“If a problem is too difficult to solve, make it bigger to find the solution.”
—President D.D. Eisenhower (paraphrased)

“Be the change you want to see in the world”.
—Mahatma Gandhi

“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.”
—Benjamin Franklin

“What do you want the broader impacts of YOUR work to be?

WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS OF YOUR RESEARCH?

HOW CAN YOUR WORK HELP FULFILL YOUR COMMUNITY’S NEEDS?

CAN YOU THINK OF PROJECTS WHOSE BROADER IMPACTS HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY VALUABLE?

WHOSE WORK CAN HAVE A BROADER IMPACT? EVERYONE’S!

Want more info?

See our page on Facebook: www.facebook.com/universityofalaskabig


ideas for NSF broader impacts statement www.txstate.edu/research/Resources/develop-proposal/nsf.html

the MU Broader Impacts Network: https://research.missouri.edu/about/bin.php

Woods Hole Broader Impacts Group: www.whoi.edu/page.do?pid=122856

Because A Little Bug Went Kachoo: www.youtube.com/watch?v=pxf_iwS4Nc

What potential does your work have to make our world better?

Frontispiece credits: globe image © M. Scmelling, Dreamstime.com surface waves courtesy Wikimedia by Roger McLassus, CC BY-SA 3.0
Your research could have benefits beyond your imagination!

**BUT WHAT ARE “BROADER IMPACTS”?**

Broader impacts refer to the potential of your work to benefit society. You can help achieve important, relevant outcomes such as:

- Improved well-being of your community
- Sustaining healthy ecosystems
- Increased scientific literacy in your community
- Increased public engagement
- Developing a diverse & competitive workforce
- Partnerships between academia, industry, and community
- Bridging gaps in cultural understandings

Broader impacts may be accomplished through the research itself, through the activities that are directly related to specific research projects, or through activities that are supported by, but are complementary to the project.”

Learn more about the Tok fire story at these pages:


Brochure created by NRM 692 Fall 2013

**YOU MAY HAVE ENCOUNTERED IDEAS, RESEARCH OR PROJECTS THAT HAVE MADE A BIG DIFFERENCE:**

- In 1928, Alexander Fleming sees mold in a petri dish in his lab...
  > Finds bacterial-inhibiting Penicillium
  > Medicines derived from Penicillin save millions from infections

- **UAF Green Bikes Program**
  Student bike rental, free safety equipment, and bike maintenance education
  > Minimize use of fuel
  > Encourage safe biking
  > Affordable access to transportation

- **UAF Campus Community Garden**
  Rents garden space to students and community members
  > Fresh, locally grown produce
  > Community building
  > Hands-on gardening education

See the Broader Impacts of Facing Fire Danger:

- Problem: Fire danger in Tok, Alaska
- Use excess firebreak timber for school biomass (heating fuel)
- Burn and import less diesel
- Cost savings fund school counselor and music program
- Plans to add greenhouse to use excess heat
- Education and training
  Employment opportunities
- Opening of the Tok Fire Academy

**Why should you know the broader impacts of your work?**

All work needs support. Granting agencies want to know why your idea is important, and how it will impact your community and beyond. Being able to identify and articulate the potential impacts of your work can help you get the support you need to get the ball rolling and make a real difference!

For example:

In 1997, the National Science Foundation began considering two components in its review and evaluation of research proposals:

1) Intellectual Merit and
2) Broader Impacts.

Since that time, the difference between a project receiving funding and one denied has depended, in part, on the development and quality of an innovative Broader Impacts plan.

Check with your funding organization to see how they want you to address potential impacts!

Images: fire danger courtesy Alaska Fire Service, tok fire academy by John Rysnyak, education by brentwood reid, greenhouse by Nancy Tarnai, Tok School sign courtesy ExploreNorth, diesel by Doug Schneider, boiler courtesy Alaska Gateway School District