Additional information received 10-9-09 from Dana Thomas regarding Accreditation
Core Themes:

Alternative Form of Accreditation Core Themes

Given the accreditation theme survey responses and some perceived weaknesses of the
current proposed themes, I asked Jackie Stormer of Marketing and Communications to
wordsmith the current themes. She did so and Pete Pinney and I made a few revisions
and list these below. Jackie identified a key word for each theme area. She brings a
background of communicating to the public perspective to this discussion - what we say
is sometimes not well understood outside UAF, e.g., engage and advanced study.

In addition, I spoke to Ron Baker of the Northwest Commission yesterday. He suggested
the themes listed in the current motion overlap too much (e.g., scholarship in both Alaska
Native theme and in research theme), over emphasize Alaska (appears in 4 themes), and
are overly complex (we have gone too far from the original set proposed by the Provost).
However, the themes are ours - the commission does not want to impose its view on us. I
have incorporated my perspective based on his suggestions in the alternative themes
given below.

Based on the above an alternative list of themes is proposed and I would like the faculty
senate and staff council to consider this alternative approach at their meeting - this is your
call of course.

Educate: Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs
Ron Baker of the commission told me the inclusion of "doctoral" was superfluous - he
suggested practical and theoretical graduate education if this one stands alone - we can
emphasize the doctorate in the preamble, theme description or in the objectives for that
theme. The AA could be rolled in here or in the Prepare theme below with some
rewording.

Prepare: workforce development certificate and associate programs
We could state "preparatory and workforce development programs of two years or less"
An alternative to Prepare would be Train (I expect this to be unpopular).

The two themes above could be combined into
Educate: Programs from workforce endorsements through the doctorate (could add = to
meet the needs of the state, the nation and the world) OR "A broad array of educational
and workforce development programs." Combining all the programs into a single theme
would be my preference; otherwise we would likely split out graduate education again
and I prefer fewer themes so that service and research/creative activity are not
undervalued based on the number of themes.

Discover: Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity with an emphasis on
the North and its peoples
shortened purposely - (an alternative to Discover is Advance - as in Advance knowledge in UAF's mission statement)

Include: Alaska Native and Rural Education
Engage or Involve could be substituted for Include but engage may be a poor choice given Serve below

Serve: Public service, lifelong learning and outreach across Alaska