

James R. Johnsen, Ed.D.

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MEMORANDUM

Date: June 13, 2016

To: Rick Caulfield, UAS Chancellor
Mike Powers, UAF Interim Chancellor

From: Jim Johnsen, UA President *James R. Johnsen*

Re: Development of Joint UAF/UAS Undergraduate Fisheries Bachelor of Science Degree

In response to the need for fisheries research and management employees as identified in the UA Fisheries, Seafood, and Maritime Initiative (FSMI) plan, and in response to UAS' interest in offering undergraduate fisheries degrees, it is my understanding that the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) and the University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) will be developing a joint UAF/UAS undergraduate Fisheries Bachelor of Science degree. The move toward a joint degree is in line with Strategic Pathways (SP) which considers undergraduate fisheries in Juneau.

The following are my expectations for participation, collaboration, and coordination between UAF and UAS. Please distribute this memorandum as appropriate.

- The ultimate disposition and delivery of the undergraduate fisheries programs in the UA system will be evaluated in Phase 2 of SP review to be completed prior to the end of the Spring semester, 2017.
- In advance of SP review, UAF and UAS will work on a joint Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries that could be presented to the UA Board of Regents for approval no later than June 2017.
- The joint degree will be aligned with both accreditation and professional standards and will build on the experience and the curriculum already in place at UAF.
- Faculty, staff, and other instructional resources will be sourced from those already available both at UAF and UAS—to include those located in Fairbanks, at the UAF Lena Point facility, and the UAS Auke Lake Campus in Juneau.

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- Regular planning and coordination by appropriate departments (faculty, deans, department heads, registrars, etc.) will be required to anticipate instructional needs, including both campus-based and technology-enhanced offerings of degree requirements. Degree requirement changes will follow established review and approval process of UAF and UAS faculty senates.
- Marketing, recruitment, advising, enrollment management and apportionment of headcount, student credit hours, and graduate counts for the joint degree will be developed by appropriate faculty and staff at UAS and UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences (SFOS).
- If eventually approved, the degree should be the same and should be seamless between campuses so that a student could easily start in Fairbanks and finish in Juneau or vice versa.
- According to standard UA practice, SCH would accrue to the University that employs the faculty member teaching the course.
- A report outlining next steps and implementation timeline will be presented to SAC by its August 2016 meeting.

The joint program course offerings would be coordinated by the SFOS Undergraduate Program Committee Chair and a UAS Fisheries Program lead designated by the UAS Dean of Arts and Sciences with a focus on avoiding duplicative offerings. Impasses in this regard will be evaluated by the UA VPAAR. His/her decision will be final.

JRJ

cc: Dr. Daniel M. White, UA VP Academic Affairs & Research
Dean Brad Moran, UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences
Susan Henrichs, Provost UAF
Priscilla Schulte, Interim Provost UAS