

State Committee for Research Meeting Summary

Date: February 21, 2018

Time: 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Meeting participants: Fran Ulmer, Larry Hinzman, Paul Layer, Alex Hills, Anupma Prakash, Denise Thorsen, Mead Treadwell, Larry Hartig, Jon Bittner, Albert Kookesh, Byron Mallott, Brian Holst

1. Review and approve 10/30/17 meeting summary – Larry, 5 min. (*attachment*)
2. Action item update from 10/30/17 meeting – Larry, 5 min.
 - a. 6/27/17 ACTION ITEM: Nycolett will put together a value document regarding the Innovators display for SCoR members to comment on. She will also work with university relations on mocking up traveling displays.
 - b. ACTION ITEM: Establishment of a SCoR communications system will be added to the February meeting agenda. DONE.
 - c. ACTION ITEM: Larry Hartig will follow up with Heidi Drygas and Dan Robinson regarding an Alaska Trends magazine article on research.
 - d. ACTION ITEM: Alex will connect with Jon regarding the AK Innovators and will include Nycolett on the email. DONE.
 - e. ACTION ITEM: Jon will convene the Innovators selection committee (Mead, Jon, Brian H.) to discuss changes to the selection criteria. DONE.
 - f. ACTION ITEM: Nycolett will work with Dana Herndon on the SCoR meeting and induction ceremony in Feb. DONE.

3. New Member Introduction: Albert Kookesh – Lt. Gov. Mallott, 5 min.

Former state senator with a home in Angoon. Albert works for the governor's office in various areas.

4. State of Alaska Climate Action for Alaska Leadership Team – Lt. Gov. Mallott, 15 min.
 - a. Governor Walker signed the Administrative order. The team is looking at mitigation and adaptation regarding science. The group has met twice now and is focusing on what they would like to prioritize for AK. Larry Hartig is leading the cabinet that supports and moves forward recommendations to the Governor. Recommendations are due to Governor by March 8. The team is working on two technical and science advisory groups and considering the member list. ACTION ITEM: Larry Hartig will ask to share the proposed Climate Action Leadership Team Technical & Science Working Group member list for feedback from SCoR.
 - b. Science Advisory Team (SAT) is a proposed technical & working group. The SAT would be looking at what historical documents would be helpful for the leadership team. Also would respond to engineering and technical questions. Would come up with own recommendations regarding needs and products as they relate to science and how they can address the concerns of the leadership team. Group would also be able to make recommendations to the Governor through the cabinet. Considering about 15 members.

- c. Oil & Gas Advisory Team: Looking at natural gas opportunities and what else the State can be doing. Working with DNR and oil & gas industry partners on this.
 - d. Climate Action Team is looking at coastal erosion. They are setting up a public workshop to discuss next steps and how the leadership team would be able to help.
 - e. All groups are looking at being a global presence in climate change while being Alaska centric vs parochial. The groups need to consider how other group efforts will affect Alaska.
 - f. Governor Walker has requested a plan of action by September 2018. Alaska needs to consider how we can help other groups even though our actions may not have a global impact (e.g. greenhouse gases).
 - g. Fran: As shipping builds up in the Arctic, SCoR and Alaska could offer wisdom from an Alaska perspective and a global perspective through these Leadership Team efforts.
5. Establishment of SCoR Outreach and Communications – Larry/Mead T., 10 min.
- a. University President Jim Johnsen recently spoke about expanding the university land grant and also ways to expand research and contributions to the State. We should continue to focus on the dollars the university brings to Alaska communities and share that with State legislature. Perhaps SCoR members should put in op-eds, etc.
 - b. ACTION ITEM: Larry will put together a SCoR Alaska Innovators article to submit to the newspapers.
6. Role of SCoR in Alaskan Science and Technology – Larry, 15 min.
- a. Touched on this in the discussion in agenda item 4.
 - b. What are some opportunities in the next year?
 - i. Governor’s task force on mariculture is submitting recommendations. The draft recommendations discussed expanding the mariculture industry. One observation is that there should be a dedicated focus on mariculture at the university.
 - ii. Are there other science based groups around the state we could collaborate with? Look at opportunities from an economic perspective. Look for funding for science and the cost/benefit of results. It seems like the other groups are focused on topical (climate, fisheries, etc.), but SCoR could be the science group.
 - iii. Science for Alaska’s economy? Black Swan event suggestion: tech in the lab is advancing cleaner fuels and emissions. Would be a great opportunity to utilize natural gas. SCoR could help the community understand how science helps the economy.
 - iv. It is important to know what the community and industry is looking at so that the University can bring together the expertise to decide what can be done to help. Currently UAF and UAS are in the process of discussing mariculture opportunities in the state and how the university can help.
 - v. The Statewide Research Council is addressing some of these same issues. ACTION ITEM: Larry Hinzman will coordinate a teleconference between SCoR and the UA Systemwide Research Council to discuss Science and Technology opportunities in Alaska.

7. Update on Alaska Trends magazine article on research – L. Hartig, 5 min.
 - a. Department of Labor (DOL) issues the Alaska Trends magazine. The DOL was contacted about a year ago and they were interested, but had a couple of topics prior to entrepreneurship/innovation in Alaska. Larry Hartig is working to set up a meeting with Dan Robinson of Alaska Trends to move this forward again.
 - b. Since 2011, research has brought in \$1B in associated funding to Alaska.

8. Innovators Hall of Fame – Mead, 5 min.
 - a. Mead: Inductees this year are Dr. Kelly Drew, Dr. Patricia Holloway, Mr. Eric Swanson, and the traditional halibut hook. This is the first year to honor traditional and innovative objects. Still need to find a permanent place to honor the innovators. Anchorage is building a downtown Anchorage library. Space is available for purchase in the airport and perhaps a sponsor could be found. Jon Bittner did a great job chairing the subcommittee and is recommended by Mead to chair it next year.
 - b. Brian: Induction ceremony this afternoon. All six of the recipients (three people for the Halibut Hook) will be on the stage. Governor Walker and Senator Murkowski will be providing remarks. Mead will be the MC. There will be a photo opportunity for the innovators and the SCoR co-chairs.

9. EPSCoR update – Anupma Prakash, 5 min.
 - a. In FY18, UA fell under eligibility for funding. This was based on a three year average from funding from NSF (approx.. \$30M per year). UA brought in \$33.7M from NSF last year.
 - b. NSF Office of Integrated Activities: Loretta Moore is the new program director. Her background is in computer programming and in federal relations. Larry Hinzman and Anupma will be meeting with Ms. Moore and the new Alaska Program Director while in D.C. next week.
 - c. Eran Hood from UAS came to Fairbanks and gave a presentation.
 - d. Currently working through a Track 4 solicitation for young faculty to apply for professional development through sabbatical at another institution. Three proposals from UAF were moved forward for consideration.
 - e. Expecting to hear back from NSF regarding application proposal in mid-May.

10. NASA EPSCoR update – Denise Thorsen, 5 min.
 - a. President Trump’s budget currently has eliminated funding for NASA.
 - b. Planning to submit a proposal for this year for the next three year cycle of the NASA EPSCoR grant.
 - c. NASA is working to push out commercialization for technology. Would like to connect industry with universities in a collaborative effort. There will be a solicitation released this summer.
 - d. This summer NASA EPSCoR will be doing a road tour for minority serving institutions. There is a mentor program available for those interested in SBIR/SBTT opportunities. It focuses on a collaborative partnership with universities and the companies that perform work for NASA EPSCoR.

11. Next meeting – Larry, 5 min.

a. June, in person – Anchorage

b. ACTION ITEM: Nycolett will send out a Doodle poll proposing early June meeting dates for the SCoR meeting in Anchorage.

12. Future topics - All, time remaining

2/21/18 SCoR Meeting Action Items

ACTION ITEM: Larry Hartig will ask to share the proposed Climate Action Leadership Team Technical & Science Working Group member list for feedback from SCoR.

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