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Forest Service

#### **Pacific Northwest Research Station**

1220 SW 3rd Ave, Suite 1400 P.O. Box 3890

Portland, OR 97204-3890 503-808-2100

FAX: 503-808-2130

**File Code:** 6400

**Date:** August 25, 2016

Barbara Shawyer
Real Property Specialist, US Department of Education,
Federal Real Property Assistance Program
L-OM-2-2W119
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Ms. Shawyer and members of the review panel,

The University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) in Juneau, AK, engages in regional undergraduate education and research through distinctive baccalaureate programs. The programs include marine biology, biology, environmental sciences, geography, mathematics, social sciences, liberal arts, Alaska Native studies and outdoor studies based in the rich natural and cultural environment of Southeast Alaska. UAS is proposing to acquire the NOAA Auke Bay Marine Station (ABMS) to meet program needs and space priorities identified in the UAS 2012 Master Plan. Acquiring the ABMS property will give UAS the privilege of continuing the historical legacy of this site as an interdisciplinary hub for a network of university, agency and industry scientists doing collaborative and convergent research on the natural environment of Southeast Alaska.

The ABMS property is uniquely suited to support UAS' educational program and institutional mission by transforming the student academic experience and the campus' engagement with interdisciplinary sciences. The U.S.D.A. Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station (PNW) has been a close partner in education and research with UAS. PNW supports UAS in the acquisition of the ABMS property. The ABMS facility will broaden both organizations' ability to expand research, education and outreach through collaborative projects. In addition, the facility will expand the ability of both PNW and UAS to serve the local and regional communities through creating new knowledge that can guide natural resource management actions and enhance community resilience to a changing environmental context in Alaska. As a former scientific tenant of the ABMS facility, we also look forward to guiding UAS in the logistical transition to the laboratory and administrative facilities and establishing a thriving regional education and research center.

Sincerely,

FELIPE SANCHEZ
Acting Station Director

Felix Sansky





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JEDC.org

612 West Willoughby Ave. Suite A
Juneau, AK 99801
Phone 907-523-2300
Fax 907-463-3929

August 25, 2016

Barbara Shawyer, Real Property Specialist U.S. Department of Education Federal Real Property Assistance Program L-OM-2-2W119 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202

RE: University of Alaska Application for acquisition of the Auke Bay Marine Station Property in Juneau, Alaska

Dear Ms. Shawyer and members of the review panel,

The University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) is proposing to acquire the NOAA Auke Bay Marine Station (ABMS) located adjacent to its Juneau, Alaska, campus in order to meet program needs and space priorities identified in the UAS 2012 Master Plan. Acquiring the ABMS property will give UAS the privilege of continuing the historical legacy of this site as an interdisciplinary hub for a network of university, agency and industry scientists doing collaborative and convergent research on the natural environment of Southeast Alaska. The ABMS property is uniquely suited to support UAS' educational program and institutional mission. Acquisition of this property has the power to transform the student academic experience and the campus' engagement with interdisciplinary sciences.

The Juneau Economic Development Council supports a Research & Development Working Group dedicated to advancing opportunities to build research capacity in our region. The UAS acquisition of the ABMS property will help UAS further its mission to enhance student learning by faculty scholarship, undergraduate research and creative activities, community engagement, and the cultures and environment of Southeast Alaska—goals that are consistent with the aims of the Research & Development Working Group and vital elements to the economic wellbeing of our community. Southeast Alaska has been designated as a *Community of Excellence in Research* by the University of Alaska's State Committee on Research. The Auke Bay Marine Station is a vital component of Juneau's research network and we would like to see it continue in this role.

Sincerely,

Brian Holst Executive Director

Juneau Economic Development Council

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Alaska Fisheries Science Center 7600 Sand Point Way N.E. Bldg. 4, F/AKC Seattle, Washington 98115-0070

August 25, 2016

Ms. Barbara Shawyer, Real Property Specialist U.S. Department of Education Federal Real Property Assistance Program L-OM-2-2W119 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202

RE: University of Alaska Application for acquisition of the Auke Bay Marine Station Property

Dear Ms. Shawyer and members of the review panel:

As the director of NOAA's Alaska Fishery Science Center, I would like to lend my support for the application submitted by the University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) to acquire the surplus NOAA Auke Bay Marine Station property. NOAA and its predecessor agency, The Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, had occupied that location since 1961. In the mid-1970s when the University of Alaska located next door with the construction of the Anderson Building it forged the beginnings of a strong partnership between our two institutions which continues to this day.

A number of our current staff are graduates of the University of Alaska system and we continued to conduct long-term collaborative research projects with the faculty and staff, despite having moved to a new location which allowed us to surplus the property. The mission of UAS to promote student learning, faculty scholarship, and undergraduate research are ones that directly benefit our agency. In particular, I believe that the recent efforts by UAS to diversify the student body (e.g., getting more Alaskan native students into their undergraduate programs) will significantly improve the diversity of our Center's workforce in Juneau. By taking over that location and consolidating and expanding upon their natural resource, including fisheries, and environmental science programs we believe it will provide long lasting benefits for Alaska and the nation by producing the next generation of scientists and educators, that will help our agency carry out its mandate for the responsible stewardship of marine resources.

In conclusion, we support the application submitted by the University and look forward to continuing and expanding our strong partnership.

Sincerely,

Douglas DeMaster, Ph.D.

Science and Research Director





August 29, 2016

Barbara Shawyer, Real Property Specialist U.S. Department of Education Federal Real Property Assistance Program L-OM-2-2W119 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202

RE: University of Alaska Application for acquisition of the Auke Bay Marine Station Property

Dear Ms. Shawyer and members of the review panel,

The University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) mission is student learning enhanced by faculty scholarship, undergraduate research and creative activities, community engagement, and the cultures and environment of Southeast Alaska. UAS offers distinctive baccalaureate programs on the Juneau Campus which include marine biology, biology, environmental sciences, geography, mathematics, social sciences, liberal arts, Alaska Native studies and outdoor studies.

UAS is proposing to acquire the NOAA Auke Bay Marine Station (ABMS) to meet program needs and space priorities identified in the UAS 2012 Master Plan. Acquiring the ABMS property will give UAS the privilege of continuing the historical legacy of this site as an interdisciplinary hub for a network of university, agency and industry scientists doing collaborative and convergent research on the natural environment of Southeast Alaska. The ABMS property is uniquely suited to support UAS' educational program and institutional mission. Acquisition of this property has the power to transform the student academic experience and the campus' engagement with interdisciplinary sciences.

















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ANSEP supports UAS in the acquisition of the ABMS property and will realize the following benefits:

- provide a distinct space for ANSEP students faculty and staff for study recitations, weekly lunches, social events, recruitment, and interdisciplinary research.
- foster engagement across disciplines within the university,
- provide hands on applications to academic learning,
- allow water access by multiple agencies (city, state, federal and non-profits),
- facilitate ANSEP partners located in Southeast Alaska to better engage ANSEP students at UAS,
- allow water accessibility by UAA and UAF ANSEP students,
- develop or expand existing ANSEP programs at other campuses to involve marine resources that are accessible in Juneau, and
- provide ANSEP students the opportunity to participate in new classes and programs within UAS into more marine specific arenas such as diving, merchant marine licensing, and submersible underwater technologies.

Very truly yours.

Herb Ilisauri Schroeder, PhD

Vice Provost for ANSEP and Founder

Professor of Engineering