Here is a summary of our June 17th meeting with additions as requested.

1. New Programs. There were no new programs to consider at this time.

2. Design/Architecture Program. At the request of Regent Wickersham, VP Julius and the Provosts have been working with the Deans and faculty to inventory existing activities and to explore the possibility of faculty committees engaging in the development of courses and programs in the areas of architecture and design, very broadly defined. SAC members were therefore pleased to learn that UAF and UAA faculty in engineering and related discipliners have already been working with members of the architectural community, including the Alaska section of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), to develop and offer courses in Northern Design for Northern Environments. This area has been identified as key to developing Architects to work in Alaska. During the 2008-09 academic year, Provosts Driscoll and Henrichs will work with their Deans, faculty, and the AIA, to explore the feasibility of enhancing existing courses to create a joint UAA/UAF graduate certificate in Sustainable Design for Northern Environments, or similar certificate in a related area. It was felt this approach will allow the UA to better meet the needs of Alaskans without the very significant expense required to develop a “stand alone” School of Architecture.

3. Pharmacy School Proposal and Study. SAC requested a status report, at the next SAC meeting, by Karen Perdue who is serving as chair of the study to ascertain if a Pharmacy school is viable at the UA.

4. Update on Budget FY10 Discussions. SAC members stated they were fully up to date on discussions concerning the FY10 discussions. SAC members asked to clarify their role in future years as it appears SAC has no formal role in budget discussions, although individual SAC members are substantively involved to a considerable extent. There were also a number of questions raised concerning communications and procedures regarding budget discussions and, to this extent, it was felt a meeting with VP Pitney would be valuable to discuss such questions and a role for SAC, if any, in future budget discussions/planning. VP Julius agreed to invite VP Pitney and her staff if she desires, to a future SAC meeting.

5. Academic Master Plan. SAC discussed the draft charge previously distributed. A number of recommendations were made, including the caveat that the AMP would address academic and research direction/assignments at the UA, who should participate in these discussions, and other concerns/revisions. Note: amended language was subsequently distributed to SAC members on June 22nd for final comment. It was also agreed, the draft language will be discussed by Provost’s with Chancellor’s, and distributed to the President’s senior staff for comment by VP Julius. Following such discussions the draft charge guiding discussions for the AMP will simply be agreed upon or, as determined by President Hamilton, forwarded to the President’s Cabinet for further discussion. Subsequently, the draft charge as developed by SAC was approved by SAC members, has been distributed for comment to SW VP’s, and is in the process of being discussed with the Chancellor’s. In discussions after June 17th, it was also agreed that members of the Research Advisory Committee will be asked to participate in discussions of the AMP with SAC.

6. SB 241 and the presentation to the BOR, June 18, 2008. SAC was joined by a number of individuals involved in the gathering of data or participants in the presentation of SB
241 (attachments concerning this legislation were appended to the last SAC summary). Participating in the conversation were, Diane Hirschberg (ISER) Pat Pitney, Melissa Hill, Dean Mary Snyder (UAA) and Dean Eric Madsen (UAF). It was agreed Provost Everett would represent Dean Harris (UAS) who was not available. A discussion followed regarding the information needed and outline for the presentation scheduled for the Academic Affairs Committee of the BOR. Subsequently the presentation was made at the BOR and it was agreed a smaller group would follow up with Chancellor Pugh and the budget committee looking at K 12 matters, concerning the needs of the BOR and ongoing status of SB 241. Note, on June 18th, Regents Henry and Jacobson also made specific requests concerning what data was wanted for the final legislative presentation, and eventual plan to address issues set forth in the legislation. These matters were discussed at the Academic Affairs Committee meeting of the UA Regents. This item will appear on the July 21st SAC agenda.

7. Distance Education. It was agreed this topic would be discussed at the next meeting of SAC following VP Julius’ discussion with the Legislative Audit Committee and distribution of the summary of the meeting (scheduled for May 28th) of the Ad Hoc Committee on Distance Education. These activities/tasks have been completed; SAC is reviewing the summary of the May 28th meeting.

8. SAC discussed the Community and Branch campus Directors’ memo requesting a unified course management system. Provost Driscoll observed that a key issue highlighted in the request is the need for a unified user identity across the system. Provost Driscoll further stated that responding to this issue is currently being discussed by SW IT. SAC understands the Automated Project Executive Group is also monitoring progress on this matter. Provost Driscoll suggested, and SAC agreed, to revisit the course management system request after the user identity issue is resolved, SAC asked Provost Driscoll to notify Director Turner of progress being made and ask that he update the Community and Branch Campus Directors as needed.

Action Item. Provost Driscoll agreed to send approved language concerning the non credit metric to VP Julius, and asked for additional input on the outreach and partnership metric, which he will summarize and distribute for discussion on July 21. Provost Driscoll to notify Director Turner of information concerning the course management system request.

Agenda, July 21 SAC meeting which will be held in Fairbanks;

1. New Programs (if applicable)
2. Distance Education
3. CRCD Partnership Metric
4. Pharmacy Study update; (assuming K. Perdue availability)
5. Status of SB 241 discussions
6. New business