The following provides a summary of the meeting held in Anchorage on February 20, 2009.

I. Approval of January Summaries

Summaries from January 6th and 9th were approved without modification and are now posted on the Academic Affairs web page.

II. New Programs/ Degrees

The following new programs/certificates were approved;

a. UAA; Graduate Certificate in Counselor Education
b. UAA; Graduate Certificate in Earthquake Engineering,
c. UAA; Graduate Certificate in Environmental Regulations and Permitting
d. UAF; Ph.D. in Indigenous Studies
e. UAF; Certificate in Allied Health Pre-Nursing Qualification

It was agreed to hold the UAF M.Ed in Special Education and UAA proposal for a BA/BS in Environmental and Society for a future SAC Meeting.

The procedure for posting degree and certificate information on the UA Academic Affairs Webpage has changed. MAU representatives should forward all material they wish posted to Greg Petitto in Academic Affairs with an explanation to Greg and a cc to SAC, and the material will be posted accordingly. Please transmit any information on the new programs to Jeannie Phillips.

III. Budget Planning Process

The SAC was joined by Michelle Rizk and Gwen White for a discussion on the budget planning process and budget planning groups for FY 11. It was agreed the following budget planning groups will be convened this coming year, with the facilitators in parentheses;

1. Engineering (Fred Villa)
2. Work Force Development (Fred Villa)
3. Health, which will include Bio Med proposals (Karen Perdue)
4. Student Success, including K-12, University -Community Outreach, SB 241, and related proposals (Mellissa Hill and Saichi Oba)
5. Energy (Gwen Holdmann)
6. Climate Change (facilitator to be announced)
7. Social Science, Humanities and the Arts (D. Julius)
In regards to seven (7) above, SAC discussed issues that group might address which may be of value to the system in addition to discussing budget ideas related to Social Science, Humanities and the Arts. These issues included:

a. How to explain the value of the liberal arts to the wider community and legislators in the state;

b. What qualities an “educated” graduate of the UA system should possess;

c. The value of civic education or a core curriculum, and what courses or activities might be associated with such;

d. How to recognize the broader impact of liberal arts beyond what is needed for workforce development and support of many other university programs;

e. How to better market the liberal arts at UA and identify students who may be interested in pursuing the liberal arts.

In a later discussion it was felt that three individuals per MAU should be recommended by the Provost for this committee.

Budget Planning Group Mechanics
The budget and planning process will be outlined in a memorandum from the Budget and Planning Office which will be circulated for comment. In the conversation at SAC it was suggested that greater deference will be given to MAU budget processes with system wide groups serving in an advisory/review capacity to examine economics of scale, relevancy, alignment and consistency of proposals in select areas. It was hoped that the budget planning groups being constituted will respond (advise/review) to MAU budget priorities. Final priorities shall remain essentially the same as those recommended last year. More specific guidelines will be outlined in the budget memorandum presently being prepared. In regard to the mechanics of the planning groups, it was generally agreed that MAU’s will approve representatives (up to five) depending on cost and other logistical matters. It is suggested that prior to such appointments a conversation be held with the SW facilitator. Lastly, it was recognized that some planning groups were further along than others in agreement on system wide and MAU priorities and, further, that assembling these individuals had utility above and beyond the budget process itself.

SAC noted that they did not have an opportunity to review the Operating Review Guidelines for this coming year.

IV Accreditation Guidelines
SAC revisited system wide accreditation issues that have been discussed since last fall. Draft new language on these and related matters and approved by the BOR (Planning and Development Committee) will be discussed on the 4th of March. The BOR resolution on accreditation/mission was incorporated into the language extending the UA 2009 Strategic Plan. The BOR expects the next UA Strategic Plan to be informed by the Academic Master
Plan as there is significant overlap between the two documents. In regard to the language on accreditation it was agreed D. Julius will draft guidelines for discussion.

V Distance Education

A brief status of the distance education subcommittee working to implement principles agreed upon last May 28, 2008, was provided. It was agreed a comprehensive update with recommendations shall be provided to SAC by the chairperson of the communities, John Monahan, on March 4.

VI Records Retention

The email memorandum from Russ O'Hare, February 12, 2009, re: “Introduction to Minimum Data Classification Standards and Related Measures of Protection” (attached) was discussed. It was agreed this policy document was already being discussed through other MAU forums and would not be revisited by SAC at this time. SAC urged SW representatives to consider the MAU “point of entry” for draft policies being discussed to minimize duplicative conversations on the part of faculty and administrators. SAC indicated flexibility in this regard and feels it essential that MAU representatives are involved in these conversations.

VII Faculty Alliance Report

Jill Dumesnil provided a report from the Faculty Alliance. She stated that discussions concerning the Academic Master Plan were going well from the perspective of the Alliance.

VIII President’s Cabinet

D. Julius related that the President’s Cabinet wished to hold a wider discussion with SAC and members of the committee responsible for drafting the AMP. Subsequent to the SAC meeting on February 20, SAC and AMP (Academic Master Plan) committee members have been asked to state their availability sometime during March 16 or 17 for such discussion. It was also suggested that other issues which could come up in such discussions may be the status if SB 241 and distance education.

IX Announcements

Provost Driscoll discussed information on the Northwest Academic Forum (now known as the Western Academic Leadership Forum), which is meeting in Anchorage April 22-24, 2009. He also indicated that that American Council on Education/Office of Women in Higher
Education (ACE/OWHE) will have a Regional Leadership Forum in Anchorage on June 2-4, 2010. This will provide an opportunity for Alaskan women in higher education to participate. Provosts may wish to set aside funds in next year’s budget to support possible candidates. More detailed information on both events has been forwarded to SAC members.

X    Academic Master Plan

It was agreed to expand the scope of the document consistent with the BOR language which states the UA 2009 strategic plan will be extended until the AMP is completed. The latest version being distributed by Provost Henrichs was very briefly discussed and steps to continue the discussion were addressed due to scheduling conflicts of several key discussants. To this extent, four one and on-half have time blocks were set aside in upcoming months to discuss the AMP. These time blocks are as follows;

2/27/09, 7:30 AM to 9:30 AM (Meeting has taken place, summaries of agreements reached at that time are being distributed by Provost Henrichs);

3/5/09, 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM;

3/17/09, 12:00 noon to 1:30 PM;

4/1/09, 9:00 to 10:30 AM;

SAC discussed whether time lines set forth in the charge may have to be amended or modified in order to expand the document to meet Regent expectations and provide time for adequate consultation.

Agenda for SAC meeting scheduled for March 4, 2009

1. Approval of February 20 Summary
2. New Programs
3. Distance Education
4. Faculty Alliance Report
5. Discussion of Accreditation Guidelines
6. Preparation for President’s Cabinet Discussion on the AMP