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DATE: March 24, 2020

TO: University of Alaska Southeast Faculty and Researchers

FROM: Tom, Thornton, Vice Provost for Research & Sponsored Programs

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RE: Effect of City and Borough of Juneau Assembly's Resolution 2885(b) on On-Campus Research

Resolution 2885(b) may be found online at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1257G0T9vhutB3sltoM0MqBkZ0qY0GbB6/view

The City and Borough of Juneau Assembly recently passed a resolution "mandating people in the City and Borough of Juneau Hunker Down Related to COVID-19." This order goes into place at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, March 24, 2020. While University of Alaska Southeast operations are classified under a variety of clauses listed as "critical businesses," it is in our best interest to act in a manner to embody the intent of this resolution.

Through this memorandum, the Office of the Vice-Provost for Research and Sponsored Programs, with the support of the Provost and Chancellor, is **requiring** that all on-campus research (not subject to an exclusion) be suspended and researchers transition to remote work by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 until the resolution expires after 14 days.

Faculty or staff leading a research laboratory seeking "essential" exclusion from this order must gain approval from the Unit's Dean or Director and notify the Vice Provost for Research by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, March 24, 2020. The notification **must** justify the request for exclusion using at least one of the following:

- 1) Research involves living animals, plants, or microbes whose viability must be maintained for experimental or regulatory reasons.
- 2) Research related to COVID-19 or similar pathogens that may lead to advances in knowledge contributing to the reduction of negative health outcomes associated with infection, slow the on-going pandemic, etc.
- 3) Research that is unable to be easily stopped and restarted and is to be performed in a laboratory that can ensure CDC recommended protocols for COVID-19 and laboratory approved health and safety practices.



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4) Research involving students required for a course or to support distance education (e.g. setting up or collecting data from a piece of analytical equipment for off-campus processing data).

Field research related to on-campus research that is located within the City and Borough of Juneau may continue as long as these activities are in-line with the CBJ resolution and the following criteria:

- 1) Fieldwork is able to be performed in a manner to ensure CDC recommendations for social distancing.
- 2) Fieldwork takes place in areas that are not closed or restricted by any CBJ closure.
- 3) Fieldwork resembles activities similar to getting "fresh air without contacting others."

We recommend that all faculty, staff, and students currently performing research on- campus or in the field prepare for the potential that this CBJ Resolution may be extended and further restrictions may be ordered. Hopefully through these necessary restrictions our community can reduce the rate of COVID-19 transmission and infection and return to normal activities sooner.

CC: Richard Caulfield, UAS Chancellor Karen Carey, UAS Provost UAS Research Faculty & Staff