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## **SHAPING ALASKA'S FUTURE**

The University of Alaska shapes Alaska's future through leadership in student-centered higher education, research and innovation, partnerships with communities and industries, and engagement within circumpolar and Pacific Rim nations. Shaping Alaska's Future is our map for navigating the challenging terrain ahead, and it will guide decisions about people, programs and resources at UA for years to come.

The Shaping Alaska's Future initiative has created a framework for strengthening UA's culture of promoting excellence, continuous improvement and innovation. This effort has been guided by UA's mission statement: "The University of Alaska inspires learning, and advances and disseminates knowledge through teaching, research, and public service, emphasizing the North and its diverse peoples." (UA Board of Regents' Policy 01.01.01). Each of the system's three accredited universities contributes to this mission in distinctive ways.

### **Listening to Alaskans and Identifying State and National Trends**

Starting in October 2011, UA embarked on a series of more than 80 listening sessions with students, faculty, staff, alumni, Alaska's business leaders and employers, elected officials, K-12 partners and community members. The listening sessions surveyed how the UA system

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Based on both the Alaska listening sessions and a robust state and national dialogue, specific issue statements were developed within each theme that express compelling concerns raised about the university system. Effect statements associated with each issue statement collectively express

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## Theme 1: Student Achievement & Attainment

**Issue A** Like other open-

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## Theme 2:

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## Theme 3: Productive Partnerships with Public Entities and Private Industries

**Issue A**      Declining oil

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## Theme 4: Research & Development (R&D) and Scholarship to Enhance Alaska's Communities and Economic Growth

<b>Issue A</b>	UA needs to attain greater recognition for its accomplishments in research and development and its contributions to economic diversification and quality of life for Alaskans.
	<b>Effect: UA is the first choice of state and federal entities and private industries in Alaska to meet their research and development needs.</b>
<b>Issue B</b>	Some Alaska Native languages and cultural traditions are endangered. Many communities do not have sufficient resources to safeguard and nurture culture and the arts, so UA plays a vital role in preserving and advancing this knowledge and these traditions.
	<b>Effect: UA is</b>

