STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS 2019-2027

UAF UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

at a glance

1 Modernize the student experience

2 Establish global leadership in Alaska Native and Indigenous programs

3 Achieve Tier 1 research status

4 Transform UAF's intellectual property development and commercialization

5 Embrace and grow a culture of respect, diversity, inclusion and caring

6 Revitalize key academic programs, from occupational endorsements to Ph.D.s

2 Establish global leadership in Alaska Native and Indigenous programs

Our vision sees UAF as a global leader in Alaska Native and Indigenous programs throughout the circumpolar North, Americas and Pacific Islands.

Our mission therefore is to build and enhance leadership in Alaska Native and Indigenous programs, research and workforce development.

We seek to be a leader in three arenas: Alaska Native and Indigenous faculty, staff and student success; elevating and situating Indigenous knowledge within academia as its own intact knowledge system; and preparing Alaska Native, Indigenous and other students in academic and professional areas critical to Alaska Native and Indigenous communities.

These efforts should have two key attributes. They should be executed by, for and with Alaska Native and Indigenous communities, and they should use multiple means of delivery to make education accessible to Alaska Native and Indigenous students where they are.

To reach this overall goal, UAF must be able to make the following assertions about itself. Success will be advanced by taking the steps noted under each assertion.

- **We have state-of-the-art research, learning and cultural activities facilities.** This would begin with completion of the Troth Yeddha' Indigenous studies center and interpretative park.

- **We are a leading institution in Alaska Native and Indigenous degree programs and pedagogy.** This would necessitate the following steps:
  - Document and disseminate current teaching practices that use Alaska Native and Indigenous pedagogical approaches.
  - Finalize and institute the In This Place training (Alaska Native cultural awareness) for all faculty, staff and students.
  - Weave Indigenous knowledge and methodologies into programs throughout the university.
  - Strengthen academic and professional degree pathways to better support student advancement along degree continuum.

- **We retain and graduate Alaska Native and Indigenous students on par with or above the UAF average.** This would require UAF to:
  - Increase retention of first-year Alaska Native and Indigenous students.
  - Establish a culturally based counseling position at Rural Student Services.
  - Increase culturally relevant academic support for Alaska Native and Indigenous students throughout the university.

- **We are recognized for Alaska Native- and Indigenous-led research, knowledge production and publications.** This would require the university to:

  – Increase the number of Alaska Native and Indigenous faculty serving as principal investigators and co-PIs on research projects.

  – Increase the number of publications authored/co-authored by Alaska Native and Indigenous faculty and staff.

  – Increase the dissemination of Indigenous knowledge and strategies through diverse mediums.

- **We graduate Alaska Native, Indigenous and other students in academic, professional and workforce areas critical to Alaska Native and Indigenous communities.** To accomplish this, UAF should:

  – Expand strategic partnerships with tribal, corporate and regional employers to meet their workforce and organizational needs.

  – Strengthen partnerships among academic and research units with the rural campuses.

- **We are committed to increasing and retaining Alaska Native and Indigenous faculty and staff.** To accomplish this, UAF should:

  – Prioritize the hiring of Alaska Native and Indigenous faculty and staff to mirror the 20% Alaska Native population in the state.

  – Mentor Alaska Native and Indigenous scholars for success (i.e., tenure and promotion, co-authorship, etc.).

  – Network and connect Alaska Native faculty and staff across the university.

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