Theme 3: Productive Partnerships with Public Entities and Private Industries

Issue A: Declining oil production suggests a significant degree of uncertainty in state funding for higher education for the next few years. At the same time, the state is facing additional needs for workforce education, employee training, community outreach and research. UA must work more proactively with its partners to identify the contributions that both UA and its partners must commit to meet those needs.

Effect: UA meets the needs of the public sector and private industry for skilled employees and for research solutions via partnerships that are strategic, mutually beneficial and address the needs of the state.

Issue B: Partners have specific needs that may not be addressed through conventional approaches. For example, employers may need non-credit training, training at the work site or a few days of intensive training rather than semester-based courses.

Effect: UA is flexible, innovative and responsive in working with partners.

Issue C: Alaska Native corporations, tribal governments and other Alaska Native entities are a unique and powerful force in Alaska’s economy. They hire UA graduates and some provide considerable financial aid to students. However, meaningful partnerships between UA and these entities are few and limited.

Effect: UA is fully engaged with Alaska Native corporations, tribal governments, non-profit organizations and other private and public entities to meet the education and research needs of Alaska Native peoples, promote Alaska Native student success and support Alaska Native economic and cultural development.