johnsen, we have initiated efforts to add faculty representation from each university to the Research Council.
- Our next scheduled meeting will be Mon Oct 2, 2017, 1:30pm – 3:00pm