

An Framework to Develop an Operational Academic Plan

Decision Guiding Document for the next five years

2015

Preamble: <How did we get to this point> connection to strategic plan, university mission/vision, purpose of the document, maybe merge with what follows. Decisions will be guided by this document, decisions will be made with or without. Connection to reaffirmation of accreditation. Post program prioritization process.

Purpose: Develop an operational plan that can be used by UAA's academic enterprise and by the institution as a whole to guide decision making as the institution implements existing and projected budget reductions. This planning process and the resulting plan(s) will be used during this economic downturn to guide the academic mission of the University. Simultaneously, this plan will be used by other units of the University to shape services provided in support of the academic mission of the institution.

Background: UAA is currently guided by the UAA 2017 Strategic Plan as well as by the system's plan, Shaping Alaska's Future. To help guide the University, a set of Core Accreditation Themes were established in 2012 and reaffirmed by the Chancellor's Cabinet in Feb. 2015. These efforts are aligned with these Core Themes:

- Teaching and Learning
- Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity
- Student Success
- UAA Community
- Public Square

This planning activity is guided by this framework.

Assumptions: The following statements are being used to frame this process. Since this process is set up to be short-term, these assumptions build from the belief that the factors that exist today will continue for the near term.

1. The projected state revenue picture is accurate ~~The UA system will continue to face diminished revenue.~~ Oil prices will stay low for another year or two before slowly rebounding. Elected officials will struggle to align state expenditures with revenue. Undesignated reserves will be depleted and the state will struggle to maintain support for UA.
2. The strength of UAA is its people: students, staff, and faculty. ~~The institution will need to focus on the retention of key faculty and staff.~~
3. The UA system will need to continue working to position itself within state agencies. The system will need to continually promote faculty and staff as the intellectual capital of the state, a source for services and advice that are critical at this time.
4. The student population served Alaska student enrollments will not continue to slowly decline and/or plateau ~~change.~~
- 4-5. The university will continue to be an open enrollment institution serving a diverse student body.

Monday, June 08, 2015

- ~~6. The state's labor market will not change. Demand for graduates will be similar. The State will continue to depend on the university to provide a qualified workforce.~~
- ~~5-7. The Alaskan population will continue to seek college education at current rates.~~

Process/timeline:

Mid-October: Discussions and guiding document done

October 2nd: Final reading/input by Faculty Senate

September 2nd: Faculty Senate initial discussion

August 9th: Initial Draft available for distribution to faculty and student/staff governance

<Need dates for student & staff input>

August Dean & Directors meeting.

August 20th: Matsu College

August 10th: Kodiak College

College meetings...

<Maybe set up website/qualtrics survey>

Academic Vision: UAA is the premier institution for learning in Southcentral Alaska and throughout the circumpolar North. Built on partnerships and an innovative spirit rooted in tradition we provide opportunities for students to realize their potential, improve the health and wellbeing of communities, to promote the public good, to lead and transform our institutions and to develop our economy.

Monday, June 08, 2015

Operational “Pillars:” To actualize this vision, the following goals will be used to guide prioritization of offerings and resource allocation.

- Prepare learners to be proficient in 21st century skills (literacy, numeracy, collaboration, problem solving/critical thinking, cultural competence)
- Prepare learners to be professionals ready for licensure, employment, and advancement in Alaska.
- Prepare learners to be employees with the technical and employability skills needed by Alaskan industries
- Prepare learners to be professionals to support and to lead the business, industry, non-profit and governmental agencies of Alaska.
- Continue to strengthen UAA as a center that will support the work of the state as carried out by profit, nonprofit, and governmental agencies.
- Continue to strengthen UAA as a cultural center for Southcentral Alaska and the State.
- Strengthen UAA’s role as a supporter and leader of Alaska’s developing role in the Arctic.

Strategies & Tactical Plans

< Maybe developed by each college. This will be some place to emphasize college priorities .>

Outcomes: to include measurable mileposts; assess/reset/loops; reporting