

**Memorandum of Agreement
Between
Alaska Natural Resource and Outdoor Education Association (ANROE)
And
Arctic Research Consortium of the United States (ARCUS)
Concerning
Collaboration Regarding Professional Development and Networking for Educators**

I. Introduction & Purpose:

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) sets forth the provisions and procedures to establish a partnership between ANROE and ARCUS and to establish a framework for ANROE and ARCUS to effectively collaborate on content and/or delivery of professional development for educators. In addition, both ANROE and ARCUS will increase sharing of their scientific and educator networks to the benefit of both organizations' members. ANROE is a statewide 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission "to promote and implement excellence in natural resource, outdoor, and environmental education for all Alaskans." ARCUS is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation serving the global Arctic research community. ARCUS serves as a catalyst for interdisciplinary thinking, acting, and education leading to the development of highly collaborative partnerships.

II. Objectives and Statement of Mutual Interests:

ANROE collaborates with organizations, agencies, and school districts to provide natural resource education resources to educators. Through its electronic newsletter, mailing list, and a web site with a Clearinghouse searchable database, ANROE members and the public share information about environmental education tools, techniques, employment, and professional development opportunities. Alaska presents special challenges to educators and those interested in youth program participation. They must find ways to adapt to vast distances, high costs, cultural diversity, and other factors unique to this magnificent state. As Alaska's population grows, the state needs strong commitment and collaboration from educators to ensure children and adults are prepared to become environmentally literate and make wise natural resource use decisions in the future. ANROE and its members are committed to helping fellow educators and youth providers meet these important challenges.

ANROE was a major partner in the statewide collaboration in which resulted in the development the Alaska Natural Resource and Environmental Literacy Plan (Plan). ANROE is focused on implementing the goals of this Plan to include:

1. Provide all PreK-12 children in Alaska with opportunities to engage in safe outdoor learning experiences as part of regular instruction.
2. Support Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Standards by further incorporating natural resources and environmental literacy across all subject areas.
3. Foster partnerships with non-profit organizations, businesses, industry groups, tribal organizations, and government agencies to enhance meaningful service-learning experiences for students that also benefit communities and their local environment.

4. Enhance professional development for educators, administrators, and community members in natural resource and environmental literacy.
5. Support development of Alaska school facilities, grounds, and local natural areas that provide accessible learning opportunities and serve as community models for healthy living and sustainability.

PolarTREC (Teachers and Researchers Exploring and Collaborating) is an ARCUS program in which K-12 teachers spend 3-6 weeks participating in hands-on field research experiences in the polar regions. The goal of PolarTREC is to invigorate polar science education and understanding by bringing K-12 educators and polar researchers together. By fostering the integration of research and education, PolarTREC will continue the momentum established during the International Polar Year (IPY) by addressing the following program objectives:

1. To improve teacher science and content knowledge of the polar regions and integration of topics into their classroom instruction.
2. To increase teachers' knowledge and use of science and engineering practices with their students in the classroom.
3. To develop teachers' educational leadership skills.
4. To increase students' understanding and engagement in the polar regions and interest in polar science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) careers.
5. To develop long-term professional relationships between teachers and researchers and to develop researcher understanding of K-12 education to strengthen outreach and dissemination of their research.

III. Roles and Responsibilities

ANROE will:

1. Make ANROE's online and webinar-based professional development educator courses available to ARCUS' PolarTREC members by linking to the ARCUS web site.
2. Link ARCUS' PolarTREC professional development opportunities to ANROE's web site.
3. Provide ARCUS with contacts for scientists in Alaska doing Arctic research.
4. Utilize ARCUS's webinar platform license for its webinar-based professional development courses. This use will be coordinated with the appropriate ARCUS employee.
5. ANROE will publicly credit ARCUS for its partnership.
6. ANROE will pay ARCUS the hourly rate for employee time spent by ARCUS in support of this agreement, including an indirect cost component, at the usual ARCUS rate, which may vary over time. These expenses will be agreed upon in advance of such work being undertaken.

ARCUS will:

1. Link to ANROE's professional development opportunities on the ARCUS web site.
2. Make ARCUS educational opportunities available to ANROE members by linking to the ANROE web site as well as utilizing the Polar Educator List, and social media outlets (Twitter, FB group).

3. Provide ANROE with contacts of scientists doing research in the Arctic.
4. Provide details necessary for ANROE to use the ARCUS' webinar platform license and will assist in its use.
5. Assist ANROE with ANROE focused/sponsored webinars (including advertising, training, archiving events, data collection, and implementation)

IV. Mutual Agreements:

ANROE and ARCUS mutually understand and agree to the following:


- a. **Participation in Similar Activities** – This instrument in no way restricts either Party from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.
- b. **Commencement/Expiration/Termination** – This instrument takes effect upon the date of the signatures below and shall remain in effect for a period of five (5) years, at which time the Parties shall review the program to assess progress and sustainability. ANROE agrees to pay ARCUS for the work outlined in the Roles and Responsibilities (Section III) agreed upon by the parties. ARCUS will invoice ANROE for work completed at the end of each month and/or in accordance with prior arrangements with ANROE. The ARCUS employee will be paid their hourly rate (\$86/hour) for the employee's time on the project.
- c. This MOA may be terminated at the written request of either ANROE or ARCUS at any time.
- d. **Modifications** – Modifications to this instrument must be mutually agreed upon and made in writing by appropriately authorized individuals.
- e. **Principal Contacts** – The Parties agree to immediately inform each other when the Principal Contact has changed in either organization. The Principal Contacts for this instrument are:

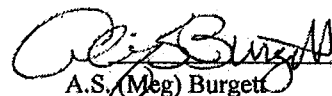
A.S. (Meg) Burgett
 Board Chair
 Alaska Natural Resources and
 Outdoor Education Association
asburgett@alaska.edu

Janet Warburton
 Project Manager
 Arctic Research Consortium of
 the United States
warburton@arcus.org

- f. **Authorized Representatives** – By signature below, the Parties certify that the individuals listed in this document as representatives of the Parties are authorized to act in their respective areas in matters related to this MOA.

The Parties hereto have executed this document.


 _____ 12/7/2015
 Robert Rich Date
 Executive Director
 ARCUS


 _____ 12/7/2015
 A.S. (Meg) Burgett Date
 Board Chair
 ANROE