

**State Committee for Research Meeting Notes
September 18, 2019**

1. Review and approve

The Lt. Governor feels we are kind of behind the rest of the Arctic nations. Getting Washington DC to acknowledge that we need more ice cutters and other things that deal with the Arctic. The only reason why all of a sudden now they're interested is because they see China and Russia being so aggressive in that area. From an academic standpoint, perhaps we are more advanced in Arctic Research than other countries. We don't know what Greenland, Iceland and Canada, and some of the other Arctic countries are doing from an academic standpoint. University of Alaska Fairbanks actually leads in Arctic publications over any of the Arctic nations. There is a very nice graphic representation of the impact of our research in the circle Arctic globally and the impact of that. Just the volume of research that comes out from our university system here is phenomenal, both in quantity and quality and its long-term impact.

The University of Alaska is recognized worldwide as a leader in that types of research. How do we build those bridges is a challenge. We're becoming increasingly supported by Asian nations who were interested in funding basic science. We'r

Where's that application into the economy going? What are those opportunities to build businesses? And then to build those linkages within the state.

We see an increasing focus not just on things like adaptation, but also on how to transition to adaptation and increasing the research on that. That is also something communities really want to know, how do we adapt or how do we transition. We're using drones to monitor and gather data on a place called Suicide Basin by the glacier, which fills up and causes floods that do significant damage in Juneau. For us, doing the basic science means using drones, so students get trained on how to use drones in a field course, building a model to better understand when that basins going to flood and how it might affect residents of Juneau.

One of the things that the SCoR program has helped to support and other states is a Research Day at the Capitol. All of our legislators come up to us to see the research that's being done on campus. Maybe SCoR could think about doing a re-order leading a Research Day at the Capitol where we're bringing research to the capital and inviting some of our economic development partners to join us in that. There's nothing like a face-to-face meeting where we're bringing ideas together and instead of doing distributed meetings across the state. Maybe we can focus on Juneau for one of those meetings.

and being able to work on it together in a team is really important. Axiom and Research Computing Services are both helping us with that.

We have received notice recently that we not only received our year two funding, but we also received our year three funding, which is a very good sign. It shows that the National Science Foundation is confident in the work that we're doing and is confident in the university to support that work and that the state partnership is working well. We do have, in addition to our research, have some education activities going on. We have launched our first girls on water project, which is focused on high school girls and looking at identities and science. That project was successful. We took about a dozen high school

has worked in a couple of cases. We Collaborate with Denali Scientific, which is a one-man shop of a former NASA engineer. He comes in and mentors students on satellite payloads. He's actually working on a couple of larger satellite projects with some faculty up at the physical institution. We're about to submit our next four year grant. The big change this year is that previously the Space grant was designated a non-designated Division. We were in the non-designated status, which meant we get less money than everybody else did. There were a handful of states that were non-designated, but now we are all at the same level, which increases the budget, but the designated states have a decreased budget. The budget has gone up for both the NASA SCoR in the space grant programs. In the past we've engaged with University of Alaska SE, which has not been active in the program for a while. We're happy to see them back and are also now engaging with Prince William Sound college. In fact, Donald Connor went to the western region meeting recently to see how spacecraft could support educational activities at Prince William Sound.

The space systems engineering program here at in Fairbanks is working on small satellites and received an Air Force project to work on a small satellite. It's a two year project working collaboratively with Goddard. We are now part of three large satellite project proposals through the GI, one of which made it to the concept design phase last year and we're repurposing that, and another one that's just been repurposed for this year. Satellites are becoming a big thing for the state, or at least for the researchers at the Geophysical Institute and the fact that we're capable of participating in that game makes us more desirable as well.

We do put out an annual newsletter, which will be going out in the next month. Contact Denise Thorsen if you want to be put on the distribution list.

10. INBRE Update – Brian Barnes, 10 min.

INBRE is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and it is a program similar to EPSCoR, but building competitiveness amongst researchers in Alaska for Winning NIH grants to do biomedical health research. Our network concludes the three UA campuses and South Central labs. Our funding goes to the undergraduates to give them experiences and laboratories of UA and South Central labs for graduate student research, assistantships, travel support, etc. The bulk of our funds go to researchers around the state in what we call pilot awards. We had nine of them this year. We are renewed for five years, beginning August 1 for about \$20 million dollars, but we're 8saei.024 331.37 A/F3(8s)(pe)4(t(on doll)-3(a)

advisory committee will be there. It's preceded by a career workshop for undergrads on how to develop a career plan. We have reps from the Howling Institute and Seattle Nature Communications and associate editor from that. Alaska State Biology Lab, USGS, and the Alaska Science Center are all working with our students on how to get careers in biomedical and health research, science research, in general in Alaska.

11. Future topics/Roundtable - All, time remaining

Alex: Glad to hear the discussion about entrepreneurship and diversifying the economy. For the Innovators Hall of Fame, we may want to consider that in connection to scheduling a meeting before the event in Juneau, to allow enough time for the people to be notified and make their travel arrangements to Juneau.

Anupma: Would like to request an agenda item – Enhancing and Communicating Economic Impacts of the University. Discuss how we can enhance it and what we might be doing that we just are not communicating well enough.

Paul: Would like to discuss with Jon how to engage the SCoR committee a bit more in the decision making process and to make sure they are aware of the nominations.

Jon: The last couple years we were having trouble soliciting nominations. The process was pushed back a little.

Tom: Questioned the Science and Technology Plan. Paul – We have received a few comments. Would like to try to finish it up in December. We will work on getting information to the Lieutenant Governor's office on the active projects and grants. We will also get the SCoR bylaws posted. We will also review the membership and make sure it is up to date on the website. We will get the word out on the Innovators Hall of Fame nomination and have the discussion on the nominees at the December meeting.

ACTION: Place “Enhancing and Communicating Economic Impacts of the University” on the December agenda.

12. Next meeting – December – Paul, 5 min.