

## **UAF Hosts the Week of the Arctic during the Arctic Council Ministerial**

As we have announced many times in Faculty Senate and through many other venues including the Cornerstone, UAF will convene the 2017 Week of the Arctic on our campus the week of May 8 – 12, 2017. See <http://akarctichost.org/> This event will present a significant and timely opportunity to demonstrate the achievements of the UAF scientific and engineering community, while planning and engaging in the coordination of future research efforts in this dynamic region. We will convene at least 15 symposiums, panel discussions, workshops and community public presentations all intended to advance the scientific and technical understanding of Arctic processes and practices. The speakers and topics for these sessions have been selected to present updates on recent achievements but also to highlight future research needs.

This event will focus more upon scientific issues and analyses. There will be workshops to promote increased observations and process studies, and we expect good participation from the modeling community to promote model driven process studies in response to gaps in understanding. This will provide an opportunity for the scientific community, including personnel from US federal agencies to discuss important scientific issues, advance collaboration and promote better utilization of observations and modeling analyses. It is a great opportunity for UAF researchers to meet some of the top scientists from around the world. We also anticipate many of the key program managers who oversee federal funding programs important to UAF.

These meetings will provide the opportunity to share ideas widely as very distinct communities converge for open discussions, sharing of understanding, and planning and coordination of future collaborative efforts. We have focused upon facilitating workshops and panels that will engage Arctic field researchers and modelers to ensure that the knowledge and process understanding gained from these studies will be shared to ensure advances in process understanding and model development. These advances will also be translated to the policy community and to the broader public through the participation of many journalists from across the nation and around the world. These meetings will convene a confluence of stakeholders from different sectors, disciplines, and responsibilities. Promoting interaction amongst these groups will facilitate understanding, promote sharing of resources, and increase the number of accomplishments that may be achieved within the limited funds available for Arctic science. Such coordination enables alignment of priorities across nations, commitments to open access to data archives, and a reinvigorated enthusiasm to cooperate in studying one of the most remote places on the planet. The 2016 Arctic Science Summit Week brought 31 registered members of the media who published (to our knowledge) 58 popular articles in print, radio and broadcast news. These generally popular articles focused primarily upon scientific achievements and helped enhance outreach of science to the public. We anticipate much greater press coverage during the Week of the Arctic and will use this opportunity to promote science at UAF.

We hope you will help us welcome our guests, engage the visiting policy makers and journalists, and help promote our expertise, our facilities and our capacity to conduct high-level collaborative research.

Larry Hinzman  
Vice Chancellor for Research