ACCREDITATION & The State of UAS

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Provost
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NWCCU

- Recognized by the Department of Education as the authority for insuring education effectiveness in the Northwest United States
- Serves Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Canada
UAS

- Has been accredited since 1983
- Next accreditation schedule for the 2018-2019 academic year
- Site visit April 24, 25, and 26 2019
Why Accreditation?

- To insure Mission fulfillment
- To insure student learning
- To insure educational quality
- To insure institutional effectiveness

Only through accreditation can an institution be eligible to participate in the Higher Education Act programs – such as Student Federal Financial Aid.
Who are UAS Students?

- 19% of our students are Alaska Native
  - Compared to 15% for all of UA

- 41% of our students come from Rural AK
  - Compared to 23% for all of UA
75% of First-Time Freshman do not take developmental classes
  □ Compared to 71% for all of UA

70% of First-Time Full-Time Freshmen are retained in the UA system
  □ Compared to 67% for all of UA
80% of Degree Seeking Students successfully complete courses

- Compared to 78% for all of UA

6.8 completion awards were earned by our students for each regular FTE faculty

- Compared to 4.6 for all of UA
• 46% of our student earned awards through our distance programs
  □ Compared to 29% for all of UA

• 69% of our students earned awards in high demand job areas
  □ Compared to 66% for all of UA
5 Standards that Must be Met

1. Mission and Core Themes
2. Resources and Capacity
3. Planning and Implementation
4. Effectiveness and Improvement
5. Mission Fulfillment, Adaptation, and Sustainability
Preparation for Visit

- Completion of Assessments
- Report Writing and Completion
- Report Submission to NWCCU and visiting Accreditation Team
- Site visit itinerary
Site Visit

- Peer evaluators from institutions outside of Alaska study the report;
- Conduct an on-site evaluation;
- Prepare a Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report
- Make confidential recommendation to the Commission
The Commission

- Reviews the Peer Evaluation report and recommendation
- And then makes a determination:
  - Reaffirm Accreditation
  - Request a special report
  - Defer action
  - Impose sanctions
  - Terminate Accreditation
Celebration!
Questions?