

Academic Master Plan (AMP) Charge
(Agreement reached by Statewide Academic Council (SAC), Research Advisory Council (RAC),
and Faculty Alliance on November 20, 2008)

I. Purpose

The SAC/RAC of the University of Alaska is charged with developing an academic master plan (AMP) that will provide a strategic vision for the continuing development of the University of Alaska's academic programs. The plan will guide decisions that enhance collaboration between MAUs, build on the intellectual capital of the faculty and staff at each MAU, and provide expanding opportunities for students. The plan is a document that will enhance the University's strategic management of both public and private resources.

II. Rationale

The University of Alaska has expanded significantly in the past 10 years. Many new programs have been developed at each MAU; a significant number of cross-MAU programs collaborations also exist. There are numerous challenges to the development of additional academic programs in the state: large geographic areas, relatively small numbers of students, limited access to community resources that would support some programs, limited funding, and inability of student populations to commute from one campus to another. It is in the best interest of the University, its faculty and students, and the state to develop a mechanism for making decisions regarding the development and location of current/future academic programs and spending wisely the resources that are apportioned to the university. In addition, the plan will provide an integrated academic vision, based on academic capacity, to define the respective roles of the three university's and Community and Branch campuses. Lastly, the AMP will be used to assign current/future resources which reflect programmatic needs.

III. Plan for Development

A. Process

- SAC and RAC will meet jointly for purposes of developing the AMP.
- SAC /RAC will collaborate with faculty alliance, and faculty alliance will collaborate with each faculty senate to provide input to SAC during development.
- The process of developing the AMP will be open, collaborative, transparent and inclusive.
- All ideas and proposals brought to SAC/RAC through the Faculty Alliance or other councils and committees will be considered.
- Existing resource materials will be utilized in development of the AMP. Those resources include, but are not limited to, mission statements; vision statements, strategic plans, and academic plans that already exist at each MAU.
- SAC/RAC will seek guidance and input from other SW councils and other MAU committees and councils as appropriate.

- Additional ad hoc committees may be convened by SAC/RAC in the interest of efficiency as development of the AMP proceeds.
- Final approval of the AMP will be by consensus of the SAC/RAC. Faculty Alliance representatives to SAC/RAC will be voting members of the committee for development and approval of the AMP.
- The final plan will be presented to each faculty senate for their consideration prior to being forwarded by SAC to the President's Cabinet and Board of Regents.

B. Time line

- Dec 15: Charge approved by Faculty Alliance, SAC/RAC, VP for Academic Affairs
- Dec 15 – Mar 31: SAC/RAC meets to develop plan. Meetings will be held frequently (every 2 weeks), ad hoc committees may be formed, additional input from SW Councils and Faculty Senates will be sought
- Mar 31: Draft AMP will be presented to all three Faculty Senates
- April : Faculty senates will respond through their formal representatives to SAC/RAC
- May 1: Final changes will be presented to all three Faculty Senates and Faculty Alliance for their consideration.
- May 15: AMP presented to President's Cabinet
- June 1: AMP presented to BOR

IV. Expected Outcomes

- Clear and attainable goals for higher education in the state
- Strategies for achieving those goals that may include assigning formal responsibility and authority to respective MAUs.
- Specific criteria that guide decisions regarding placement of programs at a particular MAU. Those criteria should include, but are not limited to, economies of scale, academic capacity and infrastructure, demonstrated faculty expertise, enrollment demand, and availability of funding.
- Broad academic direction for future generations of students, faculty and staff, which will result in the effective use of resources, service to the state, excellent academic programs and educational opportunity
- An integrated academic vision and implementation strategy for the investment and management of public and private resources
- A plan which provides direction for future leaders of UA and the BOR for the assignment of programmatic resources