

1/8/2021

**ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEW
INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT FORM**

This form is composed of three parts: the Program Section, the Dean Section, and the Provost Section. Guidance for submission is provided in each section.

Using the Form: The form is pre-loaded with information specific to each program and posted on the [Program Review website](#). The program should download and save their form to begin using it. The form is locked, so instructions are viewable and the only sections of the document that can be edited are the form fields.

The form uses narrative, text, and drop-down boxes. Narrative boxes have a character limit, which includes spaces. When using text and drop-down boxes, if you want to undo an answer, press “Control-Z” or “Command-Z.”

Responses are to be narrative only, and must be ADA and FERPA compliant. Do not embed any links, including to webpages or other documents. To be FERPA compliant, do not include the names of any current or former students. Rather, use statements such as, “In AY21 four program graduates were accepted to graduate programs in the field.” Programs with specialized accreditation or other external recognitions must comply with restrictions regarding what can be published, as per the accreditor or external organization. Do not include appendices. Appendices to this form will not be accepted.

Assistance: For technical assistance with this form, email Academic Affairs (uaa.oaa@alaska.edu).

Submission Date: 3/1/2021

Name and title of person(s) submitting the report: Elizabeth Arnold, associate professor, Anchorage, Paola Banchemo, associate professor, Anchorage, Joy Chavez Mapaye, professor and JPC chair, Anchorage

Program(s) in the report: BA Journalism and Public Communication

Specialized Accrediting Agency (if applicable): N/A

Campuses where program is delivered: Anchorage KOD KPC MSC PWSC

Year of last review: AY2020

Final decision from last review: Revision

PROGRAM SECTION

After completing the Program Section, the program should email this form to the dean, and copy uaa.oaa@alaska.edu for posting. If the program is delivered on a community campus, copy the appropriate community campus director(s) as well.

For each current recommendation listed below, provide a timeline for addressing the recommendation,

1/8/2021

an indication of how you will know when the recommendation has been successfully achieved, a brief description of actions taken to date, and any evidence that the actions have been successful. Programs can access current data on the [IR-Reports Program Review site](#).

Recommendation 1: Revise the program for implementation in fall 2021. The revision should consider more online offerings.

Timeline (2000 characters or less)

In AY 2020-21, all JPC course offerings were online because of the pandemic, with the exception of one hybrid class offered fall semester. The pandemic allowed JPC to reexamine the possibilities and the demand for online and hybrid courses.

How will you know the recommendation has been successfully achieved? Include description of data or metrics used and method used to determine success. (2000 characters or less)

CAS reported total JPC spring semester enrollments were up 13.8% compared to the same date in January 2020. JPC was the only department in SS and MNS that had higher enrollments in S21 than on the same date in S20. The enrollment numbers for JPC are better than the CAS average of -15% and the SS enrollment average of -11.1%.

Actions taken to date and evidence of success to date. (2000 characters or less)

In addition to the 13.8% increase in spring semester enrollments, JPC also purchased an OWL Pro 360 degree 1080p Smart Video Conference Camera to help expand JPC online and hybrid class offerings. The fall 2021 schedule offers face-to-face, hybrid and online classes.

Future actions to take, if applicable. (2000 characters or less)

JPC continues to examine different options to increase online and hybrid courses. Our goal is to create an online/hybrid pathway to a JPC degree.

Recommendation 2: Reduce the number of faculty to three full-time faculty.

Timeline (2000 characters or less)

CAS has informed a full-time JPC faculty member of non-retention starting in AY 2021-22. With the deletion of this faculty line, JPC reduced the number of faculty from four full-time faculty members to three.

How will you know the recommendation has been successfully achieved? Include description of data or metrics used and method used to determine success. (2000 characters or less)

For AY 2021-22, JPC will have three full-time faculty members.

Actions taken to date and evidence of success to date. (2000 characters or less)

CAS has reduced JPC faculty from four full-time faculty members to three.

1/8/2021

Future actions to take, if applicable. (2000 characters or less)

N/A

Recommendation 3: *Revise faculty workloads to reduce or eliminate research time, allowing the remaining faculty to cover more courses while reducing the program's overall costs.*

Timeline (2000 characters or less)

In AY 2020-21, JPC faculty secured more than \$200,000 in external-funded research, some of these funds provided a research course buyout for a JPC faculty member. In addition, a JPC faculty member also teaches a course in the Department of Communication every semester, where funds from CTC are used.

How will you know the recommendation has been successfully achieved? Include description of data or metrics used and method used to determine success. (2000 characters or less)

External-funded research, presentations, academic and media publications, along with enrollment numbers will serve as metrics to help determine success.

Actions taken to date and evidence of success to date. (2000 characters or less)

In AY 2020-21, JPC faculty members used their research to create high-impact learning opportunities for JPC students. One faculty member's class collaborated with Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs to produce podcasts related to Arctic science. Another faculty member has been invited to present at Yale University's Health Policy Colloquium on a strategic communications and public health initiative developed in class related to managing health misinformation online. In AY 2020-21, JPC faculty produced meaningful online community-engaged experiences in the classroom.

Future actions to take, if applicable. (2000 characters or less)

JPC continues to examine faculty workloads to assess the best path forward in reducing program costs while continuing to maintain a high-quality program.

Recommendation 4: *Propose a tuition surcharge for upper-division courses.*

Timeline (2000 characters or less)

JPC faculty have determined this recommendation is not feasible for our program given entry-level wages for careers in journalism and public communications. JPC faculty members have prioritized boosting enrollment and ensuring degree completion. A tuition surcharge conflicts with these goals.

How will you know the recommendation has been successfully achieved? Include description of data or metrics used and method used to determine success. (2000 characters or less)

N/A

1/8/2021

Actions taken to date and evidence of success to date. (2000 characters or less)

N/A

Future actions to take, if applicable. (2000 characters or less)

N/A

Recommendation 5: Establish multi-year partnerships with the community and industry to create a stable and significant source of funds for the program.

Timeline (2000 characters or less)

In AY 2020-21, JPC faculty partnered with the Atwood Foundation to provide an additional \$30,000 per academic year to provide scholarships to students needing financial assistance for degree completion.

In AY 2020-21, JPC faculty partnered with the Alaska Center for Excellence in Journalism (ACE-J) and the Alaska Press Club to create a spring 2021 pilot class to attract mid-career professional journalists and strategic communicators.

How will you know the recommendation has been successfully achieved? Include description of data or metrics used and method used to determine success. (2000 characters or less)

Additional outside revenue for scholarships, along with enrollment numbers will serve as metrics to help determine success.

Actions taken to date and evidence of success to date. (2000 characters or less)

The new Elaine Atwood Completion scholarship was awarded to eight JPC majors (\$3,000 - \$4,000 each) on track to graduate in 2021-22. The Atwood Foundation intends the scholarship to be funded on a permanent basis. In April 2019, the Atwood Foundation permanently increased its annual \$10,000-dollar scholarship to \$20,000.

JPC, in partnership with the Alaska Press Club and the Alaska Center for Excellence in Journalism, surveyed journalists, news editors, news managers, and communications professionals statewide to determine what journalism and strategic communications skills were lacking. The results were used to create a pilot class, JPC 212 Editing for Journalism and Public Communications, offered by JPC in spring 2021. The class brings in national experts on a range of topics from database reporting to online photography ethics. There are 45 students currently enrolled, a mix of degree-seeking students and working professionals. The Alaska Press Club provides scholarships for tuition reimbursement and for students to attend a virtual national conference on investigative reporting. A mid-semester and post-semester survey will be used to create a successive class using a similar model addressing other identified needs within the community of journalists and strategic communicators.

Thompson and Co. Public Relations has partnered with JPC to provide funding for Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) memberships to ensure a pipeline of strong strategic communicators in Alaska. PRSA Alaska is also interested in the possibility of providing financial support for students who want communications internship placements in nonprofits.

Future actions to take, if applicable. (2000 characters or less)

In partnership with the Alaska Press Club, the Atwood Foundation, the Alaska Center for Excellence in Journalism (ACE-J), Alaska Public Media, and the Anchorage Daily News, JPC is engaged in a new internship program to bring working journalists from news organizations in Alaska to Juneau during the legislative session and replace those journalists with JPC student interns. The pilot program will begin during the 2022 legislative session and is fully funded (including travel, housing, and stipend for student interns). In addition, JPC continues to explore partnerships with other industry partners to help ensure the stability of the JPC program.

DEAN SECTION

After completing the Dean Section and signing it, the dean should email this form to the program, and copy uaa.aaa@alaska.edu for posting. If the program is delivered on a community campus, copy the appropriate community campus director(s) as well.

For each recommendation, comment on the progress to date and provide commendations and guidance as appropriate. (2000 characters or less for each recommendation)

Recommendation 1: Revise the program for implementation in fall 2021. The revision should consider more online offerings.

Recommendation 2: Reduce the number of faculty to three full-time faculty.

Recommendation 3: Revise faculty workloads to reduce or eliminate research time, allowing the remaining faculty to cover more courses while reducing the program's overall costs.

Recommendation 4: Propose a tuition surcharge for upper-division courses.

Recommendation 5: Establish multi-year partnerships with the community and industry to create a stable and significant source of funds for the program.

Dean's overall recommendation to the provost: Select a recommendation.

If recommending Suspension with Follow-up Program Review, that review will need to be in AY2022 or AY2023. Please indicate which year: Select Academic Year.

1/8/2021

Dean's signature:



Date: Select date.

PROVOST SECTION

After completion and signature, the Provost will email the final decision to the program and dean, with a copy to uaa.oaa@alaska.edu for posting. If the program is delivered on a community campus, copy the appropriate community campus director(s) as well.

Provost's commendations, additional or adjusted recommendations, if any, and other general comments (3000 characters or less):

Final decision: Select a final decision.

Provost's signature:



Date: Select date.