





of Alaska Fairbanks, but also University of Alaska Anchorage and University of Alaska Southeast.

- The Alaska Sea Grant Director should have authority for evaluating staff and MAP faculty, backfilling positions and adding new hires with consultation with the Vice Chancellor for Research or Provost (depending on ultimate placement of Sea Grant within the University).

## **C E F**

The Task Force examined the Site Review concerns and the structural constraints associated with the placement of AK Sea Grant and MAP within University of Alaska Fairbanks College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences (CFOS). The Task Force believes that to satisfy the critical elements we have identified, Sea Grant and MAP must be placed at a higher level within the University structure and incorporate a new merged Sea Grant/MAP structure. We did not see how the critical elements could be satisfied with the existing placement of Sea Grant and MAP within the CFOS structure.

In addition to the considerations of the Task Force, the 2019 Site Review Team and previous Site Reviews have provided their own assessments and concerns with placement of Alaska Sea Grant and MAP in CFOS. The Task Force also recognizes the findings of the 2019 Site Review Report that states that " There is also significant concern that there is a mismatch of mission and metrics between CFOS and AKSG such that actions that are helpful and necessary to sustain CFOS (obtaining tuition and indirect cost recovery), will further undercut the ability of AKSG to fulfill its statewide mission (stakeholder assistance that leads to economic impact)."

## **A A G**

The Task Force recommends that Alaska Sea Grant and MAP be constituted as an independent entity under the Provost or the Vice Chancellor for Research to meet the critical elements described above. The Task Force recommends that the MAP faculty and the Alaska Sea Grant staff report to the Alaska Sea Grant Director as the Director of this new unit. The recommendations address the need for greater cohesion of the Alaska Sea Grant functional elements.

### Placement under Provost

- If under the Provost, Alaska Sea Grant Director should be at a position level comparable to other schools/colleges/institutions (e.g., CFOS, College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Institute of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Extension, School of Management, College of Engineering and Mines, Director of International Programs & Initiatives). The existing unit criteria for MAP faculty should allow for placement of Sea Grant/MAP in an autonomous unit with faculty and staff evaluated solely by the Sea Grant Director.

Under the Provost's office the AK Sea Grant Program/MAP would be at " a sufficiently high level to fulfill its multidisciplinary and multifaceted mandate," per the recommendation of the site review team. This placement would also provide the greatest opportunities for broad

collaboration, partnerships and potential new funding sources among the similar mission-minded entities within UAF and across the entire university system.

Placement under Vice-Chancellor for Research

- If under the Vice Chancellor for Research it should be comparable to the Research Units such as the Geophysical Institute, the International Arctic Research Center, Institute for Arctic Biology, Alaska Center for Energy and Power, EPSCoR, Center for One Health Research, under the purview of the Vice Chancellor for Research. The existing unit criteria for MAP faculty should allow for placement of Sea Grant/MAP in an autonomous unit with faculty and staff evaluated solely by the Sea Grant Director.

**C**

The Task Force recognizes the current fiscal challenges of the University. However, we also strongly believe that the University must demonstrate continued fiscal support for Sea Grant. If Sea Grant moves to the purview of the Vice Chancellor for Research or Provost, the University must maintain continued state and university support at least equivalent to what Sea Grant and MAP collectively currently receive for the transition. The university should demonstrate support for Sea Grant by ensuring that any further financial cuts are proportionate to other fiscal reductions within the University. Avoiding disproportionate budget reductions to Sea Grant is consistent with recommendations from the last two external site reviews of Alaska Sea Grant.

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END

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