UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

AI@UAA | LIFT CENTER

From Themes to Action

Committee charges, leadership decisions and strategic moves for AI at UAA

Prepared by the Office of Research for the UAA Community as the opening act of coordination

Working draft | October 2026

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THIS IS A WORKING DOCUMENT INTENDED TO INITIATE COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENT

HAVE AN IDEA OR CONCERN?
Wondering how to get involved in AI@UAA? Whether you have an idea, proposal, want to share feedback or learn how to join a committee, we'd like to hear from you.

CONTACT LIFT : Office of Research

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Abbreviations

Term	Meaning
AAC	Academic assessment committee, Faculty Senate
ACDLITe	Academic computing, distance learning and instructional technology, and eLearning committee, Faculty Senate
AI	Artificial intelligence
CAFE	Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
GEC	General Education Committee, Faculty Senate
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
IAM	Identity and access management
IRB	Institutional Review Board
ISER	Institute of Social and Economic Research
LIFT	Leveraging Innovative Frameworks and Technologies Center
NIH, NSF	National Institutes of Health; National Science Foundation
NWCCU	Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities
RCAC	Research and Creative Activity Committee, Faculty Senate
SASS	Student Academic Support and Success, Faculty Senate
UAF, UAS	University of Alaska Fairbanks; University of Alaska Southeast
UFEC	Faculty evaluation committee, Faculty Senate
UMAC	University Marketing and Communications
USUAA	Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage

Executive Summary

AI@UAA is the University of Alaska Anchorage's (UAA) initiative to implement artificial intelligence (AI) policies and practices that meet the needs of its students, staff and faculty. UAA is acting now as AI is already in our classrooms, offices, research and vendor software, and the requests for coordination and guidance abound. The initiative is housed within UAA's new Leveraging Innovative Frameworks and Technology Center, known as the LIFT Center, which coordinates the university's campuswide AI initiatives. While our approach focuses on our local collaboration and coordination, this effort will also align with the University of Alaska Board of Regents' and University of Alaska System's AI Engaged initiative, which we anticipate will have requirements overseen by the System Office. This report recommends how UAA will organize this work: AI@UAA will frame key AI implementation themes, assign existing committee tasks, form new, narrowly scoped bodies only where gaps in committee oversight exist, and bring recommendations forward to leadership for decisions. AI@UAA does not impose a policy or a predetermined outcome. Instead, it opens a shared pathway for UAA-wide engagement: gathering information, perspectives and feedback across our operations; shaping answers to our key questions together; and building the policy, guidance, education and room to experiment that follow. Work during the 2026-27 academic year will yield collaborative answers to our open questions. In summer 2027, those answers will be developed into draft guidance and policy through continued consultation and collaboration. Draft materials will be available for comment in fall 2027. After feedback is incorporated, UAA anticipates implementing guidance where appropriate and embracing our value of continuous improvement in late 2027.

45	18	5	11	Nov. 2027
open questions, each with one owner	routed to existing committees	new bodies, narrowly scoped	decisions for leadership	report to the board

Key messages

1. **Themes organize; committees act.** While LIFT and its first chartered initiative AI@UAA proposed six committees, these have been reenvisioned as AI@UAA themes. Each keeps its authorizing officer as a theme lead who tracks the theme's questions and carries results to the Executive Council. No theme needs its own committee.
2. **Existing bodies first.** Faculty Senate committees (ACDLITe, GEC, SASS, UFEC and RCAC), the CAFE Advisory Board, Research Compliance Committees (e.g., IRB, IACUC, etc.) and the UAA Data Governance Committee can adopt many of the questions, most already in their charge. While Faculty Senate committees set their own agendas, ongoing engagement with leadership shows positive adoption of question responsibility.
3. **New bodies only where none exists.** An AI Tools and Security Subcommittee, an AI Decision Oversight Committee, an Employee AI Use Working Group, an AI Literacy Working Group and a small Alaska AI Task Group. The charter's Coordinating Committee must be formed now to meet the AI@UAA objectives.
4. **Some work is not committee work.** Some items are office actions, such as an inventory of AI features in UAA software. Other decisions on stance, money and authority belong to leadership.

5 **The timeline is tight, and outcomes are needed.** Most activities require recommendations submitted to leadership through their appropriate channels, which may involve committee votes on or before May 2027. Administrative implementation and documentation are anticipated in summer 2027 and the final comment period prior to full enactment in early fall 2027.

6 **UAA will lead, not to be first, but to meet the needs of our students, staff and faculty.** Six suggested strategic actions build on everything that makes UAA distinct: workforce, healthcare, community engagement and scale.

Decisions needed by January 2027 or sooner

- Approve themes, theme leads, committee charges and student seats (L1)
- State UAA's stance on AI integration and on principled refusal (L3)
- Hire the project manager and identify enterprise AI accounts (L4)
- Authorize interim guidance on AI tools and data (L5)
- Name UAA's members on the systemwide AI coordinating council (L6)
- Choose one AI policy or several, and its office of record (L9)
- Set the path for resolving committee disagreements (L11)

1 Context

Board of Regents expectations

The board's draft statement, *AI Engaged*, is expected to be adopted in the near future. This statement, if adopted, would start a one-year clock for each university to publish an AI policy and for each chancellor to present a plan to the board.

Systemwide expectation	University expectations
Institutional AI policy	A published policy and guidance covering instruction, employee use and research, adopted within one year and reviewed periodically.
Data and tool governance	A data classification standard, a preferred-tools list and a proportionate risk review built into existing procurement and IT review, not a parallel track.
Human-in-the-loop assurance	Documented evaluation and meaningful human oversight for any analytical or predictive AI that affects student progress or business operations.
Universal AI literacy	Accessible training so all faculty, staff and students understand AI's capabilities, biases and limits.
AI in every discipline	Each discipline evaluates how AI changes its knowledge and skills and evolves learning outcomes toward durable learning and workforce preparation.

Every recommendation is reviewed against the board's six guiding principles: Human-Centered; Dedicated to Learning; Access; Ethical and Transparent; Secure and Protected; and Return on Innovation. Policy-compliant course-level AI rules remain with faculty.

AI@UAA LIFT initiative expectations and limitations

Chancellor Siemers' Aug. 27, 2026 charter gives the Leveraging Innovative Frameworks and Technology (LIFT) Center authority to convene, coordinate and pace. LIFT's first initiative is AI@UAA, which will coordinate UAA's institutional approach to AI on our campuses and the related role in our community. AI@UAA will coordinate standing and newly convened committees to make the necessary recommendations. Committee recommendations do not take effect unless and until the responsible officer adopts them through their normal decision-making process, including shared governance.

- The six suggested committees were proposed in the charter. Preliminary efforts have shifted these proposed committees into aligned operating themes that house one more committee that will make associated recommendations to UAA officers.
- The AI@UAA Coordinating Committee, made up of representative members from each committee, holds the pacing and resolves conflicts before recommendations reach an officer. It has not yet been formed.
- Data governance runs through every committee rather than belonging to one.
- AI@UAA is chartered through May 2027. Interim reports and a closure report are required.

Responses, feedback and insights

Unit responses

28 responses to six questions, Sept. 2026

- **Most units have no AI group.** 18 of 25 structured respondents report none.
- **The most repeated concern** is which tools are approved and what data can go into them. It comes from academic, administrative, research, service and community campus units alike.
- **Use is informal and individual.** Formal pilots are few: a community campus BoodleBox pilot, Navigate360 AI in advising, a research institute's Copilot study, the Alaska Small Business Development Center's custom GPTs and institutional licenses of Claude and ChatGPT are limited.
- **AI is arriving inside vendor software,** including the customer relationship management system, Jaggaer with AppZen and a health records system.
- **Capacity is the constraint.** While AI and the need to shape our practice and policy is upon us, few identified that they or their staff/faculty have time to dedicate to this effort.

Symposium, Day 1

Second UA AI Symposium, Sept. 25, 2026

- **Practical gains are real and local,** from the Alaska Small Business Development Center, the Municipality of Anchorage, the Institute of Social and Economic Research and student startups.
- **Refusal is principled and organized.** Students and faculty raised learning, environmental cost, sovereignty and trust. One speaker asked for a real choice to opt in rather than tools turned on by default.
- **Almost nobody has a policy.** "When superintendents were asked, no hands went up."
- **Sovereignty is Alaska's distinct contribution:** Alaska Native data on Alaska Native terms, and caution about entering cultural knowledge into AI tools.
- **UAA decision-making is under scrutiny.** An audience member said integration appeared to be announced without discussion; a panelist answered that "utilization is not integration."

Read with care

Unit responses are self-reported and unverified. Symposium panelists were invited or self-selected. Use both to identify positions and needs, not to define the current state or trajectory of UAA.

2 Organization of the work

Themes organize the questions; tasked committees answer them. A committee can serve more than one theme, and every question has an owner. Those wanting to contribute to answering a question are encouraged to engage with the associated committee.

Themes frame the questions ▸ **Tasked committees** develop recommendations ▸ **Coordinating committee** aligns and resolves conflicts ▸ **Responsible officers** make decisions through shared governance

Themes

Theme	Responsible officer(s)	Tasked committees serving it
AI in academics	Provost Runge	**ACDLITe**, **GEC**, **SASS**, **UFEC** and **CAFE Advisory Board**; *AI Literacy Working Group*
AI in access, support and security	Vice Chancellor Buchholdt; Vice Chancellor Knepfle	**UAA Data Governance Committee**; *AI Tools and Security Subcommittee*; *UA IAM Policy Group*; *AI Decision Oversight Committee*
AI in research and creative activity	Vice Chancellor Dotson	**RCAC** and **Research Compliance Committees**
AI in business operations	Vice Chancellor Buchholdt; Vice Chancellor Dotson	*AI Decision Oversight Committee*; *AI Tools and Security Subcommittee; AI Literacy Working Group*
AI in day-to-day work	Executive Council	*Institutional AI Use Working Group*
UAA's role in AI in and for Alaska	Executive Council	*Alaska AI Task Group*

Existing committees to task

Senate committees set their own agendas. These are requests made through Senate leadership, not assignments.

Committee	Current focus	Takes	Membership notes
ACDLITe (Faculty Senate)	Already working on AI, academic integrity and platforms	A1–A4	Add the Dean of Students Office and USUAA for A3 and A4
GEC (Faculty Senate)	AI skills in general education	A6	*Related to student AI literacy and dependent on UA BOR adoption of an AI GER*
SASS (Faculty Senate)	AI in program design	A5	Academic assessment liaison and instructional designers are suggested.
UFEC (Faculty Senate)	AI in faculty file review	A7	
CAFE Advisory Board and AI Community of Practice	Faculty AI practice and assessment	A8; templates for A1	
RCAC (Faculty Senate)	AI in research	R1, R3–R7	Technology transfer; Alaska Native partners for R3

Committee	Current focus	Takes	Membership notes
Research Compliance Committees	Human subjects review	R2	
UAA Data Governance Committee	Data governance	T2, T5	Scope limited to data rules, not tool approvals
UA IAM Policy Group (UA System)	Identity and access management policy	T4	IT Services carries its IAM-for-AI draft
CAFE and Library AI communities of practice	Peer learning	D5	

New bodies, where no home exists

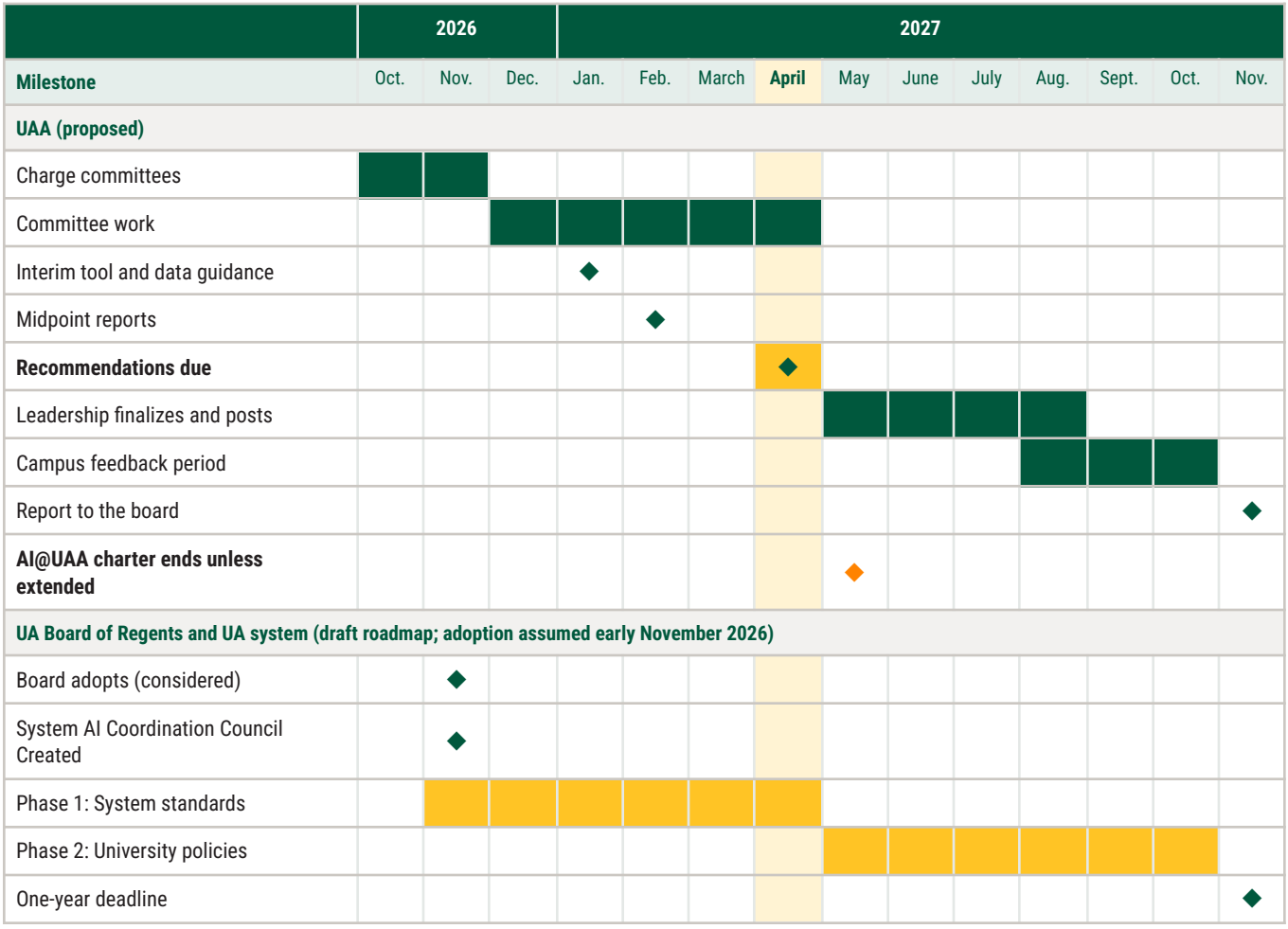
Body	Form	Takes	Members	Why a new body
AI Tools and Security Subcommittee	Subcommittee of the UAA Data Governance Committee, led by IT Services	T1, T3, T8, T10, B2	Procurement, Disability Support Services, ACDLITe and RCAC liaisons unit names	Today it remains unclear who approves tools or runs AI risk review. The board wants that review inside procurement and IT review, and a subcommittee keeps the parent committee's scope narrow, as requested.
Student-Related AI Decision Oversight Committee	New	B1, B3	Enrollment, financial aid, advising, human resources, student conduct, one faculty member and one student	The board's human-in-the-loop requirement spans admissions, financial aid, advising, human resources and student conduct. No existing committee crosses those units.
Employee AI Use Working Group	New	B5, D1; drafts D2 after L7	Human resources, Staff Council, a Faculty Senate member and labor relations	Nobody covers employee conduct across faculty and staff. *Consider incorporation of guidelines for use in staff and student employee review.*
AI Literacy Working Group	New	C2, D3	CAFE, UAA/APU Consortium Library, human resources training, research support staff, Student Affairs, a GEC liaison and USUAA	The board requires literacy for students, faculty and staff. CAFE covers faculty only.
Alaska AI Task Group	New, small	S2; advises on S1	Alaska Small Business Development Center, AI Solutions Consortium, community campuses and government relations	Not a board requirement. A small group writing a position statement matches the available capacity.

AI@UAA Coordinating Committee. Proposed members: theme-lead designees, one liaison from each new body, one Faculty Senate liaison covering the Senate committees, a USUAA member and the project manager. It takes T11, C1 and C3–C5, and assembles the UAA policy and the chancellor's plan to the board.

Tasking existing bodies uses capacity already committed, which most units said they preferred. Size new charges to the one estimate given, one to two hours per week.

3 Timeline

The proposed dates fit inside the board's one-year window. Four points are tight.



◆ milestone Orange ◆ charter end Gold column: April 2027, when committee recommendations and system Phase 1 standards both come due.

Timeline considerations

- **System standards arrive with, not before, committee recommendations.** Phase 1 delivers the data classification standard, preferred-tools list, risk review, literacy baselines and policy template in months one through six, about the end of April 2027. Committees should draft against the board's draft and UAA administration will use May through July to align. UAA's members on the systemwide council will request drafts as necessary.
- **Faculty Senate calendar.** Items needing a Faculty Senate vote (syllabus requirements, academic integrity and faculty evaluation) cannot wait for April 30. Route them by February/March for a spring vote, and plan further discussion during the fall feedback period.
- **Charter ends.** AI@UAA ends in May 2027. If progress is being made using this coordination effort, extend it through at least November 2027 and name who is responsible for the annual update to the board after that.
- **Rolling start.** The charter's 30-day window closed around Sept. 26. Charges approved by the end of Nov. 2026 give committees five working months.

- **Breaks in the Academic Calendar.** Taking into account breaks in instruction, there are a reduced number of weeks when students, faculty and staff are on campus during the academic year.

4 Open questions by theme

Each question below has one owner and a type. "By" is a proposed target, not a stated deadline.

Sources: **Sym** = Symposium Day 1 digest; **Resp** = unit response summary; **BOR** = *AI Engaged* and its implementation summary; **Lit** = literature review and reference pages.

Type: **Existing** existing committee **New** new body **Office** office action, no committee **Leadership** leadership decision

AI in Academics

#	Question	Source	Tasked to	Type	By
A1	Must every syllabus state an AI policy, and does UAA offer a standard template?	Sym, Resp, Lit	None — Complete	**Complete**	N/A
A2	What norms govern instructor use of AI in grading, feedback and course materials, and must that use be disclosed to students?	Sym	ACDLITe	**Existing**	April 2027
A3	Does the academic integrity code define unauthorized AI use, and can AI-detector output alone support a charge?	Resp, Lit	SASS with Dean of Students Office	**Existing**	Feb. 2027 to Faculty Senate
A4	Can students decline AI use without academic penalty, and how do students who want AI experience get it without being required to?	Sym	SASS with Dean of Students Office and USUAA; principle from L3	**Existing**	April 2027
A5	Does "AI in every discipline" run inside existing program review and assessment, or as a separate review?	BOR	AAC	**Existing**	Plan by April 2027
A6	Do general education outcomes include AI literacy?	Resp, BOR	GEC	**Existing**	In progress
A7	How is AI handled in faculty file review?	Resp	UFEC	**Existing**	In progress
A8	What support exists for course assessment redesign (process-based, oral and locally grounded assignments)?	Sym, Lit	CAFE Advisory Board	**Existing**	April 2027

AI in Access, Support and Security

#	Question	Source	Tasked to	Type	By
T1	Which tools may employees and students use now, and for what data? Will the university recommend one tool over others, or even limit AI use on UAA technology to a set of AI providers?	Resp, BOR	AI Tools and Security Subcommittee	**New**	Jan. 2027 interim; April 2027 final
T2	How does UAA map FERPA, HIPAA, disability records, research data and human resources data to permitted AI use?	Resp, BOR, Lit	UAA Data Governance Committee	**Existing**	April 2027
T3	How is AI risk review built into procurement and IT review, including purchasing-card buys, AI turned on by vendor updates and vendor ownership or pricing changes?	BOR, Sym, Resp	AI Tools and Security Subcommittee	**New**	April 2027

#	Question	Source	Tasked to	Type	By
T4	What authentication and permissions does an AI agent need before it reads a student record or connects to university systems?	Resp, Sym	UA IAM Policy Group, from the IT Services draft	Existing	April 2027
T5	Are data access permissions to enterprise student or financial systems too broad for safe AI use?	Resp	UAA Data Governance Committee	Existing	April 2027
T6	Which AI features are on by default in UAA-licensed products, and which can be disabled?	Sym	IT Services, ACDLITe	Office	Feb. 2027
T7	Who maintains the in-scope AI inventory the board expects in Phase 2?	BOR, Resp	IT Services, reporting to the Coordinating Committee	Office	July 2027
T8	How are AI tools checked for accessibility?	BOR	AI Tools and Security Subcommittee	New	April 2027
T9	How do researchers and units see AI usage costs before the bill arrives? How is ROI calculated?	Resp	IT Services, the budget office, research office	Office	April 2027
T10	How are AI incidents, such as data exposure or harmful output, reported and escalated?	Lit	AI Tools and Security Subcommittee	New	April 2027
T11	Where do IT Services' overarching AI policies sit within AI@UAA?	Resp	Coordinating Committee	New	Dec. 2026

AI in Research and Creative Activity

#	Question	Source	Tasked to	Type	By
R1	What are UAA's rules on AI disclosure, authorship, grant writing and confidential peer review? Align with federal funder notices.	Lit	RCAC	Existing	April 2027
R2	What IRB guidance covers AI tools used with participant data, including consent language?	Resp	Institutional Review Board	Existing	April 2027
R3	What norm protects Alaska Native knowledge and community data before faculty enter them into AI tools?	Sym	RCAC with Alaska Native partners and Institutional Review Board	Existing	Draft by Feb. 2027
R4	Are faculty protected when they decline AI use in their scholarship?	Sym	RCAC; principle from L3	Existing	April 2027
R5	What happens to research intellectual property and unpublished data entered into commercial tools?	Lit, Resp	RCAC with technology transfer	Existing	April 2027
R6	What rules apply to agentic tools that edit files or code directly?	Resp	RCAC with the AI Tools and Security Subcommittee	Existing	April 2027
R7	Does UAA need local or enclave AI computing for private data, and who runs it?	Resp, Sym	RCAC; funding through L4	Existing	April 2027
R8	How does UAA take part in the board's Arctic and climate research priority?	BOR	Office of Research	Office	April 2027

AI in Business Operations

#	Question	Source	Tasked to	Type	By
B1	What counts as consequential AI, and what documented evaluation and human oversight does each use need (admissions, financial aid, advising, human resources analytics and student conduct)?	BOR, Lit	AI Decision Oversight Committee	New	April 2027
B2	Who approves turning on AI features in the customer relationship management system, Jaggaer with AppZen and the health records system?	Resp	AI Tools and Security Subcommittee	New	Feb. 2027
B3	When may an AI agent answer students directly: disclosure that it is AI, grounding in authoritative sources, escalation to a person and crisis handling?	Resp, Sym, Lit	AI Decision Oversight Committee	New	April 2027
B4	Which two or three back-office pilots run now, each with a named owner for ongoing support and a return-on-investment measure?	Sym, BOR	Vice Chancellor Buchholdt and Vice Chancellor Dotson	Office	Jan. 2027
B5	Should each unit or division write a one-page AI use statement?	Sym, Resp	Employee AI Use Working Group	New	April 2027

AI in Day-to-Day Work

#	Question	Source	Tasked to	Type	By
D1	What may employees do with AI, who is accountable for the output, and when must AI use be attributed in everyday work?	BOR, Resp	Employee AI Use Working Group	New	April 2027
D2	Can an employee be required to use AI, or decline it?	Sym, Resp	Executive Council (L7); working group drafts	Leadership	April 2027
D3	What baseline and role-based training do staff need, including AI-specific security training by role?	Resp, BOR	AI Literacy Working Group	New	April 2027
D4	What is the acceptable use of AI-generated materials that use UAA logos and fonts?	Resp	University Marketing and Communications (UMAC)	Office	Feb. 2027
D5	How do units share use cases and lessons learned?	Resp	CAFE, AI Community of Practice, FRWG	Existing	Ongoing

UAA's role in AI in and for Alaska

#	Question	Source	Tasked to	Type	By
S1	Does UAA offer model policy, training or evaluation to entities like the Alaska Municipal League members or the Alaska Legislature (House Concurrent Resolution 3 task force)?	Sym	Executive Council (L8), advised by the Alaska AI Task Group	Leadership	April 2027
S2	How do the NSF-funded AI Solutions Consortium, the Alaska Small Business Development Center and community campuses connect on workforce and community AI education?	Resp, Sym	Alaska AI Task Group	New	April 2027

#	Question	Source	Tasked to	Type	By
S3	Does UAA take any position on data centers, energy or other related considerations?	Sym, BOR	Executive Council (L8)	Leadership	Optional

Cross-cutting

#	Question	Source	Tasked to	Type	By
C1	One UAA AI policy with sections, or separate policies? Which office holds it?	BOR	Coordinating Committee drafts; leadership approves (L9)	New	Jan. 2027
C2	What is the literacy baseline for students, faculty and staff, and how is completion tracked?	BOR, Resp	AI Literacy Working Group	New	April 2027
C3	How are student voices brought in?	Resp	Coordinating Committee	New	Dec. 2026
C4	Where do environmental and ethical costs enter the policy?	Sym, Resp	Coordinating Committee	New	April 2027
C5	What metrics show Return on Innovation/Investment?	BOR, Lit	Coordinating Committee	New	April 2027

5 Decisions for leadership

These 11 items set institutional stance, money or authority, so no committee can settle them. L3 matters most: without it, each committee will answer the integration question differently.

#	Decision	Why it is leadership's	Needed by
L1	Approve themes, theme leads, tasked-committee charges and USUAA seats; ask Faculty Senate leadership to accept charges for Senate committees	The charter reserves final structure to the Executive Council	Nov. 30, 2026
L2	Extend AI@UAA through to BOR response requirement; name the standing owner of annual reporting to the board	Charter term; the board requires annual updates	Dec. 15, 2026
L3	State UAA's stance on unit-level utilization versus institution-wide integration, and the principle that students and faculty may decline AI where learning outcomes allow	Raised at the symposium, including the perception that integration was announced without discussion. Frames A4 and R4	Dec. 15, 2026
L4	Fund the project manager, engaged committee participants, enterprise AI accounts and any local computing	Ten of 25 respondents need backfill; the board leaves university resources to be decided	Dec. 15, 2026
L5	Relay UA and authorize UAA-specific interim guidance on AI tools and data	The most repeated unit request; final policy is not posted until August 2027	Jan. 31, 2027
L6	Name UAA's members on the systemwide AI coordinating council; give UAA's position on surveillance and data minimization; ask who owns the data classification standard	Systemwide items; the board lists surveillance as to be decided	Nov. 30, 2026
L7	Set the stance on AI and staff positions, and on whether employees can be required to use AI; consult labor relations	Workforce and bargaining implications; staff have asked about replacement	March 1, 2027
L8	Decide whether UAA takes an external AI advisory role for entities like Alaska Municipal League and the Alaska Legislature, and others.	An institutional commitment outside the board's scope	April 30, 2027
L9	Choose one UAA AI policy with sections or several policies; name the office of record	Determines how committee outputs are assembled	Jan. 31, 2027
L10	Repurpose the inactive UAA AI Working Group as the Employee AI Use Working Group, or retire it	It overlaps AI@UAA by its sponsor's account	Nov. 30, 2026
L11	Set the path when a Faculty Senate committee and another tasked committee disagree	LIFT can pace but not decide	Dec. 15, 2026

6 Strategic actions to lead

UAA is Alaska's community-engaged university and its workforce workhorse. It is the state's healthcare university, set in Anchorage's U-Med District, with the state's largest student body in its largest city. UAA can lead in AI by being Alaska's most useful applied-AI university: first to deliver, closest to employers, patients and communities, and measured by impact.

The six actions carry the three traits of the UAA brand experience:

Curious
Actions 1 and 6 test what works and share it.

Community-minded
Actions 3, 4 and 5 serve Anchorage, Alaska Native partners and local governments.

Committed
Action 2 builds lasting workforce impact.

These six actions are proposals. Partner interest, cost and staffing have not been assessed. Each needs a named owner and a funding answer (L4).

01 Open mind and cautious actions CURIOUS

The move	Finish a board-compliant policy, data-to-tool mapping and literacy baseline before the system's Phase 1 deadline. Offer them to the systemwide AI coordinating council for consideration.
Why UAA	UAA's rolling start is already underway; it is the largest university in the system, and LIFT is a coordinating, ready-to-use structure.
Builds on	LIFT charter; IT Services' identity and access management (IAM)-for-AI and security policy drafts; this report.
First move	Name UAA's council members and offer to draft the systemwide policy template. December 2026.
Board link	Shared Uplift; avoiding fragmentation; Phase 1 policy template.

02 Alaska's AI workforce on-ramp COMMITTED

The move	Employer-designed short credentials and paid entry-level placements, delivered through our campuses, the Alaska Small Business Development Center and the AI Solutions Consortium.
Why UAA	UAA is the workforce workhorse, with community campuses, the state's largest student body and Anchorage's employer base.
Builds on	Symposium: employers want judgment and communication, and the entry-level rung is disappearing. Unit responses: the SBDC's roughly 40 custom GPTs and more than 100 workshops; the NSF-funded consortium's industry members; an engineering-firm curriculum survey; the Master of Science with AI integration.
First move	Convene a small employer panel with the consortium to define the next two credentials. Spring 2027.
Board link	Student Learning priority; incubate solutions and scale them statewide.

03 Healthcare AI in the U-Med District COMMUNITY-MINDED

The move	Make UAA the place Alaska's healthcare workforce learns to use and evaluate clinical AI: literacy built into nursing and allied health, an AI-in-healthcare course and a joint evaluation of AI documentation tools with U-Med neighbors.
Why UAA	UAA is Alaska's healthcare university, located beside the state's major hospitals.

Builds on	Unit responses: an AI-in-healthcare course was requested; AI is arriving in a health records system; HIPAA concerns.
First move	Ask health program leaders and one U-Med partner (for example, Providence Alaska Medical Center or the Alaska Native Medical Center) whether a joint evaluation is wanted. Spring 2027. Explore partner interest.
Board link	AI in Every Discipline; Human-in-the-Loop.

04 Public-sector AI help desk COMMUNITY-MINDED

The move	Model AI policies, procurement guidance and training for municipalities, plus evaluation support for a legislative AI task force if House Concurrent Resolution 3 passes. UAA's own policy work becomes the product.
Why UAA	The state's largest city; ISER's and ICHS's policy and practice research; existing ties to the Municipality of Anchorage and the Alaska Municipal League.
Builds on	Symposium: the Alaska Municipal League named model policies, procurement guidance and training for small governments, listing the university system as a possible provider. A legislator asked for feedback on House Concurrent Resolution 3. No AI bills have passed.
First move	The Executive Council decides (L8). Then offer the Alaska Municipal League a model-policy pilot with two or three member communities.
Board link	Partnerships with government; UA as the state's leading AI institution.

05 Lead on community engagement and Alaska Native data sovereignty COMMUNITY-MINDED

The move	With Alaska Native partners, publish a norm for when cultural knowledge and community data may enter AI tools, and give students and faculty a real choice to opt out.
Why UAA	UAA's community-engaged identity and Anchorage's Alaska Native entities.
Builds on	Symposium: sovereignty was called Alaska's distinct contribution; speakers cautioned against entering cultural knowledge into AI tools; a call for real choice rather than tools turned on by default.
First move	Co-develop R3 by Feb. 2027, with partners involved from the start rather than reviewing afterward.
Board link	Ethical and Transparent; Secure and Protected.

06 Prove AI's effect on student success CURIOUS

The move	Add outcome evaluation to current student-success pilots and publish the results, including what does not work.
Why UAA	A large, mostly nontraditional student body provides enough volume to measure.
Builds on	Unit responses: Navigate360 AI pilot in advising; community campus BoodleBox pilot (74 users; 73 percent of 33 survey respondents use it weekly, self-reported); a request for a coordinated look at student success.
First move	Add an evaluation design, with ISER or Institutional Research, to the Navigate360 and BoodleBox pilots. Jan.2027.
Board link	Return on Innovation or Investment; durable-learning evaluation.

Execution

Sequence. Start actions 1 and 6 now; both are low cost and within UAA's control. Run action 5 alongside R3. Actions 2, 3 and 4 need partners and leadership decisions (L4 and L8); start them in spring 2027.

Scope. Frontier model research, data centers and computing build-outs. The BOR scopes data centers and proprietary model building out of the systemwide effort, and Arctic research is the system's named research priority. UAA's claim is applied research, workforce, healthcare and community AI.

7 Board requirement crosswalk (pending BOR/System adoption)

Every board expectation has a UAA owner. Two depend on systemwide deliverables UAA does not control.

Board expectation	Tasked committee	UAA deliverable	Depends on System
Published AI policy covering instruction, employee use and research	ACDLITe (instruction); Employee AI Use Working Group (employee use); RCAC (research); assembled by the Coordinating Committee	One UAA AI policy or a set (L9); posted August 2027, final October 2027	Policy relationship (i.e., BOR Policy and Regulation)
Data and tool governance	UAA Data Governance Committee; AI Tools and Security Subcommittee	Interim guidance (Jan. 2027); data-to-tool mapping; risk review steps in procurement and IT Services	Classification standard; preferred-tools list
Human-in-the-loop assurance	AI Decision Oversight Committee	Definition of consequential AI; documentation template; register of covered uses	None
Universal AI literacy	AI Literacy Working Group	Baseline content, delivery route for each group and completion tracking	Literacy baselines
AI in every discipline	SASS	Review process built into program review; reviews underway by Phase 2	None
In-scope AI inventory	IT Services (office action) and other administrative offices	Inventory, including AI features on by default	Definition of in scope
Chancellor's AI plan to the board	Coordinating Committee, for the executive committee	Plan, governance structure and roadmap	Systemwide strategic AI plan
Annual update and report	Owner to be named (L2)	Annual update	None

A Items to verify early

- **Board documents disagree on data classification.** *AI Engaged* and the Phase 1 roadmap call for a common systemwide standard; the implementation summary lists it as out of scope. Ask the System Office who builds it (L6).
- **Board dates are assumed.** Adoption in early November 2026 and the 2027 board calendar are not confirmed. All phase timing shifts with the adoption date.
- **Faculty Senate committees' authority and calendars.** Confirm that ACDLITe, SASS, GEC, UFEC and RCAC have adopted willingness to pursue the items routed to them, especially A1 and A3, and when they meet.
- **Self-reported inputs.** Unit responses are unverified.
- **Authorship of recommendations.** The theme leads, committee assignments (especially the five new bodies), target dates, A9, R8 and the six strategic actions are proposals in this draft, not positions stated by any source.
- **Funder rules (R1).** NIH and NSF have issued notices on AI in peer review; identify if others need to be highlighted.

B Sources (Preliminary)

1. University of Alaska. *AI Engaged: Statement of Intent and Guiding Principles.* Draft, 2026.
2. University of Alaska. *AI Engaged: Translation to System-wide Implementation.* Draft, 2026.
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4. *AI@UAA Unit Responses: Findings by Question.* De-identified draft, Sept. 30, 2026.
5. *Second UA AI Symposium, Day 1: Digest, Highlight Reel Picks, and AI@UAA Guidance.* Sept. 29, 2026.
6. AI@UAA Progress and Action Tracker. Office of Research, Sept. 17, 2026.
7. *Enterprise AI Governance in Higher Education.* Google Deep Research report, 2026.
8. Faculty Focus. "Crafting Thoughtful AI Policy in Higher Education: A Guide for Institutional Leaders." facultyfocus.com
9. nexos.ai. "AI Policy for Companies." nexos.ai/blog/ai-policy-for-companies
10. UAA University Marketing and Communications. Brand, Colors and Fonts, Logos, Tagline and Editorial Guidelines. uaa.alaska.edu/about/university-advancement/umac/brand

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