# The Power of UA Research

Larry Hinzman, Ph.D. Vice Chancellor for Research, University of Alaska Fairbanks

> University of Alaska Senate Education Committee

> > February 21, 2019





**An Important Alaskan Industry** 

Since FY11, research revenue generated by University of Alaska has exceeded \$1 billion





#### **UA Research Return on Investment**







# **Economic Impact as Multiplier**

With UA Research as a multiplier -- every dollar invested in research brings over six dollars to Alaska







#### **An Important Alaskan Industry**

In 2018, UA brought in \$141 million in external research expenditures

\$23 million in state research funding multiplied by 6

\$90 million direct wages and salaries; 1250 direct jobs

Another \$27 million indirect income, 350 jobs from multiplier effects of direct employment

%\$70 million in purchases, contracted services, travel, student aid and equipment





#### **Research and Quality Education**

Research opportunities attract outstanding faculty

Research integral to curriculum that reflects up-to-date knowledge

Control of the student of the stu

Quality of UA research institutions attracts out-of-state students and retains Alaskan students

Puilds a pipeline of outstanding students who become employees of Alaska businesses





# Instruction, mentoring, research, and outreach

...brought together within undergraduate, graduate and continuing education programs to benefit Alaska, the nation, and the world.



#### **BLaST:** Biomedical Learning and Student Training



Mentored research experiences for over 200 undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds at UAF, UAS and Ilisagvik College. Program funded \$23 million National Institutes of Health, focusing on undergraduate research and mentoring of students - focus on rural and Alaska Native students.





## **UA Research Makes Communities Healthier**

- UA provides research necessary for permitting projects and management of healthy fish and wildlife populations
- Biomedical and health research programs address important issues including mental health, suicide prevention and opioid addiction







#### **One Health Initiative**

- Considers interdependence of Human, Animal, and Environmental Health
- Builds interdisciplinary partnerships across university, state and federal agencies, and community leaders







#### **Industry-University Cooperatives**

Support applied research, technology transfer, and education



Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center

Since 2000 industry contributed over \$8.8 million for marine research and graduate education at College of Fisheries & Ocean Sciences





# UA Research for National Security

#### Wilson Alaska Technical Center

- Operates Dept. of Defense nuclear monitoring facilities worldwide
- One of only 18 DoD University Affiliated Research Centers
- Over \$50 million in funding since 2008



#### UA Research for Earthquake and Disaster Preparedness





Alaska Earthquake Center

Real-time monitoring, research, and service for the State of Alaska









- Tracks seismic, weather conditions
- Helps protect communities and critical infrastructure
- USArray -- partnership with National Science Foundation





#### **UA Research for Military**

#### U.S. Navy ICEX Ice Camp

- Support under-ice activities of Navy's Arctic Submarine Lab
- Predicts ice conditions days to months out for safety assessments
- Industry partnerships providing seasonal outlooks for operations planning
- Work with Navy, NOAA National Ice Center and private sector







#### **Arctic Domain Awareness Center**

- Conducts research across network of academic and industry partners (\$3.5 million fed. funds)
- Research improves situational awareness, crisis response capabilities in Arctic
- Trains future leaders for Dept. of Homeland Security via structured education programs
- ADAC's principal customer: <u>U.S. Coast</u> <u>Guard</u> ...supports Arctic search & rescue, disaster response, and law enforcement missions





ADAC technology – Modeling arctic oil spill impacts under ice









# UA Research for Intelligence Community

#### Arctic GeoData Cooperative

- Satellite downlink for domain awareness
- Partnership of Alaska Satellite
  Facility, GeoNorth and Lockheed
  Martin
- Supplies National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) radar data from space
- Dept. of Defense applications



#### **UA Research on Economic Geology of Alaska**





#### **Research to increase Oil Production**

First North Slope field tests using Polymer Floods technique for recovery of heavy oil



Hilcorp



Industry-driven research leveraging federal funds





ATIONAL



#### **Intellectual Property and Commercialization**

- Moving research from ideas to markets
- Fostering culture of innovation and entrepreneurialism
- Diversifying and enriching Alaska economy





Business incubator to turns ideas and research into business success



# **Alaska's "Innovation Pipeline"**



Many Traditions One Alaska



#### How UA Feeds Alaska's Innovation Pipeline

- 1. Direct licenses to existing companies for UAdeveloped IP (Intellectual Property)
- 2. Forming spin-off companies to commercialize UA-developed IP
- 3. Working with industry to develop new ideas and products
- 4. Supporting student innovation to build an entrepreneurial workforce for tomorrow





## V-ADAPT, inc.

- U.S. Air Force funded research over +15 years
- Market opportunity in aviation sector
- Start-up company June 2013

#### **Invention Disclosures**

**Declared Intellectual Property** 

Licensed Technology











Computer modeling for volcanic ash plumes from North Pacific volcanoes







## **Grid Bridging System**

- New energy technology developed by UA's Alaska Center on Energy & Power (ACEP)
- Collaboration and funding with U.S.
  Office of Naval Research
- Modular system increases renewable energy on grid
- Deployed with Alaska Village Electric Cooperative - applicability beyond Alaska



System testing and characterization at ACEP's Power Systems Lab







## NemaMetrix

- UAF researchers invented quick, simple way to sort C. elegans used in their research by size (age)
- UAF received provisional patent for this system

 IP licensed by company based in Oregon, which is developing it further



C. Elegans - common model organism used in broad range of lab research







# Coupi

- Company commercializes IP developed supporting NASA missions
- 6 full-time employees and internship opportunities to UAF students

 Technology generated over \$25k in licensing revenue



Coupi Physical world models

Uses discrete element analysis modeling technique



Internship nternship opportunities for several UAF students across disciplines







