15 May 2014

TO: The Prospective PhD-level Graduate Student in Physics

SUBJECT: Master’s of Science (PhD) in Physics/Space Physics Roadmap

This roadmap is designed to guide you, the graduate physics student seeking a doctoral degree, to successful completion of the degree requirements for a PhD in Physics or a PhD in Space Physics at UAF. The PhDs offered by the Physics Department are in either Physics or Space Physics. Since neither degree has any coursework requirements, the roadmap for each student will be highly individualized, so it is important that you meet with your advisory committee chair in the Physics Department to ensure that your personal roadmap is tailored to your. The expected time to degree completion is four to five years; however, individual programs may vary depending upon your background preparation, your research interests. In particular, some field-intensive projects may take longer due to data collection time constraints, instrumentation construction and deployment, and/or data analysis requirements. The Graduate School requires that the PhD student complete a thesis, and that this be successfully defended to the faculty of the Physics Department. The department requires that the PhD student successfully complete both written and oral comprehensive examinations within the first two years of the student’s entry into the program. Unless you have significant teaching experience prior to entry in to the PhD program, you are expected to serve as a Teaching Assistant in the undergraduate physics laboratory courses for your first two semesters at UAF. All incoming graduate students are expected to take the 1-credit course PHYS 605, Physics Teaching Seminar.

The faculty of the Physics Department approved this roadmap at its regular 15 May 2014 meeting.