

SB

37

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SPONSOR STATEMENT

Senate Bill 37 Approp: UAF Bioscience Facility

Senate Bill 37 appropriates \$105 million from the general fund to the University of Alaska to design, construct, and equip a bioscience facility, or BIOS, on the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus. BIOS is the University of Alaska Board of Regents only priority for new construction projects this year.

The new 110,000 square-foot building will house research laboratories for 18 university programs as well as classroom space and teaching labs. BIOS will consolidate current research and teaching facilities built prior to 1960, and located on opposite ends of campus, into one building equipped with state-of-the-art laboratories for both researchers and students. BIOS will enhance opportunities for students to participate in research alongside University of Alaska's top researchers and thus attract and retain more students.

Each year the University of Alaska generates more than \$130 million from outside sources to support research activities at the university's various campuses. For every dollar the state invests into the University of Alaska research activities, the university is able to leverage \$6 from other new revenue sources. Construction of the bioscience facility, with its top-notch lab equipment, will provide the much-needed space to expand biomedical and health research at the University of Alaska and will firmly establish Alaska's nationwide role in bioscience research.

Please join me in support of this construction project and pass Senate Bill 37.

March 9, 2007

Proudly Representing the Golden Heart of Alaska



Alaska State Legislature

Senate Republican Minority

Web: www.aksenateminority.com

Sponsor: Senator Gary Wilken
Contact: Sheila Peterson, 465-3709
Bill Version: SB 37

Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 37

Short Title: APPROPRIATION: BIOSCIENCE FACILITY UAF

Summary:

- Appropriates \$105 million from the general fund to the University of Alaska to design, construct, and equip a bioscience facility on the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) campus.

Benefits:

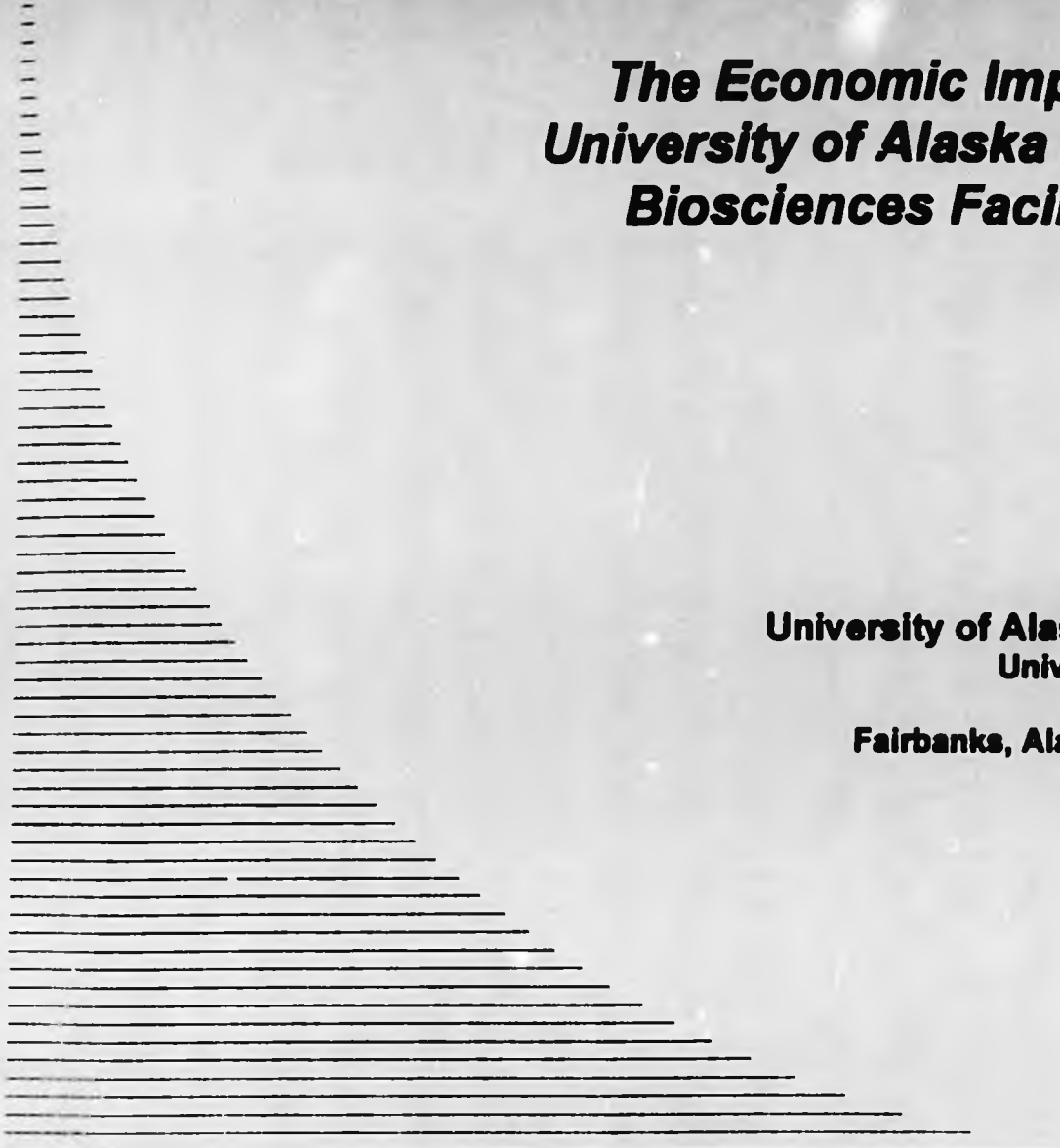
- Provides funding to construct a 110,000 square-foot building to house research laboratories for 18 university programs, as well as classroom space and teaching labs.
- Consolidates current research and teaching facilities located on opposite ends of campus into one building equipped for research and teaching of modern cellular and molecular biology.
- Provides modern labs and enhances opportunities for students to participate in research alongside UAF's top researchers.
- Helps attract and retain students.

Background:

- A majority of the biology teaching and research labs at UAF were built prior to the 1960s. These labs are not equipped for research and teaching of modern cellular and molecular biology. The research and teaching functions of these disciplines are currently housed in separate buildings built prior to 1960.

University of Alaska Fairbanks conducts nearly 90 percent of research for the entire university system. Grants for research in biology and arctic science have totaled nearly \$50 million since FY02. Additional space for teaching and research labs is necessary to grow the research enterprise in the life sciences.

The Economic Impact of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Biosciences Facility (BIOS)



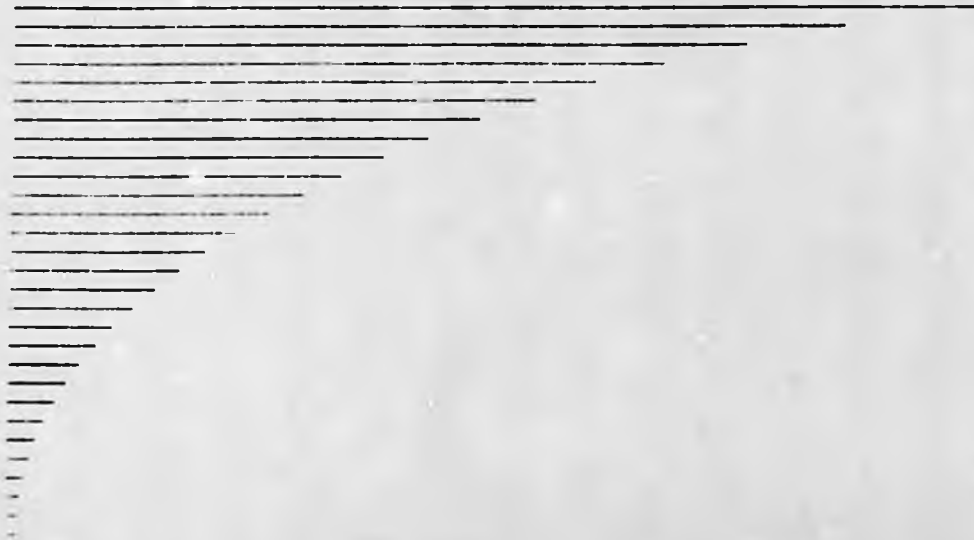
PREPARED FOR:
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Research-Based Consulting

Juneau
Anchorage
Kodiak

December 20, 2006



Introduction

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is planning the construction of a 110,000 square-foot biological sciences (BIOS) facility on the Fairbanks campus. The facility is expected to cost \$105 million to construct, including \$11 million for utilities and \$94 million for the research facility. Construction is expected to begin in 2008, with scheduled completion in 2012.

The BIOS facility is planned to include four or five research labs, nine teaching labs, a 90-seat lecture hall, 35,000 square feet of teaching space and 65,000 square feet of research space.

The purpose of this study is to predict the economic impact of the BIOS facility, in Fairbanks and elsewhere in Alaska.

Economic Impact Analysis

There is a range of potential economic impacts associated with the BIOS project, some direct, and others indirect. The types of impacts include:

- Jobs and income associated with the 4-5 year construction phase of the facility
- Annual spending in support of the facilities, including routine maintenance, utilities and other expenditures related to day-to-day operations
- Economic activity associated with increased flow of research funds, and increased faculty and student enrollment associated with the BIOS facility.

This range of economic impacts is described in more detail, below.

Construction Phase Economic Impacts

The \$105 million construction project will have direct and indirect impacts on the Fairbanks economy. Using the IMPLAN economic impact modeling system, it is possible to estimate the number of jobs that will be created in Fairbanks during the construction phase. IMPLAN also provides an estimate of labor income (payroll) associated with the construction effort, as well as total spending (output) related to the project.¹

Economic impacts are measured in terms of "direct," "indirect" and "induced." For a construction project like BIOS, direct jobs include all the employment on the construction project itself. Indirect jobs stem from local purchase of goods and services in support of the construction effort. This could include purchase of construction materials, fuel for equipment, etc. Induced jobs are the result of expenditure of construction labor force payroll dollars in the local economy. Together, indirect and induced effects are often termed "multiplier" effects.

This analysis indicates that output associated with the BIOS project will total \$153 million. This measure of total spending related to the project includes the \$105 million price tag for construction, plus \$48 million in indirect and induced spending

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in the Fairbanks economy (a multiplier of just under 1.5). This measure of output includes spending on construction materials, supplies and equipment, as well as labor income for the project-related workforce.

Employment will average 330 jobs for a four-year construction effort. UAF has indicated that design will be completed in 2008 with construction occurring during the 2008-2012 period. While construction-related activity may occur over a five-year period, for purposes of this analysis it is assumed that actual construction will take four years. Of the annual average of 330 jobs, 220 are direct, on-site jobs, and 110 are indirect and induced jobs in the Fairbanks service and support sector.

Labor income (which includes employee compensation and proprietor income) is expected to total \$72 million. The four-year annual average is \$18 million. Direct labor income is \$56 million, or \$14 million per year. This suggests an annual wage of \$64,000 for the construction labor force. This number is reasonably consistent with the Fairbanks construction sector wage reported by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (ADOLWD). For 2005, ADOLWD reported an average monthly wage of \$4,695, or \$56,300 annually.

The BIOS construction project will generate \$15.5 million in indirect and induced labor income in Fairbanks' service and supply sectors.

BIOS Construction Impacts in Fairbanks

	Direct	Indirect	Induced	Total
Total Output (millions of \$)	105.0	17.6	30.0	152.6
Employment (annual average)	220	40	70	330
Total Labor Income (millions of \$)	56.4	6.3	9.3	72.0

A large Fairbanks area construction project, such as BIOS, will have economic effects in Southcentral Alaska and the Anchorage area in particular. In many respects, Anchorage is the commercial hub for all of Alaska. Construction companies, engineering firms, wholesalers and retailers, and many other types of businesses are headquartered in Anchorage. Further, large volumes of freight destined for the Interior move through the Port of Anchorage. Also, with half of Alaska's population, the Anchorage area (in combination with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and Kenai Peninsula Borough) is home to a large pool of skilled construction labor. Because of this, construction activity in the Interior stimulates economic activity in Southcentral Alaska.

When the economic impact of the BIOS project is examined in a geographic context that includes Southcentral Alaska as well as Fairbanks, it is evident that there will be significant economic activity outside of Fairbanks related to the project.

When the economic effects in Anchorage, Mat-Su and the Kenai Peninsula are included in the analysis, total BIOS project-related output reaches \$174 million. Total direct and indirect employment increases to an annual average of 385, and total payroll rises to \$81 million.

BIOS Construction Impacts in Fairbanks & Southcentral Alaska

	Direct	Indirect	Induced	Total
Total Output (millions of \$)	105.0	25.6	43.0	173.6
Employment (annual average)	225	60	100	385
Total Labor Income (millions of \$)	57.5	9.5	13.8	80.8

This analysis indicates the economic effects of the BIOS project in Southcentral will include:

- \$21 million in total output
- Annual average of 55 jobs over a four-year construction phase
- A total of \$8.8 million in labor income.

Most of this economic activity will be in the Anchorage area.

Other Economic Effects of the BIOS Project

There are a number of other economic effects directly or indirectly related to the BIOS project that are not possible to quantify within the scope of this study, but can at least be described qualitatively. For example, BIOS is expected to:

Attract additional research funds, enhance faculty retention and draw new students to UAF: National and international competition among universities for research dollars is fierce, as is competition for top faculty. State-of-the-art facilities can attract (or keep) the best researchers and the best researchers can attract more research funds. UAF expects the BIOS to play a key role in attracting more research dollars to Alaska. According to UAF, grant awards for biology and arctic sciences have totaled \$50 million since FY2002.² For each additional dollar of research money drawn into Alaska from federal government or other sources, Alaska will enjoy \$1.70 in total direct and indirect economic activity.³

"Back-fill" benefits: Construction of the 110,000 square foot BIOS facility will free up space in buildings now occupied by biological sciences faculty and students. This will allow other UAF programs to expand. Therefore, while the purpose of BIOS is to facilitate the growth of UAF's biological sciences programs, it could remove space-related constraints on other programs at the university.

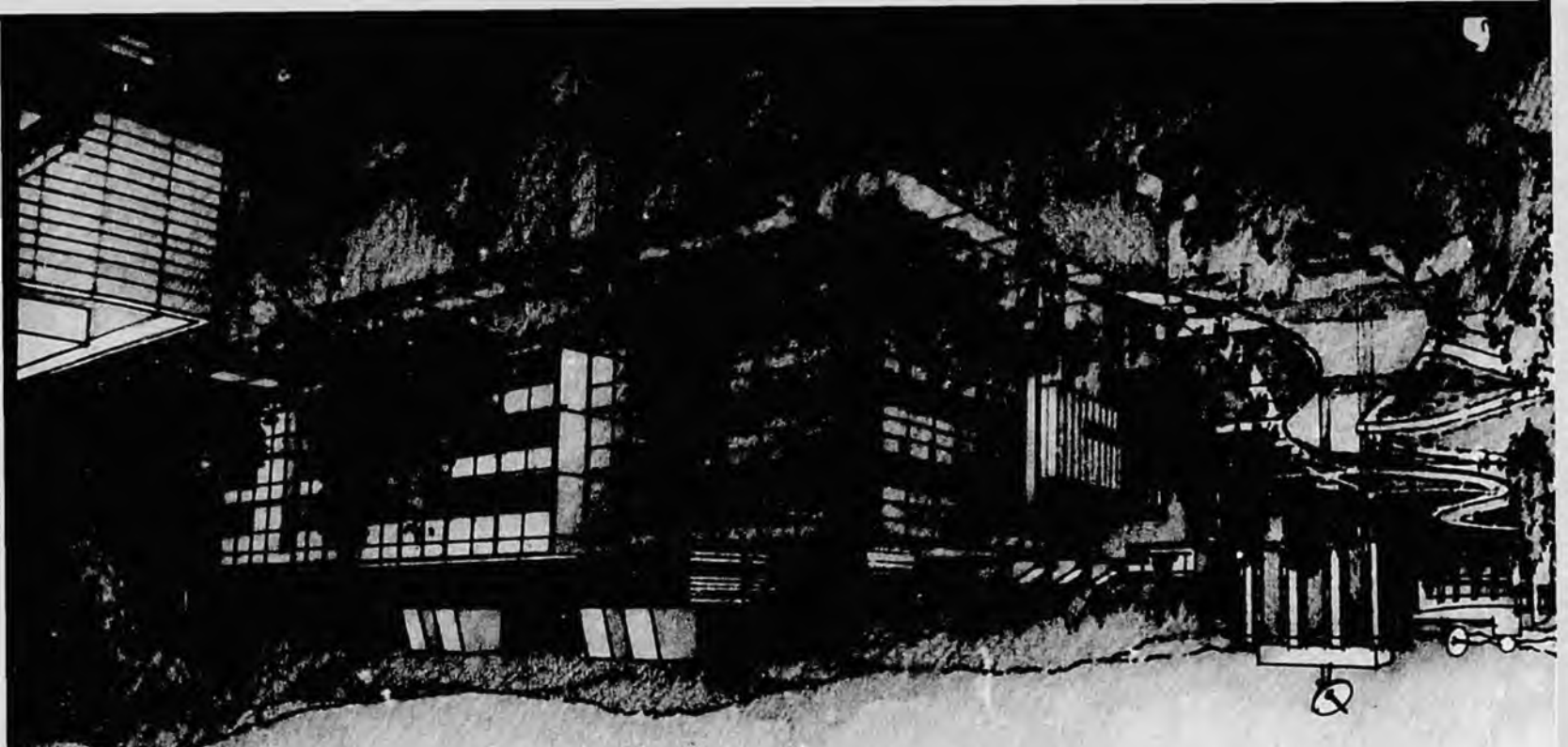
Summary

Construction of the UAF BIOS facility will generate \$174 million in total direct economic output in Alaska, \$81 million in labor income, and annual average employment of 385 workers over a four-year construction period. While most of this economic impact will be in Fairbanks, 10 to 15 percent of total project-related economic activity will occur in Southcentral Alaska, primarily Anchorage.

In addition to this measurable economic activity related to the BIOS project, UAF and Fairbanks could experience other economic benefits associated with increased research funding, increased biological sciences program enrollment, and expansion of other programs as research and instructional space becomes available.

² <http://www.uaf.edu/bios/faq.html#1>

³ IMPLAN data indicates the output multiplier in Alaska for "scientific research and development services" is 1.7



Advancing Bioscience Learning & Discovery at UAF

BUILDING ON EXCELLENCE

Critical Facts About BIOS

- The University of Alaska Fairbanks is the only doctoral degree-granting institution in Alaska. More UAF undergraduates choose majors from within the biology and wildlife department than from within any other department on campus. BIOS will allow for growth in both the teaching and research arms of UAF's biological sciences programs.
- UAF's existing biology teaching labs were built prior to 1960. BIOS will provide undergraduate and graduate students, as well as researchers, with modern laboratories for teaching and will foster opportunities for students to participate in hands-on research at every level.
- A strong biosciences and biomedicine program is critical to Alaska's future. BIOS teaching and research laboratories will support programs that prepare students to meet the demands of many high demand fields in the state, including health care, resource management and many biomedical research fields.
- As a Land, Sea and Space Grant institution, the University of Alaska Fairbanks has a tripartite mission to teach, conduct research and provide service. BIOS is key to this mission, and will foster an outstanding academic environment for UAF students and faculty, as well as provide the catalyst for research applicable to Alaska and beyond.
- UAF's Strategic Plan 2010 calls for the construction of modern facilities which will provide the infrastructure necessary to address the research and teaching needs of Alaska. **BIOS is critical to UAF in achieving this goal.**



Photo © Patrick J. Endres/Alaskaphotographics.com

"Biological sciences and wildlife biology are high demand degrees for employment. In order for Alaskans to be competitive for these jobs we need quality facilities to train our students. The new building will ensure our graduates bring the latest state of the art to their future employers. We want Alaskan students prepared for jobs as Alaska grows."

Jean Braddock, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Natural Science
and Mathematics, UAF

"One of the benefits of going to a university like UAF is that there's a lot of interaction with professors doing research, but even the best instructor can't teach what they need to teach if they don't have what they need."

Jeff Wells, UAF Wildlife Biology Undergraduate Student

Today's high school students come to UAF expecting to learn in modern facilities. BIOS will provide the teaching and research laboratories students expect to find in a science program at the state's premier land, sea and space grant university.

UAF Photo by Todd Pans

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America's Arctic University

BIOSCIENCES
FACILITY

BIOS Total Project Cost
\$105 million for design,
utilities, construction and
equipment for the 110,000
square-foot facility

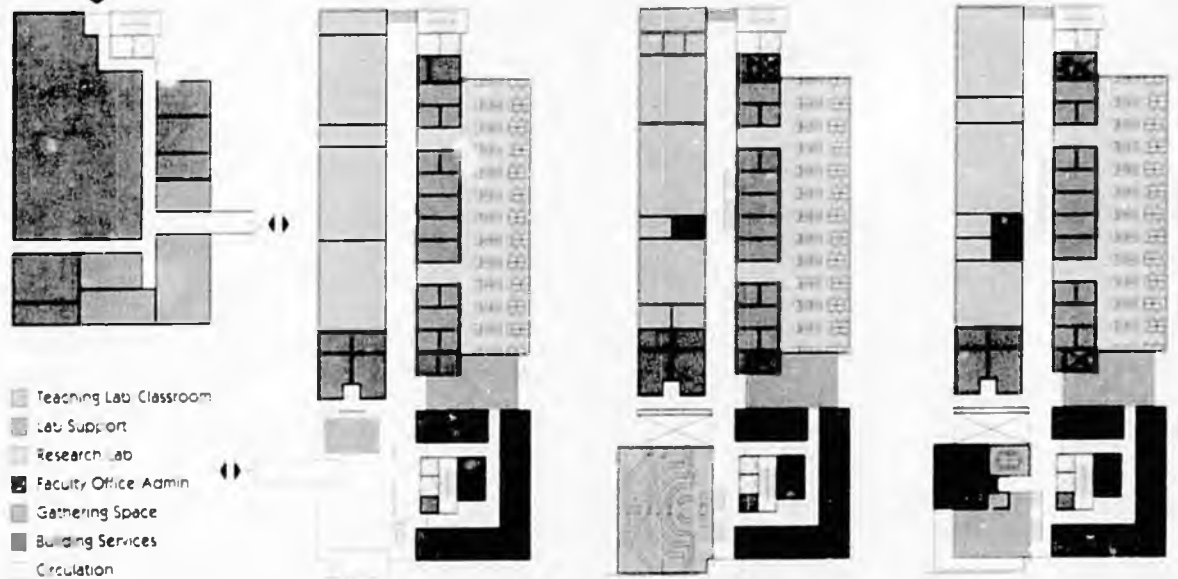
BIOS Schedule
Design completed 2008,
Construction 2008-2012

Basement

Floor 1

Floor 2

Floor 3



Dr. Allison Killiker, an Athabascan Indian from Nome, graduated from UAF in 2001 with a bachelor of science degree in indigenous medicine. This interdisciplinary degree with a premed focus prepared her for the University of Washington School of Medicine where she received her M.D. in 2005. Her post-graduate work is with the Alaska Family Practice Residency in Anchorage.

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- Consolidates current research and teaching facilities located on opposite ends of campus into one building equipped for research and teaching of modern cellular and molecular biology.
- Provides modern labs and enhances opportunities for students to participate in research alongside UAF's top researchers.
- Helps attract and retain students.

Background:

- A majority of the biology teaching and research labs at UAF were built prior to the 1960s. These labs are not equipped for research and teaching of modern cellular and molecular biology. The research and teaching functions of these disciplines are currently housed in separate buildings built prior to 1960.

University of Alaska Fairbanks conducts nearly 90 percent of research for the entire university system. Grants for research in biology and arctic science have totaled nearly \$50 million since FY02. Additional space for teaching and research labs is necessary to grow the research enterprise in the life sciences.

ADVANCING ALASKA

TEACHING

Your support is critical

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is planning a biological sciences facility to meet Alaska's educational, research and workforce development needs in the life sciences.

BIOS, a 110,000-square-foot building, will provide modern facilities to integrate teaching and research in one of UAF's fastest-growing programs—biological sciences. BIOS will address critical research and teaching needs in biomedicine, wildlife biology, physiology, ecosystem and global change science, evolutionary biology and population genetics.

1270 SCIENTISTS
\$105 MILLION
CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH FACILITY
9 TEACHING LABS
65,000 SQUARE FEET OF RESEARCH SPACE

Teaching

As the state's only doctoral degree-granting institution, UAF's expertise in basic biological research serves as the foundation for preparing students for high-demand careers in biological sciences as well as for advanced degrees in animal and human health.

Most of UAF's existing biology teaching labs were built before 1960. BIOS will provide modern labs and enhance opportunities for students to participate in research alongside UAF's top researchers, which will help attract and retain students.

Research

Research and teaching are part of a continuum. Multidisciplinary science teams work with students in genomics, Alaska Native health, toxicology, environmental physiology, virology, neurosciences and bioinformatics.

Grant awards in biology and arctic sciences have totaled nearly \$50 million since FY2002. This investment has led to an extraordinary increase in research activity, the hiring of new faculty and the expansion of programs. BIOS will free up space to further expand important research programs at UAF.

Advancing Alaska

A strong biosciences and biomedicine program is critical to Alaska's future. The new generation of scientists must be well prepared to tackle the state's top challenges: invasive species, changing environment and emerging diseases.

Basic research at UAF helps foster a better understanding of public health problems that affect us all: avian influenza, Alzheimer's disease, stroke, Parkinson's disease and sudden infant death syndrome.



Contact us

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America's Arctic University

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.
UAF is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution. 12/2006

UAF
UNIVERSITY OF
ALASKA
FAIRBANKS



BIOS - frequently asked questions

If you have a question about the Biosciences Facility that is not addressed here, please e-mail fybios@uaf.edu or visit www.uaf.edu/bios/ for more information.

By the numbers

- 3 large, open research labs
- 9 teaching labs
- 18 lead scientists
- 90-seat lecture hall
- 170 scientists
- 1,350 students
- 35,000 square feet of teaching space
- 65,000 square feet of research space
- \$11-million utilities expansion
- \$94-million, cutting-edge research facility

Why do we need a new building for life sciences?

UAF students and faculty require new, modern facilities equipped with the latest technologies for teaching and research, but the current facilities just don't meet their needs. Most of the biology teaching and research labs at UAF were built prior to the 1960s. These labs are not equipped for the research and teaching of modern cellular and molecular biology.

The research and teaching functions of these disciplines are currently housed in separate buildings, in some cases on opposite ends of campus. In the new Biosciences Facility, or BIOS, students will take classes across the hall from scientists actively involved in research projects. Laboratories will be visible to students throughout the facility, inspiring integrated learning and teaching opportunities.

How does BIOS contribute to UAF's research mission?

UAF conducts nearly 90 percent of research for the entire university system, and awards in the area of biological and arctic health have been nearly \$50 million since FY02. In order to continue to grow the research enterprise in the life sciences, additional space is needed for both teaching and research labs.

The building will support existing biology programs and new biomedicine programs by accommodating the activities of hundreds of scientists and graduate, undergraduate and postdoctoral researchers, including nearly 18 lead scientists responsible for securing new research dollars.

What are the research benefits to Alaska?

Basic research at UAF helps find solutions to public health problems such as Alzheimer's disease, stroke, Parkinson's disease and sudden infant death syndrome.

There is potential for expansion of research, but only if UAF has the facilities to accommodate cutting-edge projects and scientists.



America's Arctic University

Why is it critical that we build BIOS now?

UAF has maximized its research capabilities given the limited number of laboratories available on the main campus. Additional researchers and their expanding programs have been squeezed into spaces that are not sufficient for performing highly technical experiments. In order to maintain and increase research activities and research revenue, as well as attract and retain students in this area, UAF needs adequate space to accommodate both teaching and research.

Why fund a building that will benefit, for the most part, one major?

The building will benefit many UAF students. All students are required to take science courses and many choose to take biology. Biology is also the largest undergraduate, graduate and Ph.D. program at UAF. The facility will help retain quality faculty, which in turn attracts the best students.

How much will it cost?

The 110,000-square-foot integrated research and teaching facility will cost \$94 million for the building design and construction and an additional \$11 million for utilities expansion. The total capital request for the facility is \$105 million.

How does the cost compare with other facilities?

The construction cost for Biosciences Facility is estimated at \$650 to \$675 per square foot. This is very comparable to similar facilities recently constructed at similar institutions. Constructing lab space requires special ventilation, power, finishes and lab benches that significantly increase the cost per square foot.

How does this compare to other buildings on the UAF campus?

The proposed facility has a mix of research and academic spaces similar in size and interior finishes to the Natural Sciences Facility, which was constructed in the early 1990s. In today's dollars, the Natural Sciences Facility would cost roughly \$92 million.

What are the next steps in the budget process?

The University of Alaska Board of Regents has approved the BIOS project as its highest new construction priority. The regents' FY08 capital budget request has been submitted to the governor for consideration. The next step is communicating the importance of BIOS to the state of Alaska and enlisting support from legislators for the project.

Where will it be located?

The facility will be located on the Fairbanks campus, specifically on West Ridge at the intersection of Sheenjek and Koyukuk drives, across the street from the new Biological and Diagnostics Facility and the Alaska Division of Health and Social Services Virology Building.

When will it be completed?

Contingent upon funding, site development will begin in 2007 in preparation for construction in 2008. If full funding is received in FY08, the building would be occupied during the spring 2012 semester.

This is UAF's number one capital budget priority, but what about maintenance of already existing facilities?

UAF will continue to work toward addressing renovation and renewal needs. BIOS will help over the long term by providing an opportunity for renovating space vacated by moves to BIOS. The new facility will provide appropriate lab space and also alleviate congestion and overcrowding.

How much research space will BIOS provide?

The BIOS facility will provide research labs for 18 lead scientists and an additional 170 researchers. Associated with each lab will be support space for specialized equipment, freezers, fume hoods and storage for seasonal gear.

On the teaching side, rooms that can accommodate between 16 and 32 students will be constructed to house all UAF's academic biology labs. The labs will be adjacent to preparation rooms that can serve two rooms at once. By using moveable benches, the rooms can be configured to present any number of biological subject matter from introductory biology to cellular and molecular biology. The nearly 1,500 students that take a biology class each year will have their lab sessions in this single facility. One large classroom and a computer room will be constructed to serve the majority of the biology and wildlife lectures.

Office space, gathering areas and other ancillary spaces will provide students more interaction with the researchers.

Does this facility fit into an overall plan for research facilities?

This facility was planned as part of a larger biological research and computational facility that would also address aging animal care facilities and space needs of the state virology lab. The most immediate space needs were addressed by a series of smaller projects:

- **West Ridge Research Building**—Built in 2004 and funded at 80 percent by research activity and 20 percent by a general obligation bond
- **Biological Research and Diagnostics Facility**—Expected completion in December 2006. Accommodates research in infectious diseases and animal care needs
- **Alaska State Public Health Virology Lab**—Expected groundbreaking in 2007. UAF will pay for 5,000 square feet of assignable space in the basement of this state-owned, state-funded building. This is a joint effort between the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Division of Public Health and UAF.
- **Biosciences Facility**—Proposed construction from 2007-2012. Completes the much-needed teaching component to the benefit of students in the life sciences, by providing adequate teaching and research space.

It doesn't seem that long ago that the UAF Natural Sciences Facility was built. Are we ready for a new building?

The Natural Sciences Facility was built in 1992, more than 14 years ago. It provided modern facilities for chemistry, geology and physics, but it does not address life sciences space, including labs, most of which were built prior to 1960.

The Biosciences Facility will free up space in the Bunnell Building and the Arctic Health Research Building. How will that space be used?

Other academic and research units will use those areas once space analysis and planning is complete. The good news is that many research and academic programs at UAF are growing, but more space is needed to accommodate that growth.

UAA just received funding for a large science facility. Why do we need redundancy?

There are nearly 500 biology majors at the Fairbanks campus and hundreds more who take biology classes each year. These students shouldn't have to move to Anchorage to take biology courses. In addition, the environment in the Interior Alaska is much different than the Anchorage Bowl, thus the research work done by students and faculty is often very different.

Your support is critical.

UAF is an AA/EQ employer and educational institution. University Relations 12/06

***The Economic Impact of the
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Biosciences Facility (BIOS)***

**PREPARED FOR:
University of Alaska Fairbanks
University Relations
Po Box 757520
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-7520**



Research-Based Consulting

**Juneau
Anchorage
Kodiak**

December 20, 2006

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Employment (annual average)	220	40	70	330
Total Labor Income (millions of \$)	56.4	6.3	9.3	72.0

A large Fairbanks area construction project, such as BIOS, will have economic effects in Southcentral Alaska and the Anchorage area in particular. In many respects, Anchorage is the commercial hub for all of Alaska. Construction companies, engineering firms, wholesalers and retailers, and many other types of businesses are headquartered in Anchorage. Further, large volumes of freight destined for the Interior move through the Port of Anchorage. Also, with half of Alaska's population, the Anchorage area (in combination with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and Kenai Peninsula Borough) is home to a large pool of skilled construction labor. Because of this, construction activity in the Interior stimulates economic activity in Southcentral Alaska.

When the economic impact of the BIOS project is examined in a geographic context that includes Southcentral Alaska as well as Fairbanks, it is evident that there will be significant economic activity outside of Fairbanks related to the project.

When the economic effects in Anchorage, Mat-Su and the Kenai Peninsula are included in the analysis, total BIOS project-related output reaches \$174 million. Total direct and indirect employment increases to an annual average of 385, and total payroll rises to \$81 million.

BIOS Construction Impacts in Fairbanks & Southcentral Alaska

	Direct	Indirect	Induced	Total
Total Output (millions of \$)	105.0	25.6	43.0	173.6
Employment (annual average)	225	60	100	385
Total Labor Income (millions of \$)	57.5	9.5	13.8	80.8

This analysis indicates the economic effects of the BIOS project in Southcentral will include:

- \$21 million in total output
- Annual average of 55 jobs over a four-year construction phase
- A total of \$8.8 million in labor income.

Most of this economic activity will be in the Anchorage area.

Other Economic Effects of the BIOS Project

There are a number of other economic effects directly or indirectly related to the BIOS project that are not possible to quantify within the scope of this study, but can at least be described qualitatively. For example, BIOS is expected to:

Attract additional research funds, enhance faculty retention and draw new students to UAF: National and international competition among universities for research dollars is fierce, as is competition for top faculty. State-of-the-art facilities can attract (or keep) the best researchers and the best researchers can attract more research funds. UAF expects the BIOS to play a key role in attracting more research dollars to Alaska. According to UAF, grant awards for biology and arctic sciences have totaled \$50 million since FY2002.² For each additional dollar of research money drawn into Alaska from federal government or other sources, Alaska will enjoy \$1.70 in total direct and indirect economic activity.³

"Back-fill" benefits: Construction of the 110,000 square foot BIOS facility will free up space in buildings now occupied by biological sciences faculty and students. This will allow other UAF programs to expand. Therefore, while the purpose of BIOS is to facilitate the growth of UAF's biological sciences programs, it could remove space-related constraints on other programs at the university.

Summary

Construction of the UAF BIOS facility will generate \$174 million in total direct economic output in Alaska, \$81 million in labor income, and annual average employment of 385 workers over a four-year construction period. While most of this economic impact will be in Fairbanks, 10 to 15 percent of total project-related economic activity will occur in Southcentral Alaska, primarily Anchorage.

In addition to this measurable economic activity related to the BIOS project, UAF and Fairbanks could experience other economic benefits associated with increased research funding, increased biological sciences program enrollment, and expansion of other programs as research and instructional space becomes available.

² <http://www.uaf.edu/bios/faq.html#1>

³ IMPLAN data indicates the output multiplier in Alaska for "scientific research and development services" is 1.7.

FAIRBANKS
Daily News - Minor

3/5/07

"Independent in All Things ... Neutral in None"

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A future with BIOS

The three main campuses of the University of Alaska each have their own identities, with the Fairbanks campus unquestionably known as the location for high science and research. Yet that fact doesn't mean that investment in science and research is something that benefits just the Fairbanks area and the Fairbanks campus.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is part of a unified University of Alaska system that also reaches beyond the three prime campuses of the state's three main urban centers. Students from various parts of the Alaska populate those campuses, as do the large number who come from Outside.

It is that broad appeal that we ask legislators to remember when they consider the University of Alaska's request to fund a major biosciences building at the Fairbanks campus. Gov. Sarah Palin has chosen to exclude the \$105 million project, the only new construction priority of the University of Alaska Board of Regents, from her recently released and exceptionally lean capital budget. Perhaps she can be convinced over the coming weeks to change her view.

The biosciences building deserves a fair hearing in the Legislature, where several Fairbanks legislators plan to continue pressing for the funding. Rep. Mike Kelly and Sen. Gary Wilken, both Republicans, have each filed a bill appropriating the money for the project. Sen. Joe Thomas, a Democrat in his first weeks as a legislator, also supports the building and has a platform from his seat on the Senate Finance Committee.

Anyone who thinks the building — called BIOS — is something that would benefit just Fairbanks should pause to consider a few things

BIOS will contain research laboratories for 18 programs, in addition to classroom space. And what about the work that would be conducted in those research labs? Molecular and cellular research inside those labs can help in the fight against any number of serious human health conditions.

There's another reason to invest in this project. University officials are rightly fond of reminding the state's policymakers that the university is an economic provider for the state. Research is an essential part of that, with more than \$130 million coming in to the state each year through the several university campuses.

There's a lot of talk these days about building for the future by planning for the hoped-for — still — natural gas pipeline. Alaska's leaders would be making a mistake, however, by shortchanging other aspects of the economy, aspects like the University of Alaska's research programs.

Legislators should give real consideration this session to funding the BIOS building for the University of Alaska.

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/16/07

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: _____
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 3/14/07

Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered

SENATE BILL NO. 37

SB 37 APPROP: BIOSCIENCE FACILITY UAF

"An Act making an appropriation for a bioscience facility at the University of Alaska Fairbanks; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with SCS or CS _____ (_____)
- adopt previous SCS or CS _____ (_____)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- further referral to _____ Committee

SENATE BILL:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Title
<hr/>	
HOUSE BILL:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technical Title Change
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Title w/ SCR # _____

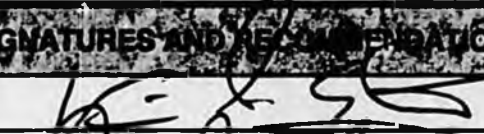
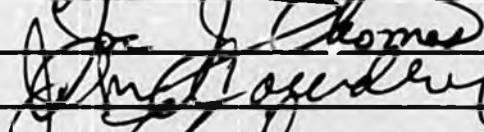
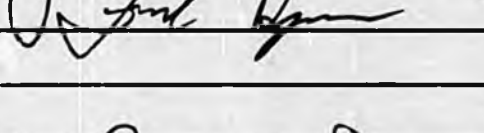
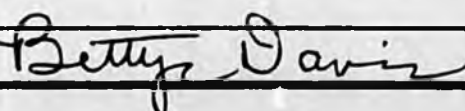
NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Index	Zero	FN#

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Index	Zero	FN#

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS	PRINTED NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	AMEND	AMEND
	Beth Thomas	✓			
	Amy Cowden	✓			
	Dyson			✓	
CHAIR: 	DAVIS	X			