## Mission Fulfillment – Core Objective 5

## FISCAL YEAR 2025 Core Objective 5: Maintain Relevance through Productive Relationships within Southeast Alaska

Mission: The University of Alaska Southeast is a student-centered university that provides instruction in liberal arts, professional, and technical fields. On the homelands of the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples, we serve the coastal environments, cultures, economies, and communities of Alaska, through interdisciplinary education, workforce development, and scholarship, research, and creative activity.

UAS is deeply committed to building and sustaining meaningful relationships that enhance its role as a vital partner in the Southeast Alaska region. Through collaborative programs, events, services, and research, UAS responds to the economic, environmental, social, and cultural needs of the communities it serves. UAS is recognized as a driver of regional economic development and a destination for educational, cultural, and social enrichment through initiatives like the <u>Evening at Egan lecture series</u>, culture camps for high school students, and academic conferences.

Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian cultures and languages are woven into UAS degree programs, professional development, and ceremonial practices. UAS maintains formal partnerships with organizations such as the Sealaska Heritage Institute, the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, Huna Totem, Sitka Tribes of Alaska, and the Ketchikan Indian Community to ensure meaningful engagement with Alaska Native communities.

To enhance community and student support, UAS collaborates with local health organizations like JAMHI Health & Wellness, Bartlett Regional Hospital, and NAMI Juneau to provide students with critical resources. Partnerships with Alaska Airlines, Perseverance Theatre, and the City and Borough of Juneau enrich cocurricular activities, while collaborations with school districts and tribal organizations in Juneau, Sitka, and Ketchikan expand access to higher education.

In support of prospective student pathways, UAS has cultivated partnerships with local school districts in Juneau, Sitka, and Ketchikan, as well as the Southeast Regional Resource Center (SERRC) and various Alaska Native tribal organizations. These collaborations expand access to higher education and foster strong connections with the communities UAS serves.

UAS students are encouraged to actively participate in experiential learning opportunities, such as research, creative activities, practicums, internships, and fieldwork. Many programs integrate experiential learning as a core element, leveraging Southeast Alaska's unique environment to enrich student learning. Students frequently serve as lab and field research assistants for faculty or local organizations, and UAS provides funding to support student-initiated research and creative projects.

Formal partnerships are often solidified through Memorandums of Understanding or Agreements (MOA/MOU) with external organizations and government entities, enabling joint or cooperative services that benefit the public. A comprehensive list of <u>Advisory Councils and Committees</u>, along with <u>MOA's and MOU's</u>, is available on the UAS website, ensuring transparency and accountability in the university's community engagement efforts.

Experiential Learning								
Fiscal Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Goal
Degree Seekers	2007	1843	1730	1647	1523	1445		
Experiential Learners	381	364	321	336	336	313		
% Experiential Learning	19%	20%	19%	20%	22%	22%		>25%
MOU/MOA's								
Fiscal Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Goal
MOU/MOA's	44	26	30	34				Maintain >30