

## **Core Revitalization and Assessment Executive Summary      May 4, 2009**

The Core Revitalization and Assessment Committee make the following major recommendations (further details are given in the detailed recommendation section):

1. UAF should adopt the AACU Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) Essential Learning Outcomes as the new major learning

LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes include modern expectations such as integrative and applied learning, civic knowledge and engagement at both local and global levels, skills for lifelong learning and teamwork. Fourth, much of UAF's current Core curriculum will carry over into a new hybrid Core based on the LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes.

2. UAF should implement a simple effective assessment of the new hybrid Core using multiple tools (e.g., survey and course embedded learning assessment) and have a clear assessment oversight process.
  - a. The National Survey of Student Engagement and the Community College Survey of Student Engagement have already been implemented at UAF and should continue to be administered on a regular periodic basis as indirect measures of student learning in the new hybrid Core.
  - b. Three common approaches to directly measure student learning are assessment at the course, program, or institutional level. UAF currently uses course assessment to determine how well students have learned intended outcomes associated with specific Core curriculum courses. Program level assessment embeds assessment within Core courses but summarizes results for the Core, as a whole. Institutional level assessment embeds assessment in upper division courses in the majors. Because UAF's Core curriculum is the foundation for AA and AS students, institutional assessment is not likely to work well for our purposes. The committee recommends that UAF establish objectives for the LEAP major learning outcomes described above and adopt a program level assessment