

2017-09-29

Suggestions by RAC, the Research Advisory Committee, Faculty Senate:
How UAF Directors and Deans could invest the Chancellor's Research Safety Funds

- 1) **Field communication devices.** Buy and pay subscriptions for InReach two-way communication devices and/or satellite phones for students, staff, and faculty.
- 2) **Seminars on Title IX issues.** Contract a Title IX expert to give seminars to students, staff and faculty on issues specific to research activities (field, campus, conference travels etc.)
- 3) **Incentivize safety mentoring:**
 - a) Provide salary for selected faculty, staff and students to update the UAF field safety manual with an emphasis on best practices.
 - b) Provide salary for selected faculty, staff and students to provide lectures-seminars on select field safety topics.
 - c) Provide salary for selected faculty, staff and students to produce you-tube field safety "minute" videos.
 - d) Provide salary for staff to support mentoring of field safety practices to students while preparing for and/or while being in the field.
- 4) **Field safety courses.** Common field training needs *across several units* are cold weather and water safety, first aid in wilderness, bear safety, gun training, field training 101, helicopter and fixed wing transport. Some students arrive to UAF with no experience in the cold or even camping outdoors. Oftentimes an individual unit may not have enough people to fill one course, while the teacher (oftentimes a private consultant) requires a fixed fee per class. Here, more classes could be offered if research center directors and deans collaborated on providing the finances while DRAW can provide the logistics. Past field training courses are listed on the VCR and DRAW websites: <https://research.uaf.edu/research-process/field-safety>
- 5) **Funding for field safety equipment.** Examples: Life jackets, helicopter helmets, survival suits and cold weather clothing. In the past, researchers have had difficulties paying for safety clothing on grants as clothing appears to be a "red flag" for auditors.