

State Committee for Research Meeting Agenda

Date: September 6, 2018

Time: 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Teleconference: Dial 866-832-7806, enter PIN 1827406

In Person Location: UA-Bragaw Office Building, 1815 Bragaw Street, Anchorage, AK 99508

Time Started: 3:

Attendees: Mark Myer, Steve Grey, Paul Layer, Kelly James (scribe), Denise Thorsen, Alex Hills, Anupma Prakash, Brian Holst, Brian Barnes, Larry Hartig

1. Proposed agenda change – move EPSCoR, INBRE and EPSCoR NASA up to item #2 to accommodate schedule constraints.
2. Review and approve 6/6/18 meeting summary – Paul, 5 min. (*attachment*)
 - a. Anupma has made clarifications to the notes. Will incorporate and submit as accepted.
3. Action item update from 6/6/18 meeting – Paul, 5 min.
 - a. Proposes to incorporate changes to the bylaws and will submit to the committee. Anupma – There are several areas need to be cleaned up, names, etc. She will make changes and send them to the committee. Paul – asks the committee to do the same.
 - b. The Innovators Hall of Fame rules and regulations – Paul spoke with John earlier this week. Would like to review the timelines to vet the nominees better and not be rushed for the process.
 - c. Looking for when the next (December) meeting will be.
4. Update SCoR bylaws – Paul, 15 min. (*attachment*)
 - a. Paul – asks the committee to look at the bylaws and make suggestions. Please send to Paul and Kelly and we will merge these. Alex – The ones sent out, are they the current ones? Paul & Kelly – Yes, these are the current bylaws.
5. National update - Paul, 5 minutes
 - a. In July, had an EPSCoR meeting – about \$177, but was sitting in the Senate appropriation, house appropriations committee and then the senate. Denise – The senate and the house numbers are different on EPSCoR and space grants, if they are passed before the change of congress, then the higher numbers may be approved. However, if not, then it will go back through the process again with

different numbers. Anupma – There is a solicitation for the NSF 2026 IDEA machine. At the moment, there are 10 big ideas, but always looking for more. Submit a grand challenge question and a set of videos about why. They are then reviewed by NSF and if it makes the list, they are moved to the top. Announced on website and social media.

6. State of Alaska Climate Action for Alaska Policy and Plan, 15 min. (see

<http://climatechange.gov.alaska.gov/policy/>)

- a. Larry Hartig. – Has public members on it, and also has a few ex officio members, Larry Hinzman on the science advisory panel, and also a cabinet in providing input to the climate action policy team. Also preparing early action items for the governors consideration. These are items that he could have implemented relatively quickly because they are ones that already have support, recognized need, consensus building and climate actions important to Alaskans. Proposals will be going to the governor and Lt. governor. There are some research oriented proposals related to climate impacts on marine and fresh water ecosystems and how it impacts Alaskan fisheries. It is not by choice that the state has been proceeding on a plan for climate change, but the plan has been to reach out to the federal agencies, to bring NOAA, etc into the discussion. Paul – We are in our 2020 budget cycle, and will be working on meeting some of these obligations. The university as an archivist as the arctic data. Larry Hartig – Also, will have another meeting in early November with OMB and the governor’s office to talk about the state portion of the climate initiatives. The rollout could be as early as a week from now.

7. Establishment of SCoR Outreach and Communications – Paul/Mead T., 10 min.

- a. This conversation is premature until we figure out what role SCoR should be playing in the state. If there is a new governor, we will need to work on how SCoR is going to play a role in the state. We still need to consider this and review the bylaws to see what we want SCoR to do. Think about the role we will be playing with SCoR.

8. Innovators Hall of Fame – Paul, 15 min. (attachment)

- a. Nomination process – see link: <http://www.alaska.edu/research/research/scor/ak-innovators/>
 - i. Paul would like everyone to take a look at the link, process, to see that we are good on the nomination form.
 - ii. Brian - The time crunch last year was from not getting the word out early enough. Decide when the review process should end.
 - b. Getting the word out for nominations
 - i. It is up to the whole committee to get the word out there. Paul will contact the committee to get the deadline and marketing started. Kelly James will be the primary contact for getting this completed.
 - c. Venue for the awards ceremony
 - i. It has been done at the Innovation Summit and they are happy to do this again and would be excited to help. Paul – was impressed with how it went last year. Should it be moved around or have it again in Juneau. It is always held in February - 2/20 and 2/21. It is a good year to have it in Juneau. The Year of Innovation keeps being repeated. Paul – Believes it makes sense to have it in Juneau. Get the governor and some of the legislators there. Miles Baker has set up a lot of meetings for other folks, which is good exposure for this program.
 - ii. Committee – Brian, Mead and John
9. NSF EPSCoR update – Anupma Prakash, 15 min.
- a. At last SCoR meeting she had informed the committee that the award was recommended. It has been approved for a Track 1 grant, but not yet awarded. They are moving ahead with their planning and updates.
 - b. There were 2 career awards – trying to encourage young faculty to apply for career awards. At UAF, 2 faculty members received this award. Cari Baker, proposal based on a seed grant that made the basis for her career award. Srijan Aggarwal also received an award.
 - c. Clarified Tracks through NSF. Track 2 is an important program that has recently come up – EPSCoR asked what we wanted to see. Programs that are funded that promotes interstate collaboration (an EPSCoR state collaborating with another

EPSCoR state). Multiple universities within the state can all put in a proposal (UAF, UAA, UAS). There has been a new RFP put out that Anupma would like to bring attention to for the universities to apply. This is a limited submission RFP. Harnessing the data revolution. Track 3 promotes diversity – Teaching with Technology is an example. Track 4 is for young career professionals. Each campus can submit up to three Track 4 proposals. Promotes junior faculty to go to another research university to enhance their partnerships. Geoff Benowitz, Ray Collins and Ken Tape have all received Track 4 awards. Can also take grad students with to the other agency. Track 1 is likely to come in mid September – will give an update for this announcement. Fire and Ice – Anupma is currently the PI, but the team is working on finding a new PI, as Anupma is unable to continue on beyond setting up the award and setting up the processes. The max PI limit is 5 for this award. The leadership change will need endorsement from SCoR and also NSF to make these changes. Paul – Will write a letter endorsing the change and informing NSF of the internal process.

d. Project leadership

10. NASA EPSCoR update – Denise Thorsen, 10 min. – Attended Hawaii Small Business Meeting – In the process of doing a preproposal downselect – Has narrowed it down to one. Has collaborators at Goddard. Still waiting on the award of the programmatic grant, which was submitted on the day of the last meeting. It is expected that the awards will be announced at the beginning of the year. Three went to the NASA small business infusion road tour in Honolulu. Mark Billingsly and Nicole Conley. Working on the entrepreneurial side, encouraging the entrepreneurial nature at the college. They arranged for “speed dating” with 11 different companies, many panels to do contract work with these companies (federal contract work), mentor protégé discussion. Outcome – a lot of companies approached Denise and would like to be engaged with UAF. She has an email from a company interested in testing solar panel technology. Denise has moved this on to ACEP to work with them. Many more contacts that would like to work with our students. Waiting on outcomes of the submissions. Anupma – Who is the PI and who is the next... Denise – Jingqiu Mao, came out on top and will go forward (NASA EPSCoR Research CAN solicitation in December). Has had a previous mini grant from EPSCoR. It has something to

do with an instrument that he is trying to ground-truth with some satellite data with aerosols in the arctic. Working with a company, as well as Goddard. Goddard loaned him an instrument to improve. Goddard is interested in distributing these instruments once improved.

11. INBRE Update – Brian Barnes, 10 min.

- a. NIH – biomedical research and inclusiveness – underrepresented grad students – in our 5th year. Submitted a renewal application last March, but will not hear anything until January 2019. Upcoming statewide biomedical research summit. Inviting PIs from other campuses, focusing on professional development of faculty. IDEA program, which INBRE is a part of. There is also CTR, includes research that includes humans, currently Larry Hinzman is acting as interim PI on this grant. Additionally, INBRE is approaching clinics and physicians
- b. COBRE – Each university can have 3 of these. We are in a no-cost extension for the only one we currently have. We do have a pending application for another, and can apply for additional ones until we get three.
- c. Mark – Has the focus changed on the renewal. Brian – Has remained – One Health. No questions have been sent back from NIH. In addition to expanding the network, has expanded the core, focus on retaining _____. Alaska Natives as interns – proposal to attract.

12. Roundtable

- a. Steve – S. Riley was in the state (USGS). Dan White took the time to talk about USGS and collaborations in a wider sense. He holds Alaska as an excellent example of how USGS can operate.
- b. Mark – There are a lot of things the Dept of Interior has a lot of things going on, natural gas in the northern part of the state, the state's role, assuming there is additional production, this would go into the existing pipeline and on the slope it will be very critical. Ecological changes, operating in a wildlife refuge, etc. Eco-based Science takes a lead role in directing these operations.
- c. Paul – This week at UAF, AQUASI had a week-long workshop on that. FAA was up and Kathy stated that AQUASI got authorization to do out-of-site testing. This is the first time in the US that this has been granted. The need in the state for this

is tremendous. In the summer, they were doing some out-of-site testing in Canada. They did find a blue whale in the gulf of st. Lawrence.

- d. Alex – Has been in touch with John Bittner. Has been advising on the Innovators Hall of Fame. Paul appreciates this mentorship. DoD EPSCoR – Alaska is well-suited – Encouraging the university to engage in this is a good activity for SCoR
 - e. Brian Holst – Nothing to add. Is there a place to find the outcomes from the visits of the 8-10 DOE labs early this summer? Anupma – The report will be posted on the ACEP website under National Lab Day. If she finds it she will forward it to SCoR. Will also follow up with Larry Hinzman. Brian is wondering if it had the desired impact. Anupma – The site does have some information, but no final report on the Lab Day <https://research.uaf.edu/news/anld2018>. Paul – Are there people maintaining these new contacts?
 - f. Larry Hartig – Happy on the Innovative Hall of Fame when we recognized the Native culture (Fish Hook). When working with rural communities, if the science does not go the way they believe it would, they get suspicious. When thinking about our communication plan, in working with data groups in rural Alaska, not to be too self-focused. There is a real opportunity there. Alaska Federation of Native Conference – in Fairbanks this year. Have a poster up talking about the award and SCoR. Steve G – There are a lot of people in the native community that are developing low-cost technologies and online capabilities that allow people in the village be involved in the science process. It may be worth keeping an eye out for the innovators of these communities. Brian H – We need to be proactive and inviting. They aren't going to come knocking on our door.
 - g. Anupma – Nothing else.
 - h. Brian B – Nothing to add.
 - i. Kelly – Innovators team – work on advertising text.
13. Next meeting – Paul, 5 min.
14. Future topics - All, time remaining