Core Theme 5: Public Square

UAA Mission Fulfillment Expectations

- UAA engages the community through diverse partnerships and mechanisms that support community engagement

Summary of Feedback for Core Theme 5

Core Theme 5 Forum Demographics

- First level analysis by Institutional Research; Core Theme Indicators Assessment (CTIA) Instrument went to Community Engagement Council and Advancement Leadership Team
- Participation at Core Theme 5 Open Forum: 48 total (37 Anchorage, 1 Kachemak Bay, 2 Kenai River, 2 Kodiak, 5 Mat-Su, 1 Prince William Sound); 19 faculty, 18 administrators, 14 staff

Feedback surrounding extent to which UAA is achieving its mission with respect to Core Theme 5

- CTIA analysis indicated that UAA is meeting this objective:
  - Portfolio deemed to reflect “deep, pervasive and integrated” partnerships;
  - College guidelines reward engagement
- Open Forum participants generally agreed with the analysis, particularly noting the depth of partnerships, but also had many questions generated about the data itself
- Additional feedback:
  - How pervasive is pervasive?
  - Much discussion about how we (if we?) communicate this and related information to our communities. Many feel our communities do not know about our efforts.

Additional quantitative measures that might help UAA demonstrate its achievement of the Core Theme 5 objectives

- Many significant areas are missing
- Non-faculty partnerships
- Community campus partnerships
- Significant student and staff interactions with our communities
- Pick themes and make policy from them, measure ourselves against our focus areas
- Identify formal criteria and definition of a partnership
- Could be more missing themes, need to solicit input

Possible Ways to “Move the Needle”

- Focus
  - University should define specific areas of focus, then measure progress on those
  - Expand criteria to include faculty/staff/students/community campuses
  - Streamline administrative processes for students
- Communications
  - Deemed a major need for this objective; what good is community engagement if communities are unaware?
Core Theme 5 Summary

- Need a clear strategy, both internal and external communications; should reflect the focus
  - Data Collection
    - Determine themes and criteria, then measure and report
    - Must document; make part of workloads and annual (faculty & staff) evaluations

Parking lot for questions and comments related to Core Theme 5 data

- Questions about sufficiency of both measures
- The objective should perhaps be broader, e.g., “UAA collaborates with all sectors of its communities to ensure mutually beneficial exchanges of information, services, and opportunities.” Under this criteria, there are considerable additional activities.