



**October 14 & 15**  
**9:00 am-1:00 pm**  
**Virtual: [Zoom Link](#)**

## **Thursday, October 14**

**9:00 am**– Convening kick off - Dr. Anupma Prakash, UAF Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

**9:05**– Keynote Welcome - Dr. Paul Layer, UA Vice President, Academics, Students & Research

**9:10**– 10:00 am– [Opening Keynote](#) - Dr. William B. Davis, Interim Vice Provost, Washington State University

**10:00**– 10:10 am- Break

**10:10** – 11:00 am Sessions (Attendees will be placed into their sessions automatically)

- ❖ [Supporting Happiness, Wellbeing and Mental Health](#), Mat Wooller (UAF) & Brighton Brooks (UAF); IT staff: Brittany Van Eck
  
- ❖ [Peer-Learning Assistants in Large and High-Risk Classes](#), Rachael Hannah (UAA), Sam Cook (UAA); Moderator: Jessica Skipper; IT staff: Ginny Kinne

**11:00**– 11:10 am- Break

**11:10 am**– 12:00 pm Sessions (Attendees will be placed into their sessions automatically)

- ❖ [Open or Zero Cost Resources & Student Success](#), Veronica Howard (UAA), Jonas Lamb (UAS), Jen Moss (UAF), D’Arcy Hutchings (UAA); IT staff: Jessica Skipper
  
- ❖ [New ISER Research on Alaska Education Equity and Student Success](#), Dayna Jean DeFeo, CAEPR Director; IT staff: Brighton Brooks

**12:00**– 12:10pm- Break (Attendees will be brought back to the convening room automatically)

**12:10**– 1:00 pm– Welcome Back & [How have you reached your students?](#), Amanda Triplett (UAS), Ginny Kinne (UAF), Valerie Robideaux (UAA), Robin Dahlman, Moderator (UAA & UAS); IT staff: Dustin Bawcom

## Friday, October 15

**9:00 am**– Keynote Welcome - Dr. Maren Haavig, UAS Interim Provost

**9:05–10:00 am**– [Involving Faculty in Student Success Strategy](#) - Angela Street, Director, Research Advisory Services, EAB

**10:00**– 10:10 am- Break

**10:10**– 11:00 am Sessions (Those attending Active Learning will need to click on the link below.)

❖ [Online Student Success](#), Tim Stickel (UAF), Rachael Hannah (UAA), Sarah Prielipp (UAA), Dr. Dorn Van Dommelen (UAA); IT staff: Brighton Brooks

❖ [Active Learning Techniques](#), Stasia Straley (UAA), \*[Link](#); IT staff: Ginny Kinne

**11:00**– 11:10 am- Break

**11:10 am**– 12:00 pm Sessions (Those attending Navigating Critical Conversations with Students will need to click on the link below.)

❖ [Navigating Critical Conversations with Students: Practical Approaches for Academic Coaching](#), Jennifer Tilbury (UAF), Amanda Triplett (UAS),\* [Link](#); IT staff: Jessica Skipper

❖ [Alaska Native Success Initiative Panel](#), Ronalda Cadiente-Brown (UAS), Sean Asiqtuq Topkok (UAF), Jessica C. Black (UAF), Michele Yatchmeneff (UAA); Moderator: Debbie Mekiana; IT staff:Holly McDonald

**12:00**– 12:10pm- Break (Attendees in sessions with their own links will need to manually log into [convening Zoom](#))

**12:10**– 12:15 pm- Welcome back & Introduction for TRIO WORKS- Jessica Skipper, UAF Student Success Coordinator

**12:15**– 12:55 pm–[TRIO WORKS! Addressing the Needs of First-Generation and Low-Income Students](#) - Donald Crocker (UAF) & Whitney Williams (UAA)

**12:55**– 1:00 pm Closing thoughts, Dr. Paul Layer, UA Vice President, Academics, Students & Research

## Thursday, October 14 Session Descriptions

[9:10-10:00 am](#)

### Opening Keynote

(Convening [Zoom room](#))

- The impact of peer learning and building social environments in courses. This is based on the transformation of pass rates and elimination of performance gaps between first-generation and non-first-generation students in his BIOL 107 course through project-based labs and prosocial environments.
- Faculty and student mindsets and their impact on the performance of first-generation students in introductory Biology courses
- Faculty communication and how that impacts academic performance
- Building community in the classroom

*Dr. William B. Davis, Interim Vice Provost, Washington State University (WSU)*

[10:10-11:00 am](#)

### Supporting Happiness, Wellbeing and Mental Health

*(Attendees automatically sent to break out rooms by registered session)*

Research on student success indicates the importance of students establishing a trusting relationship with staff and faculty members at their college or university. Recent reports also indicate declining mental health in higher education and yet, on the flip-side, success is promoted by elevating wellbeing. By attending to our own happiness, wellbeing and mental health we can be positive role-models and these important life skills can also enhance our relationships with our students. Participants will learn about various wellbeing initiatives and resources evolving at UAF as well as practice embodied wellbeing strategies.

*Mat Wooller, Director of Alaska Stable Isotope Facility & founder of UAF's The Well, UAF  
Brighton Brooks, eCampus Academic Advisor & Adjunct Instructor, UAF*

[10:10-11:00 am](#)

**Peer-Learning Assistants in Large and High-Risk Classes**

*(Attendees automatically sent to break out rooms by registered session)*

Peer-Learning Assistants (PLAs) are expert undergraduate students who assist in the learning process in and outside of the classroom. In this session we will describe and demonstrate different ways in which PLAs are successfully used in classes at UAA. Join Professors from Biology, Math and Physics to discuss and show how they've implemented Peer Learning Assistants in their courses.

*Rachael Hannah, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences - UAA*

*Sam Cook, Associate Professor, Mathematics - UAA*

Moderator: *Jessica Skipper, Student Success Coordinator, UAF*

[11:10 am-12:00 pm](#)

**Open or Zero Cost Resources & Student Success**

*(Attendees automatically sent to break out rooms by registered session)*

Open Educational Resources (OERs) are teaching, learning and research materials that reside in the public domain or have been released under an open license that permits no-cost access, use, adaptation and redistribution by others with no or limited restrictions (UNESCO, 2019). Zero cost resources are materials that can be accessed without cost to the user. In this brief informational session, we will highlight research on the impact of OER/ZTC materials to reduce educational barriers and promote student success, describe efforts across the university system to promote the adoption and creation of OER/ZTC for the benefit of students and provide guidance on next steps to explore these resources.

*Veronica Howard, Associate Professor, Psychology - UAA*

*D'Arcy Hutchings, Instructional Design Librarian, UAA*

*Jonas Lamb, Associate Professor of Library and Information Science, UAS*

*Jennifer Moss, Instructional Designer, UAF*

[11:10 am-12:00 pm](#)

**New ISER Research on Alaska Education Equity and Student Success**  
*(Attendees automatically sent to break out rooms by registered session)*

CAEPR Director Dayna DeFeo will share recent research from three studies exploring: rural students' college transitions, how homesickness affects students' campus experiences and retention outcomes, and what "involuntarily online" students (that is, students who took online classes during the pandemic – but who prefer f2f) had to say about their AY2021 learning experiences. She'll weave the studies together with an overarching theme of CAMPUS CONNECTIONS.

*Dayna Jean DeFeo, CAEPR Director*

[12:10-1:00 pm](#)

**How have you reached your students?**  
*(Attendees automatically brought back to convening Zoom room)*

It's unfortunate that it takes a global pandemic to open our eyes to practices that need changing in our day-to-day lives. Being forced by quarantine to think outside of the box, make accommodations, think of alternatives, and approach students with greater understanding, empathy and compassion have allowed our office to make changes that better serve our students. From outside of normal work hours appointments and increased asynchronous course options, to increased virtual capacity, academic advising of today has been changed forever by the limitations of Covid-19, but ultimately allowing for more equity and accessibility for the future.

*Amanda Triplett, Academic Advisor, UAS*  
*Ginny Kinne, Director, Academic Advising Center, UAF*  
*Valerie Robideaux, Director, Student Success Initiatives and Alignment, UAA*  
*Moderator: Robin Dahlman, Assistant Professor of Education, UAA & UAS*

## Friday, October 15 Session Descriptions

[9:05-10:00](#)

### **Involving Faculty in Student Success Strategy**

*(Convening [Zoom room](#))*

Administrators with “student success” in their title or functional area are beginning to emerge, helping to bring academic units, undergraduate education, enrollment strategy, and student affairs efforts into alignment. In regards to undergraduate education, the most important responsibility of individual faculty members is to enhance the student learning experience. While no one person or office on campus can claim total responsibility for retention and completion outcomes, little progress can be made without delineating the specific roles that each stake holder plays in impacting the student experience.

In this session, we will discuss the importance of dissolving the student success silo and the collective roles played in persistence and retention. We will look towards institutional best practices for the role of faculty in student success.

*Angela Street, Director, Research Advisory Services, EAB*

[10:10-11:00 am](#)

### **Online Student Success**

*(Attendees automatically sent to break out rooms by registered session)*

Over one-third of all UA students enroll in online distance courses, yet online student success, student engagement and establishing a learning community sometimes remain a challenge. In this session, we will discuss these challenges and concrete strategies for student services and faculty to address them. Join UAF and UAA staff, faculty and others in this open discussion.

*Tim Stickel, Associate Director of Student Experience, UAF  
Rachael Hannah, Associate Professor Biological Sciences, UAA  
Sarah Prielipp, Assistant Professor of Writing, UAA  
Dorn Van Dommelen, Professor of Geology, UAA*

[10:10-11:00 am](#)

**Active Learning Techniques**

[Link](#) ; Meeting ID: 863 6305 5759 Passcode: 083306

*(Attendees will need to go to this Zoom link and manually come back to [convening Zoom](#))*

Are you looking for ways to keep students engaged in class? Are you interested in collaborating with like-minded faculty to develop or enhance interactive teaching methods? Attend the *Active Learning Techniques* session to learn practical methods that you can use to engage your students all semester long!

*Stasia Straley, Professor, Accounting & Finance - UAA*

[11:10 am-12:00 pm](#)

**Navigating Critical Conversations with Students: Practical Approaches for Academic Coaching**

[Link](#); Meeting ID: 881 3674 7834

Passcode: GPT48k73

*(Attendees will need to go to this Zoom link and manually come back to [convening Zoom](#))*

Faculty and staff advisors regularly find themselves engaged in critical conversations with students who are at a crossroads, seeking out guidance on pivotal decisions about their future. Academic coaching can give higher ed professionals a framework to guide these critical conversations and ensure that students feel heard and connected to the resources at their disposal. A coaching approach to advising doesn't mean you have to be the expert on all things; academic coaching is built on a foundation of assumptions where the students are the experts in their own lives and the academic coach serves as a catalyst for progress and goal achievement. The objective of this session is to give faculty and staff who advise students the tools to help guide them towards self-efficacy. We can empower students to see choices and possibilities in response to their challenges rather than barriers. By asking open-ended and self-reflective questions, we can help students to recognize their own agency and the role they play in their academic success.

*Jennifer Tilbury, Associate Professor Developmental Writing;  
Director of UAF CTC Learning Center  
Amanda Triplett, Academic Advisor, UAS*

[11:10 am-12:00 pm](#)

**Alaska Native Success Initiative Panel**

*(Attendees automatically sent to break out rooms by registered session)*

The University strives to better represent the Alaska Native population, for all to feel they belong, and for the change to be visible and recognized. The work from this initiative will inform efforts to increase diversity and success throughout the university's programs and operations. Join this panel of speakers from the Alaska Native Success Initiative to learn more and ask questions about student success best practices staff and faculty can implement in their work with our students.

*Ronalda Cadiente-Brown, Associate Vice Chancellor for Alaska Native Programs &  
Director of PITAAS, UAS*

*Michele Yatchmeneff, Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering, UAA*

*Sean Asiqtuq Topkok, Associate Professor, Cross-Cultural Studies, UAF*

*Jessica C. Black, Assistant Professor, Department of Alaska Native Studies and Rural  
Development and Tribal Management, UAF*

Moderator: Debbie Mekiana, Faculty/Co-Chair, Department of Alaska Native Studies and Rural  
Development, UAF

[12:15-12:55 pm](#)

**TRIO WORKS! Addressing the Needs of First-Generation and Low-Income Students**

*(Attendees automatically brought back to convening Zoom room)*

Sharing through the lens of TRIO Student Support Services, learn what our students need, the services being offered to them, and how you can be an ally to first-generation and low-income students in pursuit of their college degree across the UA system.

*Donald Crocker, TRIO Student Support Services, UAF  
Whitney Williams, TRIO Student Support Services, UAA*