

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR HIGH LATITUDE RANGE MANAGEMENT

STRENGTHS:

- The program is designed to support the management of local natural resources which includes the area of reindeer production to support the local economy and to create jobs.
- The certificate is offered in a cohort model to assist student peer learning groups.
- There is strong community and regional support for the program.
- A significant percentage of program funding is obtained through federal grants.
- The program offers an experiential learning platform that benefits student learning and outcomes.

WEAKNESSES:

- A number of students have limited academic and/or computer skills that are needed for college courses. This may lead to a lower completion rate.
- Program delivery focus is local even though there is interest from other areas.
- There is a small pool of qualified faculty to teach the curriculum as an intensive offering.
- Low enrollments and graduation rates.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Expansion of the program to other interested regions, which will lead to increased enrollment.
- Embed basic computer training within the current curriculum.
- Develop reindeer meat industry (natural resource) within Alaska. The HLRM program can act as a template for higher education to develop any local natural resource.
- Recruitment of a community's younger generation into understanding, recognizing and actively supporting herding can be expanded.

THREATS:

- The potential loss of the federal grant that supports the programs makes its future uncertain.
- The strongly regional focus leads to the "training out" of a limited pool of potential students.
- The HLRM program and the benefits it delivers to northwest Alaska communities is different from that of standard university programs and, when compared to these programs, can be seen as lacking.

CENTRALITY TO MISSION:

- Meets UAF's core themes through educating the rural undergraduate student population in a region-specific industry.

INDICATORS OF QUALITY:

- Continued grant funding which supports the mission and educational goal of the program.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS:

- The program is 100% grant funded.

	MAJORS	DEGREES
High Latitude Range Management Certificate	FY15: 2/ FY19: 2	FY15: 2/ FY19: 0

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High Latitude Range Management Certificate:

RECOMMENDATION:	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:	DATE FOR FOLLOW-UP:
Revision or restructure (5 votes, 1 abstention, 1 vote for deletion)	Expand program to other regions and assess economic opportunities. Explore developing OE and a minor with potential eventual elimination of certificate.	One year