

Motion

University of Alaska Board of Regents

Pursuant to Regents Policy P10.02.040 and University Regulation of same number, the University of Alaska Board of Regents approves the following academic unit reorganization at the University of Alaska Anchorage:

1. The existing College of Health and Social Welfare will be replaced by the new College of Health.
2. The WWAMI Biomedical Program will move from the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of Health and will be re-named the WWAMI School of Medical Education.
3. The Division of Allied Health will move from the Community and Technical College to the College of Health and will be re-named the School of Allied Health.
4. Regents Policy P10.02.040 D. will be amended as follows:

College of Health ~~and Social Welfare~~

School of Nursing

Institute for Circumpolar Health Studies (AS 14.40.088)

School of Social Work

WWAMI School of Medical Education

School of Allied Health

5. University Regulation R10.02.040 will be amended as follows:

College of Health ~~and Social Welfare~~ (BOR)

Department of Human Services

Department of Health Sciences

School of Nursing (BOR)

Alaska Center for Rural Health

School of Social Work (BOR)

Center for Human Development

Psychological Services Center

Justice Center

Institute for Circumpolar Health Studies

Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies

WWAMI School of Medical Education (BOR)

School of Allied Health (BOR)

The University of Alaska Anchorage

The College of Health

1. UAA requests approval to form the University of Alaska Anchorage College of Health with effect from 1 July 2011. The new college will replace the current College of Health and Social Welfare, which will cease to exist. UAA further requests approval to establish two new schools within the new college as specified in 4.b. and 4.c. below.
2. The principal goals of this action are to create an organization that will:
 - a. enhance student success by providing unified support for academic advising, counseling, and career guidance from recruitment to graduation across the full range of health education programs at UAA;¹
 - b. expand and reinforce UAA's teaching, training, and research capacity to address the principal health challenges faced by Alaska, its communities, and its peoples;²
 - c. support and develop existing and new organizations, initiatives, and projects that teach, train, and do research between and across academic disciplines;³
 - d. work in concert with the UAA Office of Health Programs Development⁴ to facilitate cooperation and strengthen the mutually supporting relationships between UAA, our community partners, our sister UA institutions, our partners outside Alaska, and Alaska's larger community of health provider institutions and individuals;⁵
 - e. strengthen capacity to compete for external funding;⁶ and
 - f. build centralized institutional capacity for strategic choice (set and develop strategic priorities) in these rapidly growing and changing fields of teaching and research.
3. This proposal is the product of extensive consultation including six preliminary meetings with affected organizations and staff in October and November 2010, a major

¹ UAA 2017, Strategic Priority C; UA AMP, Goal 1, Objective 1.

² UAA 2017, Strategic Priorities A and B; UA AMP, Goal 4, Objectives 3, 5, and 6.

³ UA AMP, Goal 2, Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6.

⁴ The Office of Health Programs Development is located in the UAA Office of Academic Affairs, and is responsible for planning and coordinating the total statewide University of Alaska health education effort.

⁵ UAA 2017, Strategic Priority D.6; UA AMP, Goal 5.

⁶ UAA 2017, Strategic Priority B.2.

one-day conference in January 2011 with all parties attending, an open forum for review of a draft proposal in March 2011, and two meetings with community partners and health providers in February and March 2011.⁷

4. The College of Health will consist of the following units:⁸

a. All units and programs currently located in the UAA College of Health and Social Welfare. These are:

- School of Nursing
- School of Social Work
- Department of Health Sciences
- Department of Human Services
- Occupational Therapy Program
- Physical Therapy Program
- Institute for Circumpolar Health Studies
- Justice Center⁹
- Center for Human Development
- Center for Community Engagement and Learning¹⁰
- National Resource Center for Native Elders
- Alaska Geriatric Education Center

b. The WWAMI School of Medical Education, to be formed from the WWAMI Biomedical Program (7 faculty, 1 director, and associated staff) currently located in the UAA College of Arts and Sciences.

c. The School of Allied Health (22 faculty with associated staff) to be formed from the Division of Allied Health currently located in the UAA Community and Technical College.

5. Student success in health professional education is a strategic priority.¹¹ Everything that can be done, consistent with the maintenance of high academic standards, must be done to continue to increase retention, build academic achievement, raise graduation rates, and reduce time to graduation. To these ends, the formation of the new college will allow the creation of a unified advising system with a single point of access for students, thereby providing the most current, clear, and consistent information to students and their professional and faculty advisers across the entire range of health education programs. Every effort will be made to assure that students are able to

⁷ See timeline at Annex A.

⁸ See organizational chart at Annex B. The college will be headed by a dean.

⁹ A decision on the optimal location for the Justice Center is reserved for further consideration.

¹⁰ The future location of the Center for Community Engagement and Learning is also reserved for further consideration.

¹¹ UAA 2017, Strategic Priority C; UA AMP, Goal 1, Objective 1.

develop skills and knowledge within well-defined career pathways that assure long-term personal and career development. In combination with the development of a core curriculum, these initiatives will increase efficiency and effectiveness and reduce the transition time from education to effective employment in the provider community, thus benefitting students, employers, and the university.

6. The content and the delivery of the curricula of the new college are the responsibility of the faculty, supported by staff and administration in partnership with the health provider community. The faculty are responsible to the communities of Alaska, Alaskan health providers, and their individual academic disciplines for the content and the quality of the curriculum. In carrying out these responsibilities the faculty are strongly encouraged to:

- a. develop a common core curriculum for health programs including, among other important subjects, such things as professional ethics, teamwork practice, patient research, and information management;
- b. build structure and curriculum that will support and develop trans-disciplinary education focused on solving major health problems; and
- c. apply the integrated career pathway principle to curriculum development to assure that all academic programs, especially those taken in shorter time-frames, support long-term career growth and development.

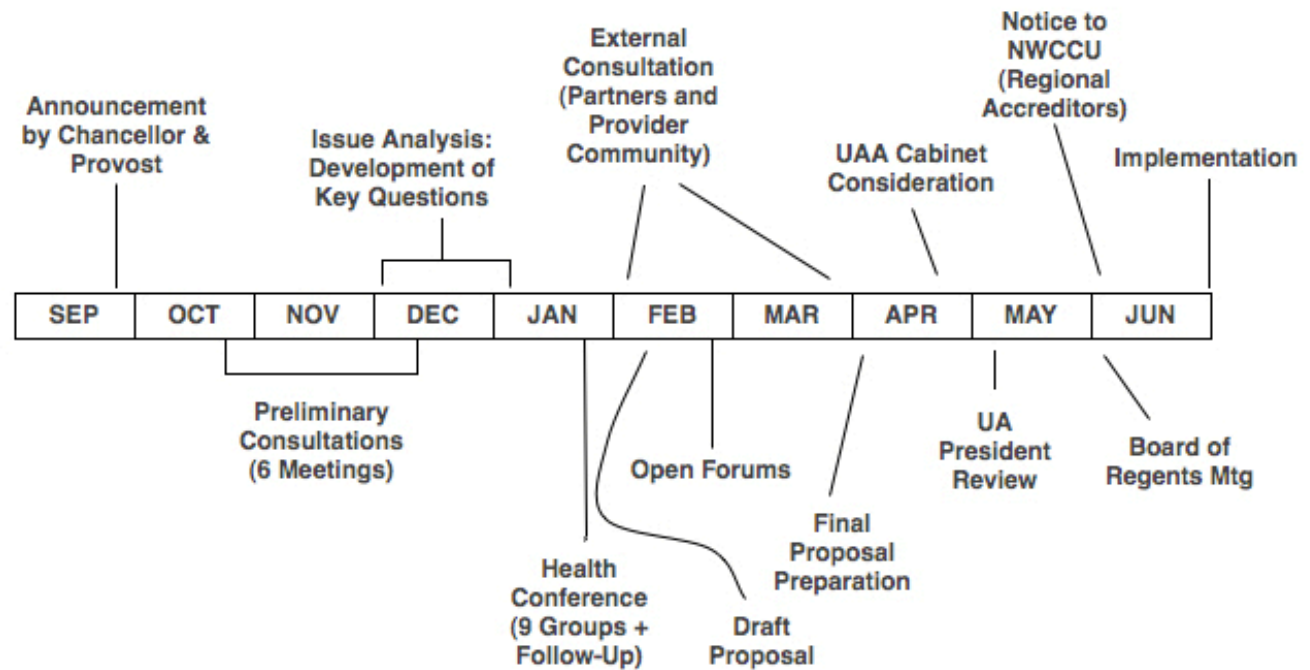
7. The reinforcement and acceleration of research in all of the health determinant fields (health care practice, human biology, environment, and behavioral choices) are strategic priorities for the new college.¹² In this work, it will be especially important to employ multi- and inter-disciplinary approaches and to focus increasingly on the mutually reinforcing “bench to bed” relationships in translational research. To maintain momentum and to continue to build critical mass in health and biomedical research, the Provost will move to form an inter-college research group.

8. Significant new costs are not expected. Some smaller start-up investments may be required as the college moves to unify advising, develop curriculum, and accelerate research. These and related administrative costs will be met by UAA internal reallocation. It is expected that these costs will be more than compensated for by the increased strength, improved flexibility, and additional effectiveness of the new organization. As has been the case in the past, we will continue to pursue new initiative funding for the development of health programs within the framework of the Alaska Health Workforce Plan.

¹² UA AMP Goal 2, Objectives 3 and 4.

9. The previously agreed plan for movement of units to the Health Sciences Building, with backfill of vacated space, remains in force. Units not scheduled to move either to HSB or as part of the backfill plan will remain in their current locations for FY12.

**Annex A:
UAA Health Programs
Reorganization Timeline**



**Annex B:
UAA Health Program
Reorganization**

