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### **Who do we want to be?**

In 2025, University of Alaska Fairbanks will be a champion for innovation and a leadership voice for entrepreneurship in Alaska, as the “U.S. Arctic Innovative and Entrepreneurial University.” UAF will support the development of social, cultural and technological entrepreneurs, in partnership with the local community, and foster local and scalable innovative companies from commercializable research developed at the university and in the community. The university goals are to: (1) be the driver of Alaska’s innovation economy and a leadership voice in focus for U.S. Arctic innovation and entrepreneurship; (2) produce graduates with an entrepreneurial mindset and skilled in the processes necessary to bring research to commercialization and grow viable businesses; and (3) deliver economic, societal, cultural and educational impact to Fairbanks, Alaska, and people of the circumpolar North.

UAF will foster and cultivate its innovative individuals to demonstrate, validate and execute high-caliber value propositions from university and community resources and, in conjunction with local partnerships, leverage its position to provide entry points for

projects in Alaska and with those companies wanting to come to Alaska. UAF will grow its current ambassador program and, where appropriate, increase the program to represent the full breadth of its teaching, research and service/engagement, as well as attract and engage its alumni to return to Alaska with their own intellectual property (IP) to grow new businesses and industry in Fairbanks and across the state.

Additionally, the Geophysical Institute's (GI) status as a University A affiliated Research Center recognizes the university's accomplishments and growing stature in nuclear treaty monitoring support. The Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration is positioned as a leader in unmanned aircraft system (UAS) research, development and integration as a Federal Aviation Administration test site operator. The Biomedical Learning and Student Training program enhances capacity for undergraduate biomedical research and efficacy for engaging students in education and training for biomedical careers. The One Health Initiative recognizes the interdependence of human, animal and environmental health and takes a holistic approach to the well-being for all. Finally, the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences' Alaska Blue Economy Center serves as a resource and support center for research, instruction and outreach related to Alaska's vast aquatic resources and ecosystems.

### Items In Progress



Ideation and entrepreneurship: Design Thinking events, like the [2019 Design Thinking Summit](#), have fostered ideation skills with UAF students to develop solutions to some of Alaska's needs and challenges. Collaborations have occurred between the College of Engineering and Mines (CEM) and the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences (CFOS).

pool of entrepreneurs interested in the university's faculty, staff and student discoveries. UAF OIPC has also promoted recent technologies on its [website](#) along with relevant contact information for the inventors.

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Open innovation; build projects in academic programs: There has been a growth in the number of opportunities proposed for the \_\_\_\_\_

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Ambassador program: UAF will sustain and grow its current program to represent its full breadth of teaching, research and service/engagement. Ambassadors will also come from university staff and students to represent the

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## Concluding remarks

Transforming UAF's intellectual property development and commercialization enterprise will drive the university to be the "U.S. Arctic Innovative and Entrepreneurial University." UAF needs to move forward together and connect to Fairbanks, Interior Alaska and the state to drive Alaska's innovation economy, produce skilled graduates to bring research to commercialization, and deliver an impact to Alaska and the people of the circumpolar North. The mechanisms defined here will sustain and grow the innovation culture while continuing to educate, prepare and engage its students, connecting with the local community and flourishing as the leading U.S. Arctic university.

UAF's sustainability and future growth is driven by the creativity and passion of its faculty, staff and students. In building outcomes with metrics for success, UAF can adapt to the needs of society, its students and the capabilities of its community members while integrating new targets in the areas of future growth and opportunity. UAF will foster and support all innovation activities and entrepreneurship and build interdisciplinary teams to work with the local community to provide solutions to their greatest challenges. As students engage with tomorrow's technologies, they will become the innovators of tomorrow and build the Alaska economy as the state and the university look to 2025 and beyond.