State Committee for Research

Wednesday, December 15, 2021
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Agenda:

1. Review and approve September 27, 2021 meeting notes – Paul Layer, 5 min.
    a. Notes reviewed - send any corrections or comments to Kelly. Major changes will be brought back to the group
2. Review SCoR Membership – Paul Layer, 5 min.
    a. Review of membership. Are there others that need to be added. The committee is large, but it is important to have cross institutional representation.
        i. Anupma would like to be a backup to the Vice Chancellor of Research.
        ii. Brian would like to see the health industry - hospitals - ANTHC or South Central - Dr. Tim Thomas(?) - extend invitation
        iii. There is no membership from the aerospace sector that would be beneficial to the committee - Head of the Alaska Aerospace Center
        iv. Mike Sfraga would like to be the official representative of the Arctic Commission - extend an invitation.
        v. NOAA or another agency would be a valuable perspective in regards to the upcoming EPSCoR proposal being marine based
        vi. DOE - Arctic Energy Office. We have a DOE EPSCoR that does not have an ex-officio representative that needs to be filled
3. Innovators Hall of Fame 2022– Paul Layer, 5 min.
    a. Update the nomination deadline to 1/31/22
    b. Committee will search for additional nominees
    c. If there are events coming up, send event and link to Kelly to distribute to the group
        i. Energy conference in May
4. Discuss Alaska Research Priorities – Paul Layer/Kevin Meyer, 10 min.

a. Lt. Meyer - Upcoming energy conference in May. Is a sitting member of the committee. ASA Aerospace _____ - focus on drones, satellites and rocket launches. Will be calling on UAF to assist. May have some astronauts visiting. There are two launch sites, Poker Flats and Kodiak. Milton Keelor is _____ on ASTRA.

b. Jason - Very interested in research being done on climate change and rural Alaska with wastewater and shipping pathways, the potential for needing skilled response capability in the northern waters.

c. Dani - Priority is on applied research to support decision making and ____ to produce the types of output that support natural resource management.

    i. Polar bear

    ii. Marine mammal responses to changing conditions

    iii. Subsistence monitoring to change

    iv. _____ failures - food security issues happening now - changes in the marine environment. The state lacks the capacity and the marine vessels to do the work needed

    v. ___ in marine animals

    vi. Comprehensive subsistence surveys - traditional knowledge - marine mammal harvesting

    vii. Scenario planning - Outcome is defining the type of data collected. Likely scenarios that are going to happen over the next ___ years and the type of data we will need. Conservation based

    viii. Sara - All reports have covered the research needs from the state of alaska need in the Arctic. Applied science is what is needed. DNR is the land owner/manager of Prudou Bay ____ - rely heavily on the research provided by our ___ partners. Manage the lands for the maximum use for the alaskans. They conduct their own land management - best interest findings ____

        1. Mark question -

            a. Doug Vincent-Lang (ADFG Commissioner) Do we adapt to that and close the waters, or develop a plan, data necessary

            b. Adaptive approach - what is the kind of science that needs to be done from our different perspectives

ix. Aimee - It does seem like we are missing some coordination mechanisms with the people that are doing this work and how the results are being developed. WE did have a body that was co-chaired between the Dept of Interior and DEC and the state in a climate change roundtable. Scenario based planning were discussed in those meetings. There is a lot of coordination on the federal side, but it appears that more may be needed. In the coming months will be developing a ____ plan, which is a great opportunity to ____.

x. Nettie would like to see the SCoR group make those connections.

1. NASA has a big footprint -

xi. Brenda - Research interests - Arctic - is there similar research concerns in the ____ of Alaska

1. Jason - Definition is All of Alaska, including the Gulf of Alaska.

2. Dani - Describes areas of interest in the Gulf area.

xii. Anupma - Either we consistently message what we mean by arctic research to clarify for those outside of Alaska, or we state it as the Arctic and Alaska—

1. Aimee - "Arctic" and "Alaska" can be interchangeable except when federal legislation or appropriations specify "Arctic" in terms of the formal definition.

xiii. Is there a need to have more focused group for these specific areas?

xiv. Doug - Food Security - how can we improve food security in Alaska. COVID has brought to light the need - improvements in transportation and the potential for growing our own food.

1.

5. AK Science & Technology Plan - update and ratify - Paul Layer, 15 min.

a. Paul recommends a serious rewriting of the plan based off of the conversation had today. Leave the basic framework together - still a very strong document

i. Nettie agrees

ii. Mead - IARPIC Report - Lets look at it very carefully and rewrite as needed to include areas not currently covered. What are our new facility

iii. Mark -

6. EPSCoR/IDEA Coalition and Foundation Update - Nettie La Belle-Hamer, 15 min.
    a. Changes going on at the Federal level and opportunities. There are other EPSCoR states that have really leveraged their funding opportunities into larger funding - Would like to have more conversation about priorities - more collaboration within each of the EPSCoRs as well as across.
    b. Paul - We focus on EPSCoR, but that is not the primary reason for meeting
    c. Anupma - Alaska has had a very strong presences in the EPSCoR network and Nettie is the ____, which gives her a strong voice. In the national framework, Alaska's voice is heard. There is an opportunity for us to frame the way we want the nation to hear us.
7. NSF EPSCoR update – Brenda Konar, 10 min.
    a. Mark - Comment - Very impressed with the use of relevance to application. Relevant to the discussion we just had with the commissioners
    b. Anupma - Getting the stakeholders upfront at the start of the process is a great move
8. INBRE Update – Brian Barnes, 10 min.
    a.
9. NASA EPSCoR update – Denise Thorsen
    a. Just awarded programmatic grant for the next 5 years. Will allow us to provide seed grants to provide faculty researching. Did increase the amount in the seed grans to draw more interest. Working with the ____ office to reduce the match.
10. Future topics/Roundtable – All, time remaining
    a.

Upcoming Events:

Seventh Annual Arctic Encounter Symposium - April 7-8, 2022 in Anchorage

2022 ASA Annual Meeting and State Aerospace Policy Summit - June 27-July 1, 2022 in Girdwood Alaska

Alaska Sustainable Energy Conference - May 24-26, 2022 at the Dena'ina Center, Anchorage (flyer)

UA Mariculture Conference - February 22-24

16th International Circumpolar Remote Sensing Symposium - May 16-20, 2022, University of Alaska Fairbanks