



2) If one or more of these functions was

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Additionally, Honors has been working with Recruitment on an event tied to the Undergraduate Research and Discovery Symposium. On the night of the keynote address, Honors and recruitment organized an event for prospective students. Prior to the keynote, there is a reception for prospective students, a mock class taught by an Honors professor. Everyone then attends the keynote address.

Honors also supports staff in other offices. Honors is a strong advocate of study abroad and community engagement. Honors works with Residence Life to hold events for the honors/scholars residential community.

- c. Impacts to UAA's reputation, and ability to attract and retain students and/or external support?

eliminating the Honors College would signal that UAA aspires to be, at best, a shining example of mediocrity. UAA's reputation and ability to attract and retain students. Many donors would be less inclined to support UAA.

I could answer at length to this question, but it would be largely anecdotal and speculative. I think it is more worthwhile to point out that a disproportionate number of commencement speakers, subjects of *Green and Gold* stories, and students featured in recruitment publications are Honors students.

In fact, enhancing the Honors College would be prudent at this time. Signaling to students that while we may have fewer programs, we are delivering them in the most impactful way is a good message. Budget cuts always make people feel like there is a dwindling number of opportunities. To combat that misconception by demonstrating a commitment to robust opportunities through Honors could help with recruitment and advancement (as well as retention and completion on the other end of the equation). As Honors is currently in the process of revising its curriculum to be compatible with more degree options at UAA, there is an opportunity for greatly increasing the impact of Honors on UAA more broadly. Honors can be enhanced in many ways other than through budget. Having greater capacity to recruit faculty to teach for Honors would be a wonderful enhancement that would resolve many long standing problems with delivering the Honors curriculum.

3) Identify measures and targets used to monitor the impact of functions on each of the above (not all elements may be relevant for your unit, only address relevant items).

- d. More students persisting and completing educational goals?

The appropriate measure to use is to compare Honors College students to a GPA normed peer cohort. Last time I checked this comparison, Honors Students (those who enrolled in Honors and took at least one honors course) were graduating in 6 years at nearly twice the rate of their GPA normed peer group.

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4) What improvements have been achieved over the last five years?

Over the past five years, there have been many improvements in student outcomes, student opportunities, campus partnerships, external funding for undergraduate research, resources for students, and student engagement.

In terms of student outcomes, the number of Honors College graduates has grown dramatically. The Honors College now graduates 2-3 times as many students every year as it did from 2007-2014. The number of undergraduate research grants has trended upward and participation in the Undergraduate Research Symposium has grown by over 20%. Also, the Honors College has supported the first UAA student to win a Rhodes Scholarship as well as the first UAA student to win a Humanities in Action Scholarship. We have recently been listed as a top producer of Fulbright Award recipients. (As a result of our research, and major scholarships) we have seen significant improvement in student outcomes in the last five years.

Student opportunities have also increased. Due to a new partnership with the Murdock Charitable Trust, UAA is invited to bring up to 8 students per year to a scientific undergraduate research conference hosted by the Murdock Charitable Trust. The Trust provides lodging and meals for students. Participating institutions only need to provide transportation. Also, Honors has formed a partnership with the Ludwig Foundation in Cuba, providing the opportunity for 3 students per year to conduct undergraduate research in Cuba. Through Honor's BUILD EXITO grant, students have had the opportunity to participate in an NIH funded undergraduate research development program in the health sciences. (The cohort size is 10 students. Out of the first cohort, three students are now in medical school. (In a way, this demonstrates how listing opportunities and outcomes as separate categories is a flawed approach. Opportunities lead to outcomes. If we take away student opportunities, such as those provided through the Honors College, outcomes will suffer.) Student opportunities in undergraduate research have also been increased by securing an endowment for undergraduate research funded by the Alaska Cardiovascular Research Institute. Student opportunities have also increased due to Honors developing strong relationships with academic departments across campus. Prior to five years ago, most courses in honors were taught by adjuncts or staff. Very

celebrates the great work UAA students do. Honors has also had a very good relationship with the MCC. Honors regularly participates in and support efforts of the Multi-Cultural Center and MCC staff recommend many of their students to the Honors College.

The Honors College has pursued an increase in student engagement through programming such as a beginning of the year retreat, social events, cultural events, and enrichment activities (workshops on writing a resume, etc..) Increased illegal



requested suggestions for reductions by suggesting that there are efficiencies to be found not only within administrative units, but across them.)